

February 15 through April 18, 2010

Opening Reception February 15, 2010, 7 to 9 p.m.

Elmyr de Hory, Artist and Faker

Featuring two public lectures:

Jonathan Lopez, Sunday, February 28, 2010, 3:30 p.m.**Mark Forgy**, Sunday, March 21, 2010, 3:30 p.m.

Lectures are in Wallenberg Auditorium, Nobel Hall of Science.



FOCUS IN/ON: Henry Schnakenberg's *Dominoes*

Featuring collaborative analysis by **Carolyn Pillers Dobler**, Professor and Chair, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science and **Donald Myers**, Director, Hillstrom Museum of Art

Hillstrom Museum of Art

gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom

Events are free and open to the public.

Museum Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays, 1-5 p.m. weekends

800 West College Avenue
St. Peter, MN 56082

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Auditorium, Nobel Hall of ScienceElmyr de Hory (1906-1976),
Matisse Odalisque, c.1973,
oil on canvas, 19 x 24 inches,
Collection of Mark Forgy

Hillstrom Museum of Art

Henry Schnakenberg (1892-
1970), *Dominoes*, 1956,
oil on canvas, 9 x 20 inches,
gift of Reverend Richard L.
Hillstrom

FOCUS IN/ON:

Henry Schnakenberg's *Dominoes*

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Schnakenberg's 1956 oil painting will be considered in another of the Museum's FOCUS IN/ON projects, in which a single work from the Hillstrom Collection is analyzed in depth in collaboration with a colleague from across the curriculum. An essay co-written with Carolyn Pillers Dobler, Professor and Chair, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, will consider the artist and his career, and the elements of pattern and chance that can be discerned in the painting.

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This exhibition features works by one of the most notorious art fakers of modern times, Elmyr de Hory, who is believed to have created hundreds of fakes of modern masters such as Henri Matisse (1869-1954) or Amedeo Modigliani (1884-1920) that were accepted into museums and prominent collections in the U.S. and abroad. Mark Forgy, who formed a close friendship with de Hory in the final years of his life, will lend works that the artist gave or bequeathed to him. Some of these were done in the style of other artists but signed with de Hory's own name, while others were in the artist's own style.

Forgy is collaborating with filmmaker Jeff Oppenheim to create a documentary on de Hory, who has been the subject of earlier significant biographies that include a 1969 study titled *Fake! The Story of Elmyr de Hory, the Greatest Art Forger of Our Time*, written by Clifford Irving (just before his own forgery, the spurious biography of Howard Hughes). Film studies on de Hory include Orson Welles' *F for Fake* (1972), a BBC documentary titled *Elmyr, the True Picture?* (1970), and a recent film by Norwegian Knut Jorfald titled *Masterpiece or Forgery? The Story of Elmyr de Hory* (1997).

In addition to over seventy paintings, drawings and prints by de Hory from Forgy's collection, the exhibition will also include genuine works by some of the artists de Hory frequently forged, lent by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, plus a fake Matisse from the collection of the Saint Louis Art Museum (to which it was donated in 1970 as a fake by Elmyr de Hory, for the purpose of study).

This exhibition is supported by a generous grant from the Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation.

Events are free and open to the public. Museum hours: 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. weekdays, 1-5 p.m. weekends. For more information, visit gustavus.edu/finearts/hillstrom. To be placed on the Museum's emailing list, write to hillstrom@gustavus.edu.



Left: Elmyr de Hory (1906-1976), *Portrait of a Woman (in the style of Modigliani)*, c.1974, oil on canvas, 21 x 15 inches, Collection of Mark Forgy

Top: Elmyr de Hory (1906-1976), after Henri Matisse, *Portrait of a Girl*, pen and ink on paper, 20 1/2 x 15 7/16 inches, Saint Louis Art Museum, Gift of The Main Street Gallery

Above: Elmyr de Hory (1906-1976), *Regatta (in the style of Raoul Dufy)*, c.1972, oil on canvas, 19 x 25 inches, Collection of Mark Forgy

GUEST LECTURES



Jonathan Lopez

Sunday, February 28, 2010, 3:30 p.m.
Wallenberg Auditorium, Nobel Hall of Science

Jonathan Lopez, author of bestseller *The Man Who Made Vermeers: Unvarnishing the Legend of Master Forger Han van Meegeren* (2009), will discuss van Meegeren, who ranks with Elmyr de Hory as one of the most infamous forgers of art, and who is known for his fakes after the great Dutch 17th century painter Johannes Vermeer.

Mark Forgy

Sunday, March 21, 2010, 3:30 p.m.
Wallenberg Auditorium, Nobel Hall of Science



Mark Forgy, lender of the works by de Hory, will present a public lecture based on his recently-written memoirs of his friendship with Elmyr de Hory.

Right: Elmyr de Hory (1906-1976), *Portrait of Mark Forgy*, 1969, oil on canvas, 28 x 19 inches, Collection of Mark Forgy



Elmyr de Hory, photographed by Pierre Boulat for a February 6, 1970 *Life Magazine* article

