

THE SOCIETY OF FELLOWS IN THE HUMANITIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2017–2018

SOCIETY OF FELLOWS

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CONTENTS

Report From The Chair	5	Special Events	33
Members of the 2017–2018 Governing Board	8	• New Books in the Society of Fellows	36
Forty-Third Annual Fellowship Competition	9	• Explorations in the Medical Humanities	38
Fellows in Residence 2017–2018	11	Heyman Center Events	43
• Joelle M. Abi-Rached	12	• Event Highlights	44
• Christopher M. Florio	13	• Public Humanities Initiative	52
• David Gutkin	14	• Heyman Center Series and Workshops	54
• Heidi Hausse	15	Politics of the Present	54
• Arden Hegele	16	Uprising 13/13 Seminar Series	55
• Lauren Kopajtic	17	New Books in the Arts and Sciences	55
• Whitney Laemmli	18		
• María González Pendás	19	Heyman Center Fellows 2017–2018	59
• Carmel Raz	20	Alumni Fellows News	63
Thursday Lectures Series	21	In Memoriam	65
• Fall 2017: Fellows’ Talks	23	Alumni Fellows Directory	67
• Spring 2018: “Supernatural”	26		

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

This year, the Society of Fellows in the Humanities at Columbia University reinforced its longstanding role in supporting humanities scholarship and teaching on campus by implementing a planned reorganization that recognizes the Society's fundamental ties to the Heyman Center for the Humanities. The Society of Fellows (SOF) and the Heyman Center together serve as the central site for interdisciplinary humanistic inquiry and collaboration at Columbia. Now a single unit, SOF/Heyman is overseen by the Governing Board of the Society of Fellows and run by a single administrative staff under Executive Director Eileen Gillooly, who was joined in 2016 by Associate Director Emily Bloom. In addition to the Board's existing function of reviewing and selecting postdoctoral, faculty, and graduate Fellows, a programming subcommittee of the Governing Board made up of representative faculty from different areas of the University now reviews programming proposals for the Heyman Center and develops special initiatives.

At the Society itself, our Fellows were exceptionally active in teaching, publishing, and expanding a growing array of public humanities programming on the Columbia campus. They taught courses across the Core Curriculum and offered seminars such as "From Colonial to Global Health," and "Building Fascisms." The Fellows also organized a series of events under the name "Explorations in the Medical Humanities." Acknowledging that the humanities face the challenge of how to write about embodied experiences that resist easy verbal categorization such as illness, pain, and healing, this series explored the recent emergence of interdisciplinary frameworks such as narrative medicine, which offer a set of methodological approaches to address these challenges.

In four separate events, we invited Society of Fellows alumni to present their recent books, including Michael Allen (*In the Shadow of World Literature: Sites of Reading in Colonial Egypt*); William Deringer (*Calculated Values: Finance, Politics, and the Quantitative Age*); Deborah Nord (*At Home in the World* with Maria DiBattista); Emily Ogden (*Credulity: A Cultural History of US Mesmerism*); David Russel (*Tact: Aesthetic Liberalism and the Essay Form in Nineteenth-Century Britain*); Leah Whittington (*Renaissance Suppliants: Poetry, Antiquity, Reconciliation*); and Rebecca Woods (*The Herds Shot Round the World: Native Breeds and the British Empire, 1800–1900*).

The current Fellows were extremely successful in obtaining fellowships, research grants for course design and conference travel, visiting scholarships, and book contracts.



Reinhold Martin, Chair of the Governing Board

They also produced more conference papers and essays than can be listed here: see the “Fellows in Residence” profiles for more details.

As in years past, the 2017 Fall Thursday Lecture Series was devoted to the ongoing research of our current Fellows, offering a window on the exceptional range of their scholarship. Attended by faculty, postdoctoral students, and graduate students from Columbia and other local universities, the Fall Series offered presentations on topics such as: the role of religious language in Adam Smith’s theory of morals, the historical conceptions of the human body illuminated by debates surrounding amputation, and resituating the birth of psychiatry in the Middle East as a function of a nineteenth-century colonial past. The 2018 Spring Thursday Lecture Series, organized by the Fellows, featured presentations by distinguished visiting speakers on the theme of the “Supernatural”—a theme capacious enough to include such topics as witchcraft, Martin Luther’s last words, astrology and finance, and the alt-right. In addition, the Fellows organized a number of major conferences this year in collaboration with the departments and centers in which they hold their teaching appointments: “Pious Technologies and Secular Designs,” “America as Theater of Spanish Modernity,” “Experiments in Opera Today,” “The Borrowed Muse,” and “Distant Listening/Digital Musicology.”

The Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities cosponsored more than a hundred events in 2017–18. Among these was the second year of the “New Books in the Arts and Sciences” series co-sponsored by the Office of the Divisional Deans of Arts and Sciences, which celebrated recent publications by Columbia faculty across the humanities. Another ongoing series was *13/13: Uprising*—thirteen seminars imagined and organized by SOF Board Members Bernard Harcourt and Jesús R. Velasco and sponsored in partnership with the Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought (directed by Bernard Harcourt). This series, which included a number of off-campus components, proved to be extremely popular among faculty and graduate students, filling to capacity its various campus venues, often reaching a live-streaming audience of five hundred or more throughout the world. In response to global events, we sponsored a series of events addressing the “Politics of the Present.” Other programs included a reading by Caine Prize winner Bushra al-Fadil; talks on beauty, black-face minstrelsy, digital migration, and hysteria; a symposium on public humanities; and an exhibition on G.B. Shaw among many others too numerous to list here: see the “Event Highlights” section for more details.

This year, we began a partnership with Trinity College Dublin’s “Long Room Hub,” which in Fall 2017 convened the conference “Factions, Fears, and Fake News” on two campuses in Dublin and New York. In Spring 2018, we sponsored additional events on Irish themes in celebration of our affiliation, including several readings and discussions with Colm Tóibín. These and other events are described in greater detail elsewhere in this report. Please note that most of these events are available for viewing under the “Media” menu tab on the Heyman Center website.

We were excited to welcome two new Fellows to the Society of Fellows this year: Joelle M. Abi-Rached (History of Science), Lecturer in Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (MESAAS), who joined the Society from Harvard University, and Lauren Kopajtic (Philosophy), Lecturer in Philosophy, who also received her doctorate from Harvard University and will be leaving at the end of the year for Fordham University. This incoming cohort joined our continuing Fellows: María González Pendás (Art History), Arden Hegele (English and Comparative Literature), Christopher Florio (History), and Whitney Laemmli (History). But as ever, we will miss those now leaving us: David Gutkin (Music) who joined the faculty at the Peabody Institute, Heidi Hausse (History), now an Assistant Professor at Auburn University, and Carmel Raz (Music) who became a Research Group Leader at the Max Planck Institute.

This fall, after another exacting Fellowship Competition, we look forward to welcoming JM Chris Chang (PhD, Columbia University, 2018), Lecturer in East Asian Languages and Cultures; Ardetta Gjika (History of Science, Harvard University, 2018), Lecturer in History, and Rachel Nolan (PhD, New York University, 2018) Lecturer, Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race.

Reinhold Martin

Chair of the Governing Board

MEMBERS OF THE 2017–2018 GOVERNING BOARD

Nadia Abu El-Haj

Anthropology

Tina Campt

*Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Barnard College*

Julie Crawford (ex-officio)

English and Comparative Literature

Giuseppe Gerbino

Music

Eileen Gillooly (ex-officio)

Executive Director

Robert Gooding-Williams

Philosophy

Bernard E. Harcourt

Center for Contemporary Critical Thought

Shamus Kahn

Sociology

Rob King

Film

Patricia Kitcher (ex-officio)

Philosophy

John Ma

Classics

Reinhold Martin

Chair

*Graduate School of Architecture,
Planning, and Preservation*

Mark Mazower (ex-Officio)

History

Ana María Ochoa Gautier

Music

David Scott

Anthropology

Kavita Sivaramakrishnan

Sociomedical Sciences

Josef Sorett

Religion

Jennifer Wenzel

*English and Comparative Literature;
Middle Eastern, South Asian, and
African Studies*

Gareth Williams

Classics

FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP COMPETITION

The forty-third Society of Fellows in the Humanities fellowship competition closed on 5 October 2017, with 895 applicants vying for the three fellowship positions available for 2018-19. Representatives from twenty-two departments, institutes, and centers conducted the first round of vetting. Each application recommended for advancement to the next level of competition received three readings: 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 fifteen applicants to campus for interviews, which were held in January 2018 at the Heyman Center.

The three available fellowships for 2018-19 were offered to, and accepted by: JM Chris Chang, PhD in East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University; Ardeta Gjikola, PhD in History of Science, Harvard University; and Rachel Nolan, PhD, in History, New York University.

The three Fellows, whose appointments begin 1 July 2018, bring to the Society of Fellows a number of different perspectives and approaches within the humanities. Dr. Chang is a historian of modern China whose research focuses on issues of bureaucracy, archive, surveillance, and political culture in twentieth-century China. Dr. Gjikola is a cultural historian of early modern science whose work examines relations between science and art, objectivity and subjectivity, and intercultural exchanges. Dr. Nolan is a historian of modern Latin America whose work focuses on international adoption from Guatemala.



JM Chris Chang



Ardeta Gjikola



Rachel Nolan

COMPETITION NUMBERS

FELLOWSHIPS STARTING IN 2018–2019

Department	No. of Applicants	Percent of Total
Anthropology	77	8.16%
Art History and Archaeology	66	7.37%
Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race	21	2.35%
Classics	26	2.91%
East Asian Languages and Cultures	26	2.91%
English and Comparative Literature	111	12.40%
Film Studies	14	1.56%
French and Romance Philology	14	1.56%
Germanic Languages	15	1.68%
History	134	14.97%
Institute for Comparative Literature and Society	39	4.36%
Institute for Research in African-American Studies	13	1.45%
Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality	33	3.69%
Italian	11	1.23%
Latin American and Iberian Cultures	27	3.02%
Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies	49	5.47%
Music	46	5.14%
Philosophy	52	5.81%
Political Science	42	4.69%
Religion	47	5.25%
Slavic Languages and Cultures	11	1.23%
Sociology	25	2.79%
Total	895	100%



FELLOWS IN RESIDENCE

2017–2018



JOELLE M. ABI-RACHED

2017–2019

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE,
PHD 2017

Dr. Abi-Rached is a trained physician and a medical historian who works at the intersection of the value and politics of life from a global perspective. She is also exploring new historiographical ways to account for the afterlife of institutions in an age of destruction and obsolescence. Her work has appeared in publications including the *Journal of the History of the Human Sciences*, *Cambridge Anthropology*, and *BioSocieties* among others.

Dr. Abi-Rached's first book, co-authored with Nikolas Rose and entitled *Neuro: The New Brain Sciences and the Management of the Mind* (Princeton University Press, 2013), explored the genealogy of the neurosciences and their growing salience in the governance and everyday life of neoliberal democracies. Since beginning her fellowship in September 2017, she has been working on her second book manuscript, which draws on her dissertation and examines the history of modern psychiatric thinking and practice in the Middle East, using shifting ideas about normality, pathology and ways to manage precarious lives as a lens into broader social, political, and ethical mutations in the region.

