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## Lecture on Auguste Rodin on the Centenary of His Death & as Met Museum Exhibit Opens

**Author :** David Gurliacci

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**Tagged as :** [Larissa Bailiff](#)

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Join Larissa Bailiff at the Darien Library next Tuesday, Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. for a talk exploring the life and work of French sculptor Auguste Rodin.

This year marks the centenary of the death of the artist responsible for creating such iconic works as The Gates of Hell, The Burghers of Calais, The Thinker, and The Kiss.

— *This is an announcement from Darien Library.*

This occasion is being commemorated with exhibitions around the world, including [one opening in mid-September](#) at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

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Throughout his career, Rodin was a lightning rod for controversy and gossip — both personal and professional.

Fueled by a fertile and impassioned imagination, his radicalness went completely against the grain of the academic tradition — attracting frequent derision, but also, over time, shifting public opinion towards a greater acceptance of modernism.

Eroticizing his subjects, repurposing his own figures in completely unexpected ways, and rejecting the prevalent idealism in favor of something much more powerfully raw and expressive, the artist could eventually lay claim to have entirely re-shaped the idiom of 19th-century sculpture.

**About the Presenter**

Larissa Bailiff is a specialist in modern French art and social history. Formerly an associate educator at the Museum of Modern Art, she continues to offer tours and courses at the museum.

For the last three years, she has also worked for Boulevard Arts, an immersive arts technology company, where she creates cultural content for virtual and mixed reality platforms.

Refreshments will be served.