

ROMAN ROAD JOURNAL DIGEST

Weekly Reading from 11.01.2018

Politics. One of the biggest news stories recently has been the publication of Michael Wolff's book *Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House*, and Trump's subsequent condemnation of it. If you want to get a flavour of the book's tone and content, read [this extract published in British GQ](#), where Wolff closely examines Trump's relationship with Fox News, Steve Bannon and the right-wing media. *The Guardian* has put together [a useful summary of everything that has happened](#) in the unfolding furore so far, including Trump's vituperative rejection of Bannon and his failed attempt to take [legal action to stop the book's publication](#). You can buy the book [here](#).

- [British GQ](#) | [The Guardian](#)

Gender. The women at this week's Golden Globes made a surprisingly powerful feminist statement, culminating in Oprah Winfrey's inspiring speech. If you missed it, you can read the [full version of the speech here](#), or watch [her deliver it](#) in this video. The speech comes at an important time, coinciding with a [statement by female writers and actresses in France](#) repudiating the #MeToo movement, and suggesting that men should be allowed to "hit on" women. There have even been calls [for Oprah to run for President](#) in 2020; Donald Trump himself once told reporters that Winfrey would be his ideal running mate, but it seems likely that an Oprah presidency would take on a very different tone to Trump's. Some critics, however, have argued that the ascendancy of another celebrity to high-level US politics would [spell the death of America democracy as we know it](#).

- [The New Yorker](#) | [The Atlantic](#) | [The Financial Times](#)

Looking at art. How should we look at art? It's a question that is fundamental to how museums and art historians function. Art critic and meditation expert Peter Clothier argues eloquently for the benefits of spending [1 hour looking at a single work of art](#) in silence. In a similar vein, New York art dealer Michael Findlay has released a [new book](#) on *Seeing Slowly: Looking at Modern Art*. He [encourages readers](#) to reject the distractions of technology, audio-guides and wall labels, and to spend between 3 and 15 minutes looking at each work of art.

- [Artsy](#) | [Hyperallergic](#)

Digital art. Art made with computer technology, virtual reality and augmented reality is becoming increasingly prevalent. However, with sophisticated tech entering mainstream art, [legal issues are beginning to be raised around copyright and authorship](#). Art created using computers is not as new as it might seem, however. Recent research shows that [Miriam Schapiro was using a computer programme](#) to sketch out her geometrical paintings in the 1960s, while [Andy Warhol once met Steve Jobs](#) at a party and was inspired by the visual capabilities of the first Apple Mac.

- [The Art Newspaper](#) | [ArtNet News](#) | [Artsy](#)

Mediation. To complement the articles above regarding how to look at a work of art, and the intersection of art and technology, we end with this essay by Mary Pappalardo. *Pictures at an Exhibition* explores the re-doubling of works of art in a museum via the myriad of screens that often surround them, crafting an argument that delves into how our experiences of art are inevitably mediated by technology, our own past experiences, and the experiences of others.

- [Mary Pappalardo](#)