



RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)

Invites you to its meeting **May 2, 2018 at
First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT**

Page Knox, Ph.D.

Thomas Cole's Journey: Atlantic Crossings



Thomas Cole is recognized as the father of American landscape painting. He captured nature in his sublime landscapes of the untrammelled wilderness. Born in northern England in 1801, he came of age witnessing the ravages of the industrial revolution. When Cole was seventeen his father relocated the family to America. The aspiring artist found his way to New York and established himself with original landscapes of the Catskills, Adirondacks, and Hudson River Valley.

In 1829 Cole set off on a three year journey across the Atlantic to encounter the great works of the past and the artists of the present. He studied the major British landscape painters of his day, among them J.M.W. Turner and John Constable, and went to Italy to paint the ancient monuments and picturesque countryside. His experience abroad culminated in some of his finest works, *The Oxbow* and *The Course of Empire* series, executed upon his return to the United States. Cole's passion for the American wilderness resulted in his fervent visual warnings in his paintings of the harsh ecological cost of unchecked development of the land.

Page Knox will discuss Cole's remarkable development which is the subject of an exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, *Thomas Cole's Journey: Atlantic Crossings*, on view through May 13th. She will also illuminate his extraordinary legacy as seen in the works of the next generation of American landscape painters whom he mentored, notably Asher B. Durand and Frederic E. Church.

Dr. Knox is a Lecturer and Educator at the Met, and teaches Art Humanities and classes on American Art at Columbia University. She earned her Ph.D. in Art History from Columbia and her B.A. in Art History from Yale.

Next Week: May 9, Alisyn Camerota, Co-anchor of CNN's *New Day*, "A Television Journalist's Struggle for Truth"

The Greenwich Retired Men's Association offers a free program every Wednesday that is open to the public, both men and women; no reservations are required. Our social break starts at 10:40 AM followed promptly by our speaker at 11:00 AM. Programs are at the First Presbyterian Church, 1 West Putnam in Greenwich. For additional information see www.greenwichrma.org or contact info@greenwichrma.org