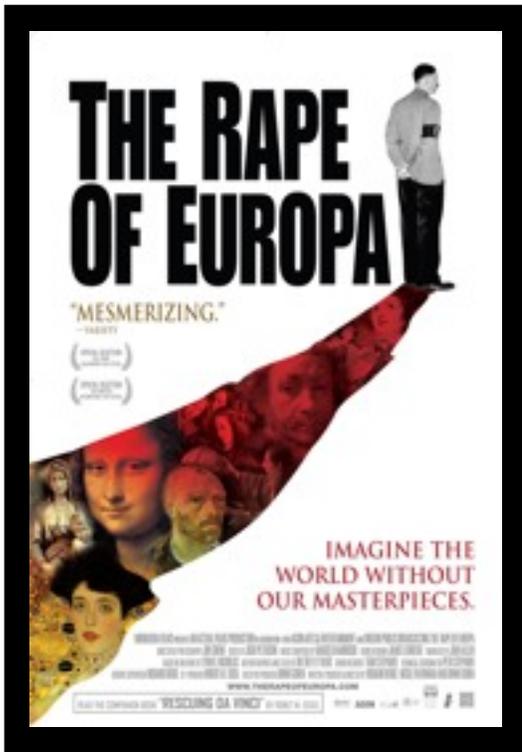




## *The Rape of Europa:* Nationwide Theatrical Release



We are pleased to announce the national premiere of *The Rape of Europa*.

*The Rape of Europa* is a 2-hour documentary film based on Lynn H. Nicholas' book of the same title. It was written, produced, and directed by Richard Berge, Bonni Cohen, and Nicole Newman, and co-produced by Robert M. Edsel. Joan Allen narrates this breathtaking chronicle about the battle over the very survival of civilization's greatest cultural treasures. In a journey through seven countries, the film takes the audience into the violent whirlwind of fanaticism,

greed, and warfare that threatened to wipe out the artistic heritage of Europe. *The Rape of Europa* begins and ends with the story of artist Gustav Klimt's famed *Gold Portrait*, stolen from Viennese Jews in 1938 which recently became the most expensive painting ever sold.

Today, more than sixty years later, the legacy of this tragic history continues to play out as families of looted collectors recover major works of art, conservators repair battle damage, and nations fight over the fate of ill-gotten spoils of war.

The national premiere started in New York City on September 14th and will be followed by major openings on September 28 in Boston, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles before expanding to other cities in the following weeks.

Please see the calendar on page 8 or visit our website, [www.therapeofeuropa.com](http://www.therapeofeuropa.com) for updated information on theatrical releases in cities across the country.

### *From the Desk of Robert M. Edsel*

Since finishing Lynn Nicholas' extraordinary book, *The Rape of Europa*, in June 1996, I have dreamt of bringing the story to life through film and photographs to make it easily accessible to all audiences. More than seven years of work went into the production of our documentary based on Lynn's book. At the same time, I spent four years compiling additional photographs and conducting research on the Monuments Men for the companion book to the film, *Rescuing Da Vinci*.

That dream has become a reality with the theatrical debut of our film in New York City, and the now widely available release of my book. However, research on the Monuments Men continues. Of the 346 or so men and women who comprised the Monuments Men, we have compiled complete biographies on only 103. We have varying degrees of information on 154, and little more than a name for the remaining 89. We appeal to the public to visit our website, [www.rescuingdavinci.com](http://www.rescuingdavinci.com), and help us identify each person on the list of Monuments Men.

We also want to illuminate the path home for all missing cultural treasures. If you believe you or someone you know has an item with a questionable past, please contact me.

Sincerely,  
Robert M. Edsel  
[rmedsel@monumentsmenfoundation.org](mailto:rmedsel@monumentsmenfoundation.org)



## Monuments Men Honored in Washington, D.C.

*June 6, 2007*

On June 6, 2007 The United States government officially recognized the contributions of the Monuments Men during World War II in the protection of artistic and cultural treasures by passing resolutions in both the House and Senate in their name. The resolutions were sponsored by Senators James Inhofe (R-OK), Edward Kennedy (D-MA), Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), and Barbara Boxer (D-CA), and Representatives Kay Granger (R-TX), Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ), and Louise Slaughter (D-NY), respectively. Robert M. Edsel hosted the ceremony and introduced those in attendance, including Congresswoman Granger, Congressman Steve Cohen, and Senator Hutchison who presided over the ceremony and awarded flags to the Monuments Men in attendance which had been flown over the Capitol on Memorial Day. Four of the



