

## Ghiberti – The Gates of Paradise (New York, 16 Nov 07)

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

<http://www.metmuseum.org/>

The Gates of Paradise: Lorenzo Ghiberti's Renaissance Masterpiece  
- a Symposium

November 16, 2007

Scholars gather to explore various aspects of an extraordinary loan of three narrative reliefs and four figural sections from surrounding frames originally made for the Baptistery in Florence by Ghiberti prior to their permanent installation in the Museo dell'Opera del Duomo. This single-day event celebrates the completion of a 25-year conservation project of this seminal monument of the Italian Renaissance.

Morning Session, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium

Free with Museum admission

Welcome

Ian Wardropper, Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Chairman, Department of European Sculpture and Decorative Arts, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Opening Remarks: The Gates and the Opificio

Cristina Acidini, Superintendent, Polo Museale Fiorentino, and  
Superintendent, Opificio delle Pietre Dure, Florence

Introduction of Speakers

James David Draper, Henry R. Kravis Curator, Department of European Sculpture and Decorative Arts, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Lorenzo Ghiberti, Master Collaborator

Gary M. Radke, Dean's Professor of the Humanities, Syracuse University,  
and Consulting Curator of Italian Art, High Museum of Art

Documenting the Gates

Rolf Bagemihl, Lecturer and Academic Director, Arcadia Programs, Accademia  
Italiana, Florence and Rome

## Ghiberti and Painting

Keith Christiansen, Jayne Wrightsman Curator, Department of European Paintings, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

## Ghiberti, Perspective, and Vision

Amy R. Bloch, Assistant Professor, Department of Art, University at Albany, State University of New York

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Afternoon Session, 2:00 p.m.-4:45 p.m.

The Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium

Free with Museum admission

Conservation of the Porta del Paradiso: Experiences and Advancement in Knowledge

Annamaria Giusti, Chief Curator, Department of Bronze Sculpture Conservation, Opificio delle Pietre Dure, Florence

The Gates of Paradise: Some Further Thoughts on How Ghiberti Planned and Executed the Reliefs

Richard E. Stone, Senior Museum Conservator, Department of Objects Conservation, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Ghiberti's Workshop and the Art of Chasing: A Technical Investigation  
Edilberto Formigli, Professor, History of Ancient Technology, University of Siena, and Director, Antiche Tecniche Artigianali, Murlo

After the Gates of Paradise: A Ghiberti Coda at the Florence Baptistery  
A. Victor Coonin, Associate Professor and Chair, Art Department, Rhodes College

Summation and Closing Remarks

Andrew Butterfield, President, Andrew Butterfield Fine Arts, LLC

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Free with Museum admission; reservations and tickets not required.

For more information, please call (212) 396-5460,  
or contact [lectures@metmuseum.org](mailto:lectures@metmuseum.org).

The exhibition is made possible by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Richardson.

Additional support is provided by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Oceanic Heritage Foundation.

The exhibition was organized by the High Museum of Art, Atlanta, in collaboration with the Opera di Santa Maria del Fiore and the Opificio delle Pietre Dure, Florence.

It is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities and by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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