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

**PROGRAM AGENDA**

12:00 noon—1:00pm

- Welcome & Introductions
- Art & Artifact Presentation
- Open Discussion

**BOOKS BY SUSAN VREELAND**
- Clara and Mr. Tiffany
- Luncheon of the Boating Party
- Life Studies
- The Passion of Artemisia
- The Forest Lover
- Girl in Hyacinth Blue
- What Love Sees

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**
http://www.svreeland.com/

**Additional Resources:**
This program, slideshow and links below can be found at Rosenberg Library
www.rosenberg-library.org

**For additional web resources, please visit:**

- The Phillips Collection:
  http://www.phillipscollection.org/collection/boating-party/

- The cleaning controversy:
  http://artwatchuk.wordpress.com/2011/01/08/8th-january-2011/

June 19, 2013
12:00 noon—1:00pm
“With this, the modern genre painting has fully eclipsed the history painting, and art will never be the same again.”

(Chapter 40, Durand-Ruel in Luncheon of the Boating Party)

**Discussion...Historical Fiction**

How did reading a fictional account differ from past book selections?

Why do you think historical fiction has become such a popular genre?

“There is no story. It’s only a moment,” the character of Renoir says near the end of the book. How might Renoir feel about this fictionalized account?

**Discussion...Renoir**

How do you think Renoir’s humble beginnings affected his life and how he painted?

For the Museum Book Club, this book comes full circle to the first selection, “The Hare with Amber Eyes”, a nonfiction book. Was your attitude towards Renoir stilted knowing what you read in that book?

“It wasn’t just Renoir who disliked the Jews. ...Protecting your name and your family’s honour was increasingly difficult as a Jew in Paris.” ~The Hare with Amber Eyes, Chapter 10

**Discussion...Inspiration and The Models**

Vreeland suggests Renoir was inspired by Veronese. At the end, it is said Renoir was carried through the Louvre at the end of his life to admire once again the great masters. Discuss inspiration in general and for Renoir, both before and during the painting.

Vreeland brings to life the individual personality and spirit of each of Renoir’s models. Could you relate to any of these characters? Who was your favorite?