

Monday Night at the Master

An Unfolding Tale: the Making and Transformation of the Decorative Elements of the Golden Harpsichord

Pascale Patris
Conservator in the Objects Conservation Department
Metropolitan Museum of Art

Monday, June 6, 2016

7:30 PM

Riverside Lobby



Pascale Patris will take us through the process of conserving the Golden Harpsichord, a gift to the Metropolitan Museum in 1889 from the *Crosby-Brown Collection of Musical Instruments*. It is the only surviving object of the Galleria Harmonica, a once private museum in Rome, founded by Michele Todini, a musician, in 1650.

It is a sculptural ensemble, of highly baroque character, flanked by two life-sized sculptures representing Polyphemus and Galetea, who define the iconographic theme of the whole decorative work. Many speculations and controversies surround its original installation. Pascale will share what her research and analysis revealed.