

THE SOCIETY OF FELLOWS IN THE HUMANITIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2013–2014



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2013–2014 Fellows at the annual year-end gathering (from left): Rebecca Woods (2013–2016), Hidetaka Hirota (2013–2016), Ian McCready-Flora (2011–2014), Teresa Bejan (2013–2014), Vanessa Agard-Jones (2013–2014), Brian Goldstone (2012–2015), William Deringer (2012–2015), and Grant Wythoff (2013–2016).

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Each year at the Society of Fellows, particular moments seem to distill the essence of our mission. As I write this, I think back, for example, on the “Calculating Capitalism” conference organized by Will Deringer, one of our current Fellows, who has recently accepted a position on the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as an Assistant Professor in the Science, Technology, and Society Program—to begin in Fall 2015, allowing him to remain with us for one more year. “Calculating Capitalism,” which included more than thirty panelists from across the disciplines, examined the place of computations, computational technologies, and the individuals who carry them out within the activities of capitalism—from the budgeting practices of the family and the investment theses of the financier to the theoretical models of the academic economist and the public accounts of the state. When we host a conference that reaches so many scholars in so many disciplines, when I see the room packed over several conference days, I feel I am witnessing the very purpose of the Society of Fellows in action—the exchange of information and ideas, the exploration of the porous borders between areas of study.

Such moments of purpose also occur in the Fellows’ Friday afternoon workshops, in which one of the Fellows presents a work-in-progress to a group of other Fellows, one Board member or an alumni Fellow, Associate Director Eileen Gillooly, and myself. These workshops, held eight times over the academic year, are meant to facilitate the Fellows’ preparation of manuscript chapters or essays intended for stand-alone publication, to encourage sustained engagement among the Fellows with the substance of each other’s work, and to encourage interactions between the Fellows and Board members. The Fellows repeatedly tell us how generative they find the perspectives of their interlocutors, who generally hail from disciplines other than their own, and how much they value the sense of camaraderie that emerges in such a setting.

Integrating the Fellows into the life of the university is always a priority, but so too is making their outstanding work known to the Columbia community and the broader public. To this end, we completely redesigned the Society of Fellows website in 2013–2014. Led by Nick Obourn, our Communications and Web Manager, and our consulting web developer, Yujin Asai, the redesign highlights the Fellows and all the activities of the Society, including those of our alumni Fellows. The new website, which launched in summer 2013, has dedicated pages for each Fellow, where visitors can read their biographies and learn about their publications, presentations, and other noteworthy accomplishments. On



Chair and Director Christopher L. Brown

these Fellows pages, visitors can also watch short videos of the Fellows talking about their work and teaching. The introduction of a news section allows us to tout the many accomplishments of our current and alumni Fellows. It covers notices of publications, talks, promotions, and other recent noteworthy achievements. Lastly, the new website has a publications section that includes a searchable database of all publications by our current and alumni Fellows. Perusing this extensive list of publications really drove home for me the impact our alumni are having on scholarship in the humanities.

As we do each fall term, we welcomed new Fellows into the Society. For the 2013–2014 academic year, we selected five new Fellows from a pool of roughly 1,000 applicants whose research proposals demonstrate the vitality and vibrancy of work in the humanities and human sciences. In the 2013–2014 competition, for example, we saw a spate of applications from scholars in the burgeoning field of digital humanities. A stand-out among these was Grant Wythoff's work on the media history of the gadget. A PhD in English from Princeton, Grant co-founded the Digital Humanities Initiative there and worked closely with Professor Meredith Martin to create the Princeton Prosody Archive, before joining the Society, where he immediately began to further digital humanities work on our campus.

As the selection committee anticipated, the projects of the other Fellows in this most recent cohort were equally original and exciting. Vanessa Agard-Jones (Anthropology and Institute for Research in African American Studies) spent the year writing up her research on the intersection of sexual politics and environmental conditions in the French Caribbean. Teresa Bejan (Political Science) developed her work on the relationship between toleration and civility, with particular attention to concepts of religious liberty. Hidetaka Hirota (History and Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race) prepared for publication his groundbreaking manuscript on immigration, citizenship, and deportation policies in America from the colonial period through the antebellum period. And Rebecca Woods (History) made significant progress on her study of nineteenth-century global commerce in livestock and its economic, environmental, and political effects. (If we were to give an award to the best dissertation title, Rebecca would likely have received it for "Herds Shot Round the World.") These five new Fellows joined our continuing Fellows: William Deringer (History), Ian McCready-Flora (Philosophy), and Brian Goldstone (Anthropology). I encourage you to learn more about their exciting work in the pages of this report.

As you know, each spring the Fellows, with the guidance of the directors, organize the Thursday Lecture Series, the theme of which in Spring 2014 was "materiality." Among the guest speakers were: Eduardo Kohn, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at McGill University, who spoke about forests as laboratories to inspire thinking; Eric Nelson, Professor of Government at Harvard University, who gave a talk on the right to claim ownership of human resources; and Karen Barad, Professor of Feminist Studies at University of California, Santa Cruz, who shared her research on time and materiality. Organizers

and audiences agreed that the theme of materiality led to some of the most provocative discussions we have had at the Society of Fellows. I thank the Fellows and the community who attend our Thursday Lecture Series for making it a forum in which scholarship is embraced.

In addition to inviting speakers for the Thursday Lecture Series, conducting research, and teaching, several Fellows organized special events in the spring. Teresa Bejan organized a symposium titled “The Toleration of Tolerations,” which brought together faculty specializing in law, history, and political science to discuss toleration and conformity. Fellows Grant Wythoff and Brian Goldstone put together a conversation between Bernhard Siegert (Gerd Bucerius Professor of History and Theory of Cultural Techniques at Bauhaus-University Weimar) and Ben Kafka (Associate Professor in the Departments of History and of Media, Culture, and Communication at New York University). Taking as their point of departure Bruno Latour’s well-known essay “Why Has Critique Run out of Steam?,” Siegert and Kafka—with the active participation of a standing-room-only audience in the Common Room—discussed topics ranging from new directions in the study of media and material culture to the status of cultural criticism in the contemporary humanities and social sciences.

The close of the academic year, while ushering in the welcome summer break, always means a few goodbyes. This year, we bade farewell to two of our newest Fellows—Vanessa Agard-Jones and Teresa Bejan—both of whom deferred tenure-track positions to join us for the year. In Fall 2014, Vanessa begins her appointment as Assistant Professor of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Yale University, and Teresa becomes an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Toronto. We also wish the best of luck to Ian McCready-Flora, who finishes his three-year fellowship at the Society and takes up a position as an Assistant Professor in the Philosophy Department at St. Louis University.

On the staff side at the Society of Fellows, we were very sorry to see Christina Dawkins, our superb Administrative Assistant, leave us late in the fall semester, having completed her Masters in Human Rights and accepted a position outside the university. Luckily for us, Christina could not stay away, and she returned late in the spring to become Program Manager for the Public Humanities Initiative of the Heyman Center for the Humanities (founded by Eileen Gillooly, in this instance wearing her hat as the Associate Director of the Heyman Center). Conley Lowrance, who recently graduated with a BA from the Area Program in Poetry Writing at the University of Virginia, took over as Administrative Assistant in November and very quickly made the job his own.

Please do explore the new website, send us your news, and visit us when you can. As we embark on another wonderful year at the Society of Fellows, we welcome you to join in the vibrant cross-disciplinary discourse and scholarship.

Christopher L. Brown

Chair and Director

MEMBERS OF THE 2013–2014 GOVERNING BOARD

Courtney Bender

Religion

David Lurie

East Asian Languages and Cultures

Christopher L. Brown (ex-officio)

Chair/Director

History

Mark Mazower (ex-officio)

History

Eileen Gillooly (ex-officio)

Associate Director

English and Comparative Literature

Monica Miller

*English and Comparative Literature
and Africana Studies, Barnard College*

Patricia Grieve (ex-officio)

Latin American and Iberian Cultures

Michele Moody-Adams

Philosophy

Eleanor Johnson

English and Comparative Literature

Frances Negrón-Muntaner

*English and Comparative Literature
and the Center for the Study of Race
and Ethnicity*

Matthew L. Jones (ex-officio)

History

Alondra Nelson

Sociology

Holger Klein

Art History and Archaeology

Jesús Rodríguez-Velasco

Latin American and Iberian Cultures

Elizabeth Leake

Italian

Elaine Sisman (ex-officio)

Music

Eugenia Lean

East Asian Languages and Culture

THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP COMPETITION

The thirty-ninth Society of Fellows in the Humanities fellowship competition closed on 7 October 2013, with 1,041 applicants vying for the three fellowship positions available for 2014–2015. A total of twenty-one departments, institutes, and centers conducted the first round of vetting. The applications they recommended for advancement to the next level of competition received three readings apiece: two by members of the Governing Board and one by a current Fellow. Each applicant was ranked on a scale of one to five and subsequently reviewed by the selection committee, a sub-committee of the Governing Board. In mid-December, the committee invited fourteen applicants to campus for interviews, which were held in January 2014 at the Heyman Center.

The three available fellowships for 2014–2015 were offered to, and accepted by: Maggie Cao, PhD in Art History from Harvard University; Murad Idris, PhD in Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania; and Dan-el Padilla Peralta, PhD in Classics from Stanford University.

The three Fellows, whose appointments began 1 July 2014, bring to the Society of Fellows different concentrations and approaches within the humanities field. Dr. Cao is a scholar of American art and visual culture, whose current work focuses on the artistic negotiation of scientific and economic paradigm shifts during the long nineteenth century. Dr. Idris, a political theorist, works on issues of war and peace in ancient, modern, and contemporary thought, in both Euro-American and Islamic traditions. Dr. Padilla Peralta is both an historian of the Roman Republic and Empire and a memoirist, whose *Undocumented: A Dominican Boy's Odyssey from a Homeless Shelter to the Ivy League* (Penguin Press, 2015) chronicles his journey from the New York City shelter system to the study of classics at Princeton, Oxford, and Stanford.



Maggie Cao



Murad Idris



Dan-el Padilla Peralta

COMPETITION NUMBERS

FELLOWSHIPS STARTING IN 2014–2015

Anthropology	61	5.86%
Art History and Archaeology	72	6.92%
Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity	22	2.11%
Classics	33	3.17%
East Asian Languages and Cultures	50	4.80%
English and Comparative Literature	164	15.75%
Film Studies	16	1.54%
French and Romance Philology	32	3.07%
Germanic Languages	21	2.02%
History	130	12.49%
Institute for Research in African American Studies	17	1.60%
Institute for Research on Women and Gender	32	3.07%
Italian	12	1.20%
Latin American and Iberian Cultures	43	4.13%
Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies	65	6.24%
Music	64	6.15%
Philosophy	43	4.13%
Political Science	50	4.80%
Religion	64	6.15%
Slavic Languages and Cultures	22	2.11%
Sociology	28	2.69%
Total	1041	100%



FELLOWS IN RESIDENCE

2013–2014



VANESSA AGARD-JONES

2013–2014

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND INSTITUTE OF FRENCH STUDIES, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, PhD, 2013

Trained in Anthropology and French Studies at New York University (joint PhD 2013), Vanessa Agard-Jones also holds an MA in African-American Studies from Columbia University (2006), and a BA in Political Science from Yale (2000). Her research explores emergent concerns about the relationship of gender and sexuality to environmental crisis and to political theory in the French Caribbean. With the late historian Manning Marable, Dr. Agard-Jones is co-editor of *Transnational Blackness: Navigating the Global Color Line* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008). Her work has also appeared in *GLQ: A Journal of Gay and Lesbian Studies*; *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, and Society*; *the Caribbean Review of Gender Studies*, and in the volume *Sex and the Citizen: Interrogating the Caribbean* (University of Virginia Press, 2011).

In her year with the Society of Fellows, Dr. Agard-Jones began writing a book about pesticides, (sexual) politics, and postcoloniality in Martinique. She spent three weeks doing fieldwork for this project in December 2013, and her first publications related to it appeared in *Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism* ("Bodies in the System") and in Somatosphere's series *Commonplaces: Itemizing the Technological Present* ("Spray"). She prepared a French translation of an earlier article, "*Le Jeu de Qui? Les Politiques Sexuelles aux Antilles Françaises*," for the journal *Comment s'en Sortir*. Working slightly outside her usual research focus, Dr. Agard-Jones also collaborated with visual artist Simone Leigh on the Creative Time project *Funk, God, Jazz, and Medicine: Black Radical Brooklyn*.

Dr. Agard-Jones gave invited presentations at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, at Dartmouth College, at Rutgers University, Princeton University, the University of Miami, and at the Université Paris 8. She served as a panel discussant at two conferences: "Seeing Disciplines, Their Histories, and Our Futures Through The Caribbean" (*Université des Antilles et de la Guyane*) and "The Intellectual Enterprise" (Mellon Mays Fellowship Program).

For the Fellows' Spring series on "Materiality," Dr. Agard-Jones brought feminist science studies scholars Karen Barad (UC Santa Cruz) and Mel Y. Chen (UC Berkeley) to campus. She taught a graduate seminar in "Queer/Caribbean/Studies" and an undergraduate course on Aimé Césaire, Frantz Fanon, and Édouard Glissant. She also completed her two-year tenure as Managing Editor of *Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism*.

With great regret that she had only one year to spend at the Society, but with great joy about the next step on her path, Dr. Agard-Jones takes up her appointment as Assistant Professor of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Yale University in July 2014.

