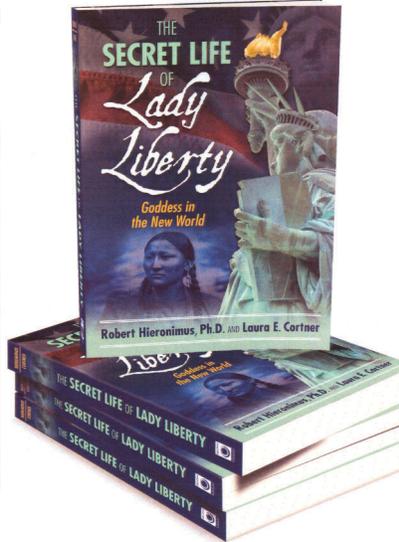


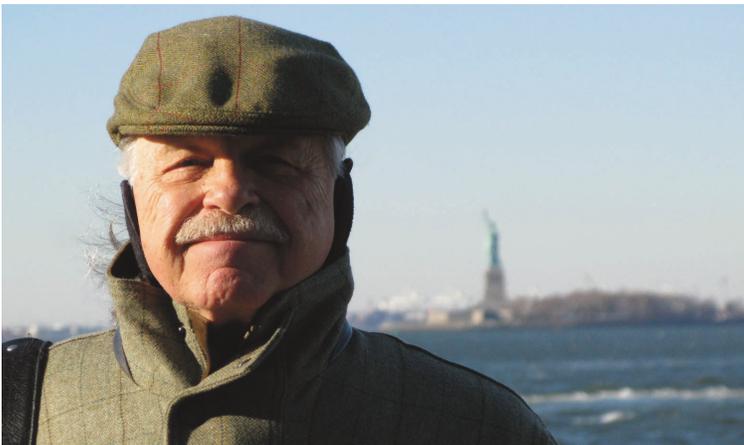
Lady Liberty and Public Art at Baltimore's Mitchell Courthouse



The Secret Life of Lady Liberty comes to one of the most beautiful historic libraries in Baltimore on December 1, 2016. Co-authors **Robert R. Hieronimus, Ph.D.**, and **Laura E. Cortner** will present a visual tour of their new book exploring the symbolism of the Goddess Lady Liberty, revealing why everyone claims the Statue of Liberty as one of “us,” but most forget that she is GOD in female form. (Also note the goddess “Lady Baltimore” seen on the top of the Battle Monument outside the Mitchell Courthouse, above left, who also graces both the seal and flag of the City of Baltimore.) As the female half of our national conscience, the Statue of Liberty is all about finding balance. Learn how her history as a goddess can inspire you to find your mission in life and activate it. **Nearly 40 years ago today, Dr. Hieronimus was the commissioned artist hired to restore the American history murals inside the Mitchell Courthouse, like the one seen above right called “The Surrender at Yorktown.”**

Robert R. Hieronimus, Ph.D. (below left), is an internationally known historian, visual artist, and radio host. He has appeared on History, Discovery, BBC, and National Geographic and hosted 21st Century Radio on WCBM in Baltimore since 1988. **Laura E. Cortner (below right)** is an honors graduate of Goucher College and has co-authored previous titles with Dr. Hieronimus including *Founding Fathers*, *Secret Societies* and *United Symbolism of America*.

Place: Mitchell Courthouse – 100 North Calvert Street – Main Reading Room of the Bar Library (Room 618, Mitchell Courthouse). **Time:** 5:00 p.m., Thursday, December 1, 2016, with a wine & cheese reception immediately following. **Invitees:** Members of the Library Company of the Baltimore Bar and their guests, judges, employees of Baltimore City and its courts, courthouse employees, government lawyers, public interest lawyers, law librarians, law and college faculty and students. For all others there is a \$20.00 charge which will be waived upon subscribing to a Bar Library membership. **R.S.V.P.:** 410-727-0280 or jwbennett@barlib.org.



