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# Middlebury

# 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays

**October 5**

## **Rembrandt: Emotion through Pose and Gesture**

Williams College professor Zirka Filipczak examines Rembrandt's exceptional ability to depict human emotions, how those emotions changed over his career, and the nuanced repertoire of poses and gestures used to convey them.

**November 2**

## **Some of My Best Friends:**

### **The Power of Interracial Friendship**

Emily Bernard, UVM professor and editor of a volume of essays about "the painful, beautiful realities of friendship complicated by race and history," considers the power of interracial friendships. *Sponsor: The Lodge at Otter Creek and The Lodge at Shelburne Bay.* A Vermont Reads/Big Read event.

**December 7**

## **The Killing of Crazy Horse**

Pulitzer Prize winner Tom Powers chronicles the rise and fall of the Lakota's most famous warrior and describes the personalities and politics that shaped the era.

**January 4**

## **The Intimate Privilege of Being with the Dying**

Being present through the final days and at the moment of a loved one's death can be one of the most profound experiences we have. Author Marjorie Ryerson shares compelling stories she gathered for her book.

**February 1**

## **One Year after the Arab Spring**

A year after an unexpected series of revolutions and near revolutions rocked the Middle East, journalist and UVM lecturer Gordon Robison considers the unprecedented challenges for policymakers in the United States and the region itself.

**March 7**

## **The Revolutionary Achievements of the American People**

Distinguished Northwestern University professor T.H. Breen argues that the people — often with no guidance from the Founding Fathers — established the foundations for an enduring civil society during a period of extraordinary political turmoil.

**April 4**

## **Religion and Identity in the Near East**

Former president of Kenyon and Carleton Colleges and religion scholar Rob Oden considers how constructs from the ancient Near East inform Westerners' identity, the Near East's transition to Islam, and what Islam shares with and how it departs from Judaism and Christianity.

**May 2**

## **The Life and Times of Thelonious Monk**

Artistic director of the Vermont Jazz Center Eugene Uman considers the life and improvisational style of American jazz pianist and composer Thelonius Monk, widely considered one of the giants of American music.