



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Donna M. Abelli

Development & Marketing Manager

t. 413/542-5084

f. 413/542-2152

dmabelli@emilydickinsonmuseum.org

Emily Dickinson Museum Presents “Repast as Ritual” Oct. 15

AMHERST, Mass.—The Emily Dickinson Museum: The Homestead and The Evergreens presents “Repast as Ritual: Dining at the Homestead and The Evergreens” from 2 until 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 15, at the Amherst College Alumni House on Spring Street. The lecture by Amanda Lange of Historic Deerfield is the third installment of the museum’s fall 2006 “Pleasant and Perfect” series, which examines the 19th-century American home through the material world of The Evergreens, the home of Emily Dickinson’s brother and sister-in-law, Austin and Susan Dickinson.

Even before moving into her new home, Susan Dickinson dreamed of entertaining her friends with an “oyster supper.” Such a supper was just one of countless meals that Susan oversaw during her almost 60-year residence at The Evergreens. From assembling breakfast to planning meals for notable guests like Ralph Waldo Emerson, dining at The Evergreens was no small affair. This program will examine dining customs at both the Homestead, home of the poet, as well as The Evergreens, and will give participants an up-close look at some of the dining-related treasures in the museum’s collection.

The curator of historic interiors at Historic Deerfield, in Deerfield, Mass., Amanda Lange was part of the Deerfield team that developed the Flynt Center of Early New England Life, a 27,000-square-foot facility for exhibitions, visible storage and work areas. Lange has also developed several exhibitions, including the current exhibition, “The Canton Connection: Art and Commerce of the China Trade, 1784-1860,” which focuses on trade relations between America and China in the late 18th and early 19th centuries and highlights Historic Deerfield’s collection of Chinese export art. In 1999 she was scholar-in-residence at The Evergreens and completed an inventory of the ceramics and collection there.

The Emily Dickinson Museum: The Homestead and The Evergreens is owned by the Trustees of Amherst College. The museum is a member of Museums10, a partnership of 10 museums in the Pioneer Valley. For more information about the museum, please call 413/542-8161 or visit the museum’s Website.

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