

## The Darmstadt Mastodon, 1800–present day (Darmstadt, 14 Jun 22)

Hessisches Landesmuseum Darmstadt, Germany, Jun 14, 2022

Allison Stagg

Symposium:

Transatlantic Perspectives in American and German Art History:

The Darmstadt Mastodon, 1800-present day

14 June 2022

10:30-19Uhr

Organized by the Department of Architecture and Art History at the Technical University of Darmstadt, this symposium celebrates the current special exhibition at the Hessisches Landesmuseum Darmstadt, "American Heiner: A Mammut is making history" (open until June 19). With loans of paintings, prints and drawings from American art museums that rarely travel abroad, this is an extraordinary opportunity to see how the Mastodon skeleton, discovered in 1801 by American artist and museum director Charles Willson Peale, influenced art, science, and culture in the United States. The Mastodon has been a key object in the collection of the Hessisches Landesmuseum since the middle of the 19th century.

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE: 14 June, Tuesday

Morning session: "American Heiner" exhibition

10:30-11: Registration in Main Hall; coffee and light breakfast buffet in the Lecture Hall

11-11:15 Welcome: Allison Stagg // Martin Faass, in Lecture Hall

11:15-12:30pm: Tours of exhibition with Oliver Sandrock // Anna O. Marley // Eleanor Harvey

12:30pm-2pm: Lunch for all participants at the Landemuseum cafe, Herzblut und Zinke

Afternoon Session: Lecture Hall

2pm: Welcome: Dr. Manfred Efinger, Vice President, TU Darmstadt // Christiane Salge, Professor of Architecture and Art History & Dean of Faculty of Architecture, TU Darmstadt

2:10-2:30pm: Introduction: Allison Stagg

First Session:

2:30-3pm Martin Faass: "American Heiner: Genesis of an exhibition"

3:00-3:45pm Anna O. Marley, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts: "Charles Wilson Peale and the Athens of America: Philadelphia, Art, and Science in the Early American Republic"

3:45-4:15 coffee break

Second Session:

4:15-5:00pm: Oliver Sandrock, Hessisches Landesmuseum: "New – Old – Lost World"

5:00-5:45pm Eleanor Harvey, Smithsonian American Art Museum: "Mammoth Ambitions: How Peale's Mastodon became a national icon and exhibition centerpiece"

5:45pm-6:15pm Roundtable with all speakers

6:30-8pm. Evening Reception in Main Hall & "American Heiner" exhibition open

Further details can be found on the symposium website:

<https://www.architektur.tu-darmstadt.de/americanheiner>

Booking is required: please email Dr. Allison Stagg (Stagg (@) kunst.tu-darmstadt.de) to register by June, 10th.

There is no fee to attend. The event will be held in English.

Through the generosity of the Terra Foundation for American Art, a limited number of stipends are available for registered attendees located outside the Rhein Main area to help offset the cost of travel to the symposium. When registering, please comment if you would like to be considered.

Reference:

CONF: The Darmstadt Mastodon, 1800-present day (Darmstadt, 14 Jun 22). In: ArtHist.net, Jun 8, 2022 (accessed May 13, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/36826>>.