THE JUDGES OF
THE SUPREME BENCH OF BALTIMORE CITY
WELCOME YOU TO
**THE
BALTIMORE CITY
COURT HOUSE**



1979 HOLLY TOUR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1979

1:00 - 6:00 P.M.



Details from Dr. Hieronimus's mural on St. Paul and Lafayette called "We The People" showing Baltimore's Battle Monument with Lady Baltimore, the City's own goddess, on the top.

COURT HOUSE MUSEUM

The lovely old Orphans' Courtroom in what is now the Criminal Courts Building will be preserved as a Court House History Room. Called "the most beautiful courtroom in Maryland", it features the 1910 mural by Jean-Paul Laurens, "The Surrender at Yorktown", recently restored by artist Robert Hieronimus and staff composed of Susan Kessle and William Galaboski. The museum will contain pictures and biographical material on all of the 101 judges who have served on the Supreme Bench and historical information about court houses and attorneys of the past.



SUN December 15, 1977

Hieronimus To Restore Murals At Courthouse

Robert Hieronimus, a well known local artist, has been appointed to restore the murals in the City Courthouse. The Board of Estimates approved spending \$15,000 in federal Economic Development Administration grants to complete the restoration project, which is being supervised by the Baltimore Museum of Art.

Supreme Bench of Baltimore City

COURT HOUSE
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202

December 2, 1979

Dear Holly Tourists:

The Judges of the Supreme Bench are most happy to welcome you to the first official public tour of the Court House in twenty-five years. As you will observe, a beginning has been made in the restoration of this magnificent structure, but much remains to be done. Between January 1978 and July 1979, the six majestic murals you will see today were restored by a team of dedicated artists including Robert R. Hieronimus, project director, Susan Kessle and William Golaboski, under the supervision of Geoffrey Lemmer of the Baltimore Museum of Art. The project was sponsored by the office of Mayor William Donald Schaefer, as evidence of this city's commitment to the preservation of its history and art. We believe that this beautiful building can be fully restored to its original splendor at a minimal cost to the public. This is our goal. With your concern and your help, we will achieve it. We hope you will consider this as you tour this beautiful building today. Best wishes for a pleasant tour!

<u>Amelio Sodaro</u>	<u>Robert L. Farnick</u>
<u>Albert L. Hays</u>	<u>Robert C. Bate</u>
<u>J. Harold Grady</u>	<u>Mark B. Gumpel</u>
<u>Robert B. White</u>	<u>Marshall A. Jewin</u>
<u>James W. Murphy</u>	<u>Milton B. Gallan</u>
<u>David L. ...</u>	<u>James G. ...</u>
<u>John R. Hargrove</u>	<u>Paul A. Dorf</u>
<u>Robert ...</u>	<u>Mary Abraham</u>
<u>Richard ...</u>	<u>Solomon Baylor</u>
<u>Basil A. Thomas</u>	<u>Edgar P. Silver</u>

Court muralist seeks 'mystery paintings'

By THEODORE W. HENDRICKS

A Baltimore muralist hired to clean and restore five historic murals in the Criminal Courts building said last week that he is searching for "mystery paintings" that might have been lost in reshuffling walls in the 77-year-old building.

Robert Hieronimus, whose staff has undertaken the year-long cleaning project in the building at Fayette and St. Paul streets, said he feels sure interior walls have been erected to cover some paintings that were formerly exposed.

Wall painting done in maintenance work over the years might have covered other murals, he said. Mr. Hieronimus said he is studying the courthouse structure to see if he can find any lost art.

But James F. Schneider, an equity master who is the archivist and historian of the courthouse, said he feels sure all of the murals installed in the building

have been documented and none has been covered up.

However, Mr. Schneider says that he has discovered stained glass windows and skylight panels that have been hidden by interior walls. Most of these have been vandalized or destroyed, he said.

