

# Salem Athenæum



Incorporated 1810

Fall 2017 Newsletter

## In This Issue

New Trustees  
Fall Exhibit: Quinton Oliver Jones  
Conservation Night  
Introducing Salem Artist  
Quinton Oliver Jones  
Fall Course  
Ziad Hamzeh  
Finding Your Medium  
Cambridge Society for Early Music  
John Carroll: State of the Media  
Adams Lecture: Gordon Wood  
Quinton Oliver Jones Studio Tour  
New Members Night  
Writer in Your Neighborhood  
Open House  
Groups  
In Memoriam

## Board of Trustees

Brunonia Barry  
Wendy Biggs, *Vice-President*  
Stephanie Buck  
Michelle Campbell, *Clerk*  
Josiah Fisk  
Marla Gearhart  
Phil Gillespie  
David Hart  
Steve Immerman  
Richard Jendrysik  
Owen Mathieu  
Pat Padden, *Treasurer*  
Gary Santo  
Stanley Usovicz, *Vice-President*  
Angela Williams  
David Williams, *President*



## President's Letter

For me, the end of summer is always bittersweet. There's that morning when you get up in August and you notice that the air is different, cooler and drier and at night you begin to hear that unmistakable sound of migrating geese. I'm a sailor, so I know that my days on the water are numbered and the long, warm, lazy days of summer are behind us.

But summer's end leads into the season of thanksgiving, and we at the Athenæum have much to be thankful for. Thanks to the efforts of our staff, volunteers, members of the Board, and the generosity of our proprietors, members, and sponsors (including the Commonwealth of Massachusetts), we have completed and paid for the restoration of all our windows including new UV coatings on all exterior windows as an added protection to our collection of art work and our books.

We are also thankful to the speakers who participated in the Summer Salon series and the many members of the audience who turned out to be educated and entertained.

Looking ahead, our Honorary Curators Connie and Dale Gephart have been hard at work putting the finishing touches on the new exhibition on the artist and Salem native Quinton Oliver Jones with the exhibition's official opening on September 22.

Our Executive Director Jean Marie Prociou, our Library Assistant Carolyn McGuire, and the Collections Committee lead by Board Member Marla Gearhart have selected some very special items from our collection for restoration. These rare pieces will be previewed at the annual Conservation Night on September 27. The conservation night is a wonderful evening where the membership can view some of the most important and most endangered books in our collection and become a part of their preservation for generations to come.

Finally, I would be remiss in not mentioning the sad news that two of our treasured friends and supporters of the Salem Athenæum have passed away over the Summer. Neil Chayet and Dr. James H. Austin were loyal supporters of the Athenæum. Their counsel and companionship will be sorely missed. Our condolences, our thoughts, and our prayers go out to their families and friends.

Best wishes,  
David Williams, President



## Meet the New Trustees

At the Annual Meeting, three new trustees were voted onto the Athenaeum board. Michelle Campbell, Gary Santo, and Stanley Usovich are all welcome additions and bring a variety of talents.

Michele's expertise spans over 20 years with both non-profit organizations and client-focused agencies such as Berklee College of Music, Elderhostel/ Road Scholar, and the Handel & Haydn Society. She is currently Director of Marketing and Enrollment at the Van Loan School of Graduate and Professional Studies of Endicott College.

Gary has served in a variety of leadership positions in the finance industry for over 20 years. He is currently the Head of Capital Markets and Investor Relations for Lantheus Medical Imaging, Inc., a leading provider of Echocardiographic and Nuclear Medicine imaging agents and products. He is the company spokesman to the investment community.

Stan is the Regional Director of Government Relations for Verizon-Massachusetts. He is a former Mayor of Salem and has worked in both the public and private sectors. He served on the Salem City Council and led a number of successful economic development efforts in Massachusetts.

---

## Fall Exhibit: Quinton Oliver Jones



Quinton Oliver Jones (1903-1999), was a reclusive Harvard-trained artist whose paintings and sculptures filled his Salem home to the brim. This Fall the Salem Athenaeum presents an exhibition drawn from Quinton's body of work, most of which has never been seen by the public before. Discover his colorful, fantastical visions.

Quinton Oliver Jones and his two siblings grew up in their family's ancestral home in Salem, MA. He was great-grandson of a sea captain who sailed during Salem's golden age of navigation. However modest their circumstances, education was the greatest valued priority and all the children graduated from college. Quinton attended Salem public schools and entered Harvard in the class of 1926. Initially declaring English as his major, he was quickly drawn into the art department from which he graduated cum laude.

