

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PRESIDENTIAL DOODLING ANALYZED AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (October 26, 2006) - Uncover the secrets of West Wing doodles in *The Mystery and Psychology of Presidential Doodling* with David Greenberg and forensic psychiatrist John Sebastian O'Brien at the National Constitution Center on Wednesday, November 15, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 for members, \$15 for non-members, and \$6 for students and K-12 teachers. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 215.409.6693.

What did it mean that Richard Nixon doodled cobwebs or that Harry Truman drew a witch? What was JFK thinking when he scribbled "Vietnam" eight times on a page? And what did it mean that Ronald Reagan often doodled a drawing of himself as a cowboy?

David Greenberg is the author of *Presidential Doodles: Two Centuries of Scribbles, Scratches, Squiggles & Scrawls from the Oval Office*. Greenberg is the Professor of History and Journalism at Rutgers University, and the author of *Nixon's Shadow: The History of an Image*. A regular columnist for *Slate*, he has also written for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *The New Yorker*, *The New Republic*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Nation*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *Washington Monthly*.

-MORE-

## ADD ONE/PRESIDENTIAL DOODLES

Joining Professor Greenberg will be John Sebastian O'Brien, a forensic psychiatrist who has testified in a number of Philadelphia's most noted criminal cases. O'Brien is a faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania and Jefferson Medical College, and is a member of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. He is also an artist and art lover who owns the JMS gallery in Chestnut Hill. O'Brien will offer his thoughts on the possible psychological meaning of presidential doodles.

A book sale and signing will follow courtesy of the Joseph Fox Bookshop.

The National Constitution Center, located at 525 Arch St. on Philadelphia's Independence Mall, is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the ideas and values it represents. Opened on July 4, 2003, the Constitution Center is a museum, an education center, and a forum for debate on constitutional issues. The museum dramatically tells the story of the Constitution from Revolutionary times to the present through more than 100 interactive, multimedia exhibits, film, photographs, text, sculpture and artifacts, and features a powerful, award-winning theatrical performance, "Freedom Rising". The Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education and debates. Also, serving as a nonpartisan forum for constitutional discourse, the Center presents – without endorsement – programs that contain diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues. The National Constitution Center's programs earned the organization a 2006 Best of Philly® award from *Philadelphia* magazine as the "Best Place To Smarten Up". For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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