

PLAZA

SOCIAL CLUB

AT THE BEAUTIFUL RHODA GOLDMAN PLAZA AND JFCS CAMPUS

This Month at the Plaza Social Club: May 2019

Tuesday, May 7

Black Cedar Music Group

Flute and Cello

Enjoy the delightful sounds of flutist, Kris Palmer and cellist, Isaac Pastor-Chermak as they present a program of Classical and Romantic duos by Gliere, Godard, and Stamitz.

Tuesday, May 14

Monet: The Late Years

de Young Museum

This unique exhibition features 50 paintings by Claude Monet dating mainly from 1913 to 1926, the final phase of his long career, including 20 works from the Musée Marmottan Monet in Paris. During his late years, the well-traveled Monet stayed close to home, inspired by the variety of elements making up his own garden at Giverny. With its flowerbeds, footpaths, willows, wisteria, and water lilies, the garden became a personal laboratory for the artist's sustained study. Boldly balancing representation and abstraction, Monet's radical late works redefined him as a forerunner of modernism.

Tuesday, May 21

We Can't Talk Anymore? Understanding the Structural Roots of Partisan Polarization and the Decline of Democratic Discourse in 21st Century America

David Peritz

Political polarization, accompanied by negative partisanship, are striking features of the current political landscape. Perhaps these trends were originally confined to politicians and the media, but we recently reached the point where the majority of Americans report they would consider it more objectionable if their children married across party lines than if they married someone of another faith. Where did this polarization come from? And what is it doing to American democracy, which is housed in institutions that were framed to encourage open deliberation, compromise, and consensus formation? In this talk, we will examine some of the deeper forces in the American economy, the public sphere and media, political institutions, and even moral psychology that best seem to account for the recent rise in popular polarization.

Tuesday, May 28

Norton I – Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico

Joseph Amster

Join us as we welcome historian Joseph Amster in his alter-ego Norton I, Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico. During his talk you will learn about Emperor Norton – the man and the myth, his rise and fortune, how he lost everything and became the Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico, how San Francisco embraced his Imperial reign, the truth about Bummer and Lazarus, the Widow Norton, Norton's relationship to the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus, his death and burial, and much more.