Portions of the manuscript were presented in various venues in 2017–18, including the Society of Fellows' Thursday Lecture Series, the annual Middle East Studies Association conference in Washington, DC—where Abi-Rached co-organized a panel with Ahmed Ragab (Harvard University), "From the Body to the Body-Politic: The Politics of Medical Knowledge and Practice"—and at the Institute for Society and Genetics of the University of California, Los Angeles, where she gave a talk as part of the "2008 Winter Lecture Series."

Dr. Abi-Rached participated in several events at Columbia. She was invited to respond to a talk by Céline Frigau Manning on hypnosis, music, and pain in the nineteenth century for the lecture series, "Explorations on the Medical Humanities," organized by Fellows Heidi Hausse, Arden Hegele, and Carmel Raz. She was invited to discuss her book manuscript at a graduate seminar on "Global Histories of Science" led by Marwa El-Shakry and Kavita Sivaramakrishnan. She participated in a workshop session on "Biopolitics and Neoliberalism" organized by a graduate working group on "Comparative Histories of Medicine and Health in the Global South."

Her book review of Fernando Vidal and Francisco Ortega's *Being Brains: Making the Cerebral Subject* is forthcoming in *Isis: A Journal of the History of Science Society*. Teaching accounted for a significant portion of her investment and work during her first year of the fellowship. In the fall of 2017, Dr. Abi-Rached taught "From Colonial to Global Health," an undergraduate seminar that she designed and which was added by the Dean to the "Global Core Curriculum." In Spring 2018, she taught Columbia's signature core course: "Contemporary Civilization."

RESEARCH PROJECT:

‘Asfuriyyeh: A History
of War, Madness, and
Modernity in the
Middle East

CHRISTOPHER M. FLORIO 2016–2019

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, PhD 2016

Christopher M. Florio is a historian of the nineteenth-century United States, focusing on the period of the long nineteenth century. His research interests include the history of slavery and emancipation, the history of capitalism, and the history of the US and the world. He is particularly interested in how Americans have debated and experienced moral problems that crossed national borders.

In his second year as a Fellow, he made progress toward completing a book manuscript, “Poor Freedom: The Problem of Poverty in an Age of Slave Emancipation.” On a transnational canvas that stretches from Philadelphia to London, from Barbados to Liberia, from Mississippi to Madras, *Poor Freedom* depicts how a wide range of Americans and Britons grappled with the problem of poverty during the era of chattel slavery’s abolition. In 2017-18, Florio conducted further archival research for his book project at the National Library of Wales, the British National Archives, the British Library, the Library of the Society of Friends, and the Barbados Department of Archives. He also completed his book proposal and submitted it to presses for review.

Additionally, Florio’s latest article—a review essay for *Reviews in American History*—was published in June 2018. He has begun work on a new article titled, “Productivity Under the Influence: Liquor Rations and Labor Management in the Nineteenth-Century Atlantic World.”

In Fall 2018, Florio taught his own newly-designed seminar titled, “Does American Poverty Have a History?” at Columbia. He is currently designing a new course on the history of human rights to be taught at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility for Women in Fall 2018.



RESEARCH PROJECT:

Poor Freedom: The Problem of Poverty in an Age of Slave Emancipation



DAVID GUTKIN

2015–2017

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, PhD 2015

David Gutkin is a scholar of American and European music from the early twentieth century through the present. He is currently working on a book titled “Meanwhile, Let’s Go Back in Time: New York Avant-Garde Opera and the Historical Imagination.” Through studies of operas with roots in experimental jazz, monumental site-specific spectacles, and works designed for serial television broadcast, the book aims to show how avant-garde artists adapting an eminently historical form participated in—and sometimes transformed—late twentieth-century debates over the concept of history as such. Dr. Gutkin received a contract for his book manuscript in 2018 from Oxford University Press.

In 2017–18, Dr. Gutkin carried out research on Meredith Monk’s early 1970s site-specific opera-happenings. He presented an early version of this work at the Society of Fellows’ Thursday lecture series. Dr. Gutkin also presented work on Robert Wilson’s collaborative global opera *the CIVIL warS* at the American Musicological Society’s national conference in Rochester, New York.

Although Dr. Gutkin began a job at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University in January 2018, he continued to be involved with the Society of Fellows. In April 2018 he organized a conference at the Heyman Center called “Experiments in Opera Today” along with Dr. Arman Schwarz and Dr. Heather Wiebe (both at King’s College London). The conference brought together an international group of scholars and artists. Composer-director Heiner Goebbels gave the keynote lecture.

In the upcoming year, Dr. Gutkin plans to continue working on his book. He is also finishing an article on the little-known composer H. Lawrence Freeman—“the Negro Wagner,” as he called himself.

RESEARCH PROJECT:

Meanwhile, Let’s Go
Back in Time: New York
Avant-Garde Opera
and the Historical
Imagination

HEIDI HAUSSE

2016–2018

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, PhD 2016

Heidi Hausse is a historian of early modern Europe, with a particular interest in the culture, medicine, and technology of the Holy Roman Empire. In her second year at the Society of Fellows, she continued work on her book manuscript, entitled “Life and Limb: Technology, Surgery, and Bodily Loss in Early Modern Germany.” The book argues that, between 1500 and 1700, the human body became malleable in an unprecedented way through the hands-on practices of surgeons and artisans who cut apart the body on operating benches and developed mechanical limbs in workshops to artificially put it back together.

Hausse spent the summer of 2017 conducting research at the Huntington Library as the 2016–2017 Molina Fellow in the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences. At the Huntington, Hausse explored surgical and technical treatises from Italy, France, and England to provide a comparative perspective to the book’s focus on early modern Germany.

In the fall of 2017 Hausse’s article, entitled “The Locksmith, the Surgeon, and the Mechanical Hand: Communicating Technical Knowledge in Early Modern Europe,” was accepted for publication by *Technology and Culture*. The article, slated to appear in April 2019, uses evidence from existing artifacts of early modern mechanical limbs to explore a well-known yet frequently misunderstood woodcut of a prosthetic hand from a sixteenth-century surgical treatise.

In 2017–18 Hausse co-organized the lecture series “Explorations in the Medical Humanities” with Arden Hegele, Carmel Raz, and Lan Li (Presidential Scholar in Society and Neuroscience). The series brought speakers from a variety of disciplines and institutions to Columbia’s campus to share their work and open a dialogue with a community of scholars interested in the medical humanities. Hausse also presented her work at a number of conferences and workshops during the academic year. In Fall she presented on early modern amputation debates at the Society of Fellows’ Thursday Lecture Series and spoke about phantom limbs in early modern surgery at the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference. In the spring, at a preindustrial technology workshop at Yale, Hausse presented on the craft of making mechanical limbs in early modern Europe and gave the keynote lecture at the symposium MARGIN Reads Messy Bodies at NYU.

Also in the spring, Hausse taught a seminar about the history of the body in early modern Europe that focused on such themes as food, burial rituals, fashion, and forms of prayer. The course gave students hands-on experience with sixteenth and seventeenth-century rare books at the Butler Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

After the conclusion of her second year in the Society, Hausse will begin a tenure track position in the Department of History at Auburn University in August 2018.



RESEARCH PROJECT:

Life and Limb:
Technology, Surgery,
and Bodily Loss in Early
Modern Germany



ARDEN HEGELE

2016–2019

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE, PhD 2016

Arden Hegele is a literary scholar who specializes in British literature of the long nineteenth century and the medical humanities. In her second year at the Society of Fellows, she completed a draft of her book manuscript, retitled “Romantic Autopsy: Literary Form and Medical Reading,” which examines how medicine influenced British Romantic literature in themes, motifs, and forms. The book’s most distinctive contribution is the concept of *medical formalism*, which refers to the congruences between critical reading and the practices that Romantic-era physicians used to interpret the body in the emergent fields of anatomy, pathology, psychiatry, and semiology. Ultimately, the book finds that “symptomatic reading” (treating a text’s superficial signs as evidence of deeper meaning), a practice that literary scholars continue to use and debate today, has its origins in Romantic-era medicine.

In 2017–18, Dr. Hegele workshopped her final chapter on Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein* as an anticipation of Freudian narration with the Society of Fellows. Dr. Hegele completed a book proposal with input from the Fellows and submitted the proposal and sample chapter to a university press in April 2018. In addition, Dr. Hegele continued publishing in the field of Romanticism, with her “Frankenstein” syllabus appearing in *Romantic Circles Pedagogy Commons* and a short analysis of John Keats’ letter of 31 January 1818 published by the *Keats Letters Project*. She also gave an invited talk at Bryn Mawr College on Jane Austen’s teenage writings.

In 2017–18, Dr. Hegele began a new specialization in the Medical Humanities. With Dr. Rishi Goyal (ICLS-MLS), she founded an online journal in medical humanities, *Synopsis: A Journal of Health Humanities*, which publishes new writing weekly by experts in the field. At the Society of Fellows, she collaborated with Dr. Heidi Hausse and Dr. Carmel Raz to develop the eleven-part “Explorations in the Medical Humanities” lecture series. Additionally, Dr. Hegele has become a Columbia representative to the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI) Medical Humanities Network and attended a conference at Duke University in this capacity. She is currently assuming responsibility for maintaining the CHCI Medical Humanities Network. In collaboration with Dr. Loren Wolfe at Columbia Global Centers Paris, she is planning a CHCI Summer Institute to be held at Reid Hall in June 2019. Finally, Dr. Hegele was an active contributor at the Society of Fellows: she presented work on Keats, Shelley, and the elegy in the Fall semester, chaired a New Books panel on Jane Austen, and hosted a guest talk on the Gothic in the Spring “Supernatural” lecture series. Her baby (Maud) was born in early April.

RESEARCH PROJECT:

Romantic Autopsy: Literary Form and Medical Reading

LAUREN KOPAJTIC

2017–2018

HARVARD UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, PhD 2017

Lauren Kopajtic is a philosopher specializing in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century philosophy, with a focus on the history of ethics and the role for the emotions in our ethical lives. In her first year in the Society of Fellows she completed two articles. The first, “The Vicegerent of God? On the Authority of Adam Smith’s Impartial Spectator,” is currently under review, and the second, “Keeping Secrets: Jane Austen and Adam Smith on Dissimulation and Self-Control,” will be submitted for publication in Summer 2018.

Dr. Kopajtic presented her work at several conferences and workshops, including: The Midwest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy at Ohio State University; the Society for Early Modern Philosophy at Yale University (in conjunction with their Minorities and Philosophy chapter); the Center for the Study of Scottish Philosophy at Princeton University, and the New York/ New Jersey Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy at John Jay. She was also selected for participation in the Intensive Seminar on Teaching New Narratives in Early Modern Philosophy, which will be held at Simon Fraser University in June 2018.

In Fall 2017, Dr. Kopajtic taught “Jane Austen and Moral Philosophy,” an undergraduate seminar offered through the philosophy department, which examined several of Austen’s novels in the context of the moral writings of her time. She taught Literature Humanities in Spring 2018.