The year 1926 was pivotal in his life—his father died two months before his graduation, and his uncle died several months after. With siblings now pursuing their academic careers away from Salem, he was left to take care of his ailing mother and the family home. Quinton chose to make the most of his proximity to Boston and augmented his art studies over the next three years by enrolling in the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, where he studied sculpture and he learned the techniques of stone carving and modeling in clay.

His family home shaped many of his interests and art work—the house was full of books, magazines, and newspapers that had been saved from previous generations. He read voraciously, and took many themes from this source material, as well as current events. Quinton led a quiet, dedicated, frugal and independent life, focused on his art—his creativity sustained him.

Throughout his long life within the 20th century, Quinton left us 360 canvases, with themes from mythology, Shakespeare or fantasies of imagination. Not being especially interested in rendering realistic landscapes, still life or portraiture, his work may be described as “mindscapes.” As he once said, “I paint what I think.”

He also modeled numerous sculptures, including portrait busts of children from the Salem orphanage. Also a poet, he often incorporated verse into his paintings. Later, as deafness overcame him, he withdrew into his more private and visionary world.

This Fall the Salem Athenæum presents an exhibition drawn from Quinton's body of work, most of which has never been seen by the public before. Discover his colorful, fantastical mindscapes, which will be displayed throughout the first floor of the library.

## Conservation Night

September 27, 7:00 p.m.

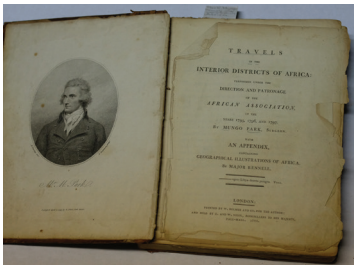
Join us for the sixth annual Conservation Night featuring a selection of our most important books on various topics from the historical collections. We will unveil the conserved volumes — books sponsored by generous participants of the 2016 Conservation Night — and present more ailing books for your consideration. Executive Director Jean Marie Procius will give an illustrated presentation about the books and their value to the collection.

Open to the public: book sponsorship is always appreciated but is not required to attend.

Adopt one of these treasures on September 27:

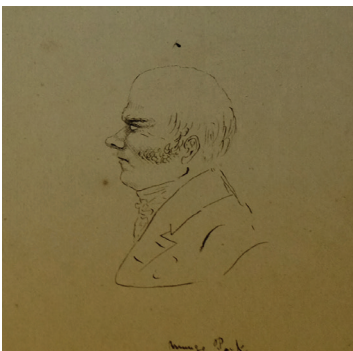
1. *The works of Anna Letitia Barbauld with a memoir by Lucy Aikin, in three volumes.* Boston : David Reed, 1826. **\$550 or 2 shares of \$275**
2. *The principles of mechanics. Explaining and demonstrating the general laws of motion, the laws of gravity, motions of descending bodies, projectiles, mechanic powers, pendulums, centers of gravity, etc. strength and stress of timber, hydrostatics, and construction of machines. A work very necessary to be known by all Gentlemen, and others, that desire to have an insight into the works of nature and art. And extremely useful to all sorts of artificers; particularly to architects, engineers, shipwrights, millwrights, watchmakers, etc. or any that work in a mechanical way.* The second edition, corrected and very much enlarged. With 43 copper plates. London: J. Richardson, 1758. **\$600 or 2 shares of \$300**
3. *The analysis of beauty.* Written with a view of fixing the fluctuating ideas of taste. By William Hogarth. London : J. Reeves, 1753. **\$550 or 2 shares of \$275**
4. *A treatise on the social compact or the principles of politic law.* By J. J. Rousseau. London : T. Becket and P. A. de Hondt, 1764. **\$480 or 4 shares of \$120**

Salem  
Athenæum



*Travels in the interior districts of Africa...*

1799, Mungo Park





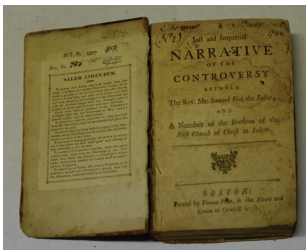
5. *Observations on the climate in different parts of America, compared with the climate in corresponding parts of the other continent. To which are added remarks on the different complexions of the human race: with some account of the Aborigines of America. Being an introductory discourse to the History of North Carolina.* By Hugh Williamson, M.D. LL.D. New York : T. & J. Swords, 1811. **\$500 or 2 shares of \$250**