"I noticed that the heads of allegorical figures in some windows had been removed and lost. They must have been very impressive things," Mr. Schneider said.

Mr. Hieronimus, 34, is already at work sketching the existing murals on large sheets of graph paper. The sketches will pinpoint areas that need restoration work after the mural is cleaned.

Last week, Will Golaboski, 29, and Susan Kessel, 23, two local artists were struggling to record the outlines of murals representing ancient lawgivers located in the St. Paul street corridor.

The murals were painted by John LaFarge, a New Yorker educated in Mary-

land. They depict Numa Pompilius, the Roman; Lycurgus, the Spartan; Mohammed, Confucius, Moses and Justinian—all in contemplative mood.

Two other huge murals are on the Calvert street side of the building. They are the "Barter with the Indians for Land in Southern Maryland" and the "Burning of the Peggy Stewart," both by Charles Yardley Turner of Baltimore, once a director of the Maryland Institute.

A mural in the old Orphans Court shows the British surrender at Yorktown and was painted by Jean-Paul Laurens, who hoisted the whole canvas to the roof of his Paris studio in 1909 to save it from a flood. He was then 72 years old.

A final documented mural, "Religious Toleration," by Edwin H. Blashfield, of New York, who also decorated the great central dome in the Library of Congress, is in the room formerly used by the Court of Common Pleas.

Mr. Hieronimus said that his work will be mostly the "bull work" of cleaning the grime off the canvas. But there are still some problems apparently caused by the neglect of workers who painted the ceilings.

Mr. Hieronimus said he has noticed that some droppings from maintenance worker's paint brushes have fallen on the canvas and then been smeared with a solvent. It will be difficult to clean these areas carefully, he said.

The work will be under the supervision of Goffrey Michael Lemmer, senior conservator of paintings at the Baltimore Museum of Art. It will cost about \$15,000, using funds from a \$600,000 courthouse renovation grant.

Mr. Hieronimus said he was aghast at earlier estimates of about \$76,000 submitted by others for the work. He said the apparent cost delayed the work for years and was, in his opinion, highly inflated.



Sunpapers photo—Clarence B. Garrett

Will Golaboski (left) and Robert Hieronimus inspect mural during restoration process.



Title: The British Surrender at Yorktown, October 19, 1781

Artist: Jean Paul Laurens

Location: Orphan's Court (Room 243)

Date: 1910

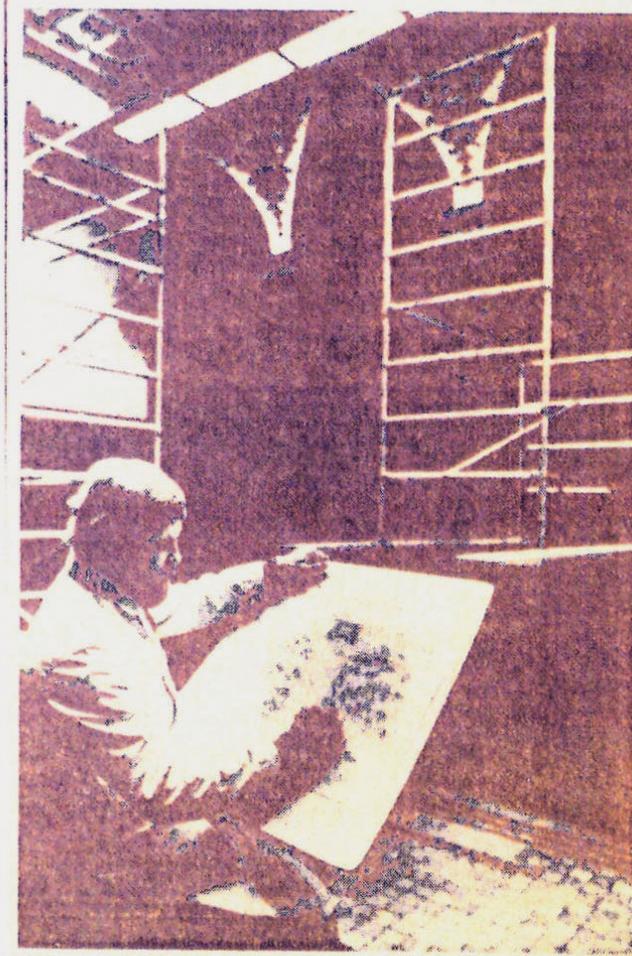
Description: The mural depicts the aftermath of the final battle of the American War of Independence before the 1783 Treaty of Paris. After eleven days of fighting, the British under Cornwallis, surrendered on October 19, 1781 to General Washington, after having been walled in on all sides by American and French troops.