RESEARCH PROJECT

Sovereign Intimacies: Scaling Sexual Politics in Martinique

TERESA M. BEJAN

2013–2014

YALE UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, PhD 2013

Teresa M. Bejan came to the Society of Fellows from Yale University, where she received her PhD with distinction in Political Science in 2013. Her research brings perspectives from early modern English and American political thought to bear on questions in contemporary political theory and practice, particularly concerning issues of toleration, education, and civility. She has published articles in *History of European Ideas* and *The Oxford Review of Education* and holds previous degrees from the Universities of Chicago and Cambridge.

In her year as a Fellow, Dr. Bejan taught the first semester of Contemporary Civilization, part of the undergraduate Core Curriculum, as well as her own seminar, called “Foundations of American Political Thought,” for Political Science majors. In addition to teaching, she produced several new papers and articles related to her research on the concept of “civility” in early modern toleration debates. Two of these papers—“The Difficult Work of Liberal Civility” and “When the Word of the Lord Runs Freely: Roger Williams and Evangelical Toleration”—will be published as chapters in edited volumes forthcoming in 2015. The rest are currently under review at academic journals. Additionally, she continued work on her book manuscript, *Mere Civility: Tolerating Disagreement in Early Modern England and America*, the introduction for which she presented as a lecture to the Society of Fellows in the fall.

Dr. Bejan also traveled far and wide this year to present her work. She gave invited talks at the University of Alabama School of Law, Cambridge University, the Lessing Library in Wolfenbuettel, Germany, and the Newport Historical Society, where she participated in a two-day conference celebrating the 350th anniversary of the Rhode Island Charter. In the spring, she organized two events at the Heyman Center, a workshop on “The Toleration of Tolerations” and a roundtable on Rainer Forst’s *Toleration in Conflict*, which brought together eminent political theorists, legal scholars, and historians from the U.S. and abroad for interdisciplinary discussions. The roundtable presentations will be published as a special issue of a political theory journal.

In Fall 2014, Dr. Bejan begins a tenure-track appointment as an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Toronto.



RESEARCH PROJECT

Mere Civility:
Toleration and Its Limits
in Early Modern
England and America



WILLIAM DERINGER

2012–2015

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, PROGRAM IN HISTORY OF SCIENCE,
PHD 2012

William Deringer is a historian of science who explores the intersections of technology, politics, and economy, with a focus on practices of calculation. His first book project, *Calculated Values: Financial Politics and the Quantitative Age, 1688–1776*, under contract with Harvard University Press, reconstructs how political disputes over public money in the aftermath of Britain's Revolution of 1688 first gave rise to a popular belief in *numbers* as an especially honest and objective form of knowledge. It seeks to explain historically why we trust numbers so deeply yet are simultaneously so aware of their failings—how we can say that “numbers never lie” one minute, and complain about “lies, damned lies, and statistics” the next.

In 2013–2014, Dr. Deringer continued further work on *Calculated Values*, including formulating a new final chapter that explores how people in the late eighteenth-century wrestled with the ambivalent consequences of numerical trust. He presented an early version, entitled “Plus-or-Minus: David Hume, Richard Price, and the Problem with Fiscal Numbers,” at the Society's Thursday Lecture Series and at Princeton University, the University of Mississippi, and the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. He also received fellowships to support further research on the project at the Huntington Library in San Marino, CA and the William L. Clements Library in Ann Arbor, MI, which he carried out during summer 2014.

Dr. Deringer had two other major projects for 2013–2014. First, in Fall 2013, he designed and taught a new lecture course in the History Department on “The History of Finance,” which attracted over 75 students. Second, in April 2014 he organized an interdisciplinary conference at the Heyman Center entitled “Calculating Capitalism.” The conference brought together 17 speakers from multiple disciplines—history, science and technology studies, anthropology, sociology, literature, accounting—to reflect on how various calculations encode and enact the moral, political, and epistemological values of capitalism.

In his last year at the Society, Dr. Deringer plans to complete the manuscript of *Calculated Values*. In addition, he will continue to work on a second project, *Discounting: A History of Capitalism's Future*, which explores the long history of computational techniques for putting a “present value” on future economic property. In Spring 2015, he will teach a new course entitled “Quantifying People: A History of Social Science.” After completing his term as a Fellow, he will begin a position as Assistant Professor in the Program in Science, Technology, and Society at MIT.

RESEARCH PROJECT

Calculated Values: Financial Politics and the Dawn of the Quantitative Age, 1688–1776

BRIAN GOLDSTONE

2012–2015

DUKE UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, PhD 2012

Brian Goldstone received his PhD in Cultural Anthropology from Duke University in 2012. His book project, *The Miraculous Life: Scenes from the Charismatic Encounter in Northern Ghana*, explores the incursion of Pentecostal-charismatic churches into northern Ghana, a rural, predominantly Muslim region whose inhabitants—long the object of expropriations and interventions of various kinds—have recently become the target of evangelistic efforts undertaken by Christians from the south. Arranged as a gathering of disparate scenes—an approach that makes use of a wide array of ethnographic, literary, philosophical, video/photographic, and historical materials—the book charts the intimate, intensive, often precarious worlds that materialize as believers labor to make the “miraculous life” their own. Against the backdrop of a vigorous campaign by evangelists to reconstitute the moral and spiritual dispositions of an alleged “Islamic stronghold,” the book shows the ways this reality, this life, is made available to others.

Dr. Goldstone is currently at work on a second long-term ethnographic study, which focuses on the recent, controversial emergence of Pentecostal healing camps as an alternative site for the diagnosis and treatment of various mental disorders. According to a growing catalog of human rights reports, the therapeutic methods deployed in these camps—where mental illness is often deemed the product of a demonic “spirit of madness”—include chaining patients to trees for weeks on end, depriving them of food and water, and subjecting them to a range of physical and emotional humiliations. This project situates the emergence and consequences of such phenomena within the contemporary nexus of global biomedicine, development and humanitarianism, theologies of health and healing, and the ethics and affects of affliction.

Other projects include a critical appraisal of both the recourse to sovereignty in current theorizing and the possibilities for life and adjacent figures (creation, potentiality, expression) that might surface in its wake; a comparative study of “political demonology”; and, as part of a broader interest in anthropological history and theory, an exploration of the distinctive passions and sensations evoked in anthropological encounters.

In Spring 2014, Dr. Goldstone taught “African Civilization” in the University’s Global Core Curriculum. He also published his article “Life After Sovereignty” in the journal *History of the Present* and wrote an extended review essay, “Where Fragile Things Die,” for the online monthly review *Public Books*. Additionally, he organized (with Anne Allison, Duke University) an invited session entitled “Undeading Death” for the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Finally, he was a participant in the seminar “Theology and Temporality” at Duke Divinity School in June 2014 and delivered an invited lecture (“The Last Enemy: Mediating Life and Death in African Pentecostalism”) at the symposium “Religion, Media, and Mediation in Africa and Beyond” at Harvard University.



RESEARCH PROJECT

The Miraculous Life: Scenes from the Charismatic Encounter in Northern Ghana



HIDETAKA HIROTA

2013–2016

BOSTON COLLEGE, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, PhD 2012

Hidetaka Hirota is a historian of the United States. He received his PhD in History from Boston College, where his dissertation was awarded the university's best humanities dissertation prize. His major research and teaching interests include American immigration; wealth and poverty in America; global migration; and transnational history.

Dr. Hirota's current book project, *Expelling the Poor*, examines the origins of immigration restriction in the United States. Based on a study of policies in nineteenth-century Massachusetts and New York for deporting destitute Irish immigrants to Canada and Europe, the book demonstrates that the roots of later federal immigration laws lay in anti-Irish nativism and economics in the Atlantic seaboard states. By analyzing the lives of deportees in Britain and Ireland, the book also reveals that American deportation policy operated as part of a broader transnational legal culture of excluding non-producing members from societies in the Atlantic world.

An article developed from the project, "The Moment of Transition: State Officials, the Federal Government, and the Formation of American Immigration Policy," received the Organization of American Historians Louis Pelzer Memorial Award and was published in the *Journal of American History* in 2013. His project has been supported by the American Historical Association, the Immigration and Ethnic History Society, the American Society for Legal History, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the Massachusetts Historical Society, and the Notre Dame Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism.

During the 2013–2014 academic year, Dr. Hirota taught two seminars, "Wealth and Poverty in America" and "Contemporary Civilization," while giving a series of conference presentations. He published "The Great Entrepot for Mendicants," on the development of regulatory immigration policy in nineteenth-century New York State, in the *Journal of American Ethnic History*, and an article in the *American Review*, a peer-reviewed scholarly journal written in Japanese. Dr. Hirota also earned several distinctions: the William Nelson Cromwell Foundation Prize for the best dissertation in American legal history and the Paul L. Murphy Award from the American Society for Legal History; the James Madison Prize from the Society for History in the Federal Government for his article published in the *Journal of American History*; and research grants from the American Philosophical Society, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and the Institute for Political History.

In the coming year, Dr. Hirota plans to complete the manuscript for *Expelling the Poor* and to start his second project, a synthetic history of American nativism. Finally, Dr. Hirota very much looks forward to teaching the seminar on wealth and poverty in America again in Spring 2015.

RESEARCH PROJECT

Expelling the Poor: Atlantic Seaboard States and the Origins of American Immigration Policy

IAN C. MCCREADY-FLORA

2011–2014

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY,
PHD 2011

Ian C. McCready-Flora works mainly on Ancient Greek Philosophy (especially Aristotle and Plato), and has substantial side interests in contemporary aesthetics, epistemology and applied ethics. He is trying to understand Aristotle's conception of rationality: What is it about human thinking that distinguishes it from the sorts of thinking other animals are capable of? Aristotle's views on belief, in particular, need to be integrated into this account; only humans can form beliefs, according to Aristotle, so belief must have some characteristics that make it a special brand of cognition. Aristotle's theory of belief, however, gets relatively little attention compared to that paid to his deductive model of science and knowledge. A serious effort at understanding it, then, can reshape our views about Aristotle's conception of rationality.

In addition to this main project, Dr. McCready-Flora is also thinking about ancient conceptions of knowledge and its relation to other forms of knowing; Aristotle's and Plato's differing responses to Protagorean relativism and its implications; and the history and prehistory of theorizing about the emotions.

In his third and final year as a Fellow, Dr. McCready-Flora made substantial progress on all three of his projects. He submitted an article, about Protagoras and Plato in Aristotle, the first in a short series, to *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy*. He presented his work on emotion in Plato at a junior faculty workshop at Northwestern University, and completed a substantial chapter of his manuscript project on rationality in Aristotle. He delivered material based on this work at the Society's Thursday lecture series, and spoke at New York University, the University of Virginia, Providence College, and Saint Louis University. Last but not least, he undertook a successful job search, and accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Saint Louis University.



RESEARCH PROJECT

Rationality in Aristotle



REBECCA WOODS

2013–2016

MIT, PROGRAM IN HISTORY, ANTHROPOLOGY, SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY, PhD, 2013

Rebecca Woods received her PhD from MIT's History, Anthropology, Science, Technology, and Society Graduate Program in 2013. Her research explores the intersections of science, the environment, and the economy in the context of the British Empire in the long nineteenth century.

During her first year in the Society of Fellows, Dr. Woods continued work on her book project, *The Herds Shot Round the World: Native Breeds and the British Empire, 1800–1900*, which explores the formulation and circulation of “British” breeds of sheep and cattle in Britain and the empire (especially Australasia). She began working on a second project as well, an epistemological and environmental history of cold that queries how people in the nineteenth century understood and experienced the phenomenon of cold.

She presented the first piece to come out of this project, “Nature and the Refrigerating Machine: The Politics and Production of Cold in the Nineteenth Century,” at “Defrost: New Perspectives on Time, Temperature, and Survival,” at the University of Melbourne in December 2013. She has since revised the paper into a chapter for an edited volume that emerged from this workshop and is under consideration with MIT Press. She also wrote a short piece on nineteenth-century refrigeration technology for *The Appendix* (April 2014).

The Herds Shot Round the World is under advance contract and will be the inaugural publication in a new environmental history series at UNC Press, called “Flows, Migrations, Exchanges.” An article on the author Samuel Butler and colonial sheep-breeding in New Zealand is under review, and Dr. Woods gave several presentations based on this project: the first, “Honor the Fleece: Climate, Conflict, and Merino Sheep,” at the Society of Fellows Thursday Lecture Series in September 2014; the second, at the American Historical Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. (January 2014), on Spanish merino sheep in early nineteenth-century Britain; the third, at the annual meeting of the American Society for Environmental History (San Francisco, March 2014), on efforts to preserve “pure English” Hereford cattle in Britain in the 1980s.

In November, Dr. Woods participated in a roundtable on the history of science and the history of capitalism at the History of Science Society Annual Meeting. In July 2014, she attended the World Congress on Environmental History in Guimares, Portugal, for which she organized a panel and will present a paper entitled “A Model for Ecology? Soay Sheep, St. Kilda, and Ecosystem Ecology in the Twentieth Century.”

In 2013–2014, Dr. Woods taught two semesters of “Contemporary Civilization” in the Core Curriculum.

RESEARCH PROJECT

The Herds Shot
Round the World:
Native Breeds and
the British Empire,
1800–1900

GRANT WYTHOFF

2013–2016

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, PhD 2013

Grant Wythoff received his PhD in English from Princeton University. Trained as a literary scholar, Wythoff works on the intersections of technology and cultural form. His current book project, *Gadgetry*, is a media history of that alternately functional and fictional device, the gadget. While pundits argue that gadgets like smartphones and GPS receivers are fundamentally altering the ways we read, communicate, and even think, Dr. Wythoff throws such claims into relief against a deeper history of these seemingly small, everyday tools. The word “gadget” refers to both concrete objects and indeterminate tools that have been forgotten, rigged up on the fly, or not yet invented. Spanning a range of literary, social, and technical histories, his archaeology of these alternately functional and fictional devices from their origins in mid-nineteenth-century nautical jargon to their current association with mobile media reveals a distinct evolution in the imaginative space between tools and their users. Focusing on the nascent tinkerer and genre fiction communities of early-twentieth-century America, Dr. Wythoff argues that fictions play a constitutive role in the emergence of new media as socially shared systems of communication and expression.

