

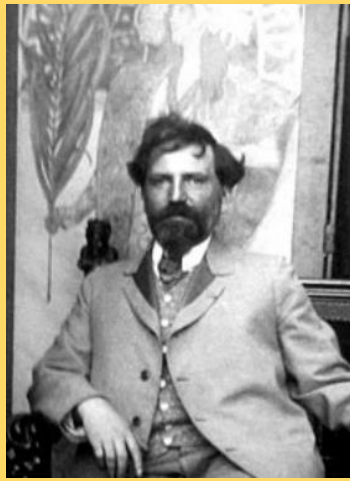
September 8, 2023

Program: 'Alphonse Mucha – His Life and His Art'

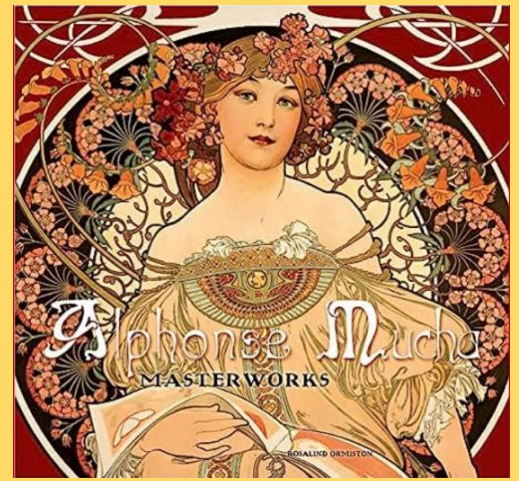
Presented by: Beverly Vonásek



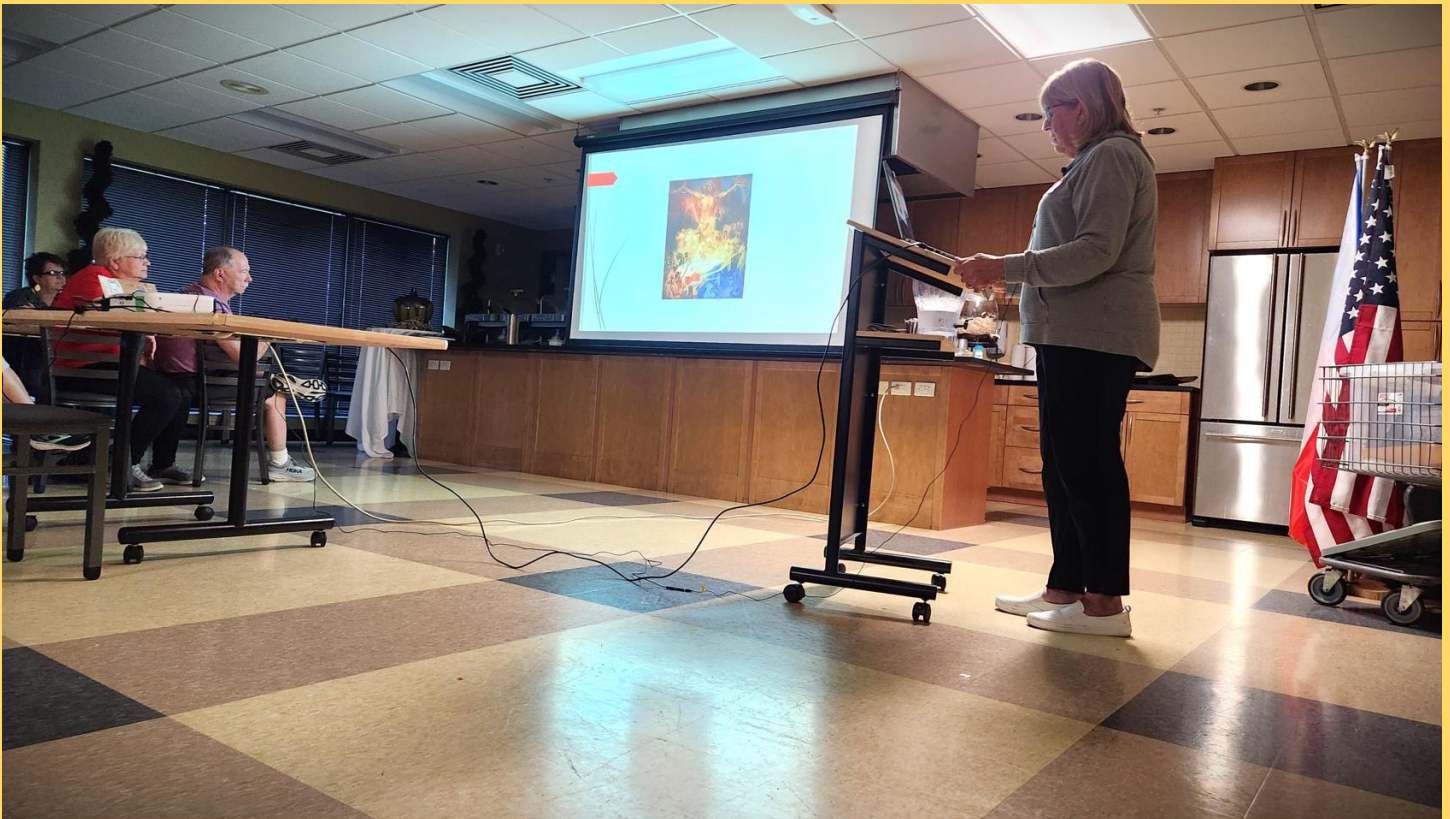
Beverly Vonásek



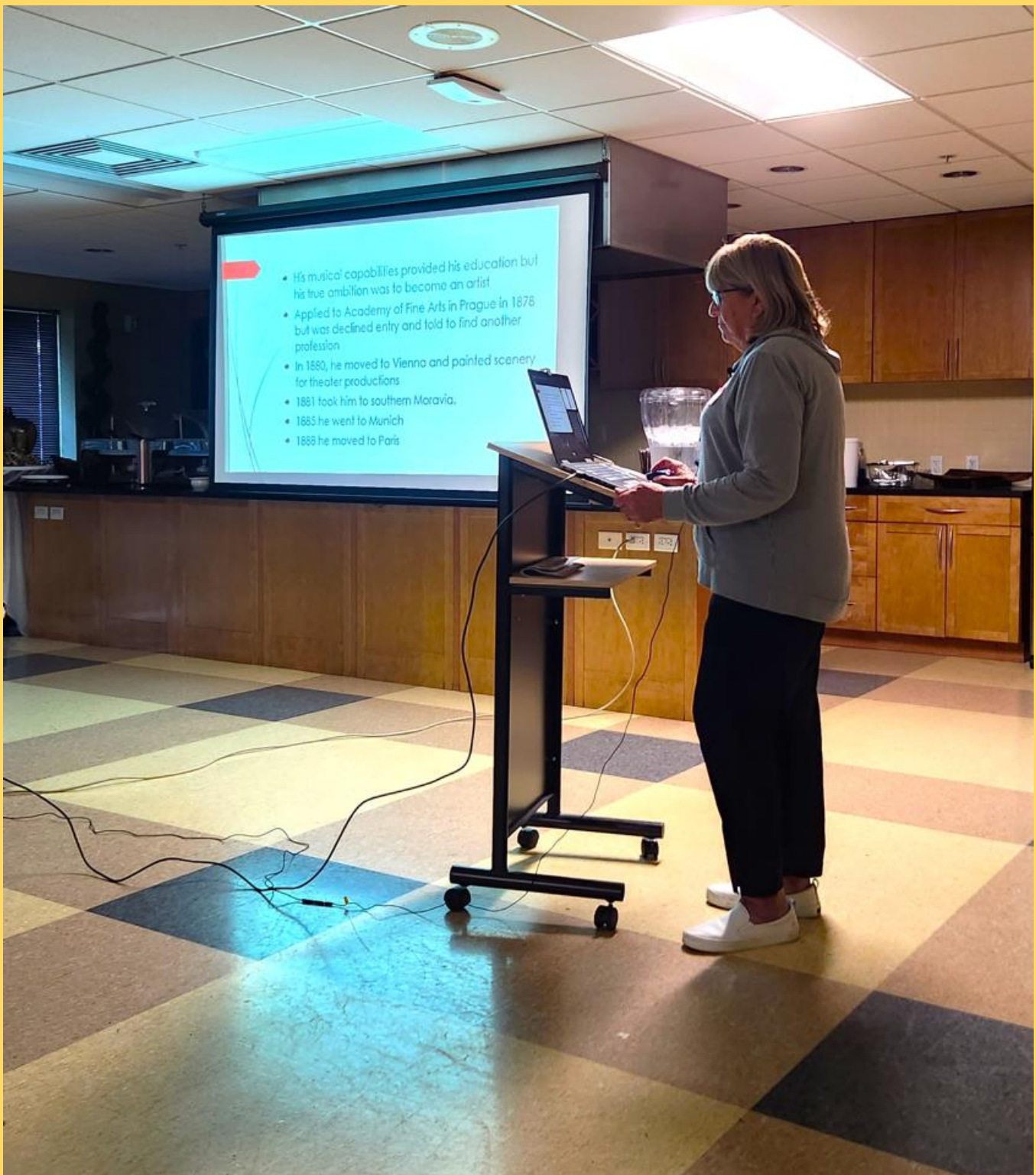
Alphonse Mucha



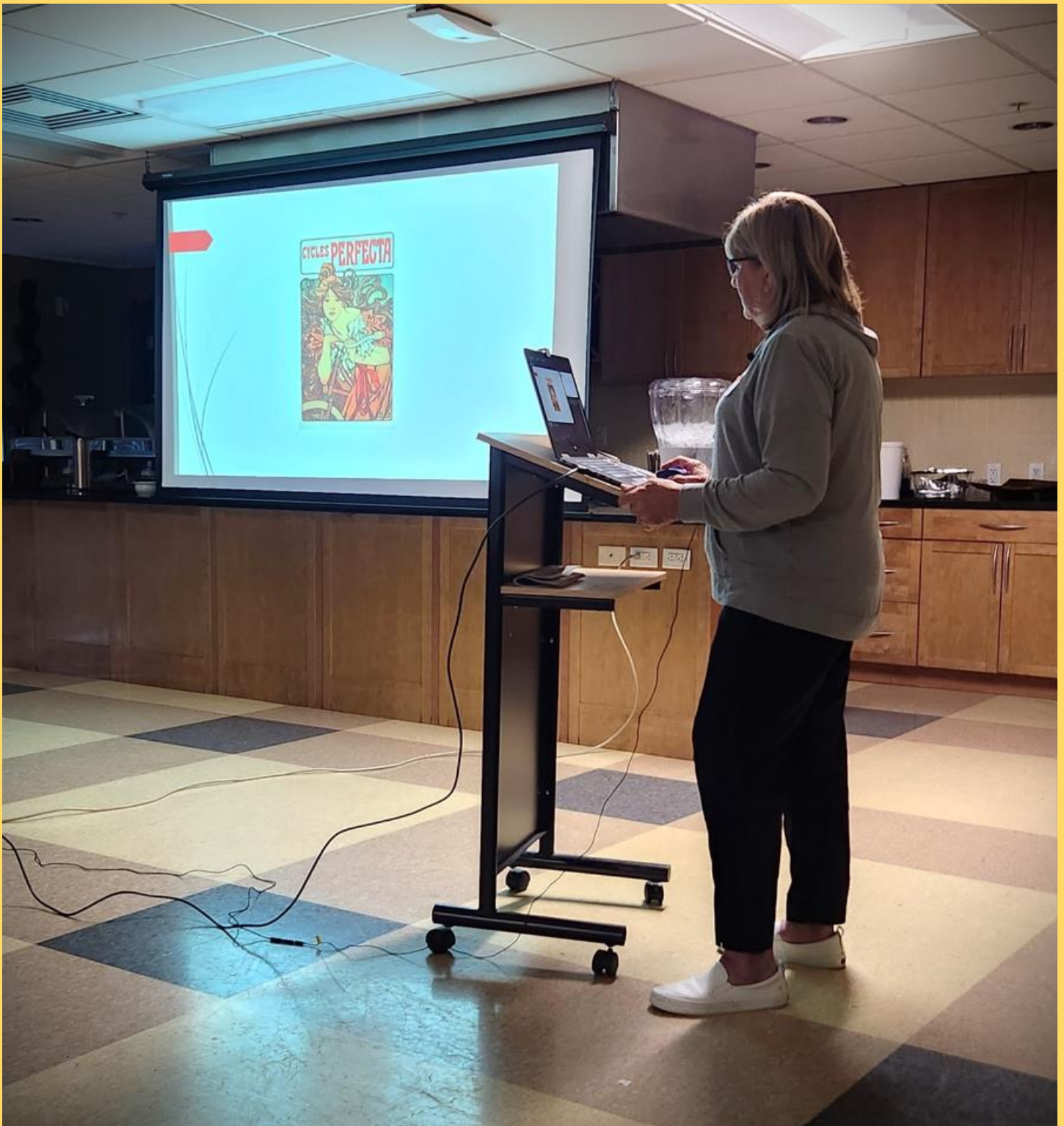
Alphonse Mucha - Masterworks



'The Slav Epic' cycle No.20: Apotheosis: Slavs for Humanity. Four Stages of Slav History in Four Colors  
In the last painting in the series, Mucha sought to bring together all the themes addressed in the other 19 episodes of the *Slav Epic* and celebrate the independence of the Slav nations.



