

2018 Dudley Memorial Lecture

What Social and Political Responsibilities Does an Artist Have?

Opening Reception:

Arrive at 5pm to enjoy a reception with beverages and light hors d'oeuvres prior to the 6pm lecture.

This lecture will focus on the social and political responsibilities of an artist:

Should we bring a set of ethics to our work? What tools can we adapt from other fields of practice? Why is a collaborative practice important right now?

Wendy will explore these questions through her own experience as an artist, graphic journalist, social worker, and advocacy campaign director. She'll discuss her work creating visual non-fiction stories, books and campaigns across the world -- from a story on San Francisco's Public Library to a civic education campaign for Rwanda's first democratic election -- and why she believes that keen observation, active listening, narrative, and collaboration are essential tools for a socially engaged art practice today.

Selected Past Dudley Memorial Lectures:

2009

Art Spiegelman
Author and illustrator

2005

James Cuno
Director, Art Institute of Chicago

2000

Elizabeth Catlett
Sculptor, printmaker, educator

1999

Robert Hughes
Author and illustrator

1988

Vincent Scully
Art History Professor, Yale University

1987

J. Kirk Varnedoe
Professor, Institute of Fine Arts, NYU

Corcoran School
of the Arts & Design

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Best Selling Illustrator and Graphic Journalist WENDY MACNAUGHTON



2018 Dudley Memorial Lecture

Tuesday, April 3rd, 2018
Reception at 5pm, Lecture at 6pm
Flagg Building, 500 17th St NW



Wendy MacNaughton

Wendy MacNaughton is an award-winning, New York Times bestselling graphic journalist and illustrator whose books include *Meanwhile in San Francisco* (Chronicle), *Salt Fat Acid Heat* (Simon & Schuster), and *The Gutsy Girl* (Bloomsbury). Her work regularly appears in publications like *The New York Times* and *California Sunday Magazine*, where she is a columnist. She is the co-founder of the international advocacy organization *Women Who Draw*.

Before all that stuff she worked as a campaign director for non-profits and foundations. She created the national campaign for the first democratic elections in Rwanda, developed health education materials for non-literate, nomadic tribes in Northern Kenya, and a short film on civic engagement during the first free elections in The Democratic Republic of Congo in sixty years. She lives in Potrero Hill with her partner (and frequent collaborator) the writer Caroline Paul.

About the Program

The Dudley Memorial Lecture was established in 1984 by Argentina's husband, Robert Whittier Dudley, and their six children to commemorate and perpetuate her life's work and interests. In keeping with Argentina's vision, the objective of the program is to provide memorable and enriching cultural experiences to diverse audiences.

The Dudley family established this endowment fund to secure in perpetuity the annual Dudley Memorial Lecture. The Corcoran welcomes contributions to this important fund. For information about making a gift to the Dudley Endowment Fund, please contact Susan Breitung, Director of Development at sbreitung@email.gwu.edu.



Argentina Copello Dudley, 1960
by Enrique Segura, Madrid
Oil on Canvas
Photograph: Robert & Aida Mates

Argentina Copello Dudley

A native of the Dominican Republic, Argentina Copello brought her passion for art and art history with her to Washington when her father was named ambassador to the United States in 1943.

For a quarter of a century, she devoted her time and energy to the Corcoran. A leader in establishing the volunteer docent program, Argentina quickly became one of the Gallery's champions. She chaired the Corcoran Ball in 1976 and served as president of the Corcoran Women's Committee from 1978 - 1980. She also promoted the establishment of a permanent education department at the Corcoran, personally providing funds for staffing.

A talented artist herself, Argie, as her friends knew her, shared her knowledge and motivated others by training dozens of docents and giving hundreds of gallery tours to children and adults.

With enormous energy and enthusiasm, Argentina Copello Dudley viewed art and art education as illuminating forces that enable people to experience the world with a greater understanding. The Corcoran was fortunate to be the recipient of the devotion and talent of this very gracious lady.



Robert Whittier Dudley

Robert Whittier Dudley was born in Hanover, NH in 1912. At seventeen, Bob invested his meager savings in the post-crash market. Those funds and part-time jobs enabled him to graduate from the University of Wisconsin and the University of Michigan Law School. After serving in the Navy, he married Argentina Copello. For years, they lived in Spring Valley, where they raised six children, eventually moving to Bethesda, MD. Bob was CEO of United Masonry and Consumers Gas, and sat on the boards of a wide array of companies. He also served as a Trustee of Holton-Arms School and Board President for the House of Mercy.

Bob was a practical man, formal and business-like in speech and manner. An avid tennis player, Bob was a smooth dancer and had a beautiful singing voice. After Argie's death, he married Olga Hirschhorn.

When he was young, Bob learned from both bad and good experiences the importance of honesty, integrity, and openness in all his dealings, and worked with the same group of investors for decades. In addition to the edict "never spend principal," Bob instilled in his children the importance of family, steadfast friendships, education, and a sense of humor. As phrased on a momento from his colleagues, "His wisdom gave light."