6. *Principles of Polity, being the grounds and reasons of civil empire. In three parts.* By Thomas Pownall, Esq. London : Edward Owen, 1752. [This copy has a full page presentation letter to the President, Fellows, and Students of Harvard College from the author]. **\$800 or 4 shares of \$200**

7. *A state of the expedition from Canada as laid before the House of Commons by Lieutenant-General Burgoyne, and verified by evidence; with a collection of authentic documents, and an addition of many circumstances which were prevented from appearing before the House by the prorogation of Parliament.* John Burgoyne. Second edition. London. J. Almon, 1780. **\$550 or 2 shares of \$275**

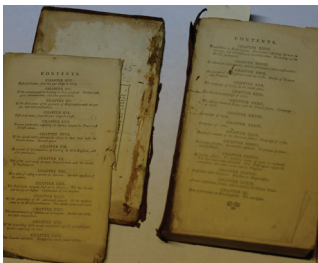
8. *An account of the Pelew Islands, situated in the western part of the Pacific Ocean. Composed from the journals and communications of Captain Henry Wilson, and some of his officers, who, in August 1783, were there shipwrecked, in the Antelope, a packet belonging to the Honourable East India Company.* George Keate, Esq. Fourth edition. London : Captain Wilson, 1789. **\$550 or 2 shares of \$275**



9. *Principles of Electricity, containing divers new theorems and experiments, together with an analysis of the superior advantages of high and pointed conductors. This treatise comprehends an explanation of an electrical returning stroke, by which, fatal effects may be produced, even at a vast distance from the place where the lightning falls.* By Charles Viscount Mahon, F. R. S. [Charles Stanhope Stanhope]. London : P. Elmsly, 1774. **\$500 or 2 shares of \$250**

10. *Just and impartial narrative of the controversy between the Rev. Mr. Samuel Fisk the Pastor, and a number of the brethren of the First Church of Christ in Salem.* [and other pamphlets]. Boston : Thomas Fleet, 1735. **\$450 or 3 shares of \$150**

11. *Moby Dick.* By Herman Melville. New York : Harper & Brothers. **\$460 or 2 shares of \$230**



12. *Travels in the interior districts of Africa: performed under the direction and patronage of the African Association in the years 1795, 1796, and 1797.* By Mungo Park, surgeon. With an appendix containing geographical illustrations of Africa. By Major Rennell. London : Printed by W. Bulmer and Co.; and sold by G. and W. Nicol, 1799. **\$600 or 3 shares of \$200**

13. *Carey's General Atlas:* Philadelphia: Published by Matthew Carey. May 1, 1796. **\$840 or 4 Shares \$210**

14. *Navigantium atque Itinerantium Bibliotheca, or a complete collection of voyages and travels consisting of six hundred of the most authentic writers beginning . . . illustrated by proper charts, maps, and cuts to which is prefixed a copious introduction comprising the rise and progress of the art of navigation . . .* By John Harris. London : T. Woodward, et al. 1744. Two volumes. **\$3760 or 16 shares of \$235**

15. *A Summary History of New-England, from the first settlement at Plymouth to the acceptance of the Federal Constitution comprehending a general sketch of the American War.* By Hannah Adams. Dedham : H. Mann and J. H. Adams, 1799. **\$540 or 4 shares of \$135**
- 



## Introducing Salem Artist Quinton Oliver Jones (1903-1999)

October 4, 7:00 p.m.

Connie Gephart presents this lecture to orient viewers on the artwork of Salem artist Quinton Oliver Jones, the focus of the Athenaeum's Fall-Winter Exhibition. Free

---

## Fall Course: Tennessee Williams

Starting October 5, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

7 Thursdays



In this fall's course, with Dr. Sue Weaver Schopf we will examine American playwright Tennessee Williams. Close examination will reveal that Williams' plays constitute a much broader critique of post-war America than his contemporaries. We will also learn how Williams transformed his personal experiences into bold dramas.

Upon closer examination, we discover that Williams' plays constitute a much broader critique of post-war America with its ambivalent attitudes towards class, success, sexuality, and outsiderhood. As a technical innovator, Williams was the true master, as even Miller had to concede. Through an examination of his life, his recorded conversations and published essays, we will also learn how Williams transformed his life experiences into bold dramas; how he felt about the American theater in his time, the price of fame, the critical reviews he received, and the filmed adaptations of his works. On several occasions, we will view filmed versions of the plays in class.