Dr. Kopajtic will begin a new position as Assistant Professor in Philosophy at Fordham University in Fall 2018. She looks forward to being an active alumna member of the Society of Fellows in the years ahead.



RESEARCH PROJECT:

Sovereign Sentiments:
Conceptions of
Self-Control in David
Hume, Adam Smith,
and Jane Austen



WHITNEY LAEMMLI

2016–2019

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND SOCIOLOGY
OF SCIENCE, PHD 2016

RESEARCH PROJECT:

Measured Movements:
Notation, the Human
Body, and the
Choreography of
Modern Life

Whitney Laemmli is a historian of science and technology whose work investigates the ways in which technologies designed to measure, control, and mechanize the human body have been used to negotiate key issues at the heart of twentieth-century life. In the past year, she has continued work on the revisions to her book manuscript, "Measured Movements: Notation, the Human Body, and the Choreography of Modern Life," which explores how a tool developed to record dance on paper in Weimar Germany found new life in the corporate boardrooms, robotics laboratories, and psychiatric hospitals of the mid-century US and UK. In doing so, Laemmli conducted additional archival research in the rich local collections of the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, as well as in papers held at the University of Leeds, the American Philosophical Society, and the Library of Congress. She also presented her work in several forums, including a paper on a panel about "scientific intimacies" at the annual meeting of the History of Science Society and an invited lecture to the New York Working Group on the History of Science. In February of 2018, she circulated a book chapter on the history of movement therapy to members of Columbia's University Seminar in Dance Studies.

Dr. Laemmli has particularly relished the opportunity to work alongside other members of the Society of Fellows. In October of 2018, she and María González Pendás co-organized a conference titled "Pious Technologies and Secular Designs." Over the course of two days, the workshop explored the often-overlooked ways in which religion has continued to operate in the design of the buildings, spaces, machines, and bodies often associated with secular modernity. By including historians of technology, historians of architecture, and media theorists, the conference brought together an interdisciplinary set of experts to break new ground on a subject that has remained largely under-researched.

Dr. Laemmli served as an instructor for the fall semester of Contemporary Civilization and as the second reader for a prize-winning senior thesis on the historical effects of Moore's Law. She will return to the Society of Fellows for the 2018–2019 academic year and begin a new position as Assistant Professor of History at Carnegie Mellon University in Fall 2019.

MARÍA GONZÁLEZ PENDÁS 2016–2019

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, PhD 2016

María González Pendás is an architectural historian whose work explores the intersections of spatial and building practices with processes of political, technological, and religious modernization across the South Atlantic. Her research weaves together the history of modern architecture with the politics of fascism, Catholicism, and development in Mexico and Spain during the twentieth century. Dr. González Pendás devoted her second year in the Society of Fellows to further work on her manuscript, “Holy Modern: An Architectural History of Fascism, Catholicism, and Technocracy at Mid-Century,” where the material and cultural reading of buildings of various typologies—a memorial, a church, a pavilion, a government building, and a housing block—serves as a lens into the shifts to the cultural narrative and aesthetic regime of fascism during the second half of the twentieth century. With the regime of Francisco Franco in Spain (1939–1975) as a unique and understudied context, the book argues for the deceptive but certain ways in which designs of, and historical narratives about the built environment helped yield a new form of fascist-religious ideology.

Dr. González Pendás presented sections of her book at international conferences and workshops organized by the University of Cambridge, Dartmouth College, the Temple Hoyne Buell Center at Columbia, and the Society of Architectural Historians. At the close of 2018, she published a chapter in an edited collection from Routledge titled *Modern Architecture and Religious Communities, 1850–1970: Building the Kingdom*. Dr. González Pendás taught a related seminar titled “Building Fascisms” in Spring 2019 for the Department of Art History and Archeology.

With Whitney Laemmli, she co-organized a two-day workshop, “Pious Technologies and Secular Designs.” She organized the panel “Architectures of Displacement, Techniques of Citizenry” for the Council for European Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, March 30, 2018, and presented a paper on housing and migrant policing in mid-century Barcelona.

Dr. González Pendás has also continued her research on modern architecture in México. In October 2017, she presented the paper *Hispanism in Concrete: Félix Candela’s Intercontinental Architecture* at Dartmouth College. She has maintained her engagement with the architectural professional world by participating as a guest critic at design studios across architectural schools in the New York area.



RESEARCH PROJECT:

Forms of the Secular:
Architecture, Politics
and Religion in the
Iberian World



Music, Mind, and Body, 1650–1900

CARMEL RAZ

2015–2018

YALE UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, PhD 2015

Carmel Raz is a historian of music theory with a particular interest in the interplay between theories of music and understandings of cognition in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. In her third year as a Fellow she wrote an article on “Anne Young’s Musical Games (1801): Music Theory, Gender, and Game Design,” which was accepted by the *SMT-V: The Society of Music Theory’s Videocast Journal*, as well as a book review for *Music and Letters*. She presented her research at the annual meeting of the American Musicological Society and gave invited talks at King’s College London and Trinity College Dublin. In the Spring semester, she taught a new course on “Music and Madness,” for which she was awarded a course development grant from the Center for Science and Society at Columbia University.

This academic year, Carmel co-organized a lecture series at the Heyman Center entitled “Explorations in the Medical Humanities,” together with Arden Hegele, Heidi Hausse, and Lan Li. In the fall semester, she co-organized a conference entitled “Instruments of Music Theory” at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, and in the Spring semester she co-organized the conference “Altered States: Mind, Embodiment, Aesthetics” at the Sorbonne and the Institut National d’Histoire de l’Art. Both events were generously co-sponsored by the Society of Fellows and the Heyman Center, and Carmel wishes to warmly thank the amazing folks at the Heyman Center for their incredible help with these events at every stage.

In Summer 2018, she will take up the position of Research Group Leader at the Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics in Frankfurt, where she will direct a group entitled “Histories of Music, Mind, and Body.”



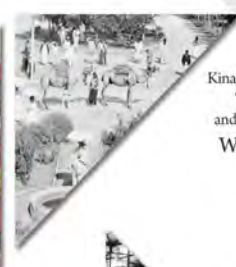
THURSDAY LECTURE SERIES

Society of Fellows in the Humanities
Columbia University

Thursday
Lecture Series
Fall 2017

Second Floor Common Room, Heyman Center, East Campus
Unless otherwise noted, talks begin at 12:15pm
Thursday Lecture Series are open to Columbia faculty, students, and guests.
Others wishing to attend should email sof-fellows@columbia.edu
describing their interest and requesting registration.

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September 28
Kinaesthetic Communities:
The Body, the Archive,
and Multicultural America
Whitney Laemmli

Lecturer in History, Columbia University
Julie Crawford
Associate Professor of English and
Comparative Literature, Columbia University

October 5
The Empty Pavilion:
Abstractions of Islam
and Cold War Politics of Spirit
María González Pendás

Lecturer in Art History, Columbia University
Josef Sorett
Associate Professor of Religion and African American Studies, Columbia University

October 12
"The Most Extreme and Single
Remedy": Amputation Debates
in Early Modern Germany
Heidi Hausse

Lecturer in History, Columbia University
Gareth Williams
Visiting Faculty Professor of History, Columbia University

October 19
World in a Can: Spy Satellites
and Military Preparedness, 1946–1986
Matthew Hersch

Visiting AGC Fellow (2017–2018), Assistant Professor of History of Science, Harvard University
Whitney Laemmli
Lecturer in History, Columbia University



October 26
(Re)Making Political Subjects:
Interrogating Gender
Quotas and Women's Representation
in Electoral Politics in Post-War Angola
Selina Makana

DMRC Postdoctoral Fellow (2017–2018), Columbia University
Joelle M. Abi-Rached
Lecturer in Middle Eastern, North African, and African Studies (MENAAS), Columbia University

Friday October 27
Storytelling in Rikers
Sahar Ullah
Lecturer in Public Humanities Fellow
Christopher Florio
Lecturer in History, Columbia University

November 2
Meredith Monk's Vocal Archaeologies
David Gutkin
Lecturer in Music, Columbia University
Giuseppe Gerbino
Associate Professor of Music (Historical Musicology), Columbia University

November 9
The Problem of Slavery—and Poverty—
in Western Culture
Christopher Florio

Lecturer in History, Columbia University
Jennifer Wenzel
Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature and
Middle Eastern, North African, and African Studies, Columbia University

November 16
Urban Chiaroscuro: Rio de Janeiro
and the Politics of Nightfall
Amy Chazkel

Visiting AGC Fellow (2017–2018), Assistant Professor of History, CUNY, Queens College
María González Pendás
Lecturer in Art History, Columbia University

November 30
Listening and Attention in
Late Eighteenth-Century Scotland
Carmel Raz

Lecturer in Music, Columbia University
Patricia Kitcher
Rosen and William C. Langford Professor of the Humanities, Columbia University

December 7
The Birth of Psychiatry in the
Middle East: Power, Knowledge,
and the Banality of Good and Evil
Joelle M. Abi-Rached

Lecturer in Middle Eastern, North African, and African Studies (MENAAS), Columbia University
Kavita Sivaramakrishnan
Assistant Professor, Neuroscience, Columbia University

Fall 2017 Fellows' Talks

14 September

The Authority of Adam Smith's Impartial Spectator

Lauren Kopajtic, Society of Fellows, Lecturer in Philosophy

It has been claimed that Adam Smith, like David Hume, has a “reflective endorsement” account of morality. From such a viewpoint, our moral faculties and notions are justified insofar as they pass reflective scrutiny. But Smith’s moral philosophy, unlike Hume’s, is also peppered with references to God, to divine law, and to our being “set up” in a specific way so as to best attain what is good and useful for us. This language suggests that there is another strategy available to account for moral normativity, one that would align Smith with more traditional teleological accounts of human nature and theological accounts of morality: The authority of Smith’s “impartial spectator” would, on such an account, be derivative—it would be derived from God’s supreme authority. But if this is Smith’s view, then we would need to drastically revise much of our understanding of his moral philosophy. This paper examined the role of the explicitly religious language found in a key section of Smith’s *Theory of Moral Sentiments*, and argued that it is not mere window-dressing for an empiricist, sentimentalist moral philosophy, nor does it provide a theological justification for morality. It is an illustration of the psychological influence of religious beliefs, especially the beliefs in an all-seeing judge and in an afterlife where all human actions will be accounted for and appropriately rewarded or punished.

21 September

Romantic Postmortems and Elegiac Afterlives

Arden Hegele, Society of Fellows, Lecturer in English

In English letters, the elegy is considered one of the most elevated poetic forms, with a literary history dating back to classical Greece. And yet, the interdisciplinary turn of our moment asks us to reconsider the conventions of elegy through the lens of cross-

cultural exchange with medicine. This talk turned to Romantic-era developments in postmortem procedures to reveal their influence on poetic memorials from the nineteenth century, when autopsy reports gave readers privileged and intimate access to the interiors of the physical bodies of those they mourned. Ultimately, Dr. Hegele offered not just a new history of poetry’s most distinguished form, but also a new reading of the surprising ramifications of the history of medicine on Romanticism’s most important memorial poem: Percy Bysshe Shelley’s elegy for Keats, *Adonais* (1821).

