

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

**January 29, 2009**



**Lloyd Library & Museum  
and Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden  
Present *The Curious Mister Catesby*  
Lectures and Film Screening:  
Saturday, February 28, 2009, 4–7 p.m.**



The **Lloyd Library** and the **Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden** invite you to a special film screening of *The Curious Mister Catesby* on Saturday, February 28, 2009, 4–7 p.m. in Frisch’s Theater at the Zoo’s Harold C. Schott Education Center. Lectures by Catesby experts will begin at 4 p.m. Betsy Kruthoffer, Lloyd Cataloger and curator of Lloyd Library’s Catesby exhibit, will deliver an overview of Mark Catesby’s life and Lloyd’s exhibit; Catesby expert Leslie Overstreet, curator of rare natural history books at the Smithsonian, will deliver a presentation about Catesby’s remarkable 18<sup>th</sup>-century book; and, David Elliot, Executive Producer of the documentary, will speak briefly about the film’s development. The film screening will begin at 4:55 p.m. A reception with cash bar follows from 6–7 p.m. Tickets to the event are \$15 (includes zoo admission and parking) and may be purchased by calling the Lloyd Library at (513) 721-3707. The deadline for purchasing tickets is February 18, 2009.



Mark Catesby (1683-1749), English explorer, naturalist, and artist, was the first to document the flora and fauna of the American colonies in his *Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands*, 1731, with 220 hand-colored and finely detailed illustrations. Catesby preceded the more well-known natural historians of America, such as John and William Bartram, and even the venerated John James Audubon, in exploring and documenting America’s natural history. Among his other firsts are: first to draw sketches from life as opposed to dead, posed specimens; first to depict plants and animals in the context of their natural habitats; first to discover that birds migrate; and, probably the first to recognize how natural and man-made destruction of a species’ habitat leads to extinction.

The documentary had its world premiere at the Royal Society in London; its American premiere at the College of Charleston; and, its Washington premiere at the Smithsonian. It is being released to PBS affiliates by the National Educational Telecommunications Association for their consideration to air. The film has drawn high praise from several who have seen it. Commentators and their remarks include: Sir David Attenborough, wildlife filmmaker and former BBC Controller: “Well done!!... A very enjoyable evening at the Royal Society. I do hope that you will have success in...

showing the film;” Dr. Alan Feduccia, Professor, UNC-Chapel Hill and author of *Catesby’s Birds of Colonial America*: “The film is a treasure, extraordinarily scripted, artistically beautiful and well narrated. It will be a lasting tribute to Catesby and his Natural History;” and, Dr. Nancy Gwinn, Director, Smithsonian Institution Libraries, Washington, DC: “The show is perfectly lovely. I think the photography is fantastic, and the way that the animals fade into the book images and vice versa is quite wonderful.”

In addition to the collaboration between **Lloyd Library & Museum** and **Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden**, this event was generously supported by several state and regional institutions, including **The Elizabeth Wakeman Henderson Charitable Foundation, CET, Civic Garden Center, Miami Valley Audubon Society, Ohio Ornithological Society, The Clark Chapter of the Explorer’s Club, and Cincinnati Nature Center.**

In conjunction with this event, the Lloyd Library has installed a special exhibit at the Lloyd, also titled *The Curious Mister Catesby*, which features both volumes of the library’s 1<sup>st</sup> edition of Catesby’s *Natural History...*, information about his life and work, as well as books about Catesby and other natural histories of the region. Scanned illustrations from Catesby work are featured both in the book exhibit and in Lloyd’s Gallery. The exhibit will run from January 12 through March 31, 2009.



The **Lloyd Library and Museum**, located at 917 Plum Street, downtown Cincinnati, is a local and regional treasure. The library was developed in the nineteenth century by the Lloyd brothers—John Uri, Curtis Gates, and Nelson Ashley to provide reference sources for Lloyd Brothers Pharmacists, Inc., one of the leading pharmaceutical companies of the period. Today the library is recognized worldwide by the scientific community as a vital research center. The library holds, acquires, and provides access to both historic and current materials on the subjects of pharmacy, botany, horticulture, herbal and alternative medicine, pharmacognosy, and related topics. Although our collections have a scientific focus, they also have relevance to humanities topics, such as visual arts and foreign languages through resources that feature botanical and natural history illustrations, original artworks, and travel literature, thereby revealing the convergence of science and art. The Lloyd is open to anyone with an interest in these topics. Free parking is available for patrons and visitors behind the library building. For more information, visit the Lloyd website at [www.lloydlibrary.org](http://www.lloydlibrary.org).

**Lloyd Library and Museum**

**917 Plum Street**

**Cincinnati, Ohio 45202**

**513-721-3707**

**[www.lloydlibrary.org](http://www.lloydlibrary.org)**

**Open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Open the third Saturday of the month, September through May, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

*Bringing Science, Art, and History to Life*