Humanities West Announces its 2019-2020 Season
A Unique Lecture & Performance Series
Exploring History, Celebrating the Arts

Mexico’s Artistic Revolution November 1—2, 2019

Etruscan Italy: Life and Afterlife February 28—29, 2020

Artistic Responses to Napoleon: Beethoven, Goya, and Goethe May 1—2, 2020

Plus a Special Thursday Evening:
Greenberg Among Friends: Mozart February 6, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (SAN FRANCISCO, 21 July, 2019) Humanities West proudly announces its 2019-2020 Season featuring three diverse lecture/performance programs: Mexico’s Artistic Revolution on November 1 & 2, 2019; Etruscan Italy: Life and Afterlife on February 28 & 29, 2020; and Artistic Responses to Napoleon: Beethoven, Goya, and Goethe on May 1 & 2, 2020. The season also includes a special Thursday evening presentation Greenberg Among Friends: Mozart on February 6, 2020. All of the presentations take place at the Marines’ Memorial Theatre, located at 609 Sutter Street in downtown San Francisco. A detailed schedule with complete list of presenters and other resources is available online at www.humanitieswest.org. Single tickets for individual programs range from $30 - $89; discounted series tickets are available. For details contact City Box Office 415-392-4400 or info@cityboxoffice.com. Order tickets online at www.cityboxoffice.com.

Humanities West is a Bay Area arts organization dedicated to presenting multidisciplinary programs exploring history and celebrating the arts. Now in its 36th year, the thought-provoking lectures and dynamic performances continue to focus on the people, places, and events that have shaped and still inform modern culture. Each season Humanities West brings together leading scholars, musicians, and artists to entertain and educate a wide audience of arts lovers, travel buffs, students, teachers, and life-long learners. The 2019-2020 Season embarks on a grand adventure exploring the vibrant populist modernism of Mexico’s Artistic Revolution, the lasting cultural legacy of Etruscan Italy and the chaotic and rapidly changing world of the Napoleonic times as revealed in the Artistic Responses to Napoleon by such artists as Beethoven, Goya, and Goethe. The season includes a special added program, the first in a new Humanities West series celebrating the lives, times, personalities, and music of Mozart, Beethoven, and Brahms, with Robert Greenberg presenting Mozart.
In cooperation with other institutions, such as the Italian Cultural Institute, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Mechanics’ Institute Library and the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, additional public lectures, salons, and panels are presented to further expand upon program topics. A schedule of related programs is available online at www.humanitieswest.org.

Season tickets for all three two-day programs, plus the special Thursday evening program are $399 orchestra and $299 balcony. A Fridays series plus the Thursday program is $199 orchestra and $159 balcony, and a Saturdays series plus the Thursday program is $349 orchestra and $249 balcony. Series subscriptions offer significant savings over single-ticket prices. Single tickets for individual Thursday or Friday programs are $74 orchestra and $54 balcony, and individual Saturday programs are $89 orchestra and $64 balcony; single tickets for both Friday & Saturday combined are $149 orchestra and $99 balcony. Individual balcony tickets for teachers and students are available for $30/day for any program. Free tickets are available in limited quantities for students age 25 or younger (inquire at info@humanitieswest.org). Order direct from City Box Office 415-392-4400 or www.cityboxoffice.com.

2019-2020 SEASON
BRIEF PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Mexico’s Artistic Revolution November 1—2, 2019
Join Humanities West for a two-day program celebrating one of the most dynamic chapters in the modern arts, Mexico’s Artistic Revolution from 1910 to 1960. The 1910–1920 political revolution ushered in an artistic revolution reflecting its values and resulting in the Golden Age of Mexican Cinema. A vibrant literary scene was dominated by Nellie Campobello, Juan Rulfo, Octavio Paz, and Carlos Fuentes. Visual arts ranged from the intensely political to the abstract and the surreal. While these new art forms served political goals, they also provided artists with a way to re-conceive modernism as a populist art form. Artists Diego Rivera, José Clemente Orozco, and David Alfaro Siqueiros expressed themselves on a grand scale, but there were also expressions of intimacy in the portraits of Frida Kahlo and in the pure abstractions of Rufino Tamayo.

Presenters include Maria Eugenia Vázquez Semadeni (UCLA), Mark Castro (Independent Art Historian), Maarten van Delden (UCLA), Adriana Zavala (Tufts University), and Audrey Harris (UCLA). The program includes a performance of traditional mariachi music by Los Cenzontles fronted by the dynamic vocal duo Fabiola Trujillo and Lucina Rodriguez.

Etruscan Italy: Life and Afterlife February 28—29, 2020
The Etruscans were major contributors to some of Western civilization’s greatest achievements in architecture, engineering, and art. A sophisticated and wealthy people living in central Italy between the 8th and 2nd centuries BCE, the Etruscans leave much of their past through their material culture. This program delves into Etruscan tombs, temples, habitation sites, and more, uncovering the artistic legacy that lives on in their tomb paintings, bronze and clay sculpture, vase paintings and gold jewelry. Since their literature has not survived, it is from their material history that we learn about their fascinating culture.

Presenters include Lisa C. Pieraccini (UC Berkeley), Ingrid Edlund-Berry (University of Texas), Christopher Hallett (UC Berkeley), Ili Nagy (University of Puget Sound), and Alexandra A. Carpino (Northern Arizona University). The program features a performance of highlights from Benjamin Britten’s The Rape of Lucretia, introduced by
Clifford (Kip) Cranna (SF Opera) featuring Hope Briggs, Chantal Grybas and Ricky Garcia, with noted baritone Eugene Brancoveanu as the Etruscan Tarquinius.

**Artistic Responses to Napoleon: Beethoven, Goya, and Goethe May 1—2, 2020**

Hope and Change could have been Napoleon's election campaign themes had he been required to submit his leadership to a vote. But reality set in quickly enough, as is revealed by the artistic responses to Napoleonic times: Beethoven in music, Goya in art, and Goethe in literature. This program will explore the music, visual arts and literary contributions during the Napoleonic Era, from Beethoven’s legendary disillusionment of the Emperor, to Goya’s politically incendiary depictions of war, and the German writers who wavered between admiration and horror.

Presenters include Elisabeth Krimmer (UC Davis), Alexander Nemerov (Stanford) and Adrian Daub (Stanford). The program includes two special musical presentations. Friday evening Robert Greenberg (Composer, Lecturer, Performer) will explore the seminal impact of Napoleon on Beethoven, featuring Lino Rivera on piano. On Saturday Richard Savino (Guitarist, Lutenist, Lecturer) directs the ensemble El Mundo for a multimedia presentation on music in the time of Goya.

**Plus a Special Thursday Evening Presentation:**
**Greenberg Among Friends: Mozart February 6, 2020**

For centuries the great composers have been worshiped as gods, thanks to the magnificent musical gifts they have provided. But that same worship can put their all-too-human music at arm’s length by rendering it as something divine. This special Thursday evening presentation is the first in a new Humanities West series that will explore the lives, times, personalities and music of Mozart, Beethoven, and Brahms in an effort to understand the living, breathing people behind their music, people who were – and remain – utterly indivisible from their music. Robert Greenberg lectures and Lino Rivera plays Mozart on piano.