

Speakers Announced for 39th Annual Art & Antiques Show

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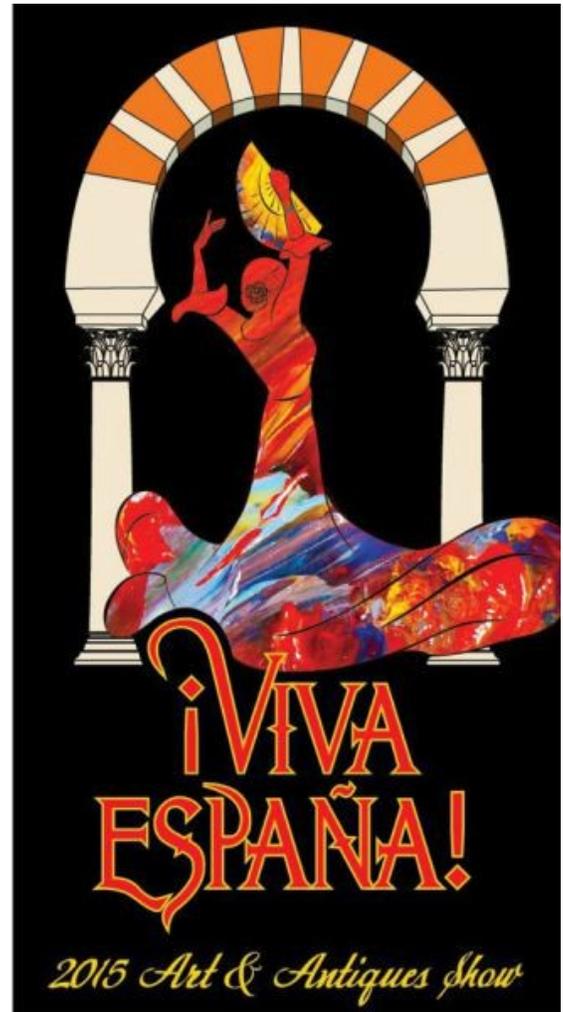
Beginning Thursday, Dec. 3, the Art & Antiques Show kicks off with a Sneak Peek and Benefactor Preview in advance of a 6:45 p.m. lecture from Jacksonville native Alexa von Tobel. Named the "Most Powerful Woman Entrepreneur of 2014" by *Fortune Magazine*, von Tobel is a celebrated financial expert, a *New York Times* bestselling author and Founder and CEO of LearnVest.com.

On Friday, Dec. 4, attendees will enjoy a lecture by top designer Alexa Hampton at 10 a.m., followed by a signing of her newest book, *Decorating in Detail*. Hampton is owner and Design Lead of Mark Hampton LLC, an internationally acclaimed design firm begun by her father, the late Mark Hampton, and is a recurrent member of top designer lists such as *Architectural Digest*.

Also on Friday, at 11:30 a.m., designer Juli Catlin and antiques expert William Nash will explore Florida's design aesthetic and its influences from Spain's Ponce de Leon to Palm Beach's Lilly Pulitzer. As principal of Catlin Design, Catlin has led her firm to more than 30 years of design excellence and has been featured in many national publications. Nash is one of the Southeast's up-and-coming experts in antiques and decorative arts and, in partnership with his father, runs E.W. Nash & Son, an antiques restoration and appraisal firm in Jacksonville.

On Saturday, Dec. 5, Richard Keith Langham will lecture at 10 a.m. Langham is an Alabama native who was educated in New York, apprenticed under Mark Hampton and has been recognized on *Elle Décor's* A-list as well as *Architectural Digest's* AD100. Langham's clients have included the late Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Mrs. William F. Buckley and Hilary Swank.

At 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, interior designer Barbara Westbrook will speak and sign her book, *Gracious Rooms*, which explores the dynamic between comfort, charm and elegant style. Since 1992, Westbrook has run her Atlanta-based interior design firm, Westbrook Interiors, and has made her mark on high-end



residential and commercial spaces in addition to being regularly featured in national design publications.

Concluding the lecture series on the final day of the Art & Antiques Show,

Dr. J. Michael Francis will speak Sunday, Dec. 6, at 1 p.m. His topic, *Before Jamestown: Europeans, Africans and Indians in Spanish Florida*, celebrates the Show's 2015 Spanish theme. Francis is a historian who is considered an international expert on colonial Latin America, Early Florida, Spanish Borderlands, the Pre-Columbian Americas and Spanish Paleography. He was appointed by the President to St. Augustine's 450th Commemoration Commission and is the author of numerous articles and books on Spanish history, most recently *St. Augustine, American's First City: A Story of Unbroken History & Enduring Spirit*. Dr. Francis is known for his extreme depth of knowledge and charismatic style.

"The 2015 lecturers are incredibly knowledgeable and truly experts in their unique areas," said Sheila Collier, who is chairing this year's Art & Antiques Show with Christy Martin. "All interested in attending should purchase tickets in advance, as they are going fast."

Show hours are: Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are available online at www.artandantiquesshow.com, by calling (904) 202-2886 or by email at womensboardwch@bmcjax.com. Daily admission to the Show is \$15, and lecture tickets are \$30. Higher level tickets for multiple events and corporate sponsorships are available.

For further details and a complete listing of Show events, visit the Art & Antiques Show website at www.artandantiquesshow.com.