

Books for DVAA Book Club for 2026

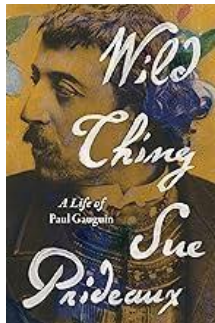
Note: We meet on Zoom, the third Wednesday of the month, at 4 p.m., typically for 1 ½ hours. To be noted on the DVAA website:

<https://davinciartalliance.org/book-club> (under events); hosted on Eleanor Levie's Zoom account. Here's the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81121456935?pwd=5jBxhPYVA9J9P8YEgT25advd4k6mNe.1>

Coordinator: EleanorLevie@gmail.com

(Just don't confuse her for the leader of this group; that changes monthly.)



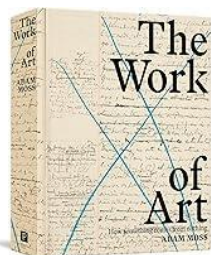
January 21

Wild Thing: A Life of Paul Gauguin, by Sue Prideaux

"An original and revealing portrait of the misunderstood French Post-Impressionist artist. Wild Thing upends much of what we thought we knew about Gauguin through new primary research, including the resurfaced manuscript of Gauguin's most important writing, the untranslated memoir of Gauguin's son, and a sample of Gauguin's teeth that disproves the pernicious myth of his syphilis. In the first full

biography of Paul Gauguin in thirty years, Sue Prideaux illuminates the extraordinary oeuvre of a visionary artist vital to the French avant-garde. The result is "a brilliantly readable and compassionate study of Gauguin—not just as a painter, sculptor, carver and potter, but as a human soul perpetually searching for what is always just out of reach."

Alden will lead



February 18

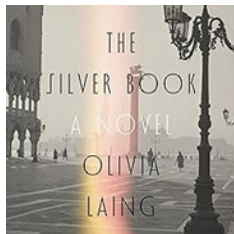
The Work of Art: How Something Comes from Nothing,
by Adam Moss

"From former editor of New York magazine Adam Moss, a collection of illuminating conversations examining the very personal, rigorous, complex, and elusive work of making art What is the work of art? In this guided tour inside the artist's head,

Adam Moss traces the evolution of transcendent novels, paintings, jokes, movies, songs, and more.

Weaving conversations with some of the most accomplished artists of our time together with the journal entries, napkin doodles, and sketches that were their tools, Moss breaks down the work—the tortuous paths and artistic decisions—that led to great art. From first glimmers to second thoughts, roads not taken, crises, breakthroughs, on to one triumphant finish after another.”

Alan L will lead



March 18

The Silver Book, a novel! by Olivia Laing

“Olivia Laing's The Silver Book is at once a queer love story and a noir-ish thriller, set in the dream factory of cinema. It is a fictional account of real things, and an investigation into the difficult relationship between artifice and truth, illusion and reality, love and power.”

Gloria will lead



April 15

Alexander Calder: Modern From the Start, by Cara Manes

“Alexander Modern from the Start celebrates this extraordinarily fertile relationship between an institution and an artist who was both an important creative partner and, with his magnificent gift of 19 works in 1966, a major donor. Through MoMA, Calder came to be known as a pioneer of modern sculpture, and through Calder, MoMA came to understand itself as an American museum of modern art.”

Bill B will lead

***In person: May 18 Calder Gardens + lunch Details TK**



May 20

The Long Run: A Creative Inquiry, by Stacey D'Erasmus

“Instead of easy answers or a road map, The Long Run offers one practitioner’s conversations, anecdotes, confidences, and observations about sustaining a creative life. Along the way, it radically redefines artistic

success, shifting the focus from novelty and output and external recognition toward freedom, fluidity, resistance, community, and survival."

David B will lead



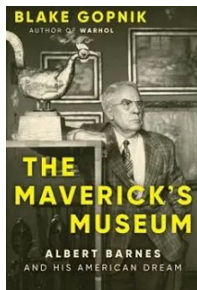
June 17

***In person/ No book club**

Docent Tour: Art Quilters Celebrate Independence. Moore College of Art & Design.

11 a.m., lunch after in the café.

Image Detail: *Keystone* by Peggy Black



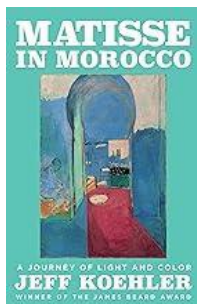
July 15

The Maverick's Museum Albert Barnes and His American Dream,
by Blake Gopnick

"The Maverick's Museum offers a vivid picture of one of America's great eccentrics. The sheer ferocity of Barnes's democratic ambitions left him with more enemies than allies among people of all classes, but for a circle of intimates, he was a model of intelligence, generosity, and loyalty. In this compelling portrait, Gopnik reveals a life shaped by contradictions, one that left a lasting impact."

Eleanor will lead

August – NO MEETING



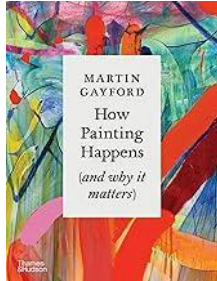
September 16

Matisse in Morocco: A Journey of Light and Color, by Jeff Koehler

"Matisse in Morocco tells the story of the artist's groundbreaking time in Tangier and how it altered Matisse's development as a painter and indelibly marked his work for the next four decades. Through Koehler's research and travel, we experience Matisse's time in Tangier, the paintings and their

subjects, his relationships with his wife Amélie and his two important collectors, and then come to understand the impact Morocco—its light, colors, culture, and artistic traditions—had on his art.”

Rosemary L will lead

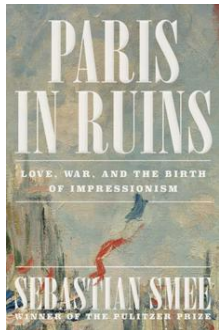


October 21

How Painting Happens (and why it matters), by Martin Gayford

“Martin Gayford’s riveting and richly illustrated book deftly brings together numerous artists’ voices, past and present. It draws on a trove of conversations conducted over more than three decades with artists including Frank Auerbach, Gillian Ayres, Frank Bowling, Cecily Brown, Peter Doig, Lucian Freud, Katharina Fritsch, David Hockney, Claudette Johnson, R. B. Kitaj, Lee Ufan, Paula Rego, Gerhard Richter, Bridget Riley, Jenny Saville, Frank Stella, Luc Tuymans, Zeng Fanzhi, and many more. Here too is Vincent van Gogh on Rembrandt, John Constable on Titian, Francis Bacon on Velázquez, Lee Krasner on Pollock, and Jean-Michel Basquiat on Picasso.”

Joellyn R will lead



November 18

Paris in Ruins: Love, War, and the Birth of Impressionism, by Sebastian Smee

“In stirring and exceptionally vivid prose, Smee tells the story of those dramatic days through the eyes of great figures of Impressionism. douard Manet, Berthe Morisot, and Edgar Degas were trapped in Paris during the siege and deeply enmeshed in its politics. Others, including Pierre-August Renoir and Fr d ric Bazille, joined regiments outside of the capital, while Claude Monet and Camille Pissarro fled the country just in time. In the aftermath, these artists developed a newfound sense of the fragility of life. That feeling for transience--reflected in Impressionism's emphasis on fugitive light, shifting seasons, glimpsed street scenes, and the impermanence of all things--became the movement's great contribution to the history of art.

Alan L might lead

December - ***In person,** PARTY at Casa Levie-Harrington!!!