



# WHAT IS PAST IS PROLOGUE

The Prologue Society Newsletter

October 31, 2016

## FROM THE CHAIR

Our luncheon last week with Jon Meacham was superb. Meacham is a wonderful raconteur and his knowledge of the breadth and depth of the life and experience of George Herbert Walker Bush was simply amazing. One of our best luncheons ever!

Please register as soon as possible for our November 17 luncheon with Ross King and his book *Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies*. Everyone who has seen these iconic, beautiful pictures at the Orangerie and other museums around the world will want to hear the story of their creation and their creator. **IMPORTANT:** This is the only notice you will receive to register for this luncheon.

Please remember that we welcome you to clear your bookshelves throughout the season and bring to our luncheons any Prologue-type books that you no longer want—they will be donated to The Education Fund.

Jim Herron  
Acting Chair

**NEXT LUNCHEON: Ross King on November 17 at 12:00 noon**

*Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies*

### To register:

- **The deadline for members to register for this luncheon is Sunday, November 13.**
- **Online:** Go to [www.theprologuesociety.org](http://www.theprologuesociety.org) and follow the instructions;
- **OR by telephone:** Call 305-323-1154 and talk to Debbie Hirshson or leave a voicemail message that you plan to attend;
- **OR by regular mail:** Send note with a check for \$50.00 per person to The Prologue Society, 18495 S. Dixie Highway #373, Miami, FL 33157.
- **Include** the names of your guests.
- **IMPORTANT: IF YOU REGISTER BY MAIL, you must also call Debbie** (or reply to this email) so that she knows to expect you!

**To pay:**

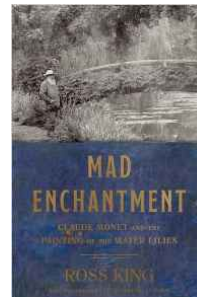
- **Enter your credit card number** on the website;
- **OR mail a check** for \$50.00 per person to The Prologue Society, 18495 S. Dixie Highway #373, Miami, FL 33157;
- **OR bring a check** to the luncheon.

**Note:**

- **IMPORTANT: Remember that all luncheons are held at Riviera Country Club (Ballroom), 1155 Blue Road, Coral Gables, FL 33146.**
- To speed up luncheon check-in and accounting, our preference is that you: 1) pay online, OR 2) mail a check well in advance of the luncheon.
- Mail is taking a while to reach us. (Remember to call or email Debbie right away if you're registering via the mail.)
- **If you haven't yet sent in your membership application**, please do so right away (or activate and pay for your membership online). You will need to be on the membership rolls before we can accept your reservation for this and all future luncheons of this season.

**NOVEMBER 17: ROSS KING**

*Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies*



Claude Monet is perhaps the world's most beloved artist, and among all his creations, the paintings of the water lilies in his garden at Giverny are the most famous. Seeing them in museums around the world, viewers are transported by the power of Monet's brush into a peaceful world of harmonious nature. Monet himself intended them to provide "an asylum of peaceful meditation." *Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies* tells the full story behind the creation of the Water Lilies. Linking great artistic achievement to the personal and historical dramas unfolding around it, Ross King presents an intimate and revealing portrait of an iconic figure in world culture—from his lavish lifestyle and tempestuous personality to his profound friendship with the fiery war leader Georges Clemenceau, who ultimately secured a museum for Monet's masterpieces, the Orangerie, and who regarded the Water Lilies as one of the highest expressions of the human spirit.

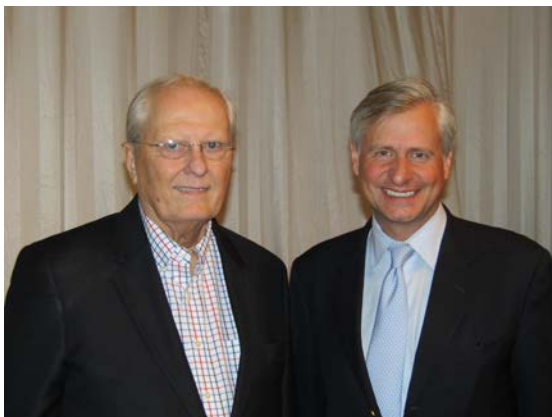
Ross King is the bestselling author of *Brunelleschi's Dome*, *Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling*, *The Judgment of Paris*, *Leonardo and the Last Supper*, and *Machiavelli: Philosopher of Power*, along with two novels, *Ex Libris* and *Domino*. He has twice won Canada's Governor General's Award, and his work has been nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award, the Charles Taylor Prize, and the National Award for Arts Writing. He has lectured at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Smithsonian, the Aspen Institute, and the Frick Collection, and in Florence, Milan, Paris, and Giverny. Born in Canada, he now lives near Oxford with his wife, Melanie.

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Photo credit: Melanie King

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: Sunday, November 13, 2016.**

## RECENT LUNCHEONS

Jon Meacham joined us on October 21. His was a delightful and entertaining presentation before a packed house.



Bud Park and Jon Meacham



James Haskett and Jon Meacham

**2016-2017 SEASON**

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