

ON THE SAME PAGE 2024:

The Art Forger

by B.A. Shapiro

On March 18, 1990, thirteen works of art worth today over \$500 million were stolen from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. It remains the largest unsolved art heist in history, and Claire Roth, a struggling young artist, is about to discover that there's more to this crime than meets the eye.

Claire makes her living reproducing famous works of art for a popular online retailer. Desperate to improve her situation, she lets herself be lured into a Faustian bargain with Aiden Markel, a powerful gallery owner. She agrees to forge a painting - one of the Degas masterpieces stolen from the Gardner Museum - in exchange for a one-woman show in his renowned gallery. But when the long-missing Degas painting - the one that had been hanging for one hundred years at the Gardner - is delivered to Claire's studio, she begins to suspect that it may itself be a forgery.

Claire's search for the truth about the painting's origins leads her into a labyrinth of deceit where secrets hidden since the late nineteenth century may be the only evidence that can now save her life. B. A. Shapiro's razor-sharp writing and rich plot twists make **The Art Forger** an absorbing literary thriller that treats us to three centuries of forgers, art thieves, and obsessive collectors. It is a dazzling novel about seeing - and not seeing - the secrets that lie beneath the canvas.

Book Discussions

Join one of the following book discussions after reading **The Art Forger** by B.A. Shapiro.

A limited number of free books are available at each library.

Please contact your home library for details.

Between the Covers Book Club (RPLD)

Thursday, October 10
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

In-Person

We read fiction, mystery,
science fiction, and
everything in between.

Beyond the Library Book Discussion (ICL)

Monday, October 14
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

In-Person

Join us at our monthly
meeting at the Fox & Turtle
Restaurant in the
Itasca Country Club.

Evening Book Discussion (ICL)

Tuesday, October 29
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

In-Person

General Information:

On The Same Page programs require registration unless noted as “drop-in” in the program description. Please contact the library or visit each library's website for details and registration information.

Bloomington Public Library

101 Fairfield Way

Bloomington, IL 60108

(630) 529-3120 • www.mybpl.org

Itasca Community Library

500 West Irving Park Road

Itasca, IL 60143

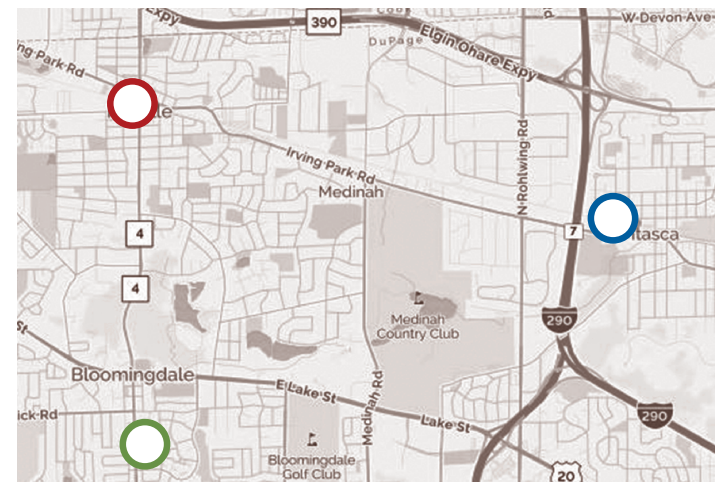
(630) 773-1699 • www.itascalibrary.org

Roselle Public Library District

40 South Park Street

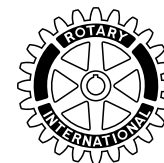
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Films, Lectures, &
Book Discussions

based on the book

THE **Art**
Forger

a novel by
B. A. Shapiro

2024 Program Guide

ON THE SAME PAGE

OCTOBER 2024 PROGRAMS

VIRTUAL: Edgar Degas: The Independent Impressionist (RPLD)

Thursday, October 3
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

Edgar Degas, one of the founding members of Impressionism, explored subjects relating to the dance, the human figure, and horses in paintings, pastels, and sculptures. Degas was the only French Impressionist to visit the United States, as he had family in New Orleans, Louisiana. Learn about some of his most well-known works of art in this program presented by art historian Jeff Mishur.



VIRTUAL: Great Cons & Brilliant Heists in the Movies (BPL)

Monday, October 7
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

Con artists are indeed artists and there will always be clever criminals finding new ways to steal priceless valuables. Join us as we marvel at some of the most daring and innovative heists on film— some of which are based on true stories! We'll see Robert DeNiro, Tom Cruise, Sean Connery, Paul Newman, Robert Redford, and many more in this thrilling collection of the greatest heists in movie history! Presented by film expert Steven Frenzel.

Bad Art Night (ICL)

Thursday, October 17
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

In-Person

Unleash your inner artist at Bad Art Night! Join us for a night of creativity to create “bad art” using random supplies like paint, yarn, markers, crayons, pasta, and more. Art doesn't have to be stressful. Let's make it fun together. Anything goes when making art that is intentionally bad.

VIRTUAL: How to Steal a Masterpiece (BPL)

Monday, October 21
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

Enter the underworld of stolen art as we examine the little known stories of some of history's greatest art heists. This lecture will review some of the most significant art theft in the last century and a half, while also questioning and discussing how the legitimate art market has managed to pique the interest of so many criminals. Presented by Mallory Mortillaro, art historian and educator from New Jersey.

Hooray for Art (ICL)

Tuesday, October 22
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

In-Person

Join Monsieur Henri Palette, a typical French artist, as he tells audiences about his favorite pieces of art and their creators. Artists included in the program are Joseph Cornell, Alexander Calder, Mary Cassatt, Jacob Lawrence, Paul Klee, John Singer Sargent, Diego Rivera, and the art of 6th century China. Presented by Terry Lynch.

Drop-In: Maker's Meetup (RPLD)

Wednesday, October 30
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

In-Person

Come bring your current project, enjoy music, snacks and socializing. Don't have a craft you're working on but want to join in? Coloring pages and supplies will be available. This is a drop-in event, no need to register!



DROP-IN MOVIES

How to Steal a Million (BPL)

Wednesday, October 9
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

In-Person

The daughter of an art forger teams up with a burglar to steal one of her father's forgeries and protect his secret. Rated: PG



The Thomas Crown Affair (1999) (RPLD)

Wednesday, October 23
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

In-Person

A very rich and successful playboy amuses himself by stealing artwork but may have met his match in a seductive detective. Rated: R