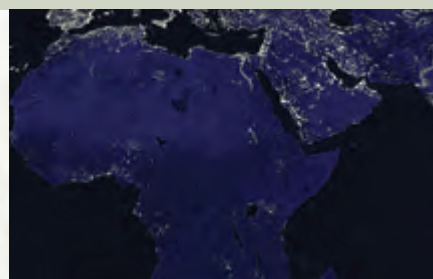
Dr. Wythoff is also at work on a critical edition of Hugo Gernsback’s media, historical, literary critical, and technical writings, entitled *The Perversity of Things*, forthcoming from The University of Minnesota Press’s Electronic Mediations series. The canonical story about Hugo Gernsback is that he launched the genre of science fiction as the founding editor of *Amazing Stories* in April of 1926. He treated the magazine as merely a commercial venture, wrote in a “crude and heavy-handed” style and, despite the fact that his name adorns the award given out yearly to the best works in the genre (the Hugo Award), he now usually receives little more than a cursory, one-sentence nod in science fiction studies. This collection seeks to provide a new picture of modern science fiction as a literary genre that emerged out of an electrical supply catalogue

Through his work in the digital humanities, Dr. Wythoff is interested in placing theoretical reflection in dynamic conversation with practical innovation. While at Princeton, he served as a founding member and later on the steering committee of the Digital Humanities Initiative, a campus-wide community of researchers, staff, technologists, and students gathered to think through the mission of the university writ large when the medium of scholarship is revolutionized.



RESEARCH PROJECT

Gadgetry: Emerging Media and the Fictional Imagination



the Church of God, or could be the rightful
ance of the Lord Christ. And if they be like
icient to prove, that the Condition of the new
nant, I mean, that to which all its Promises
made, could not be the same with the Condi
which all the Promises were made under the
Moses; but was expressly to be opposite to it, a
to have all its Promises made unto faith, and w
sequently to have no other People than what v








THURSDAY LECTURE SERIES

Columbia University Society of Fellows

Fall 2013 Lunchtime Lecture Series

All talks begin at 12:15pm
in the Second Floor Common Room, Heyman Center, East Campus
www.columbia.edu/cu/societyoffellows

 <p>September 19: Rebecca Woods Society of Fellows/Lecturer in History <i>"Honor the Fleece: Climate, Conflict, and Merino Sheep"</i></p>	 <p>September 26: Brian Goldstone Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Anthropology <i>"Profane Illuminations: On Pushing Back the Darkness in Northern Ghana"</i></p>
 <p>October 3: William Deringer Society of Fellows/Lecturer in History <i>"Plus-or-Minus: David Hume, Richard Price, and the Problem with Fiscal Numbers"</i></p>	 <p>October 10: Vanessa Agard-Jones Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Anthropology and in the Institute for Research in African-American Studies <i>"Of Plantations and Pesticides: Sexual Politics in Martinique"</i></p>
 <p>October 17: Hagar Kotef Society of Fellows, 2009-2012 Bar Ilan University and Tel Aviv University <i>"Anarchism Gone Wild: Can Security Regimes Be Queered?"</i></p>	 <p>October 24: Ian McCready-Flora Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Philosophy <i>"Aristotle and the Limits of Reason"</i></p>
 <p>November 7: Hidetaka Hirota Society of Fellows/Lecturer in History and at the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race <i>"Before Ellis Island: The Origins of American Immigration Policy"</i></p>	 <p>November 14: Grant Wythoff Society of Fellows/Lecturer in English <i>"From Marlinspike to Mobile Media: An Archaeology of the Gadget"</i></p>
 <p>November 21: Teresa Bejan Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Political Science <i>"More Civility: Tolerating Disagreement in Early Modern England and America"</i></p>	

Fall 2013 Fellows Talks

19 September

Honor the Fleece: Climate, Conflict, and Merino Sheep
Rebecca Woods, Lecturer in History, Columbia University

In her talk, Dr. Woods looked back to the turn of the nineteenth century, when a group of enthusiastic agricultural improvers introduced merino sheep, originally from Iberia, to Great Britain, in the hope of establishing the foreign breed on domestic pastures, thereby freeing the nation from its reliance on foreign trading partners, especially Spain and the German principalities. This was a particularly pressing concern as France's political, military, and economic might expanded in the 1790s and 1810s, generating conflict on the Iberian peninsula that disrupted the production of merino wool for export. Not all Britons agreed that acclimatizing the merino within the British Isles was in the best interest of Great Britain, though. A vociferous opposition to the merino enthusiasts argued that the British Isles were already stocked to capacity with a range of "native" breeds, themselves perfectly adapted to their local conditions. Introducing the merino threatened to disturb this fine balance, as well as to pollute the blood of British stock. The controversy surrounding this episode reveals the intimate connections between climate, type, and nation when it came to livestock in the early nineteenth century. It also reveals the limits of human power and agency over the animal kingdom and the natural world: the merino failed to thrive in the British Isles, quite literally degenerating due to the cold and damp conditions, so different from the dry climate of Spain. Only when merinos were imported to the Australian colonies in significant numbers in the 1830s and 1840s could they be said to have become truly "British."

26 September

A Fire Upon the World
**Brian Goldstone, Lecturer in Anthropology,
Columbia University**

Dr. Goldstone's talk explored the various registers—social, spiritual, political-economic—in which the recent influx of Pentecostal-charismatic churches into northern Ghana are taking place. Employing a fragmented, scene-oriented approach to the incursion of this brand of Christianity into the rural, predominantly Muslim north, and through the selective interweaving of audio, visual, and textual materials, Dr. Goldstone sought to situate the most intimate of everyday spiritual exercises and bodily disciplines against a historical backdrop that stretches back to the pre-colonial era in a protracted series of attempts to pathologize, enslave, exploit, and ultimately redeem the savanna hinterland. Today, this talk suggested, the Christian campaign to "take back the north" is being animated not only by a moral and political imaginary but by a distinctive demonological one as well, the lineaments of which, arguably, can be glimpsed only by undertaking an ethnography of the Holy Spirit.

3 October

***Plus-or-Minus: David Hume, Richard Price,
and the Problem with Fiscal Numbers***
William Deringer, Lecturer in History, Columbia University

Dr. Deringer examined a transformation in political cognition during Britain's long eighteenth century—a change in how Britons thought through political problems. In short, political discourse in the eighteenth century became quantitative. This new reliance on numbers grew alongside the development of Britain's more powerful military-fiscal state, but it was not simply a result of mounting state power. In the fifty years that followed the Revolution of 1688, quantitative economic analysis enabled political outsiders to critique the actions and agents of the state. But over time, calculation was increasingly co-opted by the state itself, most notably by the first Prime Minister, Robert Walpole (1721–1742) and his skilled team of numerical propagandists. By mid-century, the practice of calculation could no longer be relied on to hold the state

to account. Dr. Deringer discussed how two philosophical critics, David Hume and Richard Price, responded to this “problem with fiscal numbers.” For the skeptical Hume, economic numbers were inherently unreliable and subject to political manipulation; for the rationalist Price, what was needed were better, more reliable, more transparent numbers. Their divergent attitudes portended a lingering ambiguity toward numbers in Anglo-American political culture.

10 October

Of Plantations and Pesticides: Sexual Politics in Martinique
Vanessa Agard-Jones, Lecturer in Anthropology and the
Institute for Research in African American Studies,
Columbia University

Dr. Agard-Jones’s talk focused on the island of Martinique, its political status as a department of France, its narratives about the origins of gender transgression and same-sex desire—and especially the ways in which these have shifted recently to include a story about their relationship to pesticide contamination on the island’s banana plantations. As a source of rising levels of estrogen-like chemicals in the environment, the pesticide chlordécone has been linked to both male infertility and prostate cancer.

Concerns about the effects of this contamination have been heightened by uncertainty about the range of its impact, and popular responses have ranged from panic about male effeminacy and intersex births to critiques of the postcolonial dynamics that drive uneven exposure. Drawing from 20 months of fieldwork on the island, this talk explored how the paradigmatic narrative about the origins of gendered forms of sociality in the Black Atlantic—violent relations under slavery—are being transformed through the transnational travels of a hormone-altering pesticide.

17 October

Anarchism Gone Wild: Can Security Regimes be Queered?
Hagar Kotef, Fellow and Visiting Professor in Politics and
Government, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

Dr. Kotef (SoF, 2009–2012) gave a talk on gender-based (over-) interpretations of political interventions and how these interpreta-

tions change the meanings of these interventions, enforce political actions, or work counter to them.

24 October

Aristotle and the Limits of Reason
Ian McCready-Flora, Lecturer in Philosophy,
Columbia University

What makes humans so special? Dr. McCready-Flora’s talk looked at how Aristotle answers that question. Animals, for Aristotle, divide into two groups. There are humans, with a range of distinct cognitive capabilities, and then there are all the others. Aristotle formulates this human specialness in several ways: only humans share in logos, only humans have nous, only humans engage in logismos. Terminology aside, what does this specialness amount to?

The talk offered a novel interpretation of what, in Aristotle’s view it is (or means) to be a rational animal. To be rational is to be capable of truth-directed, evidence-responsive cognition. Rational thought therefore has an evaluative component lacking in even the most sophisticated animal cognition. Some animals Aristotle calls “wise” (phronimos), but their sort of wisdom is due entirely to built-up memory and experience, which enables them to act effectively in the world.

7 November

Before Ellis Island: The Origins of
American Immigration Policy
Hidetaka Hirota, Lecturer in History and the Center for
the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University

In this talk, Dr. Hirota introduced an overview of his current book project, *Expelling the Poor: Atlantic Seaboard States and the Origins of American Immigration Policy*. The project challenges the standard historical interpretation of American immigration policy as rooted in the anti-Asian racism particularly prominent on the West Coast. In contrast, Dr. Hirota locates the roots of American immigration control in anti-Irish nativism and economics in nineteenth-century New York and Massachusetts. The project examines how these states built upon colonial poor laws to de-

velop policies for excluding and deporting destitute foreigners in response to the influx of impoverished Irish men and women during the first half of the nineteenth century, laying the foundations for federal immigration policy that emerged in the 1880s.

Based on one of the chapters in the book, the presentation introduced in detail state-level immigration control in Massachusetts during the 1850s, when anti-Irish nativism reached its highest point. By focusing on the overseas deportation of American citizens of Irish descent, Dr. Hirota demonstrated how Massachusetts's immigration policies in this period of radical nativism left a decisive and enduring impact on the nature of American immigration policy. Specifically, state officials' practice of citizen deportation set precedents for the assertion of unlimited power by American immigration officers in determining the excludability and deportability of people whom they considered undesirable aliens, a crucial characteristic of later federal immigration control.

14 November

From Marlinspike to Mobile Media:

An Archeology of the Gadget

Grant Wythoff, Lecturer in English, Columbia University

Gadgets like smartphones and GPS receivers, say the pundits, are fundamentally altering the ways we read, communicate, and even think. In his talk, Dr. Wythoff attempted to throw such claims into relief by providing a cultural history of these everyday tools. The word "gadget" refers to both concrete objects and indeterminate tools that have been forgotten, rigged up on the fly, or not yet invented. Spanning a range of literary, social, and technical histories, a genealogy of these alternately functional and fictional devices from their origins in mid-nineteenth-century nautical jargon to their current association with mobile media reveals a distinct evolution in the imaginative space between tools and their users. Focusing on the nascent tinkerer and genre fiction communities of early-twentieth-century America, Wythoff argued that fictions play a constitutive role in the emergence of new media as socially shared systems of communication and expression.

21 November

Mere Civility: Tolerating Disagreement in Early Modern England and America

Teresa Bejan, Lecturer in Political Science, Columbia University

"*Mere Civility: Tolerating Disagreement in Early Modern England and America*," was based on the introduction to Dr. Bejan's book project of the same title. It offered an examination of widespread calls for "civility" today in light of seventeenth-century debates about religious toleration. Many of the pressing questions facing modern liberal democracies—such as what the proper scope of religious liberty should be or how to handle partisanship and hate speech—closely recall early modern concerns about the limits of toleration and the dangers posed by sectarianism, evangelical expression, and so-called "persecution of the tongue." Then as now, political thinkers and leaders called for more "civility" as a way to reconcile the tension between diversity and disagreement. Yet determining what this conversational virtue requires can be complicated. While some restraint on expression is surely necessary to make disagreement tolerable, accusations of incivility can easily become pretexts for persecution, as early Quakers, Catholics, and American Indians soon discovered.

A close consideration of the competing conceptions of civility and incivility offered by early modern thinkers—including influential theorists of toleration like Roger Williams, Thomas Hobbes, and John Locke—can help bring this tension into focus. Doing so reveals that appeals to civility are not just superficial calls for politeness. Rather, they are efforts to think through what coexistence under conditions of deep disagreement requires. At the same time, they highlight the essential disagreeableness of disagreement and a fundamental tension between religious freedom and free speech that continue to complicate liberal political theory and practice today.

Spring 2014

Guest Lecturers on “Materiality”

20 February

How Forests Think

**Eduardo Kohn, Assistant Professor of Anthropology,
McGill University**

Forests think. This is neither a metaphor nor is it a claim specific to any “ontology.” What kind of claim, then, is it? What right do we have to make it? And what might happen to our social theory and the human if we take it seriously?

