

You Are Invited!
Merkel Family Foundation
Distinguished Lecture Series
Presents

Tyler Green

Award-Winning Author and Critic



Watkins, Carleton E, photographer. *El Capitan [Yosemite, 1861]*. Photograph. <https://www.loc.gov/item/98517689/>.

The Artist, the Painter and the Invention of the National Park: Carleton Watkins, Albert Bierstadt and the Birth of the Yosemite Idea

6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18, 2021

Open to the public with no admission charge;
reservations recommended, as seating will be limited.

**Contact Fine Arts College Ticketing Service, 500 W. Boyd St.
(405) 325-4101 – Hours 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. M - F**

Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium

Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art

555 Elm Ave., Norman, OK 73019-3303

On the University of Oklahoma Norman campus



Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West

The University of Oklahoma School of Visual Arts art.ou.edu

The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity institution. www.ou.edu/eoo

For more information or for accommodations, please call the Russell Center at (405) 325-5939.

This publication is issued by the University of Oklahoma at no cost to the taxpayers of the State of Oklahoma.

ART AND YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK: AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR AND CRITIC TO SPEAK AT OU

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Sharon Burchett

(405) 325-5939, russellcenter@ou.edu

NORMAN, OKLA. (October 8, 2021) – Tyler Green, an award-winning author and critic, will deliver a public lecture titled *The Artist, the Painter and the Invention of the National Park: Carleton Watkins, Albert Bierstadt and the Birth of the Yosemite Idea* at 6 p.m. **Thursday, Nov. 18, in the Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art**, 555 Elm Ave., on the University of Oklahoma Norman campus.

The illustrated lecture is open to the public with no admission charge; reservations are recommended, as seating will be limited. **Contact Fine Arts College Ticketing Service, 500 W. Boyd St., (405) 325-4101, between 11:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.** Green's lecture is presented by the OU School of Visual Arts' Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West as part of the Merkel Family Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series.

Green is the author of *Carleton Watkins: Making the West American* (University of California Press, 2018), which was awarded the Gold Medal for Contribution to Publishing in the 2019 California Book Awards and celebrated by *The Observer* and *San Francisco Chronicle* as one of the Best Books of 2018. He is the producer and host of *The Modern Art Notes Podcast* [manpodcast.com]. His new book, *Emerson's Nature and the Artists: Idea as Landscape, Landscape as Idea* (Prestel, 2021), was published earlier this year.

Green's talk at OU will focus on the large-scale or mammoth-plate artworks of important American artists Carleton Watkins (1829-1916, photographer) and Albert Bierstadt (1830-1902, painter) that motivated the preservation of Yosemite and the invention of what we now call the "national park." Green will share breathtaking photographs and paintings of Yosemite and address its preservation in the context of the Civil War, cultural Unionism and the California Genocide.

Founded in 1998, the Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West is the first such university-based program in the nation. The center is dedicated to the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge in the field of American art history as it relates to the western United States. Through its resource holdings, national symposia, lecture series, course offerings and outreach programs, the Russell Center actively engages students and the public in developing a better understanding of, and appreciation for the art of the American West. Special focus is given to the art of Charles M. Russell and his contemporaries. For more information on the Russell Center, visit art.ou.edu. For accommodations, call (405) 325-5939.

###

Editors: Please find attached accompanying image with the following credit information:

Watkins, Carleton E, photographer. *El Capitan*. California El Capitan Yosemite National Park, ca. 1865. Photograph. <https://www.loc.gov/item/98517689/>.

