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Ocean House Collection

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Announcing 2024 Ocean House Art Series: *In Conversation with Stephen Lash*

August 11: *"Rooms with a View: Behind Closed Doors at the Wadsworth Atheneum" -- the unique history of the oldest public art museum in the U.S.*

- Stephen Lash, Chairman Emeritus of [Christie's auction house](#) hosts the [Ocean House](#) art event series
- With guest speaker Oliver Tostmann, Curator of European Art at the [Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art](#)

Sunday, August 11, 2024

2:30pm – 4:00pm

[\\$15 with reservations](#) or call 401.548.7000

Ocean House

Watch Hill, RI

WATCH HILL, RI — Stephen Lash, Chairman Emeritus of Christie's auction house and Ocean House, an iconic seaside resort in Watch Hill, Rhode Island present a special program in their *In Conversation* art series. On August 11, Oliver Tostmann, Susan Morse Hilles Curator of European Art at the Wadsworth Atheneum will join Mr. Lash to talk about the history of the Wadsworth and the colorful figures who made it the beloved institution it is today. As the first museum in America to show Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dalí, the first to screen films in its theater, and the first in the U.S. to host dancer and choreographer George Balanchine *before* he created the New York City Ballet, the Wadsworth is a rich source of stories and legends.

Individuals interested in attending can visit www.oceanhouseevents.com or call 401.548.7000. This programming is part of the hotel's ongoing **Art Adventures and Experiences** programming.

The *In Conversation* Series at Ocean House

The *In Conversation* series began in 2019, and has included members of the art, architectural and literary communities, dealers, as well as auctioneers. Previous programs have covered subjects such as "Fakes and Forgeries" with Christie's, and the "Salem Witch Trials" with the Peabody Library of the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem Massachusetts.

Stephen S. Lash, Chairman Emeritus of Christie's and Program Host

Stephen S. Lash of Christie's auction house will moderate the program. He has served as Chairman of Christie's and had responsibility for launching Christie's auction sales in New York City in 1977. In addition to the Ocean House, he is an advisor to the Peabody Essex Museum and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and has served as Trustee of the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University, the Museum of the City of New York, the Park Avenue Armory, and the New York Landmarks Conservancy. Founded in 1766, Christie's is a world-leading art and luxury business

with a physical presence in 46 countries throughout the Americas, Europe, Middle East, and Asia Pacific, and flagship international sales hubs in New York, London, Hong Kong, Paris and Geneva. Christie's has sold seven of the 10 most important single-owner collections in history, achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction, launched the first fully on-chain auction platform dedicated to exceptional NFT art and manages an investment fund to support innovative startups in the art market.

Keynote Speaker, Oliver Tostmann

Oliver Tostmann is the Susan Morse Hilles Curator of European Art at the Wadsworth overseeing paintings, sculptures, and works on paper from the Middle Ages to the mid-twentieth century. He was previously Curator of the Collection at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and an Andrew W. Mellon Fellow at the National Gallery, Washington, DC.

Ocean House

Nestled on the scenic Atlantic coast in Rhode Island, Ocean House is an iconic seaside resort which brings together top leading figures in the art industry for special events. Originally opened in 1968, Ocean House is perched high on the bluffs in the charming seaside Watch Hill village. The property re-opened its doors in 2010 after a \$140 million historic rebuild. Today, guests enjoy waterfront views from the resort's 49 guestrooms and 20 signature suites. A variety of casual and fine dining options plus the Ocean & Harvest Spa, complimentary resort activities including culinary classes, complimentary croquet, movies and more make Ocean House a perfect destination for luxury escapes. Ocean House is a member of Relais & Châteaux and is one of only 12 hotels in the world to receive triple five stars from Forbes Travel Guide for accommodations, dining, and spa.

The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art

Founded in 1842 by Daniel Wadsworth, the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art is the first public art museum in the United States, combining a history of firsts with a commitment to bring great art to our community and far beyond. The Wadsworth is home to a collection of over 55,000 works of art from antiquity through the present, featuring American art from the 1600s to today, and an internationally renowned collection of European art, among the most distinguished in North America. The Wadsworth has five connected buildings to explore, representing architectural styles from Gothic Revival to International Style and 1960s Brutalism. The castle entrance opens to Main Street in the center of downtown Hartford, Conn. An accessibility entrance is located on Atheneum Square.

Current hours are noon–5pm Thursday–Sunday.

Admission:

Adults \$20 / Seniors \$15/ Students \$10

Always free to Members, Youth (17 and under) and Hartford residents.

Free to all on the First Thursday (5:00pm – 7:00pm) and Second Saturday of each month all day courtesy of the [Art Bridges Foundation](#).

thewadsworth.org