



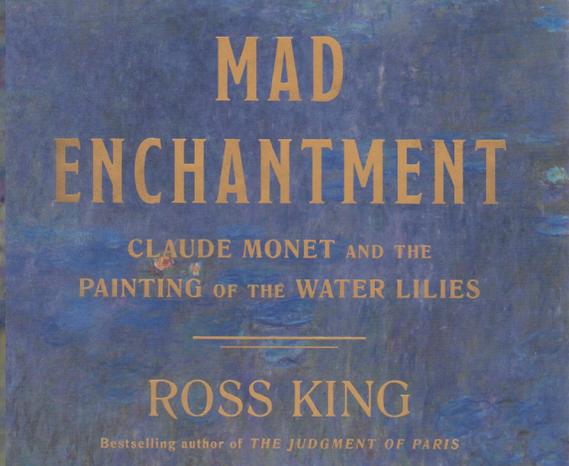
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Oil Painters of America Invites You to Meet  
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Times Book Prize Finalist

**ROSS KING**

# *Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Paintings of the Water Lilies*

A **zoom** presentation – Wednesday, June 23 – Noon (CST)



Claude Monet is perhaps the world's most beloved artist, and among all his creations, the paintings of the water lilies in his garden at Giverny are most famous. Seeing them in museums around the world, viewers are transported by the power of Monet's brush into a peaceful world of harmonious nature. Monet himself intended them to provide "an asylum of peaceful meditation." Yet, as Ross King reveals in his magisterial chronicle of both artist and masterpiece, these beautiful canvases belie the intense frustration Monet experienced at the difficulties of capturing the fugitive effects of light, water, and color. They also reflect the terrible personal torments Monet suffered in the last dozen years of his life.

*Mad Enchantment* tells the full story behind the creation of the Water Lilies, as the horrors of World War I came ever closer to Paris and Giverny, and a new generation of younger artists, led by Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso, were challenging the achievements of Impressionism.

[Click here to order your own copy in anticipation of this event!](#)

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## About the Author:

*'King has made a career elucidating crucial episodes in the history of art and architecture.'* – Time Magazine



Ross King is the bestselling author of books on Italian, French and Canadian art and history. Among his books are *Brunelleschi's Dome* (2000), *Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling* (2002), *The Judgment of Paris* (Governor General's Award, 2006), *Leonardo and The Last Supper* (Governor General's Award, 2012), and *Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies* (Charles Taylor Prize, 2017). He has also published two novels (*Domino* and *Ex-Libris*), a biography of Niccolò Machiavelli, and a collection of Leonardo da Vinci's fables, jokes and riddles. He is the co-author with Anja Grebe of *Florence: The Paintings & Frescoes, 1250-1743* (2015), the most comprehensive book ever undertaken on the art of Florence. Ross's newest book, the subject of four years of research and writing, marks his return to the 'Golden Age' of fifteenth-century Florence. *The Bookseller of Florence* tells the remarkable true story of one of the unsung heroes of the Italian Renaissance: the manuscript dealer Vespasiano da Bisticci, known as 'the king of the world's booksellers'. In tandem with his writing, Ross is an active fundraiser for the arts and a passionate lecturer and tour guide. He has lectured in many American museums, including at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Frick Collection, and the National Gallery.