Professor Kohn asked a series of questions about the nature of nature in his talk. Thought emerges with life; it is not restricted to humans. The tropical forest of the Upper Amazon, one of the world’s most complex ecosystems, amplifies the way life thinks. In the process it makes over the thoughts of those who engage with its living logics, whether they be Amerindians, rubber bosses, or anthropologists. Ethnographic attention to how the Amazonian Runa interact with the many beings that walk the forests—animals, but also the dead, and spirits—renders visible some of the strange properties of living thoughts that are occluded by how our distinctively human ways of thinking have colonized how we think about thought. Allowing ourselves to think with and through forests permits us to craft conceptual tools from the world itself in ways that provincialize more distinctively human forms of thought. In the process our fundamental assumptions about context, complexity, and difference come into question, and so do the humanist forms of thinking we unwittingly take with us even when we seek to venture beyond the human.

27 February

Decoding Roger Williams: Texts, Cryptography, and the Materiality of an Early American Mystery

**Linford Fisher, Assistant Professor of History,
Brown University**

For over a century, the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University has been in possession of a rare seventeenth-century book. Its margins are filled with cryptic shorthand writing, long believed to be the work of Roger Williams, the seventeenth-century theologian and founder of Rhode Island. However, despite several attempts to decrypt it, this writing remained stubbornly indecipherable. In 2012, a group of undergraduate researchers at Brown University, advised and supported by an interdisciplinary team of scholars, finally cracked the code. Contained within these margins is Roger Williams’ last major piece of writing, an unpublished shorthand treatise, titled “A Brief Reply to a Small Book Written by John Eliot.”

In this talk, Brown University history professor Linford D. Fisher discussed the significance of this finding, explaining that Williams’s shorthand essay was a pointed response to a pro-infant-baptism booklet published in 1679 by John Eliot, the Roxbury, Massachusetts, minister and famed “Apostle to the Indians.” Eliot, in turn, was critiquing a book written in 1672 by a London Baptist minister named John Norcott, who was promoting a believer’s baptism as the correct biblical model. Professor Fisher described how this new treatise gives a rare view into Williams’s late-in-life thoughts on two specific issues that have long vexed historians: believer’s baptism and Native American conversion. Along the way, Professor Fisher used the physicality of the book that contained the shorthand marginal writing to think about the nature and materiality of the past.

6 March

Hybrid Ecologies and the Environmental Humanities

**Nancy Langston, Professor of Environmental History,
Michigan Technological University**

How can the environmental humanities contribute to current discussions about ecological crises? Unlike traditional perspectives

Columbia University Society of Fellows

Spring 2014 Thursday Lecture Series

Materiality

Unless otherwise noted, all talks begin at 12:15pm in the Second Floor Common Room, Heyman Center, East Campus
www.columbia.edu/cu/societyoffellows

 <p>Robin Fleming Professor of History, Boston College <i>Women, Material Culture and the History of Post-Roman Britain</i></p> <p>New Date: April 24</p>	 <p>Eduardo Kohn Assistant Professor of Anthropology, McGill University <i>How Forests Think</i></p>
 <p>Linford Fisher Assistant Professor of History, Brown University <i>Decoding Roger Williams: Texts, Cryptography, and the Materiality of an Early American Mystery</i></p>	 <p>Nancy Langston Professor of Environmental History, Michigan Tech <i>Hybrid Ecologies and the Environmental Humanities</i></p>
 <p>Bernhard Siegert Gerd Bucerius Professor of History and Theory of Cultural Techniques, Bauhaus-University Weimar <i>When Materiality Intervenes: Towards a Trans-Disciplinary Epistemology of Disruption</i></p>	 <p>Eric Nelson Professor of Government, Harvard University <i>Property without Appropriation</i></p> <p>Note: this lecture takes place on Friday at 4:00pm.</p>
 <p>Karen Barad Professor of Feminist Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz <i>Time Diffractions, Virtuality, and Material Imaginings</i></p>	 <p>Mel Y. Chen Associate Professor of Gender and Women's Studies, UC Berkeley <i>Material Alliances</i></p>
 <p>Mariska Leunissen Associate Professor of Philosophy, UNC Chapel Hill <i>Teleology and Necessity in Aristotle's Account of the Natural and Moral Imperfections of Women</i></p>	 <p>Fredrik Albritton Jonsson Assistant Professor of British History, University of Chicago <i>Victorian Anthropocene, 1834-1884</i></p>

within the humanities, which place humans at the center of the story and view humans as exceptional, research within the environmental humanities focuses our gaze on the agency and interconnectivity of all things. Using examples from synthetic chemical pollution, Professor Langston explored the utility of humanistic and historical perspectives on the environment. Understanding synthetic pollutants means reconsidering our bodies, our environments, and our human identities, seeing them not as separate isolated objects, but rather as what Bruno Latour termed hybrid networks. The hybrids we have created with chemical pollutants continue to resist our attempt to define clear boundaries between natural and synthetic, and between human and nonhuman. Synthetic pollutants are artifacts of an industrial society brought into being within a highly specific cultural infrastructure. And yet, increasingly they are a part of the natural world—and many of them will continue to be a part of the world far into the future, beyond the point of remembering their origins as artificial or synthetic.

13 March

When Materiality Intervenes: Towards a Trans-Disciplinary Epistemology of Disruption

Bernhard Siegert, Gerd Bucerius Professor of History and Theory of Cultural Techniques, Bauhaus-University Weimar

Drawing on material from his recent book, *Cultural Techniques: Grids, Filters, Doors, and Other Articulations of the Real*, Bernhard Siegert spoke on the problems of transcending materiality in processes of symbolization. Attempting to find a middle ground between empirical studies of media technologies and cultural studies of their content, Siegert locates his analysis “where the distinctions between object and performance, matter and form . . . are still in the process of becoming.”

14 March

Property without Appropriation

Eric Nelson, Professor of Government, Harvard University

“Left libertarians” have argued that one can coherently defend both a theory of self-ownership and an egalitarian distribution of

global natural resources—and that “right libertarians” are mistaken to suppose that one can reason plausibly from a self-ownership commitment to a defense of what Locke called “a disproportionate and unequal possession of the earth.” Their argument rests on the claim that, *pace* right libertarians, there is no individual right to (truly) appropriate natural resources in the state of nature. Professor Nelson argued that the truth of this claim is irrelevant to a proper libertarian analysis of the rights of contemporary owners of natural resources. Even if all natural resources were at some point illicitly expropriated from the “common stock of mankind,” no acceptable principle of rectification would countenance the widespread redistribution of those resources (or of their value) as a present-day remedy. Professor Nelson sustained this conclusion by describing the claims of those who purchase initially expropriated objects in good faith. While addressed in the first instance to an internal debate among libertarians, the considerations adduced here about the moral significance of good-faith rule-following were shown to be of similar importance for non-libertarian liberals. These liberals too have good reason to respect existing holdings under most circumstances.

27 March

Time Diffractions, Virtuality, and Material Imaginings

Karen Barad, Professor of Feminist Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz

In this talk, physicist and feminist theorist Karen Barad discussed her recent work on time and her reflections on the entanglement of time and materiality.

3 April

Material Alliances

Mel Y. Chen, Associate Professor of Gender & Women's Studies, University of California, Berkeley

“Track switching” focuses discussion on questions of inter- and trans-disciplinarity, wherein disciplines and, differently, “fields,” are considered variously as arbiters of moral, ethical, affective approaches to sexuality, queer, and gender scholarship. They also work to delineate capacities in interesting ways. What dialogic acts

are perceived, or are believed to work, as track switching? As track sharing? Professor Chen invited her audience to participate in the examination of these questions by offering situated experiences, terminologies, and some provocations about the unintended consequences of some transdisciplinary claims.

10 April

Teleology and Necessity in Aristotle's Account of the Natural and Moral Imperfections of Women

Mariska Leunissen, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Aristotle's focus in the ethical treatises is on the moral development of men, and in particular, on that of the future (male) citizens of the ideal city. Infamously, Aristotle excludes natural slaves and women from the life of happiness that requires the activity of practical wisdom and moral virtue. In this talk, Professor Leunissen turned to Aristotle's views about the natural character traits and moral development of women and laid out their biological underpinnings. She argued that, even though Aristotle never states this explicitly, his ethical views about the moral deficiencies of women are causally grounded in and explained by his biological views about the physiological imperfections of women relative to male members of the human species. Women—and female animals in general—are what Leunissen called a product of “secondary teleology,” which results in their having a colder material nature, and hence “bad” natural character traits, in being naturally ruled, and in lacking “authority” in their deliberative capacity.

17 April

Victorian Anthropocene, 1834–1884

Fredrik Albritton Jonsson, Associate Professor of British History, Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science, and the College, University of Chicago

The ability of the human species to transform the planetary environment has reached an unprecedented scale and magnitude in the past few decades. We have become “geological agents,” capable of changing the global climate through our carbon emis-

sions. The atmospheric chemist Paul Crutzen traces this growing emergency back to the invention of the double condensing steam engine of James Watt and the mineral energy economy ushered in by Britain's Industrial Revolution. For Crutzen, Watt's invention in 1784 marked the beginning of a new epoch of geological time—the Anthropocene.

24 April

Women, Material Culture, and the History of Post-Roman Britain

Robin Fleming, Professor of History, Boston College

Historians, taking their ideas from early medieval texts, generally argue that the startlingly new material culture regime that emerged in fifth-century Britain was the handiwork of Germanic warriors, who were establishing themselves in lowland Britain following Rome's withdrawal from the region. Thus, it is argued that the transformations we see in material culture and life ways were driven by the activities of men.

Given the male-centeredness of this period's history, it is salutary to remind ourselves that the majority of our genuinely contemporary evidence—which is material, rather than textual—is associated not with men, but with late-adolescent girls and adult women. Most of this evidence comes from cemetery excavations, which reveal that many more women than men were buried with grave goods and dress fittings, and women were buried with a greater variety of objects than men.

Because so much of the surviving material culture from this early period is associated with women, it behooves us to incorporate it and them into whatever narrative we stitch together, not only because they provide us with the bulk of our evidence, but because their abundance hints at the central role women played in these years. One of the basic arguments of Professor Fleming's paper was that it is not enough to study women separately or include them now and then in the stories we write. Rather, they (and the material culture associated with them) should sit at the heart of our histories of lowland Britain in the first hundred years after Rome's collapse. They are the people we can see best; they are the ones we should be writing about.

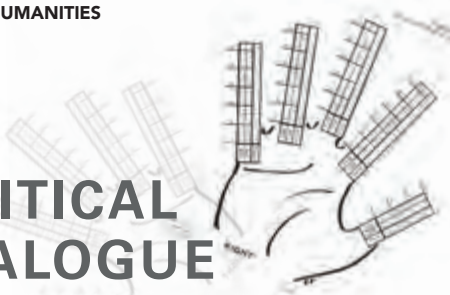


In support of the Society's goal of fully integrating the Fellows into their host departments and encouraging them to partner with other institutions, the Society hosted four special programs at the Heyman Center in 2013–2014.

Full event details, including speakers, programs, and co-sponsors, are posted in the Events section of the Society of Fellows website.

SPECIAL EVENTS

**THE SOCIETY OF FELLOWS
IN THE HUMANITIES**
presents:



A CRITICAL DIALOGUE ON MEDIA AND MATERIALITY

BERNHARD SIEGERT
Gerdt Bucerius Professor of History and Theory of Cultural
Techniques Bauhaus-University Weimar


BEN KAFKA
Associate Professor of Media Theory
and History, New York University

moderated by
EDUARDO CADAVA
Professor of English and Master of Wilson College, Princeton University

FRIDAY, 14 MARCH 2014
12:00PM - 2:00PM, COMMON ROOM, HEYMAN CENTER

Organized by Fellows
GRANT WYTHOFF and **BRIAN GOLDSTONE.**

The event is open to the public.
Seating is first come, first served.



SOCIETY OF FELLOWS
IN THE HUMANITIES
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

14 March 2014

A Critical Dialogue on Media and Materiality

This Society of Fellows panel, organized by Fellows Brian Goldstone and Grant Wythoff, addressed the relation between media and materiality. Speakers included media theorist and historian Bernhard Siegert, Bauhaus University, Weimar, and Ben Kafka, Associate Professor of Media, Culture and Communication at New York University. Using Bruno Latour's essay "Has Critique Run out of Steam?" as a starting point, Professors Siegert and Kafka discussed their respective work and its relation to media, cultural techniques, and our experience of the material world. Eduardo Cadava, Professor of English at Princeton University, served as moderator.

