

# Common Hour Workshops

DANGREMOND FAMILY COMMONS  
HALLDEN HALL NORTH

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6



## The Murder of Mesopotamia War, Looting & Cultural Heritage

**KAREN POLINGER FOSTER, YALE UNIVERSITY**

*Co-sponsored by Art History, Classical Studies,  
International Studies, and Public Policy & Law*

This illustrated lecture explores the rise and fall of the cultural heritage of ancient Mesopotamia, touching on the competing imperial agendas of England and France in the 19th century, Gertrude Bell's work in creating the new nation of Iraq's cultural identity after World War I, and the irreparable damage due to the 2003 U.S.-led invasion.

Karen Polinger Foster specializes in the art and archaeology of the Bronze Age Aegean, Egypt, and Mesopotamia. Her co-authored *Civilizations of Ancient Iraq* received the 2010 Horton Book Award from the Archaeological Institute of America. She has organized international events including Iraq Beyond the Headlines, The Future of the Global Past, and The Decapitation of the Past, as well as a panel at the Yale Law School on stolen and counterfeit art. She has done fieldwork at an ancient capital city in northern Mesopotamia, now part of Syria.

Q&A to follow • A light lunch will be provided

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