28 September

Kinaesthetic Communities: The Body, the Archive, and Multicultural America

Whitney Laemmli, Society of Fellows, Lecturer in History

In 1965, the American folklorist Alan Lomax set out on a mission: to view, code, catalogue, and preserve the totality of the world’s dance traditions. Believing that dance carried otherwise inaccessible information about social structures, work practices, and the history of human migration, Lomax and his collaborators gathered more than 250,000 feet of raw film footage and analyzed it using a new system of movement analysis. Lomax’s aims, however, went beyond the merely scientific. He hoped to use his “Choreometrics” project as the foundation for a universally-accessible visual and textual atlas of human movement. This paper explored how Lomax’s archival ambitions supported his efforts to enact a wholesale “recalibration of the human perceptual apparatus” and situates Choreometrics at the nexus of new techniques of data-gathering and the cultural ferment of the 1960s.

5 October

The Empty Pavilion: Abstractions of Islam and Cold War Politics of Spirit

María González Pendás, Society of Fellows, Lecturer in Art History

Fought against the backdrop of technologies of mass destruction and space conquest, cultural diplomacy and geopolitical divides, the Cold War was also a conflict over religion. Specifically, it was

a conflict in which the “godless communism” of the East was set against the new rubric of nations “under God” in the West. The religious front was particularly suitable for the *Franquista* regime then ruling Spain, a regime looking to regain some of the political and economic legitimacy lost to its fascist pedigree—if there were something that *Franquismo* could offer the world, it was a path to Christian redemption. This lecture discussed how Spanish State officials, intellectuals, artists, and architects redefined the cultural narrative of the regime as a “Politics of Spirit” bound to a modernized version of Catholic evangelization—one with neo-imperial aspirations—and how they then projected this narrative to the world in the late 1950s. It did so by discussing the Spanish pavilion at Expo 58 in Brussels, a building designed to create a new approach to international propaganda in the midst of a state reconfiguration led by technocrats of the ultraconservative lay Catholic movement Opus Dei. Designed by architects Juan Antonio Corrales and Ramón Vázquez Molezún, the pavilion presented a political space in quite a literal sense, whereby the empty ambience of the pavilion was meant to embody the two-sided ideal coined by Florentino Pérez-Embid, Opus Dei member and Secretary of Censorship: “Europeanization in the Means, Hispanization in the Ends.” For this purpose, a critical strategy for designers was the re-inscription of the country’s Islamic heritage into an abstract and modernized representation of Catholicism, thus performing an aesthetic version of the Spanish Reconquest.

12 October

“The Most Extreme and Single Remedy”: Amputation Debates in Early Modern Germany

Heidi Hausse, Society of Fellows, Lecturer in History

This lecture explored the heated debates occurring in surgeons’ technical instructions for performing amputation procedures in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Germany. In contrast to the Middle Ages, early modern surgeons systematically recorded experimental amputation techniques and trained others to perform them. The new techniques that were practiced alongside traditional methods point to influences from inside and outside of Germany, including France, Italy, and the newly formed Dutch Republic. By the seventeenth century, surgeons had learned mul-

tiples ways to perform amputations. The growing multiplicity of methods generated passionate disputes among authors. These debates show a rising challenge to Galenic medicine and surgeons’ changing attitudes towards technology. At the root of this fight were competing visions of the body: was it a material entity to be preserved at all costs, or a machine to be reshaped at the surgeon’s discretion?

19 October

World in a Can: Spy Satellites and Military Preparedness, 1946–1986

Matthew Hersch, Visiting ACLS Fellow (2017–18), Columbia University

Histories of the Cold War have connected America’s first spy satellites to the United States’ increasing ability to monitor the Soviet ballistic missile program during the late-1950s. The technology of reconnaissance satellites, however, predates both the rockets necessary to loft them into orbit and the missiles later detected by the satellites. Advocates of spy satellites never simply viewed the technology as a solution to any single “intelligence gap,” but rather as a novel intelligence resource that would do what no previous technology could: photograph entire nations during peacetime. Intended only to be an “interim” technology to be used until better platforms were invented, the first film-return spy satellites became a permanent fixture of national defense and helped define the parameters of the Nuclear Age.

26 October

(Re)Making Political Subjects: Interrogating Gender Quotas and Women’s Representation in Angola

Selina Makana, IRWGS Postdoctoral Fellow (2017–20), Columbia University

This talk examined how women in post-war Angola participate and are represented in electoral politics. Starting from the premise that the very idea of democratic politics is gendered, Dr. Makana argued that examining electoral politics—and in particular the organization of political parties, campaigns and election financing—from feminist and sociological perspectives can help explain the

(limited) participation of women in national politics. She focused primarily on the adoption of a gender quota system to interrogate the paradox of reserving special seats for women. She argued that, while gender quotas increase the representation of women in parliamentary politics, the male-oriented and male-dominated sphere of national politics stymie the full participation of women. The objective of this talk was to better understand the gendered nature of politics, particularly the different ways that Angolan women constitute themselves as political subjects.

27 October

Storytelling in Rikers

Sahar Ullah, Heyman Center Public Humanities Fellow (2016–17)

Sahar Ullah worked with the Justice-in-Education Initiative to design and facilitate a series of storytelling workshops for young women at the Rose M. Singer Center at Rikers Island over the previous academic year. Dr. Ullah reflected on her experience teaching and learning from the students about various aspects of storytelling, including visual narration, character development, and the role of community as producers and audience. The talk was an open invitation to engage with questions about the role of art for justice in education.

2 November

Meredith Monk's Vocal Archaeologies

David Gutkin, Society of Fellows, Lecturer in Music

This talk traced Meredith Monk's operatic engagement with a trope that pervaded both popular imagination and theoretical discourse in the 1970s: archaeology. The word "archaeology" occurs repeatedly in Monk's interviews, program notes, and titles. It is a dominant image running through her many operas, films, and intermedia pieces. And yet the significance of the idea has been scarcely elaborated. The talk opened with a consideration of Monk's *Vessel*, a site-specific "opera epic" about Joan of Arc, which premiered in 1971 in various "reality spaces" around lower Manhattan (including a vacant parking lot). Dr. Gutkin read the tension between the work's surrealistic imagery and the gritty,

even abject, urban environment in which it was staged as indicative of a transitional moment in the New York avant-garde. He showed how Monk's turn toward a poetics of the primordial voice interwove these competing impulses and in turn yielded a distinct notion and practice of archaeology founded on the presumed magical power of the voice to bridge the gulf between past and present, to suture together image and reality, and to elide the distinction between the expressive and the symbolic.

9 November

The Problem of Slavery—and Poverty—in Western Culture

Christopher Florio, Society of Fellows, Lecturer in History

Slavery and poverty are both monumental problems, but they are generally assumed to be separate problems. This talk suggested that we might better understand both problems by breaking down the divide between their histories. Beginning in the era of classical antiquity, Dr. Florio surveyed the extent to which the conditions of poverty and slavery have intermingled across the centuries. In particular, he examined how slavery long functioned as a regime for managing the problem of poverty in the western world, unpacking case studies ranging from the practice of debt bondage in ancient Rome to proposals for enslaving beggars in early modern England. He then turned to the late eighteenth century in order to consider the Anglo-American age of slave emancipation anew: to trace how poverty's central yet ambiguous place in debates over emancipation was the outcome of an imaginative revolution we have only begun to explore.

16 November

Urban Chiaroscuro: Rio de Janeiro and the Politics of Nightfall

Amy Chazkel, Visiting ACLS Fellow (2017–18), Columbia University

In Rio de Janeiro for much of the nineteenth century, each day the setting sun triggered a legal regime distinct from the one that prevailed in daylight; nightfall turned an artisan carrying a tool into a criminal wielding a weapon, and a free person of color into a presumed slave. Changes in the built environment and urban culture

in the early twentieth century attenuated the legal and political importance of nightfall. Rio's nightlife attracted—and employed—multitudes from across Brazil and, eventually, the world. Yet the long history of the distinction between day and night bore a lasting impact on the city's legal culture. This talk traced the meanings of this daily transition to darkness through the nineteenth century, arguing that nightfall is a crucial yet unexplored dimension of urban modernity.

30 November

Listening and Attention in Late Eighteenth-Century Scotland
Carmel Raz, Society of Fellows, Lecturer in Music

In his essay "Of the Nature of that Imitation which Takes Place in What Are Called the Imitative Arts" (1777/1795), Adam Smith famously described instrumental music as engaging a specific mental faculty: "by the sweetness of its sounds it awakens agreeably, and calls upon the attention [and] by their connection and affinity it naturally detains that attention." According to Smith, this task could "occupy, and as it were fill up, completely the whole capacity of the mind, so as to leave no part of its attention vacant for thinking of anything else." Many scholars have regarded Smith's approach to attention and instrumental music as articulating an early aesthetic of absolute music (e.g. Seidel 2003; Bonds 2014). This talk suggested that, when viewed within the context of eighteenth-century music theory, Smith's comments also reflect a contemporaneous Scottish fascination with the role of attention in structuring auditory perception.

7 December

The Birth of Psychiatry in the Middle East: Power, Knowledge, and the Banality of Good and Evil
Joelle M. Abi-Rached, Society of Fellows, Lecturer in Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (MESAAS)

Rather than framing, as is conventional, the birth of modern psychiatric thinking and practice in the modern Middle East as either a sign of modernity or a *dispositif* (in the Foucauldian sense) of the proselytizing and civilizing missions of the *fin-de-siècle*, Dr.

Abi-Rached argued instead that it should be situated within the power struggles between diverse actors (local and global) in the late nineteenth century. She showed how knowledge became politicized, and "zones of influence" (which included universities, medical schools, and hospitals) were created, developed, and sustained from the humanitarian interventions of 1860s in the Ottoman Levant to the Cold War a century later. Drawing on missionary writings and diplomatic correspondences, this talk showed how medicine more broadly speaking played a prominent role in a long competition over epistemic influence between various players in the region.

Spring 2018 "Supernatural"

1 February

Johann Weyer and the Emotions of Witchcraft
Thomas Robisheaux, Professor of History, Duke University

In this talk, Tom Robisheaux explored the emotions of witchcraft in sixteenth-century Europe through the lens of one of the most astute and critical commentators on witchcraft and the witch trials: Johann Weyer. A Protestant-leaning German physician who often visited women accused of witchcraft, Weyer was the first to treat the emotions of witchcraft comprehensively as witch trials began to surge in the last half of the sixteenth century. In a magisterial and widely read treatise on witchcraft, Weyer argued that human emotions were porous, and resulted from both natural and medical causes as well as preternatural manipulations by demons. An individual's feelings could therefore never be understood as internally generated or self-contained, but instead were connected to forces that saturated the natural and preternatural world. Weyer's views sharply challenged jurists, magistrates, and theologians who held simpler views on the emotions of witchcraft.

The Society of Fellows in the Humanities presents the Spring 2018 Thursday Lecture Series:

supernatural

"You believe?"