The Heyman Center for the Humanities presents
The New York Consortium for Intellectual and Cultural History Conference

HISTORY AND PSYCHOANALYSIS DURING THE POSTWAR PERIOD

Participants:

LEWIS ARON <small>University of Illinois</small>	ROBERT JAY LIFTON <small>University of Illinois</small>	CAMILLE ROBCIS <small>Columbia University</small>
ELIZABETH DANTO <small>Hunter College and The Graduate Center, City University of New York</small>	ERIK LINSTRUM <small>University of Illinois</small>	DAVID RUSSELL <small>King's College London</small>
MATT FFYTCH <small>University of Essex</small>	ELIZABETH LUNBECK <small>University of Illinois</small>	CAROL SEIGEL <small>University of Illinois</small>
JOHN FORRESTER <small>University of Cambridge</small>	GEORGE MAKARI <small>Columbia University</small>	MICHAL SHAPIRA <small>Academy of Sciences</small>
RUBEN GALLO <small>Princeton University</small>	PETER MANDLER <small>Columbia University</small>	MOSHE SLUHOVSKY <small>The Hebrew University of Jerusalem</small>
KATJA GUENTHER <small>Princeton University</small>	SAMUEL MOYN <small>Columbia University</small>	BONNIE SMITH <small>Harvard University</small>
DAGMAR HERZOG <small>University of Illinois</small>	GUY ORTOLANO <small>Columbia University</small>	SIMON TAYLOR <small>Columbia University</small>
GERALD IZENBERG <small>Yale University</small>	SUSAN PEDERSEN <small>University of Illinois</small>	NELLIE THOMPSON <small>University of Illinois</small>
BEN KAFKA <small>University of Illinois</small>	DANIEL PICK <small>University of Illinois</small>	ELI ZARETSKY <small>University of Illinois</small>
HELENE KEABLE <small>University of Illinois</small>		

Organized by
MICHAL SHAPIRA
Academy of Sciences

FRIDAY, APRIL 4 - SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2014
Common Room, Heyman Center, Columbia University

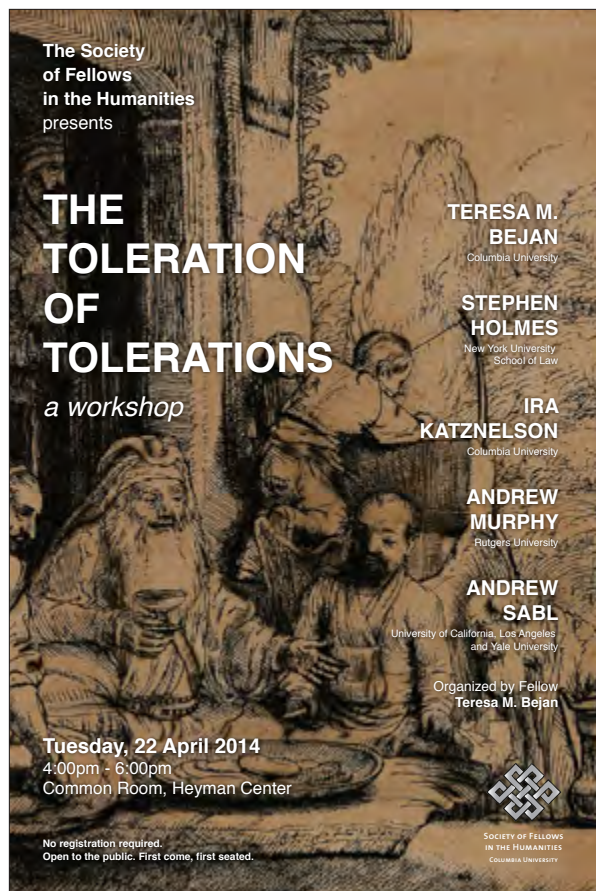
Co-sponsored by The Heyman Center for the Humanities, The Society of Fellows in the Humanities, Columbia University Seminar on British History, The Psychoanalytic Studies Program at the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, University Seminars at Columbia, The Remarque Institute at New York University, and The NCJW Women and Gender Studies Program and the History Department at Tel-Aviv University.

4 and 5 April 2014

History and Psychoanalysis during the Postwar Period

Despite the continuous interest in psychoanalysis as a modern system of thought and interpretation, the history of the discipline and the study of analysts other than Sigmund Freud are still developing. This two-day conference brought together historians, gender studies scholars, and psychoanalysts to explore the impact of the Second World War on psychoanalysis in the post-1945 era, as well as the impact of psychoanalysis itself on different postwar societies and cultures. The conference examined the relationship among psychoanalysis, democracy, and democratization in the postwar period. More broadly, the conference reopened the question of how to preserve the history of psychoanalysis. The event continued the discussion launched at a 2013 conference in London, organized by Daniel Pick and Matt Ffytche, that focused on psychoanalysis in the age of totalitarianism and the Second World War.

This conference was organized by Michal Shapira, ACLS New Faculty Fellow at Barnard College (2011–2012) and Assistant Professor of History and Gender Studies at Tel Aviv University, and co-sponsored by the Society of Fellows and various other entities.



22 April 2014

The Toleration of Tolerations: A Workshop

Toleration involves many paradoxes. One we might call the paradox of uniformity: while the point of toleration is diversity, every particular theory of toleration—and the institutional regime of toleration that embodies or expresses it—likely rests on a vision of political life or human existence that is more consistent with some belief systems than with others. And yet, efforts to complicate toleration so as to combat these biases often run up against the claim that we are tolerating too much: that unlimited respect for diversity, including in the sources of toleration itself, renders impossible the achievement of valid public purposes.

This workshop, organized by Fellow Teresa Bejan, explored these tensions by examining perspectives on toleration that the dominant rationalist (and arguably post-Protestant) theories neglect: sectarian arguments that “evangelical liberty” and the competition for converts were essential to free exercise; the skeptical or anti-rationalist claim that seemingly intolerant beliefs pose no real harm because people’s actions rarely follow from their opinions; and the overlapping experiences of toleration and exclusion present in the Anglo-Jewish and Jewish-American experiences.

In addition to Dr. Bejan, participants included: Stephen Holmes, New York University; Ira Katznelson, Columbia University; Andrew Murphy, Rutgers University; and Andrew Sabl, University of California, Los Angeles.


25 and 26 April 2014

Calculating Capitalism: A Conference

Among the most striking trends charted in the humanities in recent years has been the significant investment in the attempt to understand modern capitalism. This conference sought to profit from that boom by bringing together a range of scholars from the various disciplines that have developed novel methods for studying economic life: history, sociology, anthropology, science and technology studies, literary studies, as well as economics, accounting, and business studies. The organizing principle for the conference was the theme of calculation. Participants were invited to present papers that examined the place of computation, computational technology, and the individuals who carry these out within the system of capitalism. Papers reflected upon the ways in which calculations encode the values—economic but also moral, political, and epistemological—of capitalism.



This conference took place over two days, and was organized by Fellow William Deringer. It included more than 21 scholars from throughout the world.

Friday 25 – Saturday 26 April 2014
Common Room, Heyman Center



Calculating Capitalism

an interdisciplinary conference

The Heyman Center for the Humanities
Columbia University

SOCIETY OF FELLOWS
IN THE HUMANITIES
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Michele Alacevich
Columbia University
and Diplomatics: Akademie Wien

Tal Arbel
Harvard University

Dan Bouk
Columbia University

Dermot Coleman
New College, London

Eli Cook
Harvard University

William Deringer
Columbia University

Nancy Henry
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Matthew Jones
Columbia University

Dotan Leshem
Columbia University

Donald MacKenzie
University of Edinburgh

Yiwei Miao
University of Leicester

Jamie Pietruska
Harvard University

Paolo Quattrone
University of Edinburgh
Business School

Caitlin Rosenthal
University of California, Berkeley

Natasha Schüll
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Jacob Soll
University of Southern California

Caitlin Zaloom
New York University

Organized by Fellow
William Deringer

Free and open to the public. No registration required. First come, first seated.
<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/societyoffellows/>



The Society of Fellows provides major funding for the extensive programming—lectures, panel discussions, conferences, and workshops—presented by the Heyman Center for the Humanities (heymancenter.org). The Heyman Center provides the intellectual and physical space for members of the Columbia community and the New York City public to consider topics and

issues of common interest and concern from the perspectives of the humanities and the humanistic social sciences. A selection of the events sponsored in 2013–2014 is included here. A full listing of events from this year and those preceding may be found at heymancenter.org/events.



HEYMAN CENTER EVENTS

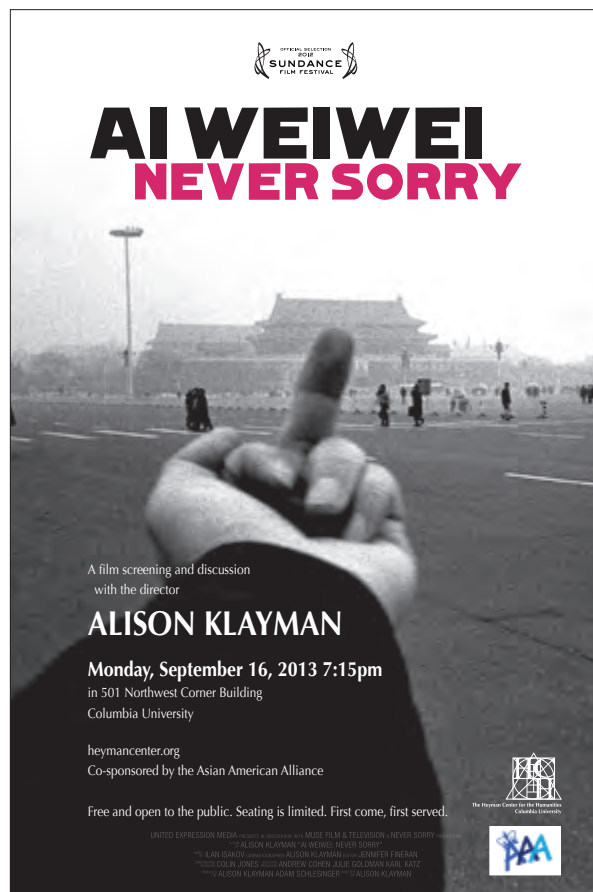
2013–2014

FALL 2013

16 September

Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry

The documentary *Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry* is the inside story of a dissident for the digital age who blurs the boundaries of art and politics and inspires global audiences. First-time director Alison Klayman gained unprecedented access to Ai while working as a journalist in China. Her detailed portrait provides a nuanced exploration of contemporary China and one of its most compelling public figures. The screening concluded with a discussion between Klayman and Fellow William Deringer.




OFFICIAL SELECTION
2013
SUNDANCE
FILM FESTIVAL

AI WEIWEI NEVER SORRY


A film screening and discussion
with the director
ALISON KLAYMAN
Monday, September 16, 2013 7:15pm
in 501 Northwest Corner Building
Columbia University
heymancenter.org
Co-sponsored by the Asian American Alliance
Free and open to the public. Seating is limited. First come, first served.

UNITED EXPRESSION MEDIA presents a production of MUSE FILM & TELEVISION - NEVER SORRY
by ALISON KLAYMAN
AI WEIWEI: NEVER SORRY
by ALISON KLAYMAN
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
THE HEYMAN CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
AAA



Irini Gonou
The Sheltering Word

25 SEPTEMBER - 22 OCTOBER 2013



25 September–23 October

Art Exhibition

The Sheltering Word

The Sheltering Word was a month-long art exhibition at the Heyman Center, featuring works from the acclaimed Greek artist Irini Gonou. The exhibition explored the healing and protective power of the written word as a specific cultural idiom, particularly as a form of a dialogue between Greek and North African cultures.

Using natural materials such as cotton fabric, handmade paper, as well as inks, reeds, leaves and twine, Gonou's work suggests an interpretation of amulets, "inscribed" talismanic cloths, and "sheltering word" pinax, and thus invents a new magical language in the realm of "written protection."

9 October

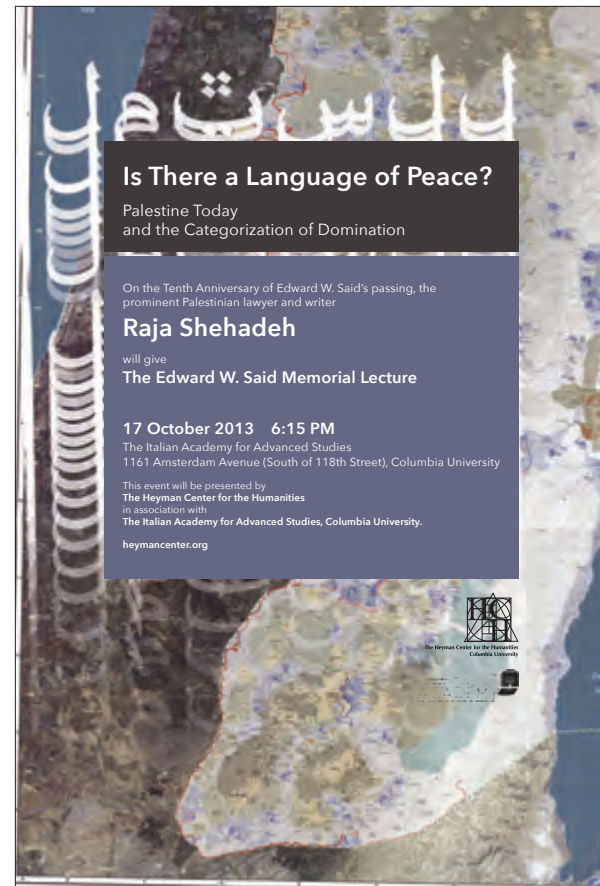
European Intellectuals and the Economic Crisis

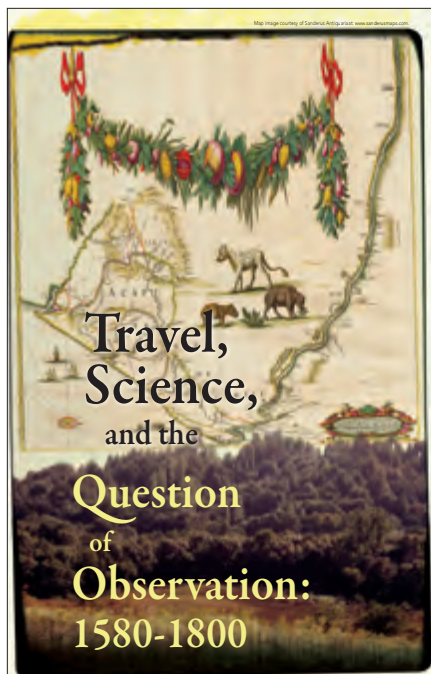
Many expected the severity of the crisis in Europe that opened in 2008 and intensified the Greek default in 2010 to have elicited a vibrant pan-European debate, with intellectuals playing an active role. In fact the circulation of ideas has been limited and intellectuals have not had much impact or succeeded in opening up new perspectives for the continent. In this discussion, Etienne Balibar, Professor Emeritus of moral and political philosophy at Université de Paris X and Adam Tooze, Barton M. Biggs Professor of History and Co-Director, International Security Studies at Yale University, explored why this was so and whether it reflected a transformation in the role of the intellectuals themselves.

