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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DEBORAH SOLOMON AND DAPHNE MERKIN: A CONVERSATION**

**Distinguished biographer and WNYC art critic Deborah Solomon to read from her provocative new Norman Rockwell biography and join discussion with essayist and novelist Daphne Merkin**

*7 pm.; Wednesday, November 13 at Macaulay Honors College*

(NEW YORK, NY – October 21, 2013) The @MACAULAY AUTHOR SERIES will host Deborah Solomon, acclaimed biographer of Jackson Pollock and Joseph Cornell, as she reads from her exciting new biography: *American Mirror: The Life and Art of Norman Rockwell*, and joins cultural critic Daphne Merkin in a conversation about the popular 20<sup>th</sup> Century painter and illustrator.

In Solomon's authoritative and probing biography, Rockwell, the celebrated illustrator of *The Saturday Evening Post*, emerges as a complex and troubled man, whose family life and conflicted sexuality contrast starkly with the happy, nostalgic, compassionate and egalitarian images of American family life depicted in his paintings, which are hung in museums around the country.

Solomon, the former interviewer for the popular New York Times Magazine column "Questions For," used her well-honed skills as a journalist to create a biography that writer, actor and art collector Steve Martin has called "as vivid and touching as a Rockwell interior."

Daphne Merkin, essayist, novelist, and author of the forthcoming book *The Fame Lunches: On Wounded Icons, Money, Sex, The Importance of Handbags & Other Cultural Inquiries*, will join Solomon in conversation. The speaking program will be followed by a book signing and reception with the authors. The Series is sponsored by the Friends of Macaulay.

This free event, which launches Solomon's book tour and is part of the @MACAULAY AUTHOR SERIES, will be held on Nov.13 at 7 p.m. at Macaulay Honors College: 35 West 67<sup>th</sup> Street, between Central Park West and Columbus. Advance online registration requested at: <http://macaulay.cuny.edu/rsvp>

**About Macaulay Honors College**

Macaulay Honors College at The City University of New York offers exceptional students a uniquely personalized education with access to the vast resources of the nation's largest urban university and New York City itself. Selected for their top high school records and leadership potential, Macaulay students receive a full-tuition scholarship, a laptop and technology support, and a \$7,500 Opportunities Fund to pursue global learning and service opportunities. A Cultural Passport provides access to museums, libraries, and other treasures around New York City. Macaulay students enroll in one of eight CUNY senior colleges (Baruch, Brooklyn, City, Hunter, John Jay, Lehman, Queens and Staten Island). For more information, see [macaulay.cuny.edu](http://macaulay.cuny.edu).

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