

John Adams Unbound

Wimberly Library
January 6 ~ February 17, 2011
Exhibitions & Lecture Series



Unknown artist, *John Adams*, undated. National Park Service, Adams National Historical Park, Quincy, Massachusetts.

EXHIBITIONS

John Adams Unbound

Wimberly Library Atrium Lobby
Regular Library Hours

John Adams Unbound, a colorful panel exhibition, explores the personal library of John Adams, a founding father who wrestled with intellectual and political ideas at every stage in his long life. The panels showcase selections from Adams' personal collection of 3,500 books and provide insight into how he shaped American history through his lifelong dedication to reading. *John Adams Unbound* has been organized by the Boston Public Library and the American Library Association Public Programs Office. This traveling exhibition has been made possible by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: great ideas brought to life.



Unknown artist, *John Adams*, undated. Private Collection.



Missale Romanum, 1677. Marvin & Sybil Weiner Spirit of America Collection.

Marvin & Sybil Weiner
Spirit of America Collection
Rare Books & Pamphlets
Companion Exhibition

5th Floor East
Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1-3 p.m.

The *Marvin & Sybil Weiner Spirit of America Collection* presents a companion exhibition of rare books and pamphlets related to John Adams, his time and the thematic areas of *John Adams Unbound*. Over 100 items from the Weiner collection will be on display highlighting crucial aspects of *Unbound*, such as law, theology, the American Revolution, and including works by Cicero, William Blackstone, Thomas Paine, Mary Wollstonecraft and many other influential writers, philosophers and statesmen.



LECTURE SERIES

5TH FLOOR EAST ~ PERFORMANCE SPACE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20 AT 2 P.M.

JOHN AND ABIGAIL ADAMS:
LOVE AND MARRIAGE IN THE NEW NATION
ANNA LAWRENCE, PH.D.

John and Abigail Adams left behind a fascinating set of materials in their letters to each other, particularly the letters they wrote while they were separated during the turbulent years of Revolutionary America. Their relationship illuminates the ways that women's roles were changing during the Revolutionary and early Republican era. Dr. Lawrence will explore how men and women related to one another in love and marriage, using the Adams' letters as a lens for understanding the social waves of change in the Revolutionary era.



Jane Stuart, *Abigail Adams*, undated. National Park Service, Adams National Historical Park, Quincy, Massachusetts.

MONDAY, JANUARY 24 AT 1:30 P.M.

JOHN AND ABIGAIL ADAMS
"DRAMATICALLY SPEAKING"
WILLIAM AND SUE WILLS

Dramatists William and Sue Wills explore the lives, career and sacrifices of John and Abigail Adams using speeches, letters and diaries in this historical presentation. Using theatrical formats including period costumes, dialects and demeanors, these veteran actors not only recreate history, but move audiences to laughter and tears.



Jane Stuart, *John Adams*, undated. National Park Service, Adams National Historical Park, Quincy, Massachusetts.

MONDAY, JANUARY 31 AT 2 P.M.

GIVING MEANING TO THE REVOLUTION:
CELEBRATIONS AND COUNTER-CELEBRATIONS IN THE FIRST 50 YEARS OF AMERICA'S NATIONHOOD
KRISTEN BLOCK, PH.D.

This talk will present Americans' earliest efforts to make sense of the violence and upheaval that resulted from the war for independence from Britain. Early commemorative rituals planned for the 4th of July looked back to the war to create a sense of national purpose by celebrating shared sacrifices. Early commemorations also created a festive atmosphere in which to promote political values of republican virtue among the populace. However, some segments of the population, most notably free African-Americans, were disgruntled with many of these celebrations, emphasizing the need to turn the "dream deferred" into a reality for all Americans.

If accommodation for a disability is required, contact Sara Landset at 561-297-3921/TTY: 1-800-955-8770, a minimum of five days in advance of event.