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**THE GREAT ILLUSTRATORS AND WORLD WAR II**  
by JOHN HOWARD SANDEN

**The National Museum of American Illustration (NMAI)** in Newport, RI is pleased to welcome portrait artist John Howard Sanden to the NMAI's 2019 Summer Lecture series on **Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at 1:30PM**. This lecture is open to the public and there is no additional charge beyond the standard cost of Museum admission. Seating is limited; please RSVP for lectures by calling (401) 851-8949 ext. 18 or emailing [art@americanillustration.org](mailto:art@americanillustration.org). This lecture will take place at the NMAI: Vernon Court, 492 Bellevue Avenue, Newport, RI.

John Howard Sanden will discuss how America's great illustrators contributed mightily to the war effort during World War II (1941-1945) and then showed the nation how to return to the joys of peace after its conclusion. The lecture will cover illustration masterworks by Norman Rockwell, Dean Cornwell, J.C. Leyendecker, Mead Schaeffer, and John Falter, among others. Sanden's goal is to provide listeners with a new appreciation for the powerful influence the illustrators' artworks had on the public, and the amazing artistic and technical skill involved in their design and creation.

John Howard Sanden has been a portrait artist for 50 years. He painted approximately 85 portraits for *Reader's Digest* during the late 1960s and early 1970s. During this period, he also opened a private studio in New York City, where he has since painted over 350 commissioned portraits. He was commissioned to paint the official portraits of President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush, which have hung in the National Portrait Gallery, Washington DC, since their unveiling on May 31, 2012. In 1994, Sanden became the first recipient of the John Singer Sargent Medal for Lifetime Achievement from the American Society of Portrait Artists and in 2010 he was awarded the Founders' Gold Medal from the Portrait Society of America.

John Howard Sanden has written 6 books on portrait painting and is currently finalizing a new book titled, *The Norman Rockwell Mystery*, about a Norman Rockwell painting that Sanden revealed to be a fraud and the discovery of the real Rockwell painting behind a secret wall in the studio of fellow artist, Don Trachte.

Sanden will use his expertise to deliver an illustrated lecture on *The Great Illustrators and World War II*, followed by a brief Q&A session.

The National Museum of American Illustration is an independent, educational and aesthetic organization with the goal to present the best venue for the public to appreciate the greatest collection of illustration art. The NMAI's Summer Season runs from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, open Thursday through Sunday, 11am – 5pm, with a Guided Tour every Friday at 3pm. It is located at Vernon Court, 492 Bellevue Avenue, Newport, RI. For information call (401) 851-8949 ext. 18 or visit [www.AmericanIllustration.org](http://www.AmericanIllustration.org).

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