

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Hilliard University Art Museum Announces Dr. Richard Brettell as Guest Lecturer
for the Second Annual Bienvenu Lecture Series**

"Impressionist Gardens Beyond Giverny: Pissarro's House and Garden in Eragny"

Lafayette, LA - On Friday, March 11, 2016 at 7:00 PM the Hilliard University Art Museum will host Dr. Richard Brettell as he serves as the guest lecturer for the second annual Bienvenu Lecture Series. Dr. Brettell is the Founding Director of The Edith O'Donnell Institute of Art History and the Margaret McDermott Distinguished Chair of Art and Aesthetic Studies at The University of Texas at Dallas. He will lead *"Impressionist Gardens Beyond Giverny: Pissarro's House and Garden in Eragny."*

In 1884, both Pissarro and Monet moved to the small farms which were to become their homes until their deaths in 1903 and 1926 respectively. Each were on the small Creuse River in Normandy-- in fact, Pissarro could have taken a canoe down the river directly to Monet's home and garden. Since their deaths, Monet's garden has become globally famous and attracts millions of tourists to the village of Giverny. By contrast, Pissarro's equally beautiful home and studio remain in private hands all but unknown except to zealous fans of the painter, who make the trek to the "Rue Camille Pissarro" in the village of Eragny.

Richard Brettell, a respected scholar of Impressionism, will give full pictorial, moral, and political due to Pissarro's farm in Eragny, contrasting it with Monet's garden in Giverny and setting the stage for the upcoming international exhibition of Pierre Bonnard at the Hilliard Museum this July. The exhibition will focus on Bonnard's life in Le Cannet, Lafayette's Sister City, from 1939 until his death in 1947. The radiant landscape of Le Cannet became a major source of inspiration for Bonnard's work as he produced over 200 paintings during this time. The Hilliard Museum is thrilled to be the last stop on the international tour of Bonnard's masterpiece "Vue du Cannet" from Musée d'Orsay as it has recently traveled to Madrid and San Francisco. The remainder of the works in this exhibition are from Musée Bonnard in Le Cannet, France.

The lecture is scheduled for 7:00 PM and will be followed by a signing of Dr. Brettell's books which can be purchased in the museum store.

Biography:

Richard Brettell is among the world's foremost authorities on Impressionism and French painting from 1830 to 1930. He has served as an international museum consultant with projects in Europe, Asia and the United States, including the Millennium Gift of the Sara Lee Collection, the largest corporate gift to the arts in American history.

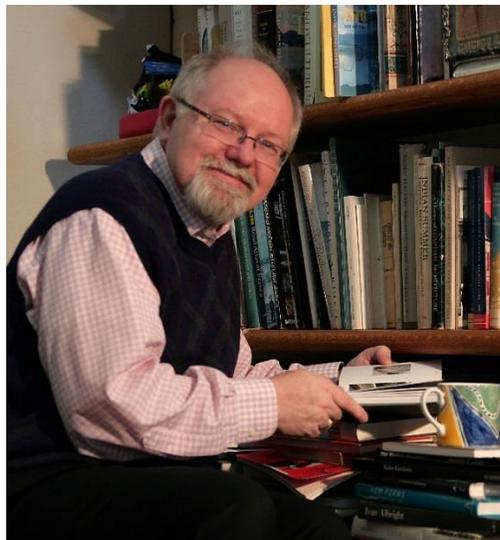
Brettell is the first director of the Edith O'Donnell Institute of Art History at The University of Texas at Dallas. Brettell also helped create FRAME (French/Regional/American Museum Exchange), a formal collaboration of museums in the United States and France that serves as a catalyst for cultural exchange. As a result of his work with FRAME, he received a *commandeur* certificate from the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Order of Arts and Letters). The award is the most prestigious of its type in France. Fellow *commandeurs* include T.S. Eliot, Clint Eastwood, Marcel Marceau, Bob Dylan and Ray Bradbury.

In 2010, Brettell curated the exhibition *Pissarro's People* at the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Mass. The Impressionist exhibit displayed 92 works, including portraits of artist Camille Pissarro's family members alongside pictures of artists, neighbors, domestic help and rural workers. The exhibition was reviewed in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Boston Globe*.

Brettell also serves as a vice provost of UT Dallas. He earned his undergraduate, masters and doctoral degrees from Yale University. He has taught at The University of Texas at Austin, Northwestern University, The University of Chicago, Yale University and Harvard University.

About the Series:

John Bartholomew Bienvenu was a much loved citizen of Lafayette who led a varied and full life. A noted psychologist specializing in early childhood diagnostics, John was a graduate of UL Lafayette holding both BA and MA degrees. Near the end of his career, John took a passionate turn towards art, particularly as a watercolor painter with his own unique style, dubbed "Bienvenu Primitive." John was involved with many art associations, including service as the Secretary of the Lafayette Watercolor Guild and President of the Lafayette Art Association. His art received numerous awards and commendations and was sought by many collectors. This passion for art is what inspired Mrs. Gloria Callais to honor the life of her dear brother with the establishment of this lecture series. Mrs. Callais has been a generous supporter and contributor to UL Lafayette and we are honored to share in her brother's legacy at the Hilliard University Art Museum.



Dr. Richard Brettell

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