

## Additional Resources:

This program, slideshow and links below can be found at Rosenberg Library  
[www.rosenberg-library.org](http://www.rosenberg-library.org)

For additional web resources, please visit:

[bashapirobooks.com](http://bashapirobooks.com)

[www.gardnermuseum.org](http://www.gardnermuseum.org)

[www.gardnermuseum.org/theft/resources](http://www.gardnermuseum.org/theft/resources)

<http://www.literarytraveler.com/articles/interview-with-b-a-shapiro-author-of-the-art-forgery/>

Interview with B.A. Shapiro

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/04/21/justice/new-york-art-fraud-scheme/>

A recent case involving two Spanish brothers, a Chinese national and charges brought against them for art forgery.

OTHER BOOKS BY B.A. SHAPIRO

*The Safe Room*

*Blind Spot*

*See No Evil*

*Blameless*

*Shattered Echoes*

*The Big Squeeze (non-fiction)*



ROSENBERG LIBRARY  
MUSEUM BOOK CLUB

## PROGRAM AGENDA June 18 - July 17- August 16

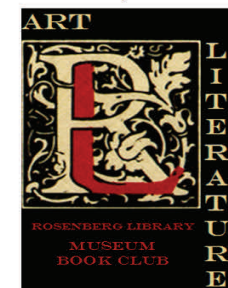
12:00 noon	Welcome & Introductions
12:00-12:15	Art & Artifact Presentation
12:15-1:00	Open Discussion



**Rosenberg Library's  
Museum Book Club provides  
a forum for discovery and  
discussion, linking literary  
selections with art from our  
permanent collection.**

MUSEUM BOOK CLUB

The Intersection of Art & Literature.



Discuss. Discover.

**“There’s not doubt *Bath* is a marvelous work, rich and true. The idea that even the most expert of forgers could have produced it is hard to believe...Although, as I know all too well, people see what they expect to see.”**



**Portrait of a Woman—FAKE**  
in the manner of Amedeo Modigliani (1884-1920)  
(Gift of Howard Barnstone, 86.055)

### **Discussion...**

It is estimated that 40 percent of all artworks put up for sale each year are forgeries. Theodore Rousseau, an expert from the Metropolitan Museum, said, “We can only talk about the bad forgeries, the ones that have been detected. The good ones are still hanging on museum walls.”

Does knowing this affect the way you view great art? How can we tell the difference between what is inauthentic and what is real?



**Farm Scene—FAKE**  
in the manner of Grant Wood (1892-1942)  
(Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cole, 83.071.3)

**“A painting is above all else a product of the artist’s imagination; it must never be a copy.”— Edgar Degas**

**“Good artists borrow; great artists steal” —attributed to Igor Stravinsky**

### **Discussion...**

This novel was inspired by an actual art heist which included works by Manet, Rembrandt, Vermeer, and Degas. But what if Rembrandt didn't paint *The Storm of Galilee*? What if an unknown artist did instead?

Would the painting be any less beautiful? Would it no longer be admired? Would it suddenly be worthless?

What is it that gives an object value?

**“Once a piece of art crawls into your heart, you’ll never let it go.”**



**Dancer Resting—FAKE**  
in the manner of Edgar Degas (1834-1917)  
(Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Goodrich, 85.002)

### **Discussion...**

The relationship between Aiden and Claire is riddled with lies. Can such a relationship survive such betrayals? Did Claire only love him to further her career? Did Aiden love Claire more than *The Three Bathers*? Do you think they really loved each other?