



Photo by Jeff Riedel

# THE GREAT MISSISSIPPI RIVER FLOOD OF 1927:

A 75-MILE-WIDE INLAND SEA

**Monday | October 17 | 7:30 p.m. | Kirby 104**

John M. Barry sets the historical context for the *Breach*, exhibition, including a summary of weather conditions and Army Corp of Engineers projects that contributed to the devastating effects of the 1927 flood, the impact on African-Americans living in the Delta, and the long-term social, cultural, and political changes that resulted nationwide from this historic river disaster.



## CAN NEW ORLEANS SURVIVE?

COASTAL DESTRUCTION, THE FUTURE OF LOUISIANA, AND THE MOST AMBITIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL LAWSUIT EVER

**Monday | October 17 | 4:10 p.m. | Van Wickle 108**

John M. Barry's work for his book *Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How It Changed America* involved him in several areas of public policy, including water issues and flood protection. In 2013, Barry became a chief architect in a suit against oil and gas companies for damage done to the Louisiana coast. Barry will discuss the lawsuit, including very recent developments.

Historian John M. Barry is author of *Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How It Changed America*, which was named by the NY Public Library as one of the 50 "most memorable" books of the preceding 50 years (2005) won the 1998 Parkman Prize from the Society of American Historians.

Barry's talks are cosponsored by Civil Engineering, Geology, History, the Engineering Division, LEAP, Environmental Science and Environmental Studies, the Offices of the Provost and President, and the Lafayette Art Galleries.

Part of *Confluence*, a series of programs complementing Alison Saar's *Breach*, the exhibition currently on view in the Grossman Gallery; the artwork in *Breach* is informed by the 1927 flood.

Saar's exhibition and residency are made possible by the Andrew W. Mellon Arts Infusion Grant and Department of Art.

**See all the related events at [galleries.lafayette.edu](http://galleries.lafayette.edu)**