He was 19 when he moved to Vienna. In 1881 a fire destroyed one of the major theaters where he worked so he took what money he had and traveled to southern Moravia. There he painted portraits and decorative art. In Moravia he was commissioned by Count Belasi to paint a series of murals for his residence and others. He took Mucha to Munich in 1885 and provided him funds for formal training. He could not stay in Munich because Bavarian authorities imposed restrictions on foreign students. In 1887 he went to Paris. In Paris, he did illustrations for books and novels.



Sales poster for Bicycles...notice the appearance of wind that gives 'motion' to the poster--1902

Credit is given to the *Mucha Foundation* – Prague, Czech Republic - <http://www.muchafoundation.org/en>

The *Mucha Foundation* is an independent, non-profit making charity devoted to preserving and conserving the Mucha Trust Collection and promoting the work of Alphonse Mucha.



<- Sarah Bernhardt theatre posters ->



The Zodiac



Haunting Expressions from The Slav Epic Panel #1



### The Seasons (1896)

After his success with Bernhardt and advertising posters, he created a new product, a decorative panel—posters without text—merely for decoration. His first panel was 'The Seasons' (1896)



### Precious Stones (1900)

Women personify four precious stones. In each panel, the upper part of the composition is dominated by the female figure, while the lower part features a realistically drawn flower whose color echoes that of the particular gemstone. The color scheme carries throughout the flowing robes, hair decorations, mosaic halos and eye color.