THE VASSAR CLASSROOM REVISITED
YOUR MIND, OUR MATTER

Lectures on
Art & Architecture

MARCH 5, 2016 / SATURDAY
NORTON’S WOODS CONFERENCE CENTER AT THE
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS & SCIENCES
CAMBRIDGE, MA
SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m.  **Registration Opens**

10:00 a.m.  **Introductory Remarks**

10:15 a.m.  **Lecture I**

*Grace and Beauty in Fifteenth Century Italian Painting: Botticelli, Leonardo & Raphael*

Yvonne Elet / Assistant Professor of Art

For Italian Renaissance artists, capturing the grace and beauty of a subject is understood as a synecdoche for the mastery of painting itself. This lecture explores this theme in the key works of Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci and the young Raphael, considering portraits, Christian devotional works, and mythological narratives.

11:00 a.m.  **Lecture II**

*Romanticism and Its Discontents: Goya, Friedrich & Turner*

Brian Lukacher P’10 & P’10 / Professor of Art

There were disparate artistic responses to historical, philosophical, and technological world shifts in European art and society (outside of France) circa 1790-1840. The romantic turn in the visual arts away from classical standards of beauty and a human-centered, idealized conception of narrative painting is studied in Goya’s suite of etchings *Los Caprichos* (1799). The inquiry into the relationship of humanity to the powers of nature and the spiritual lay at the heart of the metaphysical landscapes of Caspar David Friedrich, who developed a haunting idiom of landscape painting that reflected on the historical struggles of Europe during the Napoleonic Wars. The innovative English artist J. M. W. Turner developed the genre of landscape painting as a medium of modern social commentary on such issues as abolition, the Railway Mania, and the industrial mastery of the natural world. The radical scope of his themes was matched by an equally revolutionary approach to artistic technique that broke free of all nineteenth-century conventions in the visual arts.

12:00 p.m.  **Lunch**

*Seating will be by classes & class clusters. Parents will be seated together.*

1:15 p.m.  **Lecture III**

*Eero Saarinen at Vassar: Community and Nature*

Nick Adams / Professor of Art on the Mary Conover Mellon Chair

This lecture will study the plans and buildings of the great Finnish-American architect at Vassar. His works include Noyes House at Vassar and the Kresge Chapel at M.I.T. Eero Saarinen was married to Aline Bernstein ’35, who played an important role in his firm.

2:00 p.m.  **Conclusion**

COVER

Clarence Kerr Chatterton, American, 1880-1973

*Taylor Hall, Vassar College*, 1915

Oil on canvas

Anonymous gift, in honor of Louise Boyd Lichtenstein Dale and Margaret Pollard Smith, 1977.19
INFORMATION

Tuition and Board
$ 30.00   per person
$ 20.00   per person for the classes of 2011 – 2015

Registration
BY MAIL / Use enclosed form and return envelope
ONLINE / Go to http://vassar.edu/revisited

The Vassar Classroom Revisited is open to
Alumnae/i and Parents of current Vassar students.

As capacity is limited, and we want to accommodate as
many members of the Vassar family as possible, we ask
that you limit your one guest to a spouse / partner or to
a fellow graduate.

We request that all registrations must be made in advance;
Unfortunately, we will not be able to accommodate
registrations at the door.

Deadline: February 26, 2016
As seating is limited, capacity may be reached before
this date, and registration will close.

Directions and Parking
Complimentary valet parking will be provided.
The American Academy of Arts and Sciences is located at
136 Irving Street / Cambridge, MA  02138.

For information regarding directions by car & public
transportation, visit the Academy’s website at www.amacad.org

INQUIRIES
Office of Regional and International Programs
programs@vassar.edu / 1.888.328.8528 (M-F / 9-4)

OFFICE OF REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS
VASSAR COLLEGE BOX 587
124 RAYMOND AVENUE
POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK 12604