



Rodin: Evolution of a Genius **Programs and Statewide Offerings**

Designed to inspire and inform audiences of all ages, VMFA's educational programs for *Rodin: Evolution of a Genius* offer an in-depth look at the acclaimed French artist who revitalized the language of sculpture. The exhibition is presented by Altria Group. Both adult and family audio guides in English and French will be available for streaming and download: vmfa.museum/tours/audio-tours. Audio wands in English will be available for \$5. For information about group tickets, contact Group Sales: 804.340.1575 or groupsales@vmfa.museum.

Public Programs

Rodin & Co.: The Master and His Studio Collaborators

Public Lecture with Nathalie Bondil, Director and Chief Curator, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

Friday, December 4 | 6:30 p.m.

Leslie Cheek Theater

\$8 (VMFA members \$5)

Who were Rodin's principal collaborators? They were mold makers, technicians, patinators, founders, photographers, friends, lovers, models, and students. Each brought expertise and, occasionally, innovation to the service of Rodin's oeuvre. While explaining the technical challenges of sculpture and its capacity to be reproduced, this talk also explores the life within the studio and the encounters of different people, known or unknown, such as Desbois, Limet, Druet, or Bourdelle.

Film: *Camille Claudel* (1988, 175 mins.)

Sunday, January 10 | 1 – 5 p.m.

Leslie Cheek Theater

Isabelle Adjani stars as the pupil, model, assistant, and lover of Auguste Rodin (Gérard Depardieu) in a biographical drama about this rare 19th-century female artist who could and did compete with the best male sculptors of her time. The movie will be introduced by Dr. Mitchell Merling, VMFA's Paul Mellon Curator and Head of the Department of European Art, who will also take audience Q&A.

Rodin and the Tradition of the Nude

Dr. Mitchell Merling, Paul Mellon Curator and Head of the European Art Department, VMFA

Friday, February 26 | 6:30 p.m.

Leslie Cheek Theater

\$8 (VMFA members \$5)

Most of Auguste Rodin's sculptures depict the naked human body. This lecture will explore his lifelong engagement with the subject. Through the in-depth examination of such works as *Age of Bronze*, *The Thinker* and *The Kiss*, Rodin will be shown to be one of art history's most profound and original artists.

Sculptor in Residence

November 22, 2015 – March 13, 2016

(except for Christmas Day and New Year's Day)

Sundays: 11 a.m. – 1p.m.

Wednesdays: 10 a.m. – noon

Fridays: 5 – 7 p.m.

This program will feature contemporary sculptors who will demonstrate and discuss their creative processes as they create sculptures on the Sculptor Cart, a moveable demo cart in VMFA's Atrium. The Sculptor Cart will also feature examples of sculpting tools—and touchable samples of marble, bronze, and plaster, the three main materials used by Rodin in his studio. For a full list of sculptors, please visit www.vmfa.museum.

Art History Class

Rodin "101"

Dr. Colleen Yarger, Adjunct Professor of Art History, Randolph Macon College,

Tuesdays, December 1 & 8

1 – 2:30 p.m. | Leslie Cheek Theater

\$50 (VMFA members \$35)*

An introduction to artist Auguste Rodin, the greatest sculptor of the 19th and early 20th centuries, this class explores Rodin's masterpieces as well as his processes, techniques, and materials. **Includes admission to exhibition.*

Gallery Programs: 3 in 30

Myth, Metaphor, and Materials: Echoes of Rodin at VMFA

Twyla Kitts, Teacher Programs Educator, VMFA

Tuesday, December 8 | 11 a.m.

Tuesday, December 10 | 6:30 p.m.

Free, no reservations required

In this 30-minute gallery talk, learn how the differences between bronze, marble, and plaster affected Rodin's artistic process. Discover connections between materials and meaning – and consider how Rodin's creations compare with other works made from the same materials.

Working from the Model

Kristie Couser, Curatorial Assistant for the Mellon Collections, VMFA

Tuesday, January 5 | 11 a.m.

Tuesday, January 7 | 6:30 p.m.

Free, no reservation required

In the artist's studio, the term "model" is used to describe different objects or activities, from a three-dimensional figure shaped from clay and wax to a person hired to pose. This gallery talk explores sculptural practices of artists Antoine-Louis Barye and Edgar Degas.

Family Events

Open Studio Sunday: Rodin

March 6 | 1 – 4 p.m.

Art Education Center

Join us for Rodin-inspired projects. Free, no registration required. All ages, children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Young @ Art: Forms, Figures and Fun

Tuesdays: January 12, 19, 26

Wednesdays: January 13, 20, 27

11 a.m. – noon | Art Education Center

\$14 per child/adult pair (VMFA members \$12)

Find inspiration from sculptures by artists such as Auguste Rodin. Search the museum for carved and molded forms and then sculpt your own 3-D formations. For ages 2 ½ - 5, accompanied by an adult. Advance registration required, limited to 12 children.

Tots of Art: Me in Many Forms

Thursdays: February 4, 11, 18, 25

11 a.m. – noon | Art Education Center

\$15 per toddler/adult pair (VMFA members \$13)

Tots of Art fosters children's growing mobility with new sensory and fine-motor experiences. Stimulate their budding curiosity through singing and movement activities, engaging stories, exploratory art experiences, and gallery walks. Monthly themes with new topics introduced each week. For ages 14–30 months, accompanied by an adult. Advance registration required, limited to 14 toddlers.

Teacher Workshop

Auguste Rodin: Ancient Visions and Modern Sculpture

Thursday, December 3 | 4:30 – 7 p.m.

Conference Suite & Galleries

\$32 (VMFA members \$18)*

Auguste Rodin was born in Paris and lived through the Second Empire, the Franco-Prussian War, the establishment of the Third Republic, and the Paris Commune before his death in 1917. His beautifully observed sculptures reflect the character of these turbulent times and the heyday of Romanticism and realism. Learn about Rodin, his sculptures, his era, his connections with writers, and his influence on art.**Includes admission to exhibition.*

Sponsors

The exhibition is presented at VMFA by Altria Group with additional support from The Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans Exhibition Endowment, The Julia Louise Reynolds Fund, The Julia and Tunncliffe Fox Foundation, Lilli and William Beyer, Norfolk Southern Corporation, The Northern Trust Company, The Rock Foundation.

About the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

VMFA's permanent collection encompasses more than 33,000 works of art spanning 5,000 years of world history. Its collections of Art Nouveau and Art Deco, English silver, Fabergé, and the art of South Asia are among the finest in the nation. With acclaimed holdings in American, British Sporting, Impressionist and Post-Impressionist, and Modern and Contemporary art – and additional strengths in African, Ancient, East Asian, and European – VMFA ranks as one of the top comprehensive art museums in the United States. Programs include educational activities and studio classes for all ages, plus lively after-hours events. VMFA's Statewide Partnership program includes traveling exhibitions, artist and teacher workshops, and lectures across the Commonwealth. VMFA, a certified Virginia Green attraction, is open 365 days a year and general admission is always free. For additional information, telephone 804-340-1400 or visit www.vmfa.museum.

#

Press Contact:

Pryor Green, pryor.green@vmfa.museum, 804.204.2701

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 200 N. Boulevard, Richmond VA 23220-4007