

*MERRILL-PALMER SKILLMAN INSTITUTE
FRIENDS OF THE FREER HOUSE*

PRESENT

*ANCHOR AND ORNAMENT:
THE FREER GALLERY AND THE MCMILLAN PLAN
FOR THE NATIONAL MALL*

A LECTURE BY:

REV. DR. GEOFFREY G. DRUTCHAS

SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2007

CHARLES LANG FREER HOUSE

71 EAST FERRY

3:00 PM

LECTURE, LIGHT RECEPTION & TOURS OF THE FREER HOUSE

Freer Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
Photo by the Smithsonian Institution



LECTURE OVERVIEW

The Freer Gallery was the first ART museum to find its place on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., as part of the Smithsonian. It is often overlooked just how crucial the Freer Gallery was in anchoring the Mall as we know it today. Also not widely known or appreciated is the influence of two Detroit friendships on Charles Lang Freer's bequest to the Smithsonian. In his talk for Friends of the Freer House, Dr. Geoffrey G. Drutchas will discuss the significance of the Freer collection in the context of the "McMillan Plan" for

the federal capital named after one of Freer's business partners, Senator James McMillan of Michigan. Further highlighted will be the role of McMillan's aide Charles Moore, who later became director of the Detroit Museum of Art. Moore persuaded Freer that the National Mall was the best possible location for his collection.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey G. Drutchas has written extensively on Charles Lang Freer, Charles Moore, and Senator James McMillan for *Michigan History Magazine* and the *Michigan Historical Review*. In the past decade he also authenticated the Italian artist responsible for the eight monumental muses which crown the Michigan Capitol dome. Dr. Drutchas is an author who is currently working on a new book, *Speak, Muse: Public Art and Politics in Michigan's Gilded Age*. He has degrees from Michigan State University, Harvard University and Lancaster Seminary.

Dr. Drutchas has served for the past two decades as senior pastor for a Detroit area congregation.

RSVP required (313) 872-1790
\$5.00 Suggested Donation for Non-Members