

Monday February 20, 2023
“Artemisia Gentileschi: New Superstar of the Italian Baroque”

Presenter: Dr. Frank Mormando

Doors Open 11:00

Lecture 11:30 Lunch to Follow

Price: \$65

Naples Hilton

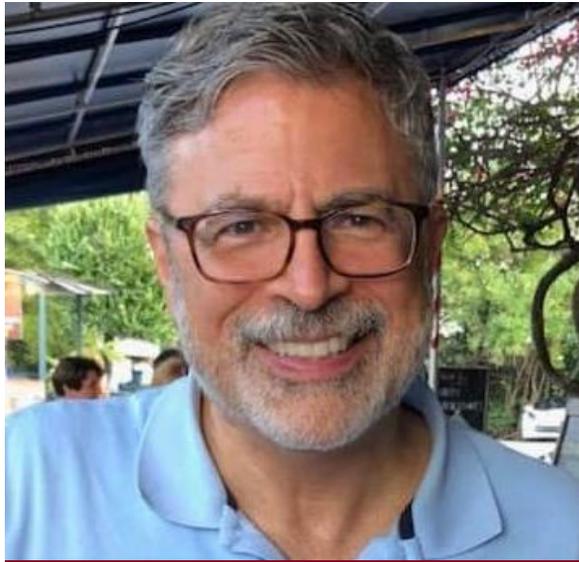
**Chairs: Evie Salustro
Bill Reiling**

Throughout history the reputations of artists continually rise and fall, often dramatically so. Such is the case of Artemisia Gentileschi, the Italian Baroque artist (1593-1653/6) who during her lifetime reached fame and fortune as a member of the "Caravaggio generation." However, soon after her death, like many women artists of the period, Artemisia was largely forgotten, remembered only perhaps because of the sensational court trial of which she was the center (her father brought his workshop assistant to trial for raping Artemisia). All that has changed in the past twenty years, thanks to the re-discovery of a series of masterful new paintings firmly attributed to her hand and of much new documentation revealing the details of her highly successful career. Artemisia has now stepped out of the shadows and into the spotlight as the most successful woman artist in Italian history, as Prof. Mormando's lecture will illustrate.

For special dietary needs, please contact the event Chair at least one (1) week before the luncheon.



Speaker Bio



Dr. Frank Mormando

DR. FRANCO MORMANDO is Professor of Italian at Boston College, where he has taught since 1994. Born and raised in Manhattan, he did his B.A. at Columbia University while his two graduate degrees in Italian (M.A. and Ph.D.) are from Harvard University. He holds as well a licentiate (Master's degree) in church history from the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, having also completed the *Biennio di Filosofia* program at the Gregorian University in Rome.

In 1999 he was principal curator and catalogue editor of the Boston Caravaggio exhibition, *Saints and Sinners: Caravaggio and the Baroque Image*. He was also originator and co-curator of the 2005 exhibition at the Worcester Art Museum entitled *Hope and Healing: Painting in Italy in a Time of Plague, 1500-1800*. More recently, he was a contributor to the exhibition of Roman Baroque art, *The Holy Name. Art of the Gesù: Bernini and His Age*, at the Fairfield University Art Museum, featuring the first appearance outside of Rome of Bernini's marble portrait bust of Roberto Bellarmino.

Author of various interdisciplinary articles on Italian literature and history, popular religion and sermons, he has lectured extensively on the religious art and culture of early modern Italy at various universities and museums including the Metropolitan Museum and Frick Museum of New York; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; and the Galleria Borghese, Rome.

His extensively annotated English translation and critical edition of Domenico Bernini's *Life of Gian Lorenzo Bernini* was published in February of 2011. Published in October of 2011 by the University of Chicago Press was his own biography of Bernini entitled, *Bernini: His Life and His Rome*, and representing the first English-language account of the artist's private life and public career. He has given many presentations for the general public on Bernini, in various venues, including the Kimbell Museum of Art (Ft. Worth, TX), the Phoenix Art Museum, the Istituto.