*Monuments Men ceremony at the Senate. From left: Bernard Taper, James Reeds, Harry Ettlinger, Horace Apgar, Congressman Steve Cohen, Congresswoman Kay Granger, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, and Robert Edsel. (photo courtesy of the Robert M. Edsel Collection.)*

twelve living Monuments Men were able to attend: Bernard Taper, James Reeds, Harry Ettlinger, and Horace Apgar. Numerous family members of other Monuments Men attended. Of particular note were the ten Ambassadors or Chargés d’Affaires in attendance from the twelve other nations from which Monuments Men hailed. It was truly an international event.

A private luncheon followed, at which both Robert Edsel and Lynn Nicholas discussed their experiences writing about this great story and getting to know the Monuments Men. It was also a chance for the children and grandchildren of the Monuments Men to get to know one another and share their stories.



*From left: Bernard Taper, Harry Ettlinger, Senator Clinton, Robert Edsel, and Horace Apgar. (photo courtesy of the Robert M. Edsel Collection)*

The week in Washington, D.C. was filled with many unforgettable experiences. On June 5th, Senator Clinton requested a brief meeting with the Monuments Men at her office. Several of the Monuments Men also had the opportunity to meet their Congressional representatives. A trip to the National Gallery of Art to visit with Director Rusty Powell provided a fitting end to the celebrations on June 6th.

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## Monuments Man Kenneth C. Lindsay

by Robert M. Edsel



*(photo courtesy of the Kenneth C. Lindsay, Professor Emeritus Collection)*

Ken Lindsay is as polite and kind a person as he is passionate and articulate about art. When I met him and his lovely wife Christine last December, I was so captivated to hear him recount his experiences as a soldier and Monuments Man that I laid my pen down and just listened. The twinkle in his eyes belies his age, for his words are clear, precise and empowered with youthful energy.

Like many MFAA personnel, Lindsay did not initially join the military as a Monuments officer, rather he was drafted and first served with signal intelligence at SHAEF headquarters. He

marched through France with the U.S. 3rd Army and was later appointed to the Wiesbaden Collecting Point under the directorship of Monuments officer Capt. Walter Farmer. Because Lindsay was not an officer, he was not among the signatories to the “Wiesbaden Manifesto,” a document which expressed opposition to the removal of German-owned artworks to the United States for safekeeping. However, he did strongly agree with its sentiment.

After the war, Lindsay was a professor of art history at Williams College, Williamstown, MA. He left in 1951 to become professor and later chair of the art history department at Harpur College, Binghamton University (SUNY) until 1990. Since his retirement, Dr. Lindsay has remained busy. He wrote an article about the Wiesbaden Manifesto and the controversial decision to transfer German-owned artworks to the United States, entitled “Official Art Seizure Under the Military Cloak,” in the journal *Art, Antiquity, and Law* (vol. 3, no. 2, June 1998).

One of his most memorable experiences at Wiesbaden was the uncrating of the ancient Egyptian *Bust of Queen Nefertiti* (seen in the photo on the left), which had been evacuated for safekeeping



*(photo courtesy of the Robert M. Edsel Collection)*

from the Berlin museums towards the end of the war. Lindsay recalled the moment the bust was removed from its protective casing: “Within an instant, every man in there fell hopelessly in love with her – that face – absolutely beautiful.”

Several months ago I saw an article in the *New York Times* about the reopening of “Museum Island” in Berlin, and the return of some of the extraordinary treasures that have had temporary quarters since World War II. Fully restored to their glorious splendor, these museums were now receiving their great works, none more famous and important than the ancient Egyptian *Bust of Queen Nefertiti*, finally going home. I couldn’t help but wonder how differently this story might have ended had it not been for the historic work of the men and women of the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives section during World War II.



## *Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art Established*

*by Robert M. Edsel*

It's hard to believe: a room full of World War II history buffs never heard of them. Restitution claimants such as Maria Altmann hadn't either. Our government heretofore hadn't honored them. Their unprecedented legacy of preserving artistic and cultural treasures during armed conflict was all but ignored as evidenced by the United States' handling of the aftermath of the looting of the National Museum of Iraq. (In fact, Col. Matthew Bogdanos, who would later so ably lead the group of soldiers investigating the looting of that museum, recently acknowledged to me that he had never heard of them either.)