—Charlotte Brontë, *Villette*



February 1 -
Thomas Robisheaux
Duke University

Respondent: Heidi Hausse
"Johann Weyer and the Emotions of Witchcraft"

February 8 -
Paul C. Johnson
University of Michigan

Respondent: Maria Gonzalez Pendas
"An Automaton's Interiority: Ajeeb in Brazil, 1896"

February 15 -
Jennifer Karns Alexander
University of Minnesota

Respondent: Whitney Laemmli
"Technology, the Supernatural, and the Social Gospel: Post-war Debates about Industry and the Order of Creation"

February 22 -
Christina Van Dyke
Rutgers Center for the Philosophy of Religion/Calvin College

Respondent: Lauren Kopajtich
"Medieval Mystics on Persons, Human and Beyond"

March 1 -
Anne Harrington
Harvard University

Respondent: Joelle Abi-Rached
"Almost a Miracle: Reflections on a Medical Archive at the Boundary Between Skepticism and the Supernatural"

March 8 -
Maisha Wester
Indiana University Bloomington

Respondent: Arden Hegele
"Monsters of the Old and New (World): Gothic Narratives in the African Diaspora"

March 22 -
Holly Watkins
Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester

Respondent: Carmel Raz
"Romantic Music and the Transmigration of Soul"

March 29 -
Ryan Nichols
California State University, Fullerton

Respondent: Lauren Kopajtich
"Moralizing 'High Gods,' Historical Chinese Religion and the Alleged Origins of Cooperation in East Asia"

Ute Frevert
Max Planck

Respondent: Maria Gonzalez Pendas
"The Supernatural State: Dignifying Concepts and Practices"

April 12 -
Lyndal Roper
Oxford University

Respondent: Heidi Hausse
"Luther, Death and Popery"

April 19 -
Bethany Moreton
Dartmouth University

Respondent: Chris Florio
"Our Lady of the Alt-Right: Catholic Traditionalism, Russian Orthodoxy, and the Theology of White Nationalism"

April 26 -
Caley Horan
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Respondent: Whitney Laemmli
"Investing in the Stars: The Astrology of Money and Markets in

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All lectures begin at 12:15pm in the Heyman Center Common Room.

8 February

An Automaton's Interiority: Ajeeb in Brazil, 1896

Paul C. Johnson, Professor of History, University of Michigan

This paper considered the attraction humans have toward human-like automatons. Taking center-stage in the story was a machine named Ajeeb as he made his way from Europe to North America and then to Brazil. In spite of Ajeeb's short career in Rio de Janeiro from 1896 to 1897, he left his mark—a trail of wonder, but also of polemics on personhood and fraud. Dr. Johnson explored the ways that this automaton "Turk" took part in a moment that birthed a new family of spirits, the *turcos*. The goal of this talk was not to intervene in the already-extensive literature on the automaton—whether as thing or concept—but rather to reconsider the body of work on the automaton from a distinctive point of view, namely that of the "religious" appeal of near-humanness.

15 February

Technology, the Supernatural, and Social Gospel: Post-war Debates about Industry and the Order of Creation

Jennifer Alexander, Associate Professor of Engineering, University of Minnesota

"How and why does the supernatural become productive, political, visible, and sensible—and how does it disappear?" The organizers of this lecture series posed the question, and this talk addressed it in concrete, material terms, asking how debates about the supernatural origins of the universe appeared in post-war European debates about industry, industrial society, and human social needs. The talk contrasted varying responses to the social dislocations within post-war industrial society offered by liberal and evangelical Christian groups. Both groups developed arguments that defined industry as a part of the supernatural order of creation, but they differed greatly in the responses they offered to support their positions. Liberal groups used the supernatural or divine sanction of industry as a call to reform it; evangelicals as a justification for industrial and social *laissez faire*.

22 February

Medieval Mystics on Persons, Human and Beyond

Christina Van Dyke, Professor of Philosophy, Calvin College

What is a person? This question often arises today in debates about the beginning and end of human life: when, for example, does a fetus become a person, and at what stage of brain death does a body cease to be a person? In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, there were equally lively and broad-ranging discussions about the nature of persons. The juridical notion of "person" in the social-political realm stressed the idea of inherent dignity and rationality. In logical and grammatical discussions, "person" was used to indicate individuality (as opposed to universality or commonality). In theological contexts, "person" was a term used most often in Trinitarian and Christological debates: God was three persons in one Being, and Christ was one person with two natures (human and divine). In this talk, Dr. Van Dyke addressed how these three contexts for discussions of persons in the Middle Ages intersect in the work of thirteenth- and fourteenth-century mystics like Hadewijch, Meister Eckhart, and Catherine of Siena. The focus on first-person narratives and self-knowledge in the contemplative tradition merges with ideas about dignity and a highly complex understanding of individuality to yield a concept of 'person' that has room for embodied human beings, immaterial angels, and a triune God. Dr. Van Dyke argued that the resulting discussions also prefigure both early modern and contemporary notions of persons, and play an important role in the development of the theory of personalism.

1 March

Almost a Miracle: Reflections on a Medical Archive at the Boundary Between Skepticism and the Supernatural

Anne Harrington, Franklin L. Ford Professor of the History of Science, Harvard University

This talk covered the most unusual medical archive in the world. It is an archive of medical miracles that do not just rely on the testimonies of the faithful, but that also have been extensively vetted by medical authorities. The view of the medical authori-

ties who assessed the reports is that supernatural healings are possible, but rare. Of the more than seven thousand reported miracles documented in this archive, only seventy have been officially sanctioned. What, though, about the 6,930 others—all the “failed” miracles? We should not assume that a failed miracle is by definition an uninteresting miracle. On the contrary, in this talk Dr. Harrington argued that if we really want to understand the miracles of Lourdes—really want to understand the specific kind of Catholic supernaturalism that still flourishes in the modern age—then focusing on the “failed miracles” may have the most to teach us.

8 March

Scandalous Genres and Monstrous Race(s): Black Writing, the Gothic and the Question of Whiteness

Maisha Wester, Associate Professor, Education, Indiana University Bloomington

By now, critics have clearly recognized the ways in which foundational Gothic texts such as Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*, Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*, and Nathaniel Hawthorne’s *The Scarlet Letter* are rife with discourses and debates about racial otherness. Critical studies such as H.L. Malchow’s *Gothic Images of Race in the Nineteenth Century* and Teresa Goddu’s *Gothic America* have done much to explore the appearance and conjunction of racial otherness and monstrosity in British and American Gothic Literature. However, as Toni Morrison explains in her seminal collection of essays, *Playing in the Dark*, the appearance of such monstrous racial others in literary texts is rarely about the actuality of the racial minority, but rather about white anxiety and self-construction. This talk examined specifically the ways in which Black Gothic writers have understood and critiqued Gothic theorizations of race as participating in larger mephistophelian discourses that produce an uncanny whiteness. Black Gothic writers such as Richard Wright, Edgar Mittelholzer, and Helen Oyeyemi clarify how traditional Gothic tropes about race extend beyond the literary text into real socio-political discourses with significant consequences. Further, these writers suggest how such grotesque productions are not only in the service of whiteness but, more importantly, in the service of the production of nation and citizenship.

22 March

Romantic Music and the Transmigration of Soul

Holly Watkins, Associate Professor of Musicology, Eastman School of Music

The survival of musical works as participants in cultural life depends upon the reenactment of patterned sounds through performance or (in the era of mechanical reproduction) playback. But what, precisely, is reproduced for listeners in such transhistorical re-soundings? Music has at least since the Romantic era been conceived of as, among other things, a stimulus to feeling—whether in the form of a generalized “aesthetic experience” or as the transmission of emotions. Are the feelings and experiences inspired by music communicable across time, exhibiting as much (and as little) stability as the patterned sounds that occasion them? This talk approached these questions through a reconsideration of the Romantic categories of spirit and soul. Dr. Watkins revisited key aspects of Romantic aesthetics in order to construe music as a series of related transmigrations—between human and nonhuman souls, between human souls and musical sounds, and between musical sounds and the later generations who reanimate them (and by which they are animated). Cast in the form of a dialogue with the characters in Friedrich Schelling’s spirit-seeing novel *Clara, or, Nature’s Connection to the Spirit World* (c. 1810), and drawing on more recent interlocutors such as Elizabeth Grosz and W.E.B. Du Bois, this talk brought contemporary concerns about emergence and the incorporeal to bear on the understanding of music as a form of communication between, as *Clara*’s narrator puts it, “related souls . . . separated by centuries.”

29 March

Moralizing ‘High Gods’ Historical Chinese Religion and the Alleged Origins of Cooperation in East Asia

Ryan Nichols, Associate Professor of Philosophy, California State University, Fullerton

A growing divergence in scholarly opinion on what have come to be identified as ‘Moralizing High God Theory’ and ‘Broad Supernatural Punishment Theory’ is central to the ongoing debate

about the role of the gods in cooperation. Both theories argue that supernatural agents have qualities that bear a special relationship to cooperation. These traits include a concern with human morality, monitoring of human behavior, and desire to punish wrongdoers. 'Moralizing High Gods Theory' predicts that the high gods will, *ceteris paribus*, bear a stronger semantic relationship to those traits than lower gods like deities, sprites and ghosts do. 'Broad Supernatural Punishment Theory' predicts that the semantic relationship to these traits will be spread across different categories of supernatural agents. Sinological close readings tend to be split between the two theories. Dr. Nichols and his collaborators designed and applied an association mining technique borrowed from corpus linguistics to calculate collocations of members of agent categories (high gods, deities, sage kings, ancestors) and trait categories (punishment, reward, morality, cognition, religion) in a large corpus of 5.7 million characters of classical Chinese from the most important classical Chinese texts dating from before the Warring States period through to the Han Dynasty.

5 April

The Afterlife of Bunkers: Nazi Frisson, Creative Capital, and the Branding of Berlin

Karen Fiss, Professor of Visual Studies and Graduate Fine Arts, California College of the Arts, San Francisco

In recent years numerous former Nazi bunkers have been converted into exhibition spaces for contemporary art. These cultural venues capitalize on the historical associations of these buildings, not as sites of memory, but as stage sets for fantasy and heroic regeneration. Vying for attention in an increasingly saturated experience economy, curators, collectors, artists, and gallerists commodify the popular fascination with National Socialism, exploiting its potential for erotic transgression, making "Nazi chic" fashionable and more socially acceptable. This talk focused on two recently renovated bunkers in particular: the Boros and Feuerle collections, which are now among the most celebrated artworld destinations in Berlin. These bunkers are exemplary ambassadors for Berlin's marketing platform as a "creative capital," occupying

a productive juncture between selling history, suturing memory, and stimulating the city's troubled economy. The architectural and mainstream press exalt these rehabilitated bunkers as minimalist masterpieces, admiring their technical prowess as "engineer's architecture." At the same time, the bunkers are described as spaces of reverence, meditation and mystery. The paradox at the core of National Socialism's reactionary modernism—the unquestioned synthesis of spirit and the irrational with technological superiority (*stählernde Romantik*)—has thus been resurrected in a neo-liberal and uncritical form. While securing Berlin's reputation as a hub for creative industries and startups, staging art spectacles in historically charged structures has also served as an ideal instrument for accelerating the process of normalization.