Plays to be considered are:

*The Glass Menagerie* (1944)  
*A Streetcar Named Desire* (1949)  
*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1955)  
*Orpheus Descending* (1957)  
*Suddenly Last Summer* (1958)  
*Sweet Bird of Youth* (1959)  
*Night of the Iguana* (1961).

\$155.00 Members

\$175.00 Non-members

## Ziad Hamzeh



October 13, 7:00 p.m.

Acclaimed filmmaker and Syria native, Ziad Hamzeh, will discuss his films and give an artist's perspective on the refugee crisis.

A Director, Producer, and Writer, Ziad's work has earned over 40 awards and honors. Presently Ziad is in pre-production for the film *Sushi Tushi* slotted to begin filming in New York May 2017. Most recently he produced the film *The Flower of Aleppo* in Tunis which is slotted to be the opening film at the Carthage Film Festival this October. The film was chosen to be Tunisia's entry into the 2017 Oscar and the Golden Globe Awards.

In April Ziad's film *Irrefutable Proof* swept the Beverly Hills Film Festival earning three top awards. The Golden Palm for Ziad, Best actress, and best cinematography. Ziad shared The Abu Dhabi Film Festival's Black Pearl Award for Best Producer with acclaimed Tunisian filmmaker Ridha Behi for *Always Brando*, which had its world premiere at The Toronto International Film Festival. *Always Brando* also received the Jury prize at The Algerian Film Festival and the Best Picture Award at The Alexandria Film Festival.

Ziad teaches advanced and graduate classes in filmmaking at Lesky University and Emerson College. He earned an M.F.A. in directing from California State University, Fullerton, an M.A. in writing and criticism from California State University, Los Angeles, and a BA in theatre from the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

\$10 members, \$15 non-members  
Free for students with ID.

---

## Finding Your Medium

October 21, 10:00 a.m.

What's your medium? Every writer searches for the right format to tell their own stories in. During this interactive discussion, talk with a working poet, playwright, screenwriter, novelist, and more about the challenges and benefits of their chosen medium, how they got there, and how to find your own voice as a writer.

*Finding Your Medium* will begin with an interactive panel discussion, providing each writer a chance to talk about how they arrived at their chosen medium, if they've worked in any other formats, and how their journey affected their current work and perspective on their medium. Then the audience will be invited to bring their own questions to the table—be as general or specific as you like. Trying to find your own medium? Considering testing out another? Wondering how trying out one format might make you a better writer in another? Take advantage of having writers of different paths ready to discuss the ins and outs of their medium—and yours!

Matthew Phillion is the author of the young adult adventure series, *The Indestructibles*. He writes in a variety of genres. As an active freelance writer, Phillion continues to write about both local issues and the medical industry as both a journalist and newspaper editor.

\$10 members, \$15 non-members  
Free for students with ID.



# Cambridge Society for Early Music:

## The Art of Counterpoint from Bach to Zelenka

October 21, 8:00 p.m.



CSEM's 2017 season begins with two of the great High Baroque masters: J. S. Bach and Jan Dismas Zelenka. These two musicians knew and admired each other, and worked in close proximity: Bach in Leipzig, Zelenka in Dresden, just 100 miles away.

Formed in 2013, Kleine Kammermusik is dedicated to bringing to life the wealth of music from 17th- and 18th-century Europe. With paired treble woodwind instruments (oboe and recorder) and supportive continuo group of mixed woodwind, string, and keyboard, the group comprises a versatile blend of instruments suited to music from a wide range of contexts: from vivid outdoor celebrations and military fanfares to intimate chamber works. Each member of the group is a leading exponent and holds prominent posts in early music ensembles across the North East of the U.S.A. Together they bring superb artistry and a high level of virtuosity to music full of dazzling surprises and beguiling charm. In addition to being fine virtuoso players in their own right, the members of Kleine Kammermusik have developed an intuitive approach, and their musical rapport produces performances of superb artistic control and unmistakable elegance.

Members and seniors, \$25; non-members, \$30.

Free for students 17 and under.

Call to reserve tickets: 617-489-2062.

---

## John Carroll: State of the Media

October 23, 7:00 p.m.



As part of our What Now? lecture series, veteran journalist John Carroll will speak on the state of the media. In his talk, entitled *Donald in Wonderland: How Trump Took the News Media Through the Looking Glass*, the NPR analyst and Boston University professor of mass communication will discuss the role of journalism in a post-fact political universe.

\$10 members, \$15 non-members

Free for students with ID.

