



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 7, 2011

**Best-Selling Author
STACY SCHIFF
Uncovers Cleopatra's Leadership Secrets
at MATRIX: MIDLAND Festival 2011**

When: Wednesday, June 15 • 7:30 pm

Where: Ballroom, Midland Country Club, 1120 W. St. Andrews Rd., Midland, MI 48640

Cost: \$28, includes post-lecture refreshments and book signing

Information: Call Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or (800) 523-7649 or www.mcfta.org

Find this on our website: <http://www.mcfta.org/OnstageGroups.html#guest>

MIDLAND – Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer Stacy Schiff takes on one of the greatest figures in history: Cleopatra VII, the last queen of Egypt, who stood at one of the most dangerous intersections in history, that of women and power. Ms. Schiff has uncovered the life of this legendary historic figure in her best-seller *Cleopatra: A Life*, rated one of the *New York Times*' 10 Best Books of 2010. MATRIX: MIDLAND Festival 2011 presents **Stacy Schiff - Cleopatra's Leadership Secrets** on Wednesday, June 15, 7:30 pm in the Ballroom of the Midland Country Club, 1120 W. St. Andrews Rd., Midland. Co-sponsored by Tri-Star Trust Bank.

Tickets are \$28 and include post-lecture refreshments and book signing. Copies of Ms. Schiff's book, *Cleopatra: A Life*, will be available for purchase. Tickets are available at mcfta.org or by calling the MCFTA Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or (800) 523-7649.

Cleopatra's name alone casts a spell. History remembers her as an irresistible seductress, but she was also a canny political strategist, a brilliant manager, and a tough negotiator. History has not seen a more influential woman since: She knew how to build a fleet, control a currency, and quiet an insurrection. In *Cleopatra: A Life* Ms. Schiff navigates through the hazy mist of rumor, myth, and Hollywood imagery that has surrounded the legendary figure for centuries as she boldly separates fact from fiction to reveal a brilliant, capable leader.

Ms. Schiff received the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for *Véra (Mrs. Vladimir Nabokov)*. Her first book, *Saint-Exupéry* was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the recipient of numerous awards abroad. She is the author of *A Great Improvisation: Franklin, France, and the Birth of America*, which won the 2005 George Washington Book Prize, the Ambassador Award in American Studies, and the Institut Français's Gilbert Chinard Prize. Ms. Schiff has written for *The New Yorker*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Boston Globe*, among other publications.

<http://www.stacyschiff.com/>

MATRIX:MIDLAND presents professional, world-class entertainment to the mid-Michigan region. For over 30 years, Matrix has hosted an extraordinary schedule of cutting-edge entertainment including cinema, music, comedy, family programs, world-renowned authors and more.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, Center Stage Theatre, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, Midland Symphony Orchestra, and Music Society – Choral. Activities at Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at www.mcfta.org.

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