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Local Author Spotlight: Movies, Murder, and Money

Edward Ball Talks About *The Inventor and The Tycoon: A Gilded Age Murder and the Birth of Moving Pictures*

On Thursday, October 17, 7:30 p.m. author and Yale professor Edward Ball will take us back 130 years to *The Inventor and The Tycoon: A Gilded Age Murder and the Birth of Moving Pictures*, “a riveting true life/true crime narrative of the partnership between the murderer who invented the movies and the robber baron who built the railroads.”

Ball is a Yale professor and a winner of the National Book Award for *Slaves in the Family*. In *The Inventor and The Tycoon*, he introduces us to Eadweard Muybridge, the inventor of stop-motion photography—an invention which made motion pictures possible. His patron was railroad tycoon (and former California governor) Leland Stanford, who hired Muybridge and his camera to discern whether the four hooves of a running horse ever left the ground at once.

But the inventor was also a murderer who killed coolly and meticulously, and his trial was a media sensation. Between them, the murderer and the mogul launched the age of visual media.

There will be a book signing and reception after the presentation. **Registration requested. Cost \$10 adults; \$7 seniors and students; members free**

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Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum is located at 895 Shore Road, Pelham Bay Park, Bronx, New York. To reach us by public transportation, take the #6 Lexington Avenue Local subway to Pelham Bay Park station, followed by the Westchester Bee-Line #45 bus direct to the mansion gate. For driving directions, please visit www.bpmm.org. The mansion and carriage house are open to the public for guided tours on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. The gardens and grounds are open daily from 8:30 a.m. to dusk. Mansion admission is \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and students; free for children under six. Visiting the garden and grounds is free.