The "them" are the Monuments Men and women of the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives section. The legacy they left us is rich with examples of how to protect irreplaceable elements of our civilization from damage and destruction. We can't end war, but we can do a much better job of protecting the greatest creative achievements of man during hostilities. Like all great causes, it is a goal whose achievement is defined by the striving.

To that end, I have founded the **Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art**. Its mission statement and objectives, which are detailed on the following page, ensure that the legacy of the Monu-



*Monuments Officer Lt. James Rorimer (with notepad), future director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and three GIs remove looted paintings from the castle at Neuschwanstein. (photo courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, MD)*

ments Men and women will be put to their fullest and best use.

Hundreds of thousands of works of art and other cultural items stolen during World War II, worth billions of dollars, remain missing. Efforts by museums and many private collectors to fully research and document their holdings from this period vary greatly. In the coming years thousands of works of art and other historic documents will surface as the participants of World War II pass. What will become of these items?

The **Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art** will continue its research into the Monuments Men and their rich history while utilizing that legacy to raise public awareness of the importance of preserving examples of man's greatest creative achievements.



*To learn more about how you can help, please visit:*



## *Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art*

### Mission Statement

To preserve the legacy of the unprecedented and heroic work of the men and women who served in the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives (“MFAA”) section, known as “Monuments Men,” during World War II, by not only raising public awareness of the importance of protecting and safeguarding civilization’s most important artistic and cultural treasures from armed conflict, but incorporating these expressions of man’s greatest creative achievements into our daily lives.

### Objectives

1. To identify, locate and honor all those who served in the MFAA section, regardless of nationality, and those who were instrumental in protecting Europe and Russia’s greatest cultural treasures during World War II.
2. To promote and support educational programs in schools and universities in furtherance of the Foundation’s Mission Statement.
3. To identify, honor, and bestow the annual “Monuments Men” Award to individuals and institutions that represent and uphold the principals and ideals of the “Monuments Men” by making an extraordinary contribution to the protection of civilization’s most important artistic and cultural treasures.
4. To facilitate the recovery and restitution of important artistic, cultural, and historic treasures and documents that were stolen during World War II and have yet to be located.
5. Encourage institutions and collectors to comply with the American Association of Museums’ guidelines concerning provenance research during the Nazi era.



*Aachen Cathedral, Germany. October 1944.  
(Photo Courtesy of the National Archives and  
Records Administration, College Park, MD)*





## Help Us Write the Final Chapter: Our Search for the Monuments Men

As part of our effort to tell the story of *Rescuing Da Vinci*, we want to identify all 346 men and women on our list of the “Monuments Men.” We are in the third year of compiling research and writing extensive biographies for all of the Monuments Men so that they and their work will be honored. These biographies may be found online at [www.rescuingdavinci.com/HelpSolve/list\\_mfaa.aspx](http://www.rescuingdavinci.com/HelpSolve/list_mfaa.aspx).

To date, we have written and published online 103 Monuments Men biographies. We have gathered various amounts of information for another 154, and are still searching for information for 89 members of the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives section.

We need your help in our search. For example, the photograph on the jacket cover of *Rescuing Da Vinci* shows Leonardo da Vinci’s masterpiece, *Lady with an Ermine*, being returned to Poland by Polish Monuments officer Major Karol Estreicher (holding the painting) and U.S. Lt. Frank P. Albright (to the right of the painting). The soldiers on the far left and right of the book cover photo are unidentified American GIs, and may be Monuments

Men. If you can identify these men, please contact us and provide their names, service branch or whatever other information you may have. We will regularly be updating our website to post information we receive and will also publish it in future reprints of the book.

If you have any information concerning one of the men or women on our Monuments Men list, found at the web address listed above, or can identify anyone in the photographs in *Rescuing Da Vinci*, please contact us. You may send an email to [eivy@laurelpublishingllc.com](mailto:eivy@laurelpublishingllc.com) or call 214-219-1222 ext. 104.