12 April

Luther, Death and Popery

Lyndal Roper, Professor of History, University of Oxford

In 1546, as Luther lay dying, he made one last sally against the Pope: "Living I was your plague, Dead I will be your death, O Pope!" This imprecation was faithfully recorded in the published accounts of Luther's death by his followers. Why did Luther curse the Pope at such a time? How could this outburst become part of Lutheran memorial culture? Starting with Karlstadt and Cranach's *Himmelswagen*, the first piece of visual propaganda for the Reformation, this lecture explored anti-papalism and anti-monasticism in Lutheran art. In particular, the talk examined the images circulated late in Luther's life in his pamphlet, "Wider das Papsttum zu Rom." Their iconography was closely tied to the text, and we know that Luther had a hand in their design. Yet they were sold separately. Such images are not straightforwardly propagandist because they are so extreme that they would hardly have converted adherents of the old church. They were not meant literally, and they are full of riotous invention as well as bitter attack. Why were such images produced; and what can they tell us about Lutheran visual culture? More broadly, how can historians contribute to the study of visual culture?

19 April

Our Lady of the Alt-Right: Catholic Traditionalism, Russian Orthodoxy, and the Theology of Nationalism

Bethany Moreton, Professor of History, Dartmouth College

Within the toxic brew of ideologies fueling white supremacist nationalism, observers have detected the ominous persistence of neo-Confederate infatuation with Catholic traditionalism and, increasingly, its eastern variant, Russian Orthodoxy. In publications and through privately funded ideological centers, the Old Right and the Southern Agrarian tradition were kept alive during the 1980s and 1990s for those conservatives underwhelmed by the fusion of American Catholics and evangelicals in the New Christian Right. These traditionalists did not see the triumph of conservatism in the GOP of the Reagan years and the 1994 Contract with America. The Republican Party, these paleo-conservatives believed, had capitulated to a soft and shallow version of family values. The enduring romance between a certain strain of Catholic traditionalism and the white supremacist vision of the Old South today reaches wider audiences in the form of online communities and a renewed movement for the “Church Militant.” Perhaps even more startling has been the rise of Eastern Orthodoxy as the home church for white nationalism in the US and around the world. Periodically, the status of the Orthodox Communion has come into vogue as the uncorrupted church—the “Third Rome,” as Russians call Moscow. With international awareness of the robust anti-gay, anti-feminist, and pro-white agendas of Orthodox flag-wavers like Vladimir Putin and Greece’s Golden Dawn, Russian

Orthodoxy is growing in the US. Through a network of institutions, publications, conferences, and political action, Confederate romanticism joins right-wing Catholic anti-modernism and Russian traditionalism to offer spiritual succor to a new “nationalist international” in the age of Trump.

26 April

Investing in the Stars: The Astrology of Money and Markets in the Modern United States

Caley Horan, Assistant Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

In 1984, Stanford Economics Professor Ezra Solomon famously quipped, “The only function of economic forecasting is to make astrology look respectable.” Though intended as a jab at other economists, Solomon’s claim also spoke to a growing trend in market prediction—the application of astrological tools and methods to financial forecasting. Financial astrology, popularly known as “market gazing,” did indeed gain respectability over the past half century. As Solomon suggested, the failures of economists to predict the behaviors of markets undoubtedly played a role in that process. The rise of astrology in the field of finance, however, can be linked to other historical contexts as well. This talk offered a brief history of the astrology of money and markets in the United States, from the Gilded Age to the present. Special emphasis was placed on the last forty to fifty years, and linkages between the growing popularity of financial astrology and market rationality in a neoliberal era.

In an effort to integrate the Fellows more fully as members of their home departments and encourage them to work with professional colleagues elsewhere on projects of mutual interest, in 2017–2018 the Society financially supported four stand-alone special events at the Heyman Center organized by the Fellows, as well as three book panels celebrating recent publications by SOF

alumni. Additionally, Fellows Arden Hegele, Carmel Raz, and Heidi Hausse organized a lecture series on “Explorations in the Medical Humanities” that brought together speakers from across the disciplines.

Full event details, including speakers, co-sponsors, and programs, are on the Society of Fellows website, listed under Events.



SPECIAL EVENTS



13–14 October

Pious Technologies and Secular Designs

For over a decade, scholars have been engaged in a heated debate about the role of religion in modern politics and society. For too long, a simplistic view of the Enlightenment reigned in most canonical accounts of modernization and globalization: one in which religious regimes were quickly and completely displaced by new rational structures. To better understand the secular, one must also understand the ways in which the religious has been historically transformed and dislocated. One powerful mode of analyzing the interactions of the secular and the religious is through the lens of the material world; historians have long recognized the

ways in which physical spaces, technical objects, and bodily rituals both constructed—and were constructed by—religious systems. They have paid less attention, however, to the ways in which these same forms of cultural production were implicated in both the undoing and the resilience of religious projects, from cultural frameworks and imaginaries to biopolitical and ethical orders.

The event organizers, Fellows María González Pendás and Whitney Laemmli, gathered together historians of modern architecture, media, and technology whose work explores the ways in which religion has operated in the design of the spaces, machines and bodies associated with modernization. The conversation traced how religious values and spiritual techniques endured in and were produced by the very tools that were believed to have displaced them. From laboratories and corporate workspaces modeled on chapels to rocket engines and skyscrapers designed to “touch the face of God,” this workshop presented a series of case studies that invite historians of modernity to more clearly see the gods in the buildings, spaces, cities, technologies, machines and bodies where religion had apparently ceased to operate.

24 October

America as Theatre of Spanish Modernity

María González Pendás helped organize an interdisciplinary colloquium with Casa Hispanica and Dartmouth College that examined the close relationship that some key figures of Spanish culture have had with the United States and México, particularly in the fields of architecture and the plastic arts. Speakers included Carlos Ramos (Wellesley College) on “Visions of New York: Architects and Writers Imagine Modernity, 1918–1937”; Juan José LaHuerta (National Museum of Art of Catalonia) on “New York Salutes Me: Dalí in America”; Dr. González Pendás on “A Concrete Hispanism: Palace, Pavilion, and the Architectural Reform of Mid-Century New York”; and Ana Fernández Cebrián (Columbia) on “Staging the Spanish ‘Economic Miracle’: Cinematic Productions of the 1964–1965 New York World’s Fair.” José M. del Pino (Dartmouth College) served as respondent. This event was one of a two-part collaborative venture with Dartmouth College, with the second colloquium held at Dartmouth on October 26th.

20–21 April

Experiments in Opera Today: Conference and Symposium

Over the last four decades, a wide range of musicians and composers, visual artists, and theater practitioners have taken up opera as a form ripe for experimentation. It has been reconceived for serialized television broadcast, performed by robots, staged in site-specific spectacles, transformed into non-narrative installations, wedded to free improvisation, and intended (if not quite realized) as interstellar rituals. This conference and symposium considered how artists from numerous disciplines currently work with opera now that pieces such as Meredith Monk's *Vessel* (1971), Carla Bley and Paul Hanes's *Escalator Over the Hill* (1969–1971), Robert Wilson and Philip Glass's *Einstein on the Beach* (1975/6), Györgi Ligeti's *Le Grand Macabre* (1977), Robert Ashley's *Perfect*

Lives (1983), Harrison Birtwistle's *The Mask of Orpheus* (1984), and Luigi Nono and Massimo Cacciari's *Prometeo* (1984/5) have become "classics" of the avant-garde. What new approaches to narrative, voice, subject matter, media, and technology have recent creators of opera employed? Or is the emphasis on novelty particularly ill-suited to a form that, even in its most radical guise, continues to connote a host of conventions and traditions (ways of singing, a simultaneously extravagant and rarefied aesthetic, a canonical repertory, a bourgeois base, and so on)? What elements of the operatic past, then, have remained compelling or inevitable? Organized by David Gutkin, Society of Fellows, this two-day event convened a group of prominent scholars, composers, artists, directors, and dramaturges in order to explore these and related questions.

1 May

The Borrowed Muse

"An imitator shares his crown, if he has one, with the chosen object of his imitation," declared the poet Edward Young in 1759, but "an original enjoys an undivided applause." But just where does one locate originality, and how does one determine its relationship to artistic merit and value? Over the past few decades, several cultural developments have called the very notion of originality into question. Postmodern thought has relegated it to one among many creative paradigms—think only of the practices of interpreting Jazz standards and of sampling. Moreover, there is the stockpile of knowledge (two centuries of critical editions of music, often state-supported) that can now be found in the everyman's land of Google. In moving books and manuscripts into an endlessly searchable domestic platform, the digital revolution has likewise created new forms of knowledge and expertise. This proliferation has brought forth "algorithmic divination," i.e. new forms of reading and other scholarly practices that unearth various unsuspected lineages of, and connections between, works. Indeed, modern scholars frequently have access to a richer and deeper range of primary sources than the authors would have had themselves. Taking these materials and tools into consideration thus offers a prime opportunity for a reassessment of musical creation



**Experiments in
Opera Today:
Conference and Symposium**

April 20–21, 2018
The Heyman Center for the Humanities
Columbia University

Keynote Speaker: Heiner Goebbels

Featuring:
Minou Arjomand, Joy Calico, Nina Sun Eidsheim, Lydia Goehr, Gundula Kreuzer,
Joan La Barbara, Franck Leibovici, David J. Levin, George E. Lewis,
Jelena Novak, Jeanine Oleson, William Robin, Yuval Sharon, Du Yun

Organizers:
David Gutkin, Arman Schwartz, Heather Wiebe

With a special screening of Manthia Diawara's *An Opera of the World* (2017)

<http://heymancenter.org/events/experiments-in-opera-today-conference-and-symposium/>

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The Heyman Center for the Humanities
Columbia University

**SOCIETY OF FELLOWS
IN THE HUMANITIES**
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

**THE DEPARTMENT OF
MUSIC**
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
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and creativity in the distant past. Organized and chaired by Carmel Raz, Society of Fellows, this panel examined originalities in musical cultures from the fourteenth through eighteenth centuries, while turning a critical eye from the dawn of the digital age toward scholarly creations of musical pasts. Each contribution opened questions about the paradox of modern musicology, at a moment when it has become possible for scholars to establish more thorough textual contents than might ever have been available—or even desirable—to the creators whom they study.

1 May

Distant Listening/Digital Musicology: Music21 and Compositional Similarity in the Late Middle Ages

Digital humanities approaches, including Franco Moretti's influential concept of "distant reading," have transformed areas of textual scholarship in recent decades, but such ideas have had less of an impact on musicology. There were two reasons for this lack of uptake in music: first, a general dearth of tools for examining hundreds or thousands of musical scores. Second, there were few examples of the success of such approaches in answering difficult questions in music history, making the investment of time and energy in the programming skills needed to access these techniques an uncertain bet. Carmel Raz, Society of Fellows, organized this talk by Michael Scott Cuthbert (MIT), who argued that both hurdles have finally been overcome by demonstrating approaches to "distant listening" to musical scores with the music21 toolkit, developed at MIT. The application of this program revealed previously unknown webs of influence, citation, quotation, perhaps even plagiarism, among a repertory of three thousand musical scores drawn from European sources from 1300–1430, including the identification of over thirty fragmentary musical works previously considered too small or illegible for study.