Size: The mural consists of four identical panels, each having a height of 9.6 feet and a width of 6.5 feet.

Condition: No protective varnish; a heavy layer of surface dirt; paint surface uneven; consistent abrasion of paint on all panels, probably due to previous restoration; several areas of unpainted canvas; numerous small surface blemishes; some spots of wall paint.

Procedure and Remedies: Photographs taken for documentation purposes; removal of as much surface dirt as possible, made difficult by unevenness of paint; removal of wall paint; preliminary varnish; retouch damaged areas including areas of canvas that became dark when saturated with varnish; final varnish.

Time Necessary for Completion: Nine weeks (not including preliminary sketching and photography).



WELL BOYS, IT'S BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD
... Robert Hieronimus works on restoring historic mural.
 —News American photo by James Le...

The News American reports on the Courthouse Mural and Bob Hieronimus working on the restoration.

Noted Mural Gracing City's Courthouse Will Get A Facelift

By NEILA A. GRAUER
 Staff Reporter

A 68-year-old mural in the main city courthouse, which survived a 1909 flood and a trans-Atlantic crossing, is about to be assisted in its battle against a greater enemy — time.

Baltimore muralist and philosopher Bob Hieronimus is beginning a year-long project to restore five murals in the courthouse, called the Criminal Courts Building. He is tackling this job of restoring to its former glory the painting in the old Orphans Court which depicts the British surrender at Yorktown.

Hieronimus, 34, will be helped in the project by two assistants, Will Golaboski, 29, who has worked with him on a number of murals, and Susan Kessel, 23, a free-lance graphic artist.

They will be working under the supervision of Geoffrey Michael Lemmer, senior conservator of paintings at the Baltimore Museum of Art.

The Orphans Court mural is the work of the most renowned of the artists whose efforts grace the old courthouse's walls. It was completed in 1910 by Jean-Paul Laurens, a 72-year-old French muralist whose reputation at the time was considerably greater than it is today.

The Municipal Art Society, the city and the Maryland Line chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution commissioned Laurens in 1907 to paint the mural, which cost \$13,000.

The painting was nearly destroyed in 1909 when spring rains flooded the Seine River and inundated the state-owned studio in Paris where Laurens worked, according to James F. Schneider, the newly-appointed city equity court master who has acted as official, and unpaid, courthouse historian for a number of years.

Laurens managed to save the canvas by hoisting it above the flood waters. It was completed the next year and shown to customers in Paris before being shipped to New York in November 1910.

The artist's son, Jean Pierre Laurens, supervised the hanging of the mural, which was formally unveiled Dec. 8, 1910 in an impressive ceremony marked by an address by the French ambassador to the United States, Jean Jules Jusserand.

The mural shows an aide to Lord Cornwallis, the defeated British general, handing over his commander's sword to Gen. George Washington while the young Gen. Lafayette looks on.

The surrender of Cornwallis on Oct. 19, 1781 marked the end of the fighting in the American Revolution, which was concluded with the Treaty of Paris in

quire canvas repair and touch-ups.

Hieronimus said he and his staff will work five days a week on the project. "If we get crunched, we'll do overtime on weekends."

Lemmer said the two objectives of the project are to put the murals in "good, sound physical condition," and then to clean them.

