

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Major Speaker Event at Thomas Cole House *Featuring Yale Professor, Timothy Barringer, Ph.D.*

Catskill, NY - Cedar Grove is pleased to announce the Third Annual Raymond Beecher Lecture, Saturday, October 25th at 4pm, featuring Dr. Timothy Barringer, Paul Mellon Professor at the Yale University Department of the History of Art. Dr. Barringer co-curated the groundbreaking exhibition, *American Sublime: Landscape Painting in the United States, 1825-1880* (London: Tate, 2002), and was co-author of the accompanying publication that is now out of print and highly sought. He specializes in eighteenth-, nineteenth- and twentieth-century art and visual culture of Britain and the British Empire, American art and museum studies. Following positions at the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Universities of London and Birmingham in Great Britain, he came to Yale in 1998. His books include *Reading the Pre-Raphaelites* (1998), *Men at Work* (2005) and *Opulence and Anxiety* (2007), catalogue for an exhibition at Compton Verney.



Dr. Barringer talk, “The Englishness of Thomas Cole”, will explore the influence of Thomas Cole's childhood years in England on his artistic output, his writing and philosophy. Thomas Cole (1801-1848) lived in England until his family moved to America when he was still in his teens. During these early years of the 19th century, Cole witnessed the beginnings of the Industrial Revolution in his homeland, leaving an indelible mark on his understanding of the landscape, and man's relationship to it. In his adopted home, Cole became one of the first Americans to speak out against unchecked destruction of what he saw as a new Eden and urged his countrymen to better appreciate the natural wonders and wild beauty of the American landscape.

The lecture is free and begins at **4pm, Saturday, October 25th**, at The Thomas Cole National Historic Site, located at 218 Spring Street in Catskill, near the Rip Van Winkle Bridge.

This Major Lecture event is named for the Greene County Historian, Raymond Beecher, whose lifetime of service to scholarship and historic preservation is recognized by the naming of this annual event in his honor. Admission to the lecture will be free of charge due to the Raymond Beecher Fund for Programming at Cedar Grove. Contributions to the fund may be sent to the Thomas Cole Site at PO Box 426, Catskill, NY 12414. The Thomas Cole site is affiliated with the National Park Service and owned by the Greene County Historical Society. For more information, call (518) 943-7465 ext.3 or visit www.thomascole.org.

This event has also been made available in part with funds from the New York Council for the Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.