New Books in the Society of Fellows

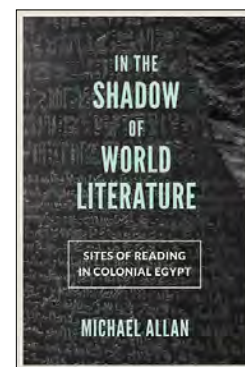
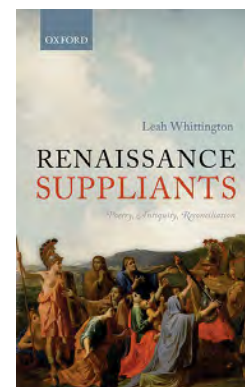
Complimenting the New Books in the Arts and Sciences series, the Society of Fellows organized three panel discussions celebrating recent publications by SOF alumni Leah Whittington (2011–12), Michael Allan (2008–09), David Russell (2012–13) Emily Ogden (2010–13), Rebecca Woods (2013–16), and William Deringer (2012–15). Additionally, SOF alumnae Deborah Nord (1980–82) joined a book panel celebration with Maria DiBattista and Jenny Davidson as part of the New Books in the Arts and Sciences series (see Heyman Center Series and Workshops, page 56).

9 February

**New Books in the Society of Fellows
Celebrating Recent Work by Leah Whittington and Michael Allan**

Renaissance Suppliants: Poetry, Antiquity, Reconciliation by Leah Whittington (SOF 2011–12) examines the role of supplements and continuations in Renaissance literary culture, broadly defined as texts that announce themselves as adding to, carrying forward, or finishing other texts. It focuses on the relationship between literary continuations and other continuative practices in the Renaissance and the role of damaged or fragmentary works in spurring new artistic creations.

In the Shadow of World Literature: Sites of Reading in Colonial Egypt by Michael Allan (SOF 2008–09) challenges how accustomed we have become to understanding world literature as a collection of national or linguistic traditions bound together in the universality of storytelling. He argues instead that the disciplinary framework of world literature, far



from serving as the neutral meeting ground of national literary traditions, levels differences between scripture, poetry, and prose, and fashions textual forms into a particular pedagogical, aesthetic, and ethical practice. This book is a unique meditation on the reading practices that define the contours of world literature.

María González Pendás, Society of Fellows, chaired the panel, which included Kathy Eden (Yale), Joseph Slaughter (Columbia), Dan-el Padilla Peralta (SOF 2015–16), and Brian Goldstone (SOF 2012–15).

3 April

New Books in the Society of Fellows Celebrating Recent Work by David Russell and Emily Ogden

The social practice of tact was an invention of the nineteenth century, a period when Britain was witnessing unprecedented urbanization, industrialization, and population growth. In an era when more and more people lived more closely than ever before with people they knew less and less about, tact was a new mode of feeling one's way with others in complex modern conditions. In *Tact: Aesthetic Liberalism and the Essay Form in Nineteenth-Century Britain*, David Russell (SOF 2012–13) traces how the essay genre came to exemplify this sensuous new ethic and aesthetic and served as a model for a critical handling of the world that is open to surprises, and from which egalitarian demands for new relationships are made.

In *Credulity: A Cultural History of US Mesmerism*, Emily Ogden (SOF 2010–13) tells the fascinating story of mesmerism's spread from the plantations of the French Antilles to the textile factory cities



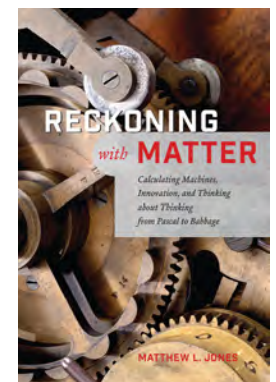
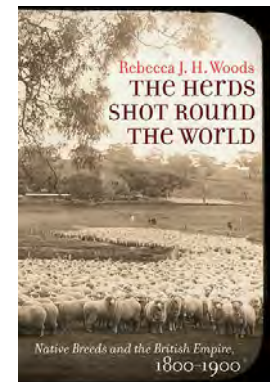
of 1830s New England. Though it proliferated along the Eastern seaboard, mesmerism was not simply the last gasp of magic in modern times. Far from being magicians themselves, mesmerists claimed to provide the first rational means of manipulating the credulous human tendencies that had underwritten past superstitions. *Credulity* offers us a new way of understanding the place of enchantment in secularizing America.

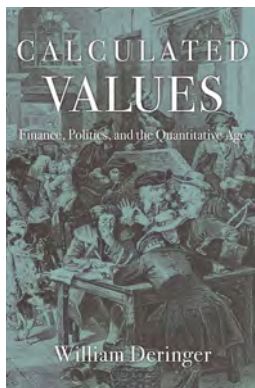
The panel was chaired by Lauren Kopajtic, Society of Fellows, and included Andrew Miller (Indiana University, Bloomington) and Courtney Bender (Columbia).

9 April

New Books in the Society of Fellows Celebrating Recent Work by Rebecca Woods, Matthew Jones, and William Deringer

As Britain industrialized in the early nineteenth century, animal breeders faced the need to convert livestock into products while maintaining the character of their breeds. *The Herds Shot Round the World: Native Breeds and the British Empire, 1800–1900* (Flows, Migrations, and Exchanges) by Rebecca J. H. Woods (SOF 2013–16) traces how global physiological and ecological diversity eroded under the technological, economic, and cultural system that grew up around the production of livestock by the British Empire. In *Reckoning with Matter: Calculating Machines, Innovation, and Thinking About Thinking from Pascal to Babbage*, Matthew L. Jones (Columbia) draws on records of the quest to explore the concrete processes involved in imagining, elaborating, testing, and building calculating machines. Jones argues that the conceptions of creativity and making that philosophers, engineers, and crafts-





people exhibited are often more incisive—and more honest—than those that dominate our current legal, political, and aesthetic culture. Modern political culture features a deep-seated faith in the power of numbers to find answers, settle disputes, and explain how the world works. Will Deringer's (SOF 2012–15) *Calculated Values: Finance, Politics, and the Quantitative Age*, shows how numbers first gained widespread public authority in one nation, Great Britain, and

arose not from efforts to find objective truths that transcended politics, but from the turmoil of politics itself.

The panel was moderated by Fellows Whitney Laemmli and Heidi Hausse and included Karl Appuhn (NYU) as a discussant.

Explorations in the Medical Humanities

As a set of disciplines, the humanities face the challenge of how to write about embodied experiences that resist easy verbal categorization, such as illness, pain, and healing. The recent emergence of such interdisciplinary frameworks as narrative medicine offers a set of methodological approaches to address these challenges. Yet conceptualizing a field of medical humanities also offers a broader umbrella under which to study the influence of medico-scientific ideas and practices on society. Whether by incorporating material culture such as medical artifacts, performing symptomatic readings of poems and novels, or excavating the implicit medical assumptions underlying auditory cultures, the approaches that emerge from a historiographical or interpretive framework are different from those coming from the physician's black bag.

Organized by Arden Hegele, Carmel Raz, and Heidi Hausse, Society of Fellows, this lecture series explored the enigma of how what we write relates back to the experience of bodies in different



stages of health and disease. Speakers examined how the medical humanities build on and revise earlier notions of the “medical arts.” At stake are the problems of representation and the interpretation of cultural products from the past and present through medical models

11 September

The Whiteness of Bones: The Emergence of the Human Skeleton as a Commodity, 1500–1800
Anita Guerrini, Horning Professor in the Humanities and Professor of History, Oregon State University

The human skeleton became an object—scientific, natural, artistic, and artisanal—in the period between the late fifteenth century and the late eighteenth century. While retaining its symbolic value, in this period the skeleton became essential both to anatomists and to artists as the bedrock of the human form. As a valued



commodity, skeletons were bought and sold, and entered public and private collections. Anatomical manuals included instructions on their crafting. This talk examined who owned skeletons, who used them, and who made them, and the fact that their origins as dead humans remained curiously unexpressed. Pamela H. Smith (Columbia) spoke as respondent following the talk and introduced the audience to the Making and Knowing Project's skeletons of winged mice.

25 September

Beyond Mindfulness: Buddhism and Health in Historical Perspective

Pierce Salguero, Associate Professor of Asian History and Religious Studies, Penn State University, Abington College

The so-called "Mindfulness Revolution" sweeping through mainstream American popular culture has tended to overshadow both the deep historical roots of the connections between Buddhism and health, as well as the diversity of those Buddhist healing methods beyond merely meditation. Dr. Salguero's talk placed the contemporary focus on the health benefits of mindfulness within the history of Buddhist engagements with medicine, with special focus on China. He outlined the many rich and complex approaches to healing that have been (and still are) used in Chinese Buddhist communities, and suggested directions for further historical and clinical research beyond mindfulness. Michael Como (Columbia) spoke as respondent.

26 September

Fire, Water, Moon: Supplemental Seasons in a Time without Season

Anne-Lise François, Associate Professor, Departments of English and Comparative Literature, University of California at Berkeley

If the Anthropocene names the geological epoch defined by the radically destabilizing effects of human activity on geophysical processes, this talk inquired into the continued relevance of other, relatively unchanged seasonal cycles and patterns of fluctuating intensities and regulated dearth and abundance (both cultural and geophysical). According to recent work on the Anthropocene, petro-extraction economies have distorted our relationship to the sun by liberating capital from dependence on the "yield of present photosynthesis" (Andreas Malm). At a time when climate scientists are declaring the end of "seasonality," and when technology appears to have caught up with lyric's power to expand and compress, accelerate and distort the diurnal rhythms determined by the earth's relation to the sun, Anne-Lise François turned toward the moon and the micro-seasons afforded by its monthly cycles as well as to other comparably stable, cultural modes of distributing abundance and scarcity across time. What is to be gained by opening up the concept of seasonality to these pluralizing, supplemental seasons within seasons, and what healing powers might they still afford?

2 October

Silencing the Body: Hypnosis, Music, and Pain in the 19th Century

Céline Frigau Manning, Associate Professor, University of Paris 8 - Institut Universitaire de France

In many nineteenth-century narratives, hypnosis was the treatment of last resort in tackling persistent pain and attaining what René Leriche would subsequently call the "silence of the organs." Faced with such an adversary, hypnosis and music became part of a rhetoric of spectacle, with public displays of insensibility to pain culminating in musical sequences, or of pain itself being used with music to create performative trance states. Though hypno-



Joelle M. Abi-Rached and Céline Frigau Manning

sis has been the subject of a vast body of clinical investigation and historical scholarship, the history of its relationship to music remains unwritten. This talk explored various narratives of this interaction in an attempt to understand how experiments involving music and hypnosis influenced both doctors' and patients' moral understanding of bodies in pain. Fellow Joelle M. Abi-Rached participated as a respondent.