17 October

The Edward W. Said Memorial Lecture *Is There a Language of Peace? Palestine Today and the Categorization of Domination*

On the tenth anniversary of the passing of Edward Said, the prominent lawyer and author Raja Shehadeh reflected on dangerous categorizations that imprison Palestinians in contemporary Palestine today—perhaps even more than the physical matrix of borders, checkpoints, and the Wall. Shehadeh discussed how Palestinians themselves deploy these categories in a language of despair in a post-Oslo landscape. He also described the Palestinian search for a new language, remembering, as Edward Said noted in one of his most moving and lyrical texts, *After the Last Sky*, that “We are more than someone else’s object.”





Travel,
Science,
and the
Question
of
Observation:
1580-1800

Friday, October 18, 2013 9:15am – 5:30pm
Second Floor Common Room, Heyman Center

Saturday, October 19, 2013 9:15am – 1:00pm
501 Schermerhorn Hall, Columbia University

Sponsored by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Heyman Center for the Humanities,
Moore Institute, National University of Ireland, Galway, and the Higher Education Authority.

No registration required. Open to the public.
For full program, see heymancenter.org.

Ann Blair
Harvard University

Jorge Cañizares-
Esguerra
University of Texas at Austin

Daniel Carey
National University of Ireland, Galway

Joyce Chaplin
Harvard University

Nicholas Dew
McGill University

Paula Findlen
Stanford University

Matthew Jones
Columbia University

Ted McCormick
Concordia University

Ida Federica Pugliese
National University of Ireland, Galway

Asheesh Siddique
Columbia University

Cameron Strang
Institute for the Study of the Americas

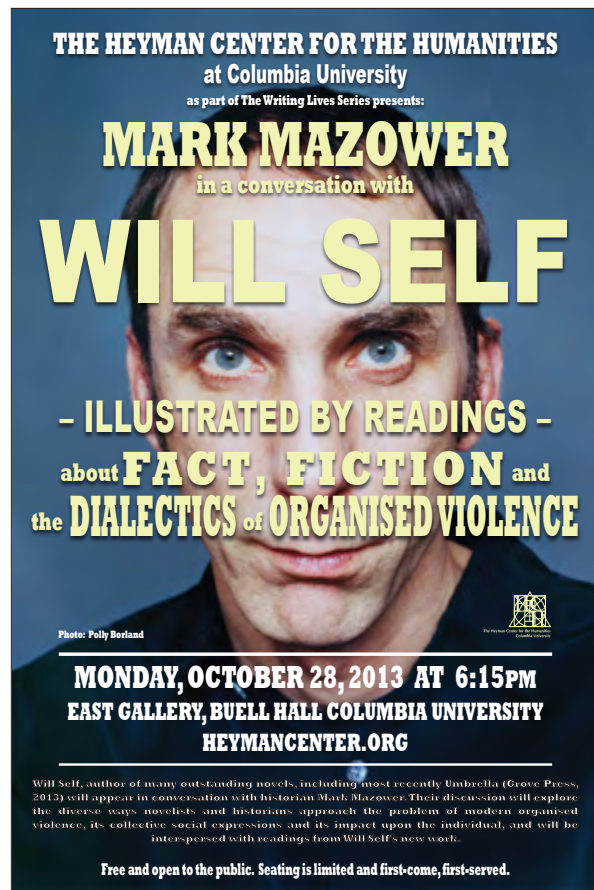
Carl Wennerlind
Barnard College

Elizabeth Yale
Western Carolina University

18–19 October

Travel, Science, and the Question of Observation: 1580–1800—a two-day conference

In the early modern period, the emergence of travel as a means of information gathering—on natural history, demography, government, and religion—was accompanied by the use of questionnaires to orient observation. This conference investigated the development of information gathering techniques and the networks on which information gatherers relied. Papers presented addressed the significance of travel to the spread and exchange of scientific ideas and the ways in which information itself “traveled,” in British, French, Spanish, and Swedish contexts.



THE HEYMAN CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES
at Columbia University
as part of The Writing Lives Series presents:

MARK MAZOWER
in a conversation with
WILL SELF

– ILLUSTRATED BY READINGS –
about **FACT, FICTION** and
the **DIALECTICS** of **ORGANISED VIOLENCE**

Photo: Polly Berland

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2013 AT 6:15PM
EAST GALLERY, BUELL HALL COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
HEYMANCENTER.ORG

Will Self, author of many outstanding novels, including most recently *Umbrella* (Grove Press, 2013), will appear in conversation with historian Mark Mazower. Their discussion will explore the diverse ways novelists and historians approach the problem of modern organized violence, its collective social expressions, and its impact upon the individual, and will be interspersed with readings from Will Self's new work.

Free and open to the public. Seating is limited and first-come, first-served.

28 October

The Writing Lives Series Mark Mazower in a Conversation with Will Self— Illustrated by Readings—about Fact, Fiction, and the Dialectics of Organised Violence

Will Self, author of many acclaimed novels, including most recently, *Umbrella* (Grove Press, 2013), appeared in conversation with Mark Mazower, Ira D. Wallach Professor of History at Columbia University and Director of the Heyman Center for the Humanities. Their discussion, interspersed with readings from Self's work, explored the diverse ways novelists and historians approach the problem of modern organized violence, its collective social expressions, and its impact upon the individual.

7 November

Poets at the Heyman Center

*Tom Pickard, August Kleinzahler, and Maureen McLane—
an Evening of Poetry and Conversation*

Poets Tom Pickard, August Kleinzahler, and Maureen McLane read from new and published work in a continuation of the Poets at the Heyman Center series. Orlando Reade, PhD candidate in the Department of English at Princeton University, chaired the discussion.

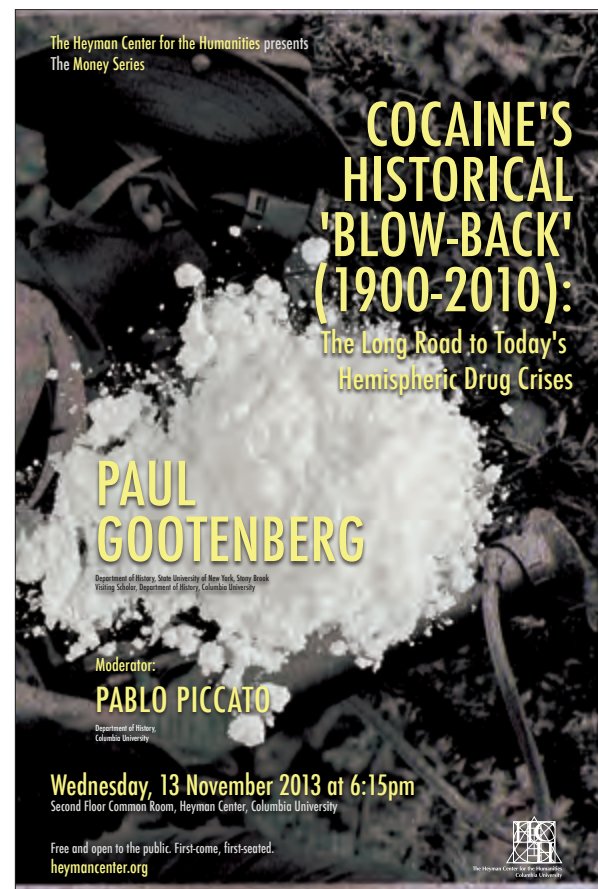


13 November

The Money Series

*Cocaine's Historical 'Blow-back' (1900–2010):
The Long Road to Today's Hemispheric Drug Crises*

The drug war in the Americas faces two related crises: the dramatic wave of trafficker violence in Mexico and the rising challenge to U.S. strategies from a number of key Latin American states. Referencing the long history of hemispheric cocaine, Paul Gootenberg, Visiting Fellow in the Department of History at Columbia University, showed how the sharply unintended impacts of prior U.S. drug interventions have brought the overseas drug war to this crossroads, and to the next phase of cocaine's global history.



The Heyman Center for the Humanities presents
The Disciplines Series: Evaluation, Value, and Evidence

Genes, Children, and Ethics

a discussion with

**Michael
Bérubé**

English Department
Penn State

**Rayna
Rapp**

Department of Anthropology
New York University

**Faye
Ginsburg**

Department of Anthropology
New York University

Chaired by

Rachel Adams

Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University

Thursday, 14 November 2013 at 8:00pm
501 Northwest Corner Building, Columbia University

Free and open to the public. First-come, first-seated.
heymancenter.org



The Heyman Center for the Humanities
Columbia University

14 November

The Disciplines Series: Evaluation, Value, and Evidence *Genes, Children, and Ethics*

Rayna Rapp, Professor of Anthropology at New York University, and Faye Ginsberg, David B. Kriser Professor of Anthropology at New York University, presented a talk based on their work on cultural innovation in special education in New York City and on brain research about learning, memory, childhood psychiatric diagnoses, and epigenetics.

Michael Bérubé, Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Literature at Pennsylvania State University, then spoke on "Genotypes, Phenotypes, and Stereotypes," and the variability of "expression" in Down syndrome. He suggested that if trisomy-21 is (ostensibly) indelible at the genetic level, and yet so unpredictable with regard to the actual bodies, minds, and lives of people with Down syndrome, we should deploy such genetic evidence with great caution—and we should distinguish the genetic evidence of disability from genetic evidence of disease.

The discussion was chaired by Rachel Adams, Professor of English at Columbia University.

The Heyman Center for the Humanities
and Blinken European Institute
present the Money Series



MERCANTILISM

THROUGH THE AGES

a one day conference
part of Blinken European Institute's "Varieties of Capitalism" series

Timothy Alborn Lehman College	Martha Howell Columbia University	Margaret Schabas University of British Columbia
Bradley Bateman Randolph College	Lars Magnusson Uppsala University	Timothy Shenk Columbia University
Fred Block University of California at Davis	Prasannan Parthasarathi Boston College	Phil Stern Duke University
Partha Chatterjee Columbia University	Steven Pincus Yale University	Carl Wennerlind Barnard College
Victoria de Grazia Columbia University	Anupama Rao Barnard College	Kathleen Wilson SUNY Stony Brook

Friday, November 15, 2013 at 9:30am-6:00pm
Common Room, Heyman Center, Columbia University

No registration required. ID required for entrance. heymancenter.org

COLUMBIA | BLINKEN EUROPEAN INSTITUTE



15 November

The Money Series

Mercantilism Through the Ages

Mercantilism is a concept with an awkward past. Ironically, it owes a far greater debt to its foremost critic, Adam Smith, than to any of its supposed advocates. And, while most recent scholarship agrees that Smith's *Wealth of Nations* painted a deceptively coherent portrait of 17th-century political economy and the commercial regulations these ideas supposedly engendered, Smith's interpretation of a "mercantile system" has survived, informing the way we conceive of early modern history and the nature of modern economy and politics.

This conference built on recent contributions to the study of mercantilism in its traditional context and period. In addition,

it sought to explore how the notion of "mercantilism" itself has shaped not only our understanding of the early modern era but of the political and economic cultures of the modern world, from Smith to Keynes.


10 December

The Disciplines Series

Albert Hirschman and the Social Sciences

Albert O. Hirschman, who died on December 10, 2012, was one of the most fascinating and versatile social scientists of the twentieth century. After fleeing Germany as an opponent of the Nazi regime, he moved across countries, languages, and disciplinary boundaries. He was a pioneer of development economics and other social sciences, to which he contributed with exemplary works on the analysis of the processes and mechanisms of political, economic, and social change. In the spirit of Hirschman's consistently interdisciplinary approach, this panel explored the milestones of his rich intellectual journey.

