

founded 1962

**FINE ARTS**  
SOCIETY OF PEORIA

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023**

Peoria Riverfront Museum  
222 SW Washington St., Peoria, IL

*MEMBERS free; \$12 NON-MEMBERS and \$5 STUDENTS*

**ANTONIO CANOVA: ITALIAN NEOCLASSICAL SCULPTOR**  
lecture by Dr. C.D. Dickerson III



*Piety, 1783*  
terracotta  
*Private Collection*

Antonio Canova (1757-1822) is considered the greatest Neoclassical sculptor. He is credited with helping to usher in a new aesthetic of clear, regularized form and calm repose inspired by classical antiquities. He was renowned for his carving abilities and the refinement of his marble surfaces, which seem as supple as real flesh.

This lecture will explore Canova's life and prolific career, looking at his significant commissions and extraordinary working methods as reflected in surviving clay models created by the master's hands and small tools which helped him plan his large statues in marble. Canova also made more finished models, sensuous in their details, that he showed to patrons or used as guides for carving.

Dr. C. D. Dickerson III is senior curator of European and American art at the National Gallery of Art, where he has been responsible for key acquisitions and exhibitions, including the 2023 exhibition focused on the brilliantly expressive terra-cotta models by Canova. Previously, he was curator of European art at the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth. Dickerson received his PhD from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University and his BA from Princeton University.



*Adam and Eve Mourning the Dead Abel,*  
circa 1818-1822  
terracotta  
*Museo Gyptotheca Antonio Canova*



*Pope Clement XIV, 1783*  
painted terracotta  
*Museo Gyptotheca Antonio Canova*

*Sponsored by Marcia Burnside and Curt Ribando*

For more information and the full 2023-2024 schedule plus a membership form, please visit [www.FineArtsSociety.net](http://www.FineArtsSociety.net) or contact [membership@fineartssociety.net](mailto:membership@fineartssociety.net)

**EXPLORING \* EXPANDING \* ENLIVENING the Fine Arts in Peoria**