ROSENBERG LIBRARY
MUSEUM BOOK CLUB

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

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

For additional web resources, please visit:
bashapirobooks.com
www.gardnermuseum.org
www.gardnermuseum.org/theft/resources

Interview with B.A. Shapiro

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)

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

*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?

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.

*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?

*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, Rembrant, 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?

*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?