

Figge lecture highlights Raphael's famous fresco 'School of Athens'

Written by Susan Horan
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“Art & Ideas” Series offered at the Figge

The Figge Art Museum presents the third lecture in a four-part series entitled “Celebrating Ideas” at 7 pm Thursday, April 21. Dr. Emil Kramer, Associate Professor and Chair of Classics at Augustana College will present the lecture “Egypt, Athens, Rome—and Us: Five Millennia of Connections through Art.” The lecture series is offered in conjunction with the special exhibition *Celebrating Ideas: Bridging Communities with Augustana’s Liberal Arts through the AGES*, on view at the Figge through May 29

The exhibition of 100 works is in celebration of Augustana’s 150th

anniversary, and presents a rich and diverse art historical overview of pieces from the Augustana College Art Collection.

Professor Kramer’s talk will highlight the ideas behind *School of Athens*, a fresco painted by the Renaissance master Raphael in 1510-11. This well known image depicts the Classical Greek Philosophers Plato and Aristotle surrounded by mathematicians, naturalists, astronomers, geographers, and other philosophers. Pope Julius II commissioned *School of Athens*, along with twelve other frescoes, for one room in the Vatican palace. An engraving by Joannes (Giovanni) Volpato after a drawing by Joseph (Giuseppe) Cades of Raphael’s *School of Athens* is included in the Augustana exhibition.

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The “Celebrating Ideas” series is part of the Figge’s weekly *Thursdays at the Figge* programming. Admission to the museum and lecture is \$7. Admission is free to Figge members and Figge institutional members. The Figge Arts Café and Bar will be open before and after the lecture. □