

OSTROM WORKSHOP **TOCQUEVILLE LECTURE SERIES**

David M. Hart

Director, Online Library of Liberty Project, Liberty Fund

“The ‘Seen’ and the ‘Unseen’ Bastiat:
Some Reflections on Editing His Work
and His Continuing Relevance for Today”

Friday, SEPTEMBER 28, 2018

12:00–1:30 PM • Ostrom Workshop, 513 N. Park



Dr. Hart’s presentation will address three things that have come out of ten years of working on the Bastiat Translation Project for Liberty Fund. The first concerns editorial and translation problems that inevitably arise when one attempts to translate texts of highly specialized nature (economic theory) written over 170 years ago. The second concerns the fact that Bastiat was a member of an important school of economic thought, the “Paris School” of political economy, which is not well known to us today. Bastiat and a small group with whom he was affiliated, the so-called “Four Musketeers” of political economy, were highly original thinkers who were ahead of their time in areas such as free banking, the private provision of public goods, and subjective value theory and the pure logic of choice. The third aspect addressed by the talk will deal with the continuing relevance of Bastiat’s thought 168 years after his death, especially his witty refutation of protectionist ideas (in the age of Trump) and the many hard-hitting anti-socialist pamphlets he wrote during the Second Republic (in the age of Bernie Sanders).



[David M. Hart](#) was born and raised in Sydney, Australia. He studied at Stanford University (MA 1983) and King’s College, Cambridge (PhD 1994), and is currently the Director of the Online Library of Liberty Project at Liberty Fund in Indianapolis, Indiana. He is also the Academic Editor of Liberty Fund’s translation of the *Collected Works of Frédéric Bastiat* (in 6 vols.) (Liberty Fund, 2011–), and the editor and co-translator of Molinari’s *Evenings on Saint Lazarus Street: Discussions on Economic Laws and the Defence of Property* (1849). His areas of research are the history of classical liberal thought in general, and the French classical liberal tradition in particular.

Cosponsor: Tocqueville Program

Presentations are open to the public and are live streamed (see our website for URL). You are welcome to bring your lunch. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu; 812/855–3151).