"We're interested in preserving them as well as making them look better," he said.

He said he could not determine what sort of solvent will be used in the cleaning until he has had a chance to make another inspection and test the murals.

In addition to the Laurens mural, the other paintings to be restored are ones depicting Gov. Leonard Calvert making a treaty with local Indians in 1634, and the 1774 burning of the ship Peggy Stewart, unveiled in 1902 and 1904, respectively.

Also, a 1903 mural showing Washington surrendering his commission in Annapolis in 1783, a 1905 allegory in praise of religious toleration and a 1907 depiction of ancient lawgivers, including Moses, Mohammed, Confucius, Lycurgus, Justinian and Numa Pompilius.



Dr. Bob Hieronimus and crew on the scaffolding restoring the murals at the Baltimore City Courthouse in 1978.

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, Mayor
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR • CITY OF BALTIMORE
250 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, (301) 396-3100



In reply refer to:

April 20, 1979

Mr. Robert Hieronimus
President
The AUM Center
4801 Yellow Wood Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21209

Dear Mr. Hieronimus:

Thank you for your letter concerning the restoration of the Court House murals. I am sure your restoration work reflects the quality and craftsmanship evident in the other projects you have completed in the city. I am especially appreciative of your offer to stay with the project after your contract has been terminated.

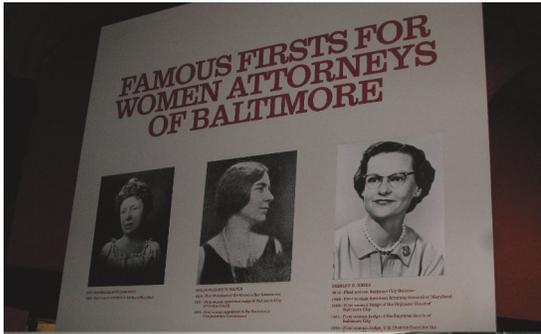
I would enjoy seeing the murals upon completion. Please call my Appointment Secretary at 396-4889 to arrange a convenient time. Again, thank you for your help.

Sincerely,


Mayor

cc: Mrs. Jody Albright

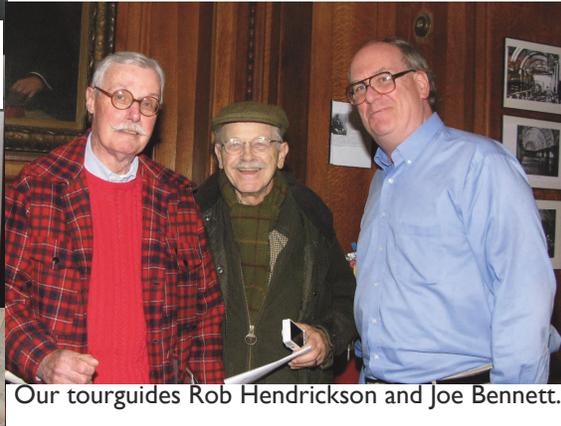
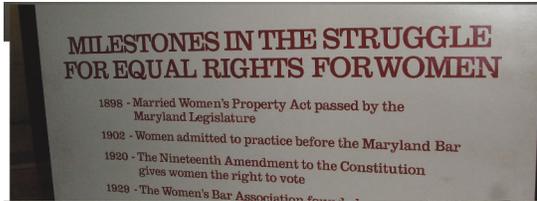




Notice the Goddesses and Torches in this plaque - both common themes in public artwork of the time.



We immediately asked about the pioneer women who were first admitted to the Bar in Maryland.



Our tourguides Rob Hendrickson and Joe Bennett.



Hieronimus points to another use of public art that shaped our understanding of the Native Americans as a "doomed and inferior" culture.



Views from the magnificent Bar Reading Room.



Cortner tries out the State Seal stamper in the Courthouse museum, while Hieronimus practices his gaveling skills.

