

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

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NEWS

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ALBANY INSTITUTE PARTNERING WITH MARK LAWSON ANTIQUES TO HOST JEWELRY APPRAISAL EVENT

ALBANY, NEW YORK— The Albany Institute of History & Art will host a special Jewelry Appraisal Day in partnership with Mark Lawson Antiques on Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 10:30am to 2pm.

Interested participants are welcome to come to the museum to have well-known local appraiser, Mark Lawson, and a team of certified gemologists appraise market value of jewelries. Appraisals will be \$5 per piece with a limit of three per person. *Note: appraisals will be verbal appraisals.*

Mark Lawson Antiques is a major sponsor of the Albany Institute's current exhibition *Bejeweled and Bedazzled: Jewelry and Personal Adornment*.

More about *Bejeweled and Bedazzled: Jewelry and Personal Adornment*

More than one hundred works of jewelry and personal adornment dating across four centuries sparkle and shine in the exhibition *Bejeweled and Bedazzled: Jewelry and Personal Adornment*. Drawn from the collections of the Albany Institute and private collections, these personal effects tell stories about the individuals who owned them, where and why they were purchased, and what they reveal as works of art and embellishment.

Malachite, gold, pearls—these are just a few of the precious materials we use to adorn ourselves. They say luxury and refinement while declaring our good taste and broadcasting to others our disposable

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Hardstone Intaglio Bracelet, unidentified maker, probably Italy, c. 1860–1870, gold, hardstones, brass, Albany Institute of History & Art, gift of Mrs. Robert Lenox Banks Jr., x1940.651.104

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income. They can spark moments of contemplative reflection by reminding us of family members and loved ones, and occasionally, they announce our membership in clubs and organizations or proudly declare our political affiliations. The pins and bracelets, necklaces and rings that glitter on our wrists and hands or shimmer on our clothing say a great deal about who we are and what we aspire to be. But most significantly, jewels and ornaments delight us, and others, with their rich colors and gleaming surfaces. Not all adornment, however, need to be made from the costliest materials to serve the same purpose. Fabric ribbons, rhinestones, and even human hair braided and twisted into armbands and brooches accentuate our bodies and apparel and speak eloquently about our character and desires.

Throughout the exhibition, paintings, prints, and photographs as well as other rare materials drawn from the Institute's collections broaden our investigation into these small but precious items. *Bejeweled and Bedazzled* is the first exhibition to focus exclusively on the Institute's collection of jewelry and objects of personal adornment.

Exhibition Sponsors

Major support provided by Mark Lawson Antiques and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

In-kind support provided by Ferris Coin and Jewelry, Inc. and Bolt Home.

Special thanks to Jan McEneny.

Season exhibition support is provided by Phoebe Powell Bender, Mr. and Mrs. George R. Hearst III, Charles M. Liddle III, and Lois and David Swawite.

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The Albany Institute of History & Art is located at 125 Washington Avenue in Albany, New York. Free parking is available in the museum's lot at the corner of Elk and Dove Streets.

The exhibition galleries and the Museum Shop are open Wednesday 10am-5pm, Thursday 10am-8pm, Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 10am-5pm, and Sunday noon-5pm. The Research Library is open on Thursdays from 1pm-4:30pm and by appointment. The Museum Café is open Wednesday through Saturday 10am-3pm and Sunday noon-5pm.

Admission rates are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students with ID, \$6 for children aged 6-12, and free for children under 6. Albany Institute members are admitted for free. There is no charge to visit the café or museum shop. The museum offers free admission to the galleries on Thursdays from 5pm-8pm and on the First Fridays of the month from 5pm-8pm. To learn about discounts and free admission days, please refer to the Visit section of www.albanyinstitute.org.

For more information, visit www.albanyinstitute.org or call (518) 463-4478.

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Founded in 1791, the Albany Institute of History & Art is New York's oldest museum. Its collections document the Hudson Valley as a crossroads of culture, influencing the art and history of the region, the state, and the nation. With more than 35,000 objects and one million documents in the library, it is an important resource for the region, giving our community a sense of the part the Hudson Valley played in the American story, and our own place in history. Permanent and temporary exhibitions are open year-round and create a sense of place, allowing visitors to meet the people who helped shape this region. Among the museum's best-known and most-loved collections are the 19th century Hudson River School landscape paintings by artists like Thomas Cole and Frederic Church, the 19th century sculpture collections,

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and, of course, the famous Albany Mummies that came to the museum in 1909 and have been on view ever since. For more information, please visit www.albanyinstitute.org and be sure to follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute), Twitter (@AlbanyInstitute), and Instagram (albanyinstitute).

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