

The Virginia Wojno-Forney Art Lecture Series 2006-07 presents
Topics in American and European Art



The Shelly Children, John and Charlotte Ann

Artist: Sir William Beechey (1753-1839)
Date: ca. 1791-92
Medium: Oil on canvas
Collection: Museum of the Shenandoah Valley
Photo credit: Ron Blunt

This exquisite work is presented in the Julian Wood Glass Jr. Gallery of the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley. English artists dominate the work presented in this gallery, which is divided into three themes: The Art of Landscape, The Art of Portraiture, and The Grand Tour.



[*Cecilia Beaux, standing at the steps, with two women seated on the terrace at her summer home, Green Alley, in Gloucester, Massachusetts*]

Artist: Unidentified photographer
Date: ca. 1908-15
Medium: Copy print made from destroyed nitrate negative in 1978
Collection: Cecilia Beaux Papers, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Built in 1905, Beaux's summer home and studio, designed to her own specifications, well reflected the divisions of her own life -- a shore front home in which to entertain, and an impressive studio where portrait commissions could be painted.



**Tuesday,
October 24**

"How Portraiture Evolved in Europe and America, 1500-1900"

7—8:30 p.m. Lecture, Henkel Hall, Hester Auditorium

Reception for Drs. Meschutt and Tappert immediately following the lecture.

Dr. Sarah Meschutt, Curator of Collections, Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, Winchester, VA

Dr. Meschutt's overview of this fascinating field will show how identities were crafted and how fashion pervades portraiture. Dr. Meschutt will examine the functions and forms that portraits have taken, and how styles of dress and formal poses have evolved. Particular attention will be given to portraiture in Britain and America in the century before 1850.

**Thursday,
October 26**

"Out of the Background: Cecilia Beaux and the Art of Portraiture"

7—8:30 p.m. Lecture, Henkel Hall, Hester Auditorium

Dr. Tara Tappert, Tappert & Associates, Archives and American Art Consultants, Washington, DC

Dr. Tappert will show how painting became the life work of Cecilia Beaux, and how and why the artist came to regard her career as a "sacred calling" made at the exclusion of marriage. During her lifetime, Beaux's sumptuous, high style portraits of America's elite brought her recognition on both sides of the Atlantic.



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Shenandoah University History and Tourism Center

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