

# WINTERTHUR LECTURE WILL EXPLORE TRENDS, VALUES, AUTHENTICITY OF TIFFANY MARKET

## *Noted Manhattan Gallery Owner Benjamin Macklowe Will Share Insights*

**WINTERTHUR, DELAWARE**—In conjunction with Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library's major exhibition *Tiffany Glass: Painting with Color and Light* and the companion exhibition *Tiffany: The Color of Luxury*, Winterthur is hosting an October 20 lecture by Benjamin Macklowe, president of Macklowe Gallery in Manhattan, the world's most respected dealer of the Tiffany oeuvre and French art nouveau decorative arts.

"Today's Tiffany Market: Understanding Current Trends, Values, and Authenticity" will explore the market for Louis C. Tiffany's extraordinary creations. The lecture begins at 6:00 pm in Copeland Lecture Hall in Winterthur's Visitor Center. Admission is \$5 for Members, \$15 for nonmembers, with students free with valid ID. Register at [winterthur.org](http://winterthur.org) or by calling 800-448-3883.

"None of us has a crystal ball to know where the market will be in a decade, much less in a hundred years," Macklowe said. "The true value in 'investing' in art is not its eventual sale price, it is the pleasure the owner will derive from it every day."

Macklowe noted that "the market has obviously changed significantly since Tiffany's time. The 16" Vine Border table lamp was apparently the most popular lamp every made at the Tiffany Studios, since it is the most common lamp available today. At \$35, it was certainly more attainable than the 16" Snowball Hydrangea table lamp, which cost \$100. However, a best quality Vine Border would cost about \$20,000 today, whereas the equivalent in a Snowball Hydrangea would be about \$200,000. Obviously, the marketplace has decided what it would rather have."

*Tiffany Glass: Painting with Color and Light*, which runs through January 3, 2016 at Winterthur, is comprised of five windows, twenty lamps, and seventy-five pieces of opalescent flat glass. Models illustrate how leaded-glass shades are fabricated, and three Tiffany lamp forgeries explore issues of authenticity and connoisseurship.

In his lecture, Macklowe will use examples from museums, auctions and the Macklowe Gallery to explore trends (how Tiffany's use of abstraction put him at the artistic helm of American Modernism), values (the evolution of the collectors' market), and authenticity (how to evaluate authenticity and value, and where expertise plays a role).

In addition, he will uncover how Tiffany's artistic success was rooted in his mastery of color and exotic forms and why the Tiffany art glass and lamp markets have always been separate.

Macklowe has appeared on television to discuss Tiffany lamps with Martha Stewart, lectured on the art glass of Emile Gallé at the Taft Museum of Art in Cincinnati, and lectured on art nouveau jewelry at Christie's Auction House on multiple occasions.

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Benjamin Macklowe, photo by Eric Jukelevics.

### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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Winterthur—known worldwide for its preeminent collection of American decorative arts, naturalistic gardens, and research library for the study of American art and material culture—offers a variety of tours, exhibitions, programs, and activities throughout the year. General admission includes a tour of some of the most notable spaces in the 175-room house as well as access to the Winterthur Garden and Galleries, special exhibitions, a narrated tram tour (weather permitting), the Campbell Collection of Soup Tureens, and the Enchanted Woods children's garden. \$20 adults; \$18 for students and seniors; \$5 for ages 2–11.

### **Museum hours**

10:00 am- 5:00 pm, Tuesday- Sunday.

Winterthur, located on Route 52, six miles northwest of Wilmington, Delaware, and five miles south of U.S. Route 1, is closed on Mondays (except during Yuletide), Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day.

Winterthur is committed to accessible programming for all. For information, including special services, call 800.448.3883, 302.888.4600, or TTY 302.888.4907, or visit [winterthur.org](http://winterthur.org).



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Three more lectures are planned at Winterthur to accompany the Tiffany exhibition:

- At 1:00 pm October 30, Daphne Lingon, senior jewelry specialist at Christie's Auction House, discusses "Tiffany & Company: The Allure of America's Jeweler."
- At 6:00 pm November 3, Alice Cooney Frelinghuysen, Curator of American Decorative Arts at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in Manhattan, reviews Tiffany Studio works in "Unimaginable Splendors: The Art of Louis C. Tiffany."
- And at 6:00 pm December 2, Lindsay R. Parrott, Director of Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass in New York City, explores Tiffany glass history and types in "Unimaginable Splendors of Color: Tiffany's Opalescent Glass." The Winterthur exhibition was organized by the Neustadt Collection.

Tiffany used exotic motifs, extraordinary color, and abstracted forms in his lamps and art glass to change the vocabulary of American design. While the Tiffany Studios ceased production in 1933, the meticulous craftsmanship of every lamp and vase has turned each into its own timeless masterpiece.

As a painter, Tiffany was captivated by the interplay of light and color, and this fascination found a spectacular expression in his glass "paintings." With opalescent glass, he captured and manipulated to achieve impressionistic effects. Using innovative techniques and materials, Tiffany Studios created leaded-glass windows and lamps in richly varied colors, patterns, textures, and opacities.

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