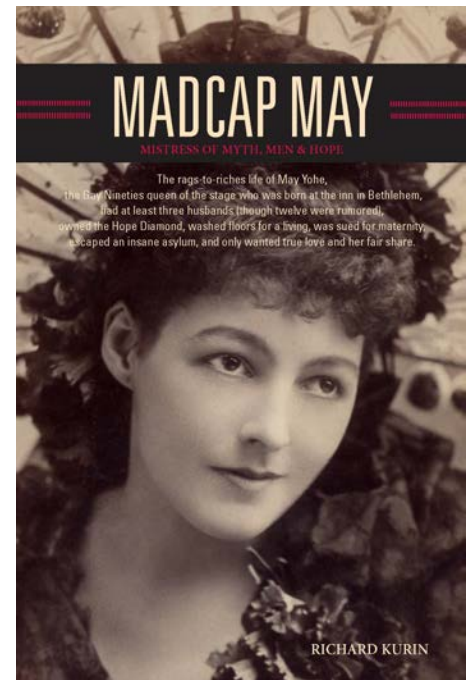


Lecture Program Opportunity for Smithsonian Affiliations

Smithsonian Books and Smithsonian Affiliations are teaming up to offer Smithsonian Affiliate members a very special lecture program and book signing event opportunity with the Smithsonian Institution's Under Secretary for History, Art, and Culture, Richard Kurin. If you think today's Hollywood divas are scandalous, then take a look at the entertainment industry of old. Stage actress May Yohe's exploits at the turn of the century give today's starlets a run for their money. While researching his book on the Hope Diamond, Kurin came across May Yohe. Much like the men of May's time, Kurin found himself quite intrigued with May, and decided that May's life required further research. Kurin's book, *Madcap May: Mistress of Myth, Men, and Hope*, is an exhilarating American story of perseverance that sheds light on the exotic life of May Yohe.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Matt
Litts at (202) 633-2495 or littsm@si.edu**



"Kurin's breezy biography transports the reader to the pomp of a lost era and shows us a diva who entertained, enraged, and surprised a nation through the end of one century and the beginning of the next. Kurin rediscovered Yohe in his research around the Hope Diamond and its legend; his portrait of this madam of the stage is a credit to her one-time notoriety and lingering ghost."

--Publishers Weekly

Event Details:

- Host museum agrees to cover lodging, travel, and meals for Richard Kurin.
- Autographs are only allowed for copies of *Madcap May* purchased at the event.
- Books can be ordered directly through Smithsonian Books' sales agent- Random House, or your museum shops wholesaler of choice.
- *Madcap May* will be available at wholesale price- \$14.98- typically 50% off the retail. Price may vary slightly depending on where you order or quantity ordered.
- Unsold books can be returned.
- Smithsonian can provide suggested event outline if desired.
- Richard Kurin agrees to do local/regional media to promote event.