---

## Adams Lecture: Gordon Wood

November 6, 7:00 p.m.

### Friends Divided: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson

The Adams Lecture features scholars speaking on topics of New England and American history, culture and politics and is given in honor of John Adams, Librarian of the Athenaeum from 1994-2004.

Thomas Jefferson and John Adams could scarcely have come from more different worlds, or been more different in temperament. These profound differences would lead to a fundamental crisis, in their friendship and in



the nation, as they became the figureheads of two entirely new forces, the first American political parties.

Gordon S. Wood is the Alva O. Way University Professor and professor of history at Brown University. His books have received the Pulitzer, Bancroft and John H. Dunning prizes, as well as a National Book Award nomination and the New York Historical Society Prize in American History.

\$20 members, \$25 non-members  
Free for students with ID.

---



## Quinton Oliver Jones Studio Tour

November 11-12

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

A special opportunity to visit the environment in which Quinton Oliver Jones created his mindscapes and see many more paintings and works of art on display through his former home.

Reservations are required for this studio tour. Limited availability.  
\$25

---



## Reappraisal Reading Circle: George Meredith

November 13, 7:00 p.m.

Open meeting to discuss the works of a prolific, popular author of the past whose works are held in quantity by the Athenaeum.

November's author, George Meredith (1828 –1909) was an English novelist and poet of the Victorian era. He was nominated seven times for the Nobel Prize in Literature.

---



## New Members Night

November 29, 7:00 p.m.

Please join us for an orientation and behind-the-scenes tour of the Salem Athenaeum. If you are a new, long-time, or prospective member, this tour will orient you to the Athenaeum building, include an overview of our history, mission, and outline current services and membership benefits.

Free.





## Writer in Your Neighborhood

December 5, 7:00 p.m.

Salem has a long, distinguished literary history that continues today. This program allows you to sample the writing of several published authors who are members of the Athenæum, the prose and verse of your talented neighbors. Get a taste of their work, peruse their books, talk writing.

Free

---

## Open House: Welcome Winter!

December 9, 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Greet the coming cold and dark with some bright holiday cheer at the Athenæum's annual open house. Celebrate the fellowship of the season. Refreshments, seasonal music, and plenty of good cheer included!

Free

---

## Groups at the Athenæum

### Monday Evening Conversations

Second Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

Topics for discussion are wide open, but must be amenable to good conversation.

### Athenæum Book Group

Second Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

Meetings: October 14, November 11, December 9

The Athenæum book group meets monthly. Group members take turns selecting a book for discussion. Whoever chooses the book also serves as discussion leader and provides background materials (if needed). Join us for this opportunity to discuss, debate, and grow together as book lovers!

### Dickens Fellowship

First Saturdays at 10 a.m.

Meetings: October 7, November 4, December 2

### Salem Writers' Group

First and Third Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

### La Tertulia Spanish Language Discussion Group

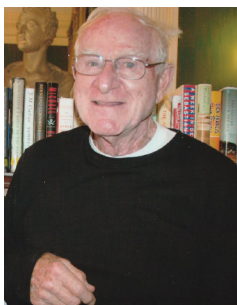
Second and Fourth Tuesdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

### Incessant Pipe Contentions

Second Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

### Incessant Pipe Poetry Salon

Fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.



## In Memoriam

### Dr. James H. Austin

Dr. James H. Austin, 89, of Gloucester, formerly of Salem and Boston, died on July 28. A retired obstetrician with abiding curiosity, Jim was an active member of the Athenæum community for many years. He donated and managed the sound system for events, volunteered in the library and was frequently found perusing the stacks, especially the 19th-century fiction.



### Neil Chayet

Neil L. Chayet, 78, died on August 11 at his home in Salem, MA following a nine month battle against small cell cancer. A graduate of Tufts University and Harvard Law School, his legal and consulting work was predominantly in the area of law and medicine, having pioneered the field in the early 70's. He is perhaps best known for his radio program "Looking at the Law™" heard on WBZ 1030 AM in Boston.

**We are grateful to our 2017  
program sponsors.**



**Landry & Arcari • Marblehead Bank • Soucy Insurance Agency**  
Beverly Bank



337 Essex Street  
Salem, Massachusetts 01970  
salemathenaeum.net

### Contact Info

For general information about the Athenæum or its events, please contact the Executive Director:

Jean Marie Prociouss  
978-744-2540  
info@salemathenaeum.net

*For comments or suggestions about the newsletter, please contact the editor:*  
Carolyn McGuire, cbmcguire6@gmail.com