The Heyman Center for the Humanities presents
The Disciplines Series



Jeremy Adelman
Princeton University

Michele Alacevich
Columbia University

Victoria de Grazia
Columbia University

ALBERT HIRSCHMAN


and the Social Sciences

Ira Katznelson
Columbia University

Nadia Urbinati
Columbia University

Tuesday, 10 December 2013 at 5:45pm
Lindsay Rogers Room, 707 International Affairs Building

heymancenter.org



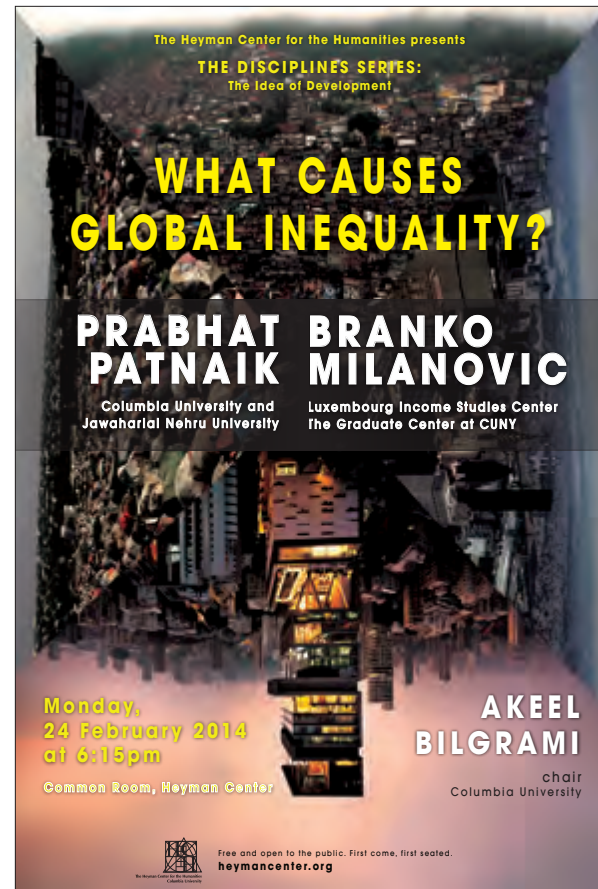
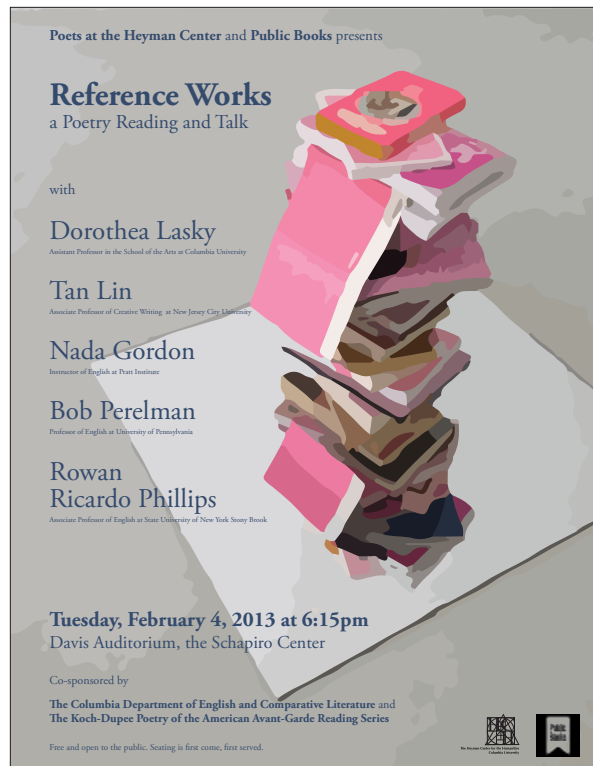
SPRING 2014

4 February

Poets at the Heyman Center

Reference Works: Poetry Reading and Talk

In this event, five distinguished poets who also hold university appointments discussed the scholarly resources that inspire them, including poetry anthologies, rhyming dictionaries, standard dictionaries, handbooks of poetic forms, and other resources, such as the *Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics* (the latest edition of which was published in 2013). Participating poets included Dorothea Lasky, Assistant Professor in the School of the Arts at Columbia University; Tan Lin, Associate Professor of Creative Writing at New Jersey City University; Nada Gordon, Instructor of English at Pratt Institute; Bob Perelman, Professor of English at University of Pennsylvania; and Rowan Ricardo Phillips, Associate Professor of English at State University of New York, Stony Brook.



24 February

The Disciplines Series: The Idea of Development *What Causes Global Inequality?*

Despite the emergence of powerful economies in China, India, Brazil and other struggling nations in recent decades, global inequality remains a deep and abiding issue for our times. Indeed, many have argued that the form such emergence has taken leaves inequalities as deep as ever, creating only a larger metropolitan middle class. What are the sources of current forms of inequality in a world of globalized finance? How shall we resolve current disagreements between “equality of opportunity” and “equality of outcome” in our understanding of the global economy? These questions, among others, were the subject of this panel discus-

sion featuring the internationally celebrated economists Prabhat Patnaik and Branko Milanovic..

27 and 28 February

***Sounding Communities: Music and the
Three Religions in Medieval Iberia—a two-day conference***

Poetry, song, and other forms of performance in Arabic, Latin, Hebrew, and Romance languages are central sources for the cultural and social history of medieval Iberia. This international conference brought together scholars of music, literature, and history to reflect on the insights that the sounding arts and their context can offer into Iberian communities and the interactions among them. Sounding Communities was dedicated to the memory of Maria Rosa Menocal (1953–2012), whose influential book *The Ornament of the World: How Muslims, Jews and Christians Created a Culture of Tolerance in Medieval Spain* was widely read as an eloquent account of peaceful coexistence.




3 March

**The Lionel Trilling Seminar
*“Understanding from Inside,” or Critique and Admiraton:
Reading after Wittgenstein and Cavell***

The Lionel Trilling Seminar was delivered by Toril Moi, James B. Duke Professor of Literature and Romance Studies and Professor of English, Philosophy, and Theater Studies at Duke University. Moi spoke about ordinary language philosophy, which she defines as the philosophical tradition after Ludwig Wittgenstein and J. L. Austin as established and extended by Stanley Cavell. The philosophy proposes a powerful method for undoing illusions and exposing incoherent thinking. Moi showed that ordinary language philosophy develops a method of reading which undoes the traditional opposition between “suspicious” (or “symptomatic”) and “sympathetic” reading. Heather Love (University of Pennsylvania) and Bernard Rhie (Williams College) responded.

The Heyman Center for the Humanities presents
The Lionel Trilling Seminar

TORIL MOI James B. Duke Professor of Literature and
Romance Studies and Professor of English,
Philosophy, and Theater Studies at Duke University




“UNDERSTANDING FROM INSIDE,”
OR CRITIQUE AND ADMIRATION:
Reading after Wittgenstein and Cavell

with respondents
Heather Love
University of Pennsylvania
and
Bernard Rhie
Williams College

March 3, 2014, at 6:15pm
Common Room, Heyman Center

Free and open to the public.
Seating first come, first served.
heymancenter.org



The Heyman Center for the Humanities
Columbia University

6–7 March

The Disciplines Series

The History of Poverty in Africa:

A Central Question?—a two-day conference

In the popular mind, Africa exemplifies poverty. Media coverage focuses on destitution. Recent focus on a growing elite serves to emphasize the abject condition of the majority. This discourse depicts African poverty as timeless or as gripped in a worsening spiral. Nearly four decades after Terence Ranger's call for a "usable African past" and over a quarter century since John Iliffe's history of the very poor in Africa, the conference brought together nearly twenty distinguished scholars working on the history of the poor and of poverty in Africa to address questions around how we approach the history of a diverse continent.

13 March

***Texts, Risks, and Revolution: Holding Up
a Mirror to the Arab World***

This talk featured internationally acclaimed writer and director Sulayman Al Bassam in conversation with his collaborator Georgina Van Welie on making theatre across the cultural divide. Political by definition, performed in both English and Arabic with actors and a creative team drawn from across the Arab world and the West, their projects have revisited Western texts from an Arab perspective and challenged Western perceptions of the Arab world. Al Bassam and Van Welie discussed their ten-year Arab Shakespeare project, a recent production for *The Comedie Francaise* in Paris, and Sulayman's play *The Petrol Station*.

The Heyman Center for the Humanities presents



TEXTS, RISKS, AND REVOLUTION:
Holding Up a Mirror to the Arab World

SULAYMAN AL BASSAM
Playwright and Director
in conversation with his collaborator

GEORGINA VAN WELIE

on making
theater
across the
cultural
divide

Thursday,
13 March 2014
6:15pm
Sulzberger Parlor,
Barnard Hall
Co-sponsored by the
Barnard International Artists Series

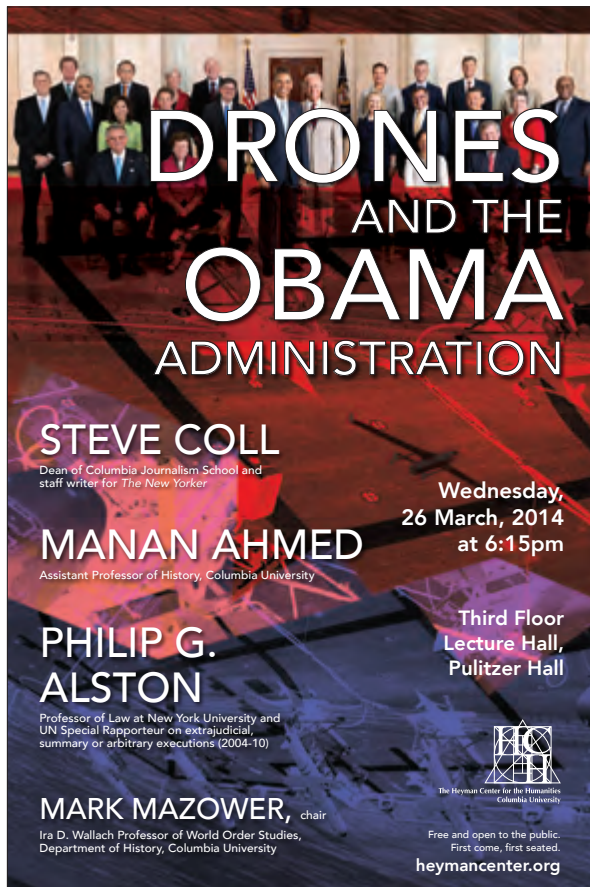


26 March

Drones and the Obama Administration

Steve Coll, Dean of the Columbia Journalism School and contributor to the *New Yorker*, delivered a talk on the Obama administration's use of drones. Coll was in discussion with Manan Ahmed, Assistant Professor of History at Columbia University, and Philip G. Alston, John Norton Pomeroy Professor of Law at New York University. Alston served as the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary, or arbitrary executions from 2004 to 2010. His 2010 report on targeted killings carried out by CIA drones was a defining critical document against the use of drones in warfare.

The talk was chaired by Mark Mazower, Ira D. Wallach Professor of History and Director of the Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia University.



DRONES AND THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

STEVE COLL
Dean of Columbia Journalism School and staff writer for *The New Yorker*

MANAN AHMED
Assistant Professor of History, Columbia University

PHILIP G. ALSTON
Professor of Law at New York University and UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (2004-10)

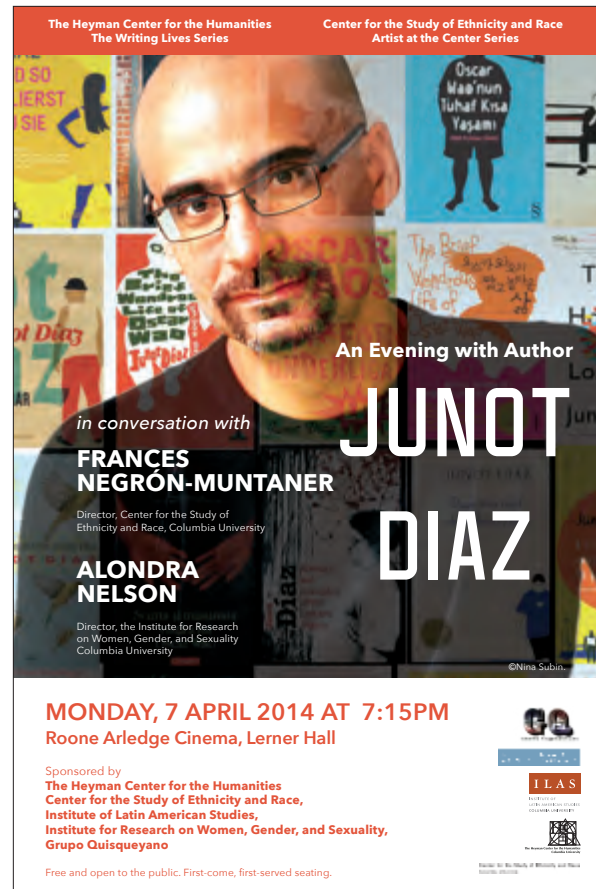
MARK MAZOWER, chair
Ira D. Wallach Professor of World Order Studies, Department of History, Columbia University

Wednesday, 26 March, 2014 at 6:15pm

Third Floor Lecture Hall, Pulitzer Hall

The Heyman Center for the Humanities
Columbia University

Free and open to the public.
First come, first seated.
heymancenter.org



The Heyman Center for the Humanities
The Writing Lives Series

Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race
Artist at the Center Series

An Evening with Author **JUNOT DIAZ**

in conversation with **FRANCES NEGRÓN-MUNTANER**
Director, Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University

ALONDRA NELSON
Director, the Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality
Columbia University

MONDAY, 7 APRIL 2014 AT 7:15PM
Roone Arledge Cinema, Lerner Hall

Sponsored by
The Heyman Center for the Humanities
Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race,
Institute of Latin American Studies,
Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality,
Grupo Quisqueyano

Free and open to the public. First-come, first-served seating.

7 April

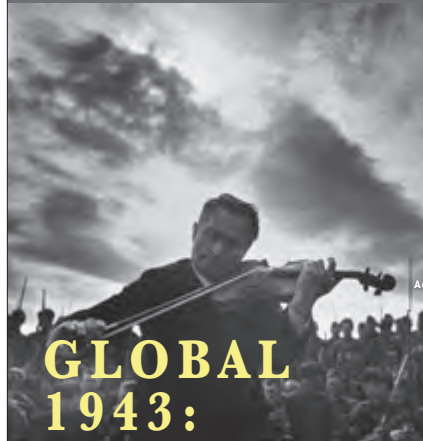
The Writing Lives Series

An Evening with Author Junot Díaz

In a co-production of Heyman Center's Writing Lives Series and the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race's Artist at the Center Series, author Junot Díaz read from his work and discussed his writing with Alondra Nelson, Professor of Sociology, Columbia University, and Frances Negrón-Muntaner, Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University. Díaz is the author of the critically acclaimed *Drown; The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, which won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award; and *This Is How You Lose Her*, a *New York Times* bestseller and National Book Award finalist.

