



PEABODY MUSEUM  
*of* ARCHAEOLOGY & ETHNOLOGY

PRESS RELEASE

# NEW DATE!

## STARTING AT STANDING ROCK FOLLOWING CUSTER AND SITTING BULL TO THE LITTLE BIG HORN



Little Bighorn Reenactment sponsored by the Real-Bird family, June 24, 2007. Photo by Nathaniel Philbrick.

**What:** FREE Lecture and Reception on a **NEW DATE** - Thursday May 14, 2009, 5:30 P.M.

**Where:** Lecture in Geological Lecture Hall, Harvard University, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge.  
Reception follows in the Peabody Museum, 11 Divinity Ave.

**Contact:** 617-496-1027 (Public Information)

**(Cambridge, April 14, 2009)** The Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology presents a lecture by award-winning author Nathaniel Philbrick, *Starting at Standing Rock: Following Custer and Sitting Bull to the Little Big Horn*. In June of 2007, Philbrick traveled to the Standing Rock Sioux Agency in North Dakota to research an upcoming book about the Battle of the Little Big Horn. Over the next two weeks, he ventured up the Missouri River to Fort Lincoln, home to General George Custer's Seventh Cavalry, and then followed Custer's route more than three hundred miles to the Little Bighorn National Monument in Crow Agency, Montana. In this illustrated lecture about his trip, Philbrick, who is known for his bestselling books about maritime topics, will talk about the challenges of moving from the sea to the American West as well as the unexpected importance that photographs and native artwork have had in shaping his understanding of the battle and its participants.

### **About Nathaniel Philbrick**

After graduate school, Philbrick worked for four years at *Sailing World* magazine. He was a freelancer for a number of years, during which time he wrote and edited several sailing books, including *Yaahting: A Parody* (1984). After moving to Nantucket in 1986, he became interested in the history of the island and wrote *Away Off Shore: Nantucket Island and Its People*. He was offered the opportunity to start the Egan Maritime Institute in 1995, and in 2000 he published *In the Heart of the Sea*, followed by *Sea of Glory* and *Mayflower*. He is presently at work on a book about the Battle of Little Big Horn.



Nathaniel Philbrick photo by Ellen Warner.

### **Awards and Honors for Nathaniel Philbrick**

*Mayflower* was a finalist for both the 2007 Pulitzer Prize in History and the Los Angeles Times Book Award and was winner of the Massachusetts Book Award for nonfiction. *In the Heart of the Sea* won the National Book Award for nonfiction; *Revenge of the Whale* won a Boston Globe-Horn Book Award; *Sea of Glory* won the Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt Naval History Prize and the Albion-Monroe Award from the National Maritime Historical Society. Philbrick has also received the Byrne Waterman Award from the Kendall Whaling Museum, the Samuel Eliot Morison Award for distinguished service from the USS Constitution Museum, the Nathaniel Bowditch Award from the American Merchant Marine Museum, the William Bradford Award from the Pilgrim Society, the Boston History Award from the Bostonian Society, and the New England Book Award from the New England Independent Booksellers Association.

### **Related Exhibition**

The new exhibition *Wiyohpiyata: Lakota Images of the Contested West* explores the meanings of a recently discovered nineteenth-century “artist’s book,” in the collection of Houghton Library, that had been recovered from the Little Big Horn battlefield after Custer’s defeat in 1876. The exhibition presents colored drawings by Plains Indian warriors from the book with historic Lakota objects from the Peabody’s collections.

### **About the Peabody Museum**

The Peabody Museum is among the oldest archaeological and ethnographic museums in the world with one of the finest collections of human cultural history found anywhere. It is home to superb materials from Africa, ancient Europe, North America, Mesoamerica, Oceania, and South America in particular. In addition to its archaeological and ethnographic holdings, the Museum’s photographic archives, one of

the largest of its kind, hold more than 500,000 historical photographs, dating from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to the present and chronicling anthropology, archaeology, and world culture.

**Location:** The Peabody Museum is located at 11 Divinity Avenue in Cambridge. The Museum is a short walk from the Harvard Square MBTA station.

**Hours:** 9 A.M. to 5 P.M., seven days a week. The Museum is closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. Admission is \$9 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors, \$6 for children, 3–18. Free with Harvard ID or Museum membership. The Museum is free to Massachusetts residents Sundays, 9 A.M. to noon, year round, and Wednesdays from 3 P.M. to 5 P.M. (September to May). Admission includes admission to the Harvard Museum of Natural History. For more information call 617-496-1027 or go online to: [www.peabody.harvard.edu](http://www.peabody.harvard.edu).

**Media Contact:** Faith Sutter, Communications Coordinator [sutter@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:sutter@fas.harvard.edu)  
Peabody Museum  
11 Divinity Ave. Cambridge, MA 02138  
Tel: (617)495-3397  
Fax: (617)495-7535