HITLER AND THE NAZIS STOLE EUROPE'S GREAT ART  
AMERICA AND HER ALLIES RECOVERED IT

## RESCUING DA VINCI

ROBERT M. EDSSEL

FOREWORDS BY LYNN H. NICHOLAS AND EDMUND P. PILLSBURY



## Special Profile: Lynn H. Nicholas

by Robert M. Edsel

One of the great joys at our celebration of the Monuments Men was the opportunity to recognize and honor author and scholar Lynn Nicholas. It was Lynn's ten years of pioneering work which culminated in her remarkable book, *The Rape of Europa*, that first brought the subject of Hitler and the Nazis' planned looting of art and culture during World War II and the role of the Monuments Men into contemporary focus. Lynn possesses that rare combination of abilities: sole-minded focus to accomplish such a significant achievement, yet a comprehensive understanding of the bigger picture. She is gracious and warm to all those with whom she comes in contact.



*Lynn Nicholas speaking at the luncheon following the June 6th ceremonies. (photo courtesy of the Robert M. Edsel Collection)*

Most recently Lynn wrote *Cruel World: The Children of Europe in the Nazi Web* (2005) which provides a fascinating yet heartbreaking story of Hitler and the Nazis' abuse - and murder - of children to further the Third Reich's racial policies. It is a chilling and compelling story.



*From left: Lynn Nicholas, Sandy Faison (son of Monuments Man S. Lane Faison, Jr.), Louis Rorimer (son of Monuments Man James Rorimer), and Robert Edsel. (photo courtesy of the Robert M. Edsel Collection)*

At the luncheon which followed the Senate ceremony, Lynn reminisced to our group of Monuments Men, their families, and the family members of other Monuments Men no longer with us, about her early meetings with key members of the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives section, such as Walker Hancock, Craig Hugh Smyth, and S. Lane Faison, Jr. She reminded all of us that although the stories we find so fascinating usually pertain to "things," this story is, in the end, about people. It is a story about lives lost, a way of life disrupted, and lives spent trying to return to the world some sense of decency and normalcy.

At the end of our luncheon I presented a special letter from Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of

President Eisenhower, to each of the Monuments Men and to one family member of Monuments Men now deceased. I also presented one to Lynn. Without her role, we might never have known about the heroes we call the "Monuments Men."



## ROBERT M. EDSSEL UPCOMING EVENTS

### TELEVISION BROADCASTS

**CBS Sunday Morning with Charles Osgood** September/ October  
**Good Day Dallas, FOX TV** October 16

### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

**University of Tennessee** September 19  
 Chatanooga, TN

**Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art** September 27  
 Kansas City, MO

**Spiritual Arts Series** October 28  
 University Park United Methodist Church, Dallas

**University Club** New York City November 8

**Florida Atlantic University** January 9  
 Jupiter, FL

### RADIO INTERVIEWS

**WOR Radio** September 13  
 "Joey Reynolds Show"

**Voice America Radio** September 14  
 with Susan Benjamin

**CRN Digital Talk Radio** September 17  
 Syndicated

**WGOW Chattanooga Talk Radio** September 20

**Money Matters Financial Network** September 29  
 "Money Matters" with Gary Goldberg

**Dallas: KLIF Radio** September TBD  
 "The Jeff Bolton Show"

## The RAPE of EUROPA

### Premiere Dates

**New York City** September 14  
 Angelika Film Center  
 Paris Theater

**Westchester, NY** September 14  
 Jacob Burns Film Center

**Chattanooga** September 21  
 Carmike Bijou 7

**Boston** September 28  
 Coolidge Corner Theater  
 Landmark Kendall Square Cinema  
 West Newton Cinema

**Washington, D.C.** September 28  
 Bethesda Row Cinema  
 E Street Cinema

**Los Angeles** September 28  
 Royal Theater

**Brooklyn, NY** September 28  
 Cobble Hill Theater

**Queens, NY** September 28  
 Kew Gardens Theater

**Long Island, NY** September 28  
 Malverne Cinema

**Maplewood, NJ** September 28  
 Maplewood Theater

**Baltimore** October 5  
 Charles Theater

**Philadelphia** October 5  
 The Ritz Theaters

**Tulsa** October 7  
 Circle Cinema

**Dallas** October 19  
 Angelika Theater

**Cleveland** October 19  
 Shaker Square Cinemas

**Cincinnati** October 19  
 Danbarry Cinemas

**Sacramento** October 19  
 Crest Theater

This month we would like to thank:

Phyllis Shuptrine, Gail Pollock, Steve Glauber, Rita Braver, Jennifer Webster, and Nancy Yeide.

For comments on the Monuments Men Newsletter, please contact Elizabeth Ivy: [eivy@laurelpublishingllc.com](mailto:eivy@laurelpublishingllc.com)