The Heyman Center for the Humanities and the Blinken European Institute
present part of

THE DISCIPLINES SERIES
The Idea of Development



VICTORIA DE GRAZIA
Columbia University

LAURENT JEANPIERRE
Université Paris 8

KOSTIS KARPOZILOS
Columbia University

DIMITRIS KOUSOURIS
Institute for Advanced Study Konstanz

MARK MAZOWER
Columbia University

MALGORZATA MAZUREK
Columbia University

MOSS ROBERTS
New York University

SILVIO PONS
Rome University


MARILYN YOUNG
New York University

GLOBAL 1943:
**Political Imagination
And Blueprints
For The Future**
A One-day Conference

Organized by Stavros Niarchos Postdoctoral Fellow
KOSTIS KARPOZILOS

FRIDAY, 11 APRIL 2014 9:00AM
Common Room, Heyman Center, Columbia University

No registration required. Open to the public.
heymancenter.org



11 April

The Disciplines Series: The Idea of Development
*Global 1943: Political Imagination and
Blueprints for the Future*

1943 stands out as a year of transitions as events throughout the world—including the capitulation of Italy to the allies—signaled the nearing of the end of World War II. Conceptualizations of the future anticipated a new world order that would mark a radical exodus from interwar and wartime experiences. Yet the transforming atmosphere of 1943 also signified the emergence of dilemmas that up to that point had been subordinated to the priorities of the war effort—dilemmas that mirrored the shifting social and political dynamics of the period.

This day-long workshop, which included ten leading scholars

on the period, explored the interplay between political imagination and the realization of the ensuing challenges regarding post-war transition.

16 April

*Hostile Charity: Somali Refugees and Risk
in a New Security Age*

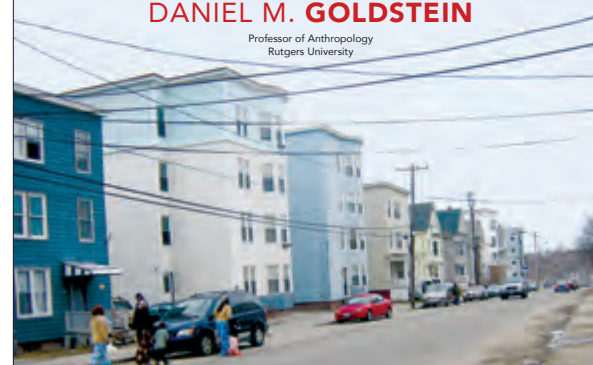
Refugees from states devastated by civil war and terrorism pose a challenge to the international community, which creates “humanitarian” practices to contain and monitor refugees in order

The Heyman Center for the Humanities presents:

HOSTILE CHARITY:
*Somali Refugees and Risk
in a New Security Age*


CATHERINE BESTEMAN
Francis F. Bartlett and Ruth K. Bartlett Professor of Anthropology
Colby College

Respondent
DANIEL M. GOLDSTEIN
Professor of Anthropology
Rutgers University



Wednesday, 16 April 2014, 6:15pm
Common Room, Heyman Center

No registration required. Free and open to the public. First come, first seated.
heymancenter.org



to reduce the risks to the international order and to individual nation-states that refugees are perceived to pose. Somali refugees are trapped by a set of risk-management practices that incarcerate some in refugee camps and define others—such as those resettled in the US—as potential security threats to their new communities. This event explored the hostility—latent and expressed—that arises from state-sponsored charity, both in refugee camps and in host communities for resettled refugees, with particular focus on the experiences of Somali refugees in Lewiston, Maine.

Catherine Besteman, Francis F. Bartlett and Ruth K. Bartlett Professor of Anthropology at Colby College, spoke from her research on the subject. Daniel Goldstein, Professor of Anthropology at Rutgers University, responded.

29 April

The Writing Lives Series

An Evening with Poet and Novelist Michael Ondaatje

As part of the Writing Lives Series, and in partnership with the School of the Arts—Writing Division, the Heyman Center hosted an evening of reading and conversation with the acclaimed novelist and poet Michael Ondaatje—winner of the Booker Prize for *The English Patient*. Ondaatje's artistry and aesthetic have influenced an entire generation of writers and readers. He is the author of four collections of poetry, including *The Cinnamon Peeler* and *Handwriting*. In addition to *The English Patient*, his works of fiction include *In the Skin of a Lion*, *Anil's Ghost*, *Divisadero*, and *The Cat's Table*.

Joining Ondaatje in conversation were the poets Saskia Hamilton, Professor of English at Barnard College, and C. D. Wright, I.J. Kapstein Professor of Literary Arts at Brown University. Sonali Deraniyagala, Author of *Wave* and Adjunct Associate Professor in the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University, provided an introduction.

The Heyman Center for the Humanities presents
The Writing Lives Series:

novelist and poet—
The English Patient,
Anil's Ghost,
and more

**MICHAEL
ONDAATJE**

in conversation with
**SASKIA
HAMILTON** **C.D.
WRIGHT**
Professor of English, Bernard College I.J. Kapstein Professor of Literary Arts, Brown University

Tuesday, 29 April 2014 6:15pm
The Schapiro Center, Davis Auditorium

Co-sponsored by the School of the Arts Writing Program.
No registration required. Open to the public.
First come, first seated. Seating is limited.

heymancenter.org

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The Heyman Center for the Humanities
Columbia University


COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
WRITING

16 May

The Disciplines Series: The Idea of Development
Malinowski's Children: East Central European
"Betweenness" and Twentieth-Century Social Science

This one-day workshop positioned Eastern and Central Europe as a critical field for global modern knowledge by looking at the "betweenness" of East Central European intellectuals and their contributions to the history of social science in the twentieth century. Thirteen historians of Eastern Europe considered "betweenness" in both regional terms—that is, East Central Europe's historic position as a culturally and developmentally ambiguous periphery of the West—and biographical ones, including experiences of exile, dislocation, and/or statelessness.

The Heyman Center for the Humanities presents
THE DISCIPLINES SERIES:
The Idea of Development




MALINOWSKI'S CHILDREN:
East Central European "Betweenness"
and Twentieth-Century Social Science

Workshop with pre-circulated papers.
Registration required by Monday, May 12, email sm3373@columbia.edu.

TAL ARBEL Harvard University	MANU GOSWAMI New York University	MALGORZATA MAZUREK Columbia University
DEBORAH COEN Stanford College	JAN KUBIK Ruiz de Alarcón University	MIHÁLY SÁRKÁNY Hungarian Academy of Sciences
ISTVÁN DEÁK Columbia University	KATHERINE LEBOW Vienna Wissenschaft Institute	VÍTĚZSLAV SOMMER Centre d'Etudes européennes, Sciences Po
DAVID ENGERMAN Brandeis University	JEREMY LIN New York University	SCOTT SPECTOR University of Michigan
		ANDREW ZIMMERMAN George Washington University

Friday, 16 May 2014 12:45pm-6:15pm
Second Floor Common Room, The Heyman Center
Cosponsored by the East Central European Center, Columbia University
and Balassi Institute- Hungarian Cultural Center
Organized by Katherine Lebow and Malgorzata Mazurek.
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Heyman Center Workshops

The Heyman Center sponsors a number of workshops each academic year that bring faculty and students from a variety of disciplines together to explore topics and issues of common concern. In 2013–2014, working closely with the new Columbia Center for Science and Society, the Heyman Center supported a workshop entitled “Neuroscience and History,” the aim of which was to foster interdisciplinary conversation about the promises and challenges of contemporary neuroscience. Participants explored the historical conditions for the emergence of neuroscience as a discipline, as well as the synergies and tensions between historical and neuroscientific modes of explanation.

The Neuroscience and History Workshop was co-organized by Deborah Coen, Associate Professor at Barnard College, and Stefanos Geroulanos, Assistant Professor of History at New York University. Lead presenters for each session are included under the workshop titles noted below.

18 September, 2013

What Do We Want the History of Neuroscience to Do?

Mark Churchland, Co-director, Grossman Center for the Statistics of Mind, Columbia University; Darcy Kelley, Professor of Biological Sciences, Columbia University; and Nicolas Langlitz, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, The New School for Social Research.

16 October, 2013

Neurophysiology Between Experiment & Therapeutics: Kurt Goldstein’s Laboratory Films

Deborah Coen, Associate Professor at Barnard College; and Stefanos Geroulanos, Assistant Professor of History at New York University.

6 November, 2013

A Brief History of Clock Genes

Dustin Rubenstein, Assistant Professor of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology, Columbia University; Rae Silver, Helene L. and Mark N. Kaplan Professor of Natural & Physical Sciences, Barnard College; Jonathan Weiner, Maxwell M. Geffen Professor of Medical and Scientific Journalism, Columbia University; and Michael W. Young, Richard and Jeanne Fisher Professor Laboratory of Genetics, The Rockefeller University.

11 December, 2013

The Disappearance of Affect? Violence, Affect, and the Post-Traumatic

Ruth Leys, Henry Wiesenfeld Professor of Humanities, Johns Hopkins University.

12 February, 2014

After Neurochemistry “On the Emergence of a Plastic Conception of the Brain”

Tobias Rees, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Social Studies of Medicine at McGill University.

5 March, 2014

Being Brains

Fernando Vidal, ICREA Research Professor at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

7 May, 2014

The Science of Pain and Pleasure: What Can We Learn from its History?

Cathy Gere, Professor of History at the University of California, San Diego, and E. Tory Higgins, Stanley Schachter Professor of Psychology at Columbia University.

ALUMNI FELLOWS NEWS

Jordanna Bailkin (1999–2001) is Giovanni and Anne Costigan Endowed Professor at the University of Washington. Her recent book, *The Afterlife of Empire* (University of California Press, 2012) was awarded three prizes: the Morris D. Forkosch Prize from the American Historical Association (2013), the Stansky Book Prize from the North American Conference on British Studies (2013), and the Biennial Book Prize from the Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies (2014).

Akeel Bilgrami (1983–1985), Sidney Morgenbesser Professor of Philosophy at Columbia University, published *Secularism, Identity, and Enchantment* (Harvard University Press, 2014).

Betsy C. Bowen (1976–1977) published a biographical memoir about her father, *Croswell Bowen: A Writer's Life, A Daughter's Portrait* (Potomac Books, an imprint of University of Nebraska Press, 2014).

Wiebke Denecke (2004–2006), Associate Professor of Chinese, Japanese & Comparative Literature at Boston University, published *Classical World Literatures: Sino-Japanese and Greco-Roman Comparison* (Oxford University Press, 2014). She also received a Mellon "New Directions" Fellowship for interdisciplinary research.

Joshua Fogel (1980–1981), Canada Research Chair and Professor of History at York University published: *Maiden Voyage: The Senzaimaru and the Creation of Modern Sino-Japanese Relations* (University of California Press, 2014); *Japanese Historiography and the Gold Seal of 57 C.E.: Relic, Text, Object, Fake* (Brill Academic Publishers, 2013); *Grains of Truth: Reading Tractate Menachot of the Babylonian Talmud* (Hamilton Books, 2013), *Decisions, Decisions, Decisions: Reading Tractate Horayot of the Babylonian Talmud* (Hamilton Books, 2013), and *(Sacrifices) Left at*

the Altar: Reading Tractate Zevachim of the Babylonian Talmud (Hamilton Books, 2013). He edited *The Role of Japan in Modern Chinese Art* (University of California Press, 2013). He translated *Shimada Kenji: Scholar, Thinker, Reader: Selected Writings on the Intellectual History of Modern China* (Merwin Asia, 2014) from Japanese and *Just a Scholar: The Memoirs of Zhou Yiliang* (Brill Press, 2013) from Chinese.

Happily retired, Dr. **Judith L. Johnston** (1977–1979) gave a public lecture in October 2014 commemorating the 100th anniversary of World War I on the topic, "Red Poppies in Flanders Fields: Understanding British Enthusiasm for War in 1914."

Paize Keulemans (2005–2006), Assistant Professor and Department Representative of East Asian Studies at Princeton University, published *Sound Rising from the Paper: Nineteenth-Century Martial Arts Fiction and the Chinese*

Acoustic Imagination (Harvard University Asia Center, 2014).

Amira Mittermaier (2006–2007), Associate Professor of Religion at the University of Toronto, was appointed to the inaugural cohort of the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists of the Royal Society of Canada in 2014.

Jennifer Christine Nash (2009–2010), Assistant Professor of American and Women's Studies at George Washington University, published *The Black Body in Ecstasy: Reading Race, Reading Pornography* (Duke University Press, 2014).

Linda Przybyszewski (1995–1997), Associate Professor of United States History at the University of Notre Dame, published *The Lost Art of Dress: The Women Who Once Made America Stylish* (Basic Books, 2014). An excerpt appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, a full-page re-

view in the Sunday *New York Times*, followed by appearances on National Public Radio's *Diane Rehm Show* and *Here And Now*, reviews in the *Boston Globe*, the *New Yorker*, and Canada's *Maclean's* and *National Post*, and feature articles in *Vogue Patterns* and *Sew News*.

Martha Ann Selby (1997–1998) received a Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Fellowship from the U.S. Department of State, spending eight months in Chennai, Tamilnadu, where she worked on translations of D. Dilip Kumar's short fiction. Her most recent book, *Tamil Love Poetry: The Five Hundred Short Poems of the Ainkurunuru* (Columbia University Press, 2011), was awarded the 2014 A. K. Ramanujan Translation Prize. The South Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies awards the Ramanujan prize annually for the best published translation from any South Asian language.

Joanna Waley-Cohen (1988–1990) is now Provost of NYU Shanghai, where she was founding Dean of Arts and Sciences. NYU Shanghai opened in Fall 2013 as a joint Sino-US research university that offers a four-year liberal arts education to a student body that is half Chinese and half international.

Joanne van der Woude (2007–2008) is Assistant Professor of American Studies at The University of Groningen, The Netherlands. She recently won a federal grant of €800,000, supporting her second book project on the role of heroes in the early modern imperial imagination. She also received a two-month Charles H. Watts Memorial Fellowship at the John Carter Brown Library in Providence, Rhode Island, and published reviews in 2013 on hemispheric colonial studies in *Early American Literature* and *The William and Mary Quarterly*.

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