30 October

Three Ways of Looking at an Opium Ball

Benjamin Breen, Assistant Professor in the Department of History, University of California Santa Cruz

The opium poppy (*Papaver somniferum*) is one of the plants that has stood longest at the side of humans—and one of the most ambiguous. It can be deeply harmful; it can also be miraculously helpful. It is a European native that somehow became an enduring symbol of Orientalism. Today, it continues to serve as the raw material for a host of copyrighted and hugely valuable pharmaceutical compounds, while also exemplifying a bygone medical tradition. This talk sketched out three ways of looking at opium within a bounded historical context. Benjamin Breen (SOF 2015–16) looked first at the deep history of *Papaver somniferum*, which

has an ancient heritage of medical and recreational use in Europe. The second way of looking at an opium ball raised the question of why opium became so closely associated with Persia, India, and eventually China from the seventeenth century onward. He linked this shift to the emergence of new theories of medicine, biology, and empire in early modern Europe, and, perhaps even more importantly, to unheralded technological changes such as the invention of the opium pipe and the hookah. The third view of an opium ball is to look not at it, but inside it: opium itself is not in high demand today, but the opiate molecules it contains are more popular than ever. The final section of the talk considered how the isolation of morphine from opium (circa 1803) transformed not just this particular drug, but the history of drugs and pharmaceuticals as a whole. These three views of an opium ball are meant to highlight both the protean identities of the drug in different times and places, and the surprising continuities between them. Joel Klein (Columbia) served as respondent.

11 December

James Hogg (1770–1835) and Illness Narratives in a Scottish Context

Megan Coyer, Lecturer in English Literature, University of Glasgow

Edinburgh was a hotbed of medical research and study in the early nineteenth century. The city laid claim to a thriving periodical culture, which served as a significant medium for the dissemination and exchange of medical and literary ideas throughout Britain, the colonies, and beyond. Enmeshed in this culture was one of Scotland's foremost Romantic writers, James Hogg, a poet and novelist known as 'The Ettrick Shepherd'. Despite his dedication to the traditional and the folkloric, Hogg was imaginatively stimulated by the vibrant scientific and medical culture of post-Enlightenment Edinburgh. In this lecture, Professor Megan Coyer took Hogg's prose writing as a test case for analyzing pathographies and illness narratives within the distinctive cultural context of Romantic-era Scotland. Cristobal Silva (Columbia) concluded the talk with a response.

29 January

"Swim Team": A Medical Humanities Film Series

This film screening featured *Swim Team*, an award-winning documentary about a New Jersey YMCA-based community swim team made up of kids on the autism spectrum. The film follows three of the team's star athletes, boys on the cusp of adulthood, when government services become scarce. *Swim Team* is a portrait of diverse American families grappling with the problem of "aging out." Over the course of a year, *Swim Team* explores the overwhelming struggles they face and triumphs they achieve as they strive for independence, inclusion, and a life that feels winning. Directed by award-winning filmmaker Lara Stolman, *Swim Team* offers an inspiring look at the power of community to transcend



disability and create hope and opportunities for the future. The screening was followed by a discussion between director Stolman, Kathryn Cai (UCLA) and Rachel Adams (Columbia).

5 February

The Medical Imagination: Literature and Health in the Early United States

Sari Altschuler, Assistant Professor of English, Northeastern University

In 1872, Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote: "Science does not know its debt to imagination"—words that still ring true in the worlds of health and health care today. We know a great deal about the empirical aspects of medicine, but we know far less about what the medical imagination is, what it does, how it works, or how we might train it. But it was not always so. In this lecture, Sari Altschuler (Northwestern) talked about her new book, *The Medical Imagination: Literature and Health in the Early United States*. During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in the United States, doctors understood the imagination to be directly connected to health, intimately involved in healing, and central to medical discovery. Literature provided health writers important forms for crafting, testing, and implementing theories of health. Reading and writing poetry trained judgment, cultivated inventiveness, sharpened observation, and supplied evidence for medical research, while novels and short stories offered new sites for experimenting with original medical theories. Health research and practice relied on a broader complex of knowing, in which imagination often worked with observation, experience, and empirical research. The talk was followed by a response by Branka Arsi (Columbia).

26 February

'House for King and Slave': Patients and Medical Practice in the Medieval Islamic Hospital

Ahmed Ragab, Richard T. Watson Associate Professor of Science and Religion, Harvard Divinity School

In this event, historian of medicine Ahmed Ragab shared excerpts of the fifth chapter of his book, *The Medieval Islamic Hospital*.



Marwa Elshakry and Ahmed Ragab

The first monograph on the history of Islamic hospitals, Ragab's book focuses on the underexamined Egyptian and Levantine institutions of the twelfth to fourteenth centuries. In his fifth chapter, "House for King and Slave" Ragab situates hospitals in their urban environments and links them to charity networks and patrons' political projects. Marwa Elshakry (Columbia) was the respondent.

2 April

Testing the Panacea: Antidotes, Alchemy, and the Problem of Proof in Early Modern Europe
Alisha Rankin, Associate Professor of History, Tufts University

This talk contrasted the drug testing methods of two sixteenth-century alchemical empirics. Andreas Berthold validated his Paracelsian poison antidote (also deemed a cure-all) by letting learned physicians conduct poison trials at German courts, in which test subjects (several dogs and a convict) took poison, followed by the antidote. Georg Amwald, in contrast, scoffed at this method and instead included patient testimonial letters as evidence of the efficacy of his panacea poison antidote—a method also used by earlier alchemists such as Leonardo Fioravanti but derided by physicians. These cases elucidate the tricky problem of proof and evidence in early modern drug testing. While poison trials were used at princely courts all over Europe and appeared to give a definitive answer, they could also be dismissed as singular tricks. Testimonial

letters, meanwhile, had perceived problems of trustworthiness. Rankin argued that the boundaries of proof were contested and depended largely on the professional designation of the tester. Kavita Sivaramakrishnan (Columbia) spoke as respondent.

23 April

The Music Origins of Contemporary Affect Theory
Roger Matthew Grant, Assistant Professor of Music, Wesleyan University

This talk traced a genealogy of affect theory from the early modern era through to the present day, establishing the central significance of music for this history. It demonstrated that the theory of affect we have inherited today has its origins in eighteenth-century aesthetic debates concerning music's capacity to function as a sign and to move its listeners. In the early modern era, affects were important components of an elaborate semiotic system that sought to explain the impact of art. Today, by stark contrast, affect is often explicitly opposed to theories of the sign and of representation; theorists describe affect as corporeal and immediate, working on our autonomic systems. The genealogy elaborated by Roger Matthew Grant in this talk showed how affect theories became separated from theories of representation, and it illustrated the central and surprising role that music played in this separation. Benjamin Steege (Columbia) served as respondent.



Benjamin Steege and Roger Matthew Grant

The Society of Fellows financially supports the extensive programming—lectures, panel discussions, conferences, and workshops—presented by the Heyman Center for the Humanities. The Heyman Center provides the intellectual and physical space for members of the Columbia community and the New York City pub-

lic to consider topics and issues of common interest and concern from the perspectives of the humanities and the humanistic social sciences. A selection of these events follows. Additional details—including speakers, programs, and cosponsors—may be found at heymancenter.org/events.



HEYMAN CENTER EVENTS

2017–2018

Event Highlights



21 September

Poets at the Heyman Center *A Poetics of Politics?*

Terrance Hayes delivered a lecture on the subject of politics and poetry. Hayes is the author of several books of poetry, including: *How to Be Drawn*; *Lighthouse*, which won the 2010 National Book Award for poetry; *Muscular Music*, which won the Kate Tufts Discovery Award; and *Hip Logic*, winner of the 2001 National Poetry Series. A recipient of a fellowship from the MacArthur Foundation, he is a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets, poetry editor at *New York Times Magazine*, and Distinguished Writer in Residence at NYU.

28–29 September

The Jamaican 1970s: A Symposium

This collaboration between the University of Miami, the CUNY Graduate Center, Columbia University, and the Small Axe Project brought together a global, interdisciplinary group of scholars to discuss the Jamaican 1970s. The conversation took place on the



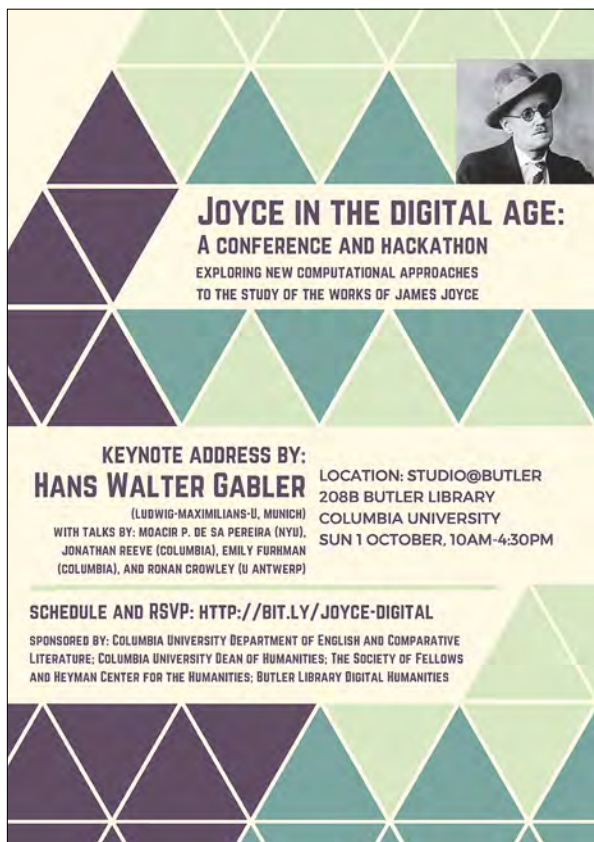
campuses of CUNY and Columbia, and the Heyman Center hosted panels on "Sustaining Social Movements" and "Autobiographical Reflections." Speakers included Kimberly Robinson-Walcott (University of the West Indies, Mona), Rupert Lewis (University of West Indies, Mona), Honor Ford Smith (York University), Brian Meeks (Brown University), and Don Robotham (CUNY Graduate Center). The event was organized by David Scott, Member of the SOF Board and Professor of Anthropology.

1 October

Joyce in the Digital Age: A Conference and Hackathon

Advances in digital media have made possible textual technologies like hypertext, semantic markup, and crowdsourced annotation—technologies with powerful potential application for scholarly

editing. The highly allusive and self-referential works of James Joyce have often been described as proto-hypertexts, serving as excellent subjects for the applications of these emergent technologies. This single-day conference presented work from scholars that leverage these new digital techniques toward the creation of new editions, analyses, or visualizations of Joyce's works. The keynote lecture featured Hans Walter Gabler, Professor Emeritus of Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, and editor of the most influential editions of Joyce's novels *Ulysses* and *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, who presented his recent work in visualizing the composition histories of the novels. After a series of talks, a workshop and hackathon introducing participants to the new open critical editions of *Portrait* and *Ulysses*, participants were then invited to contribute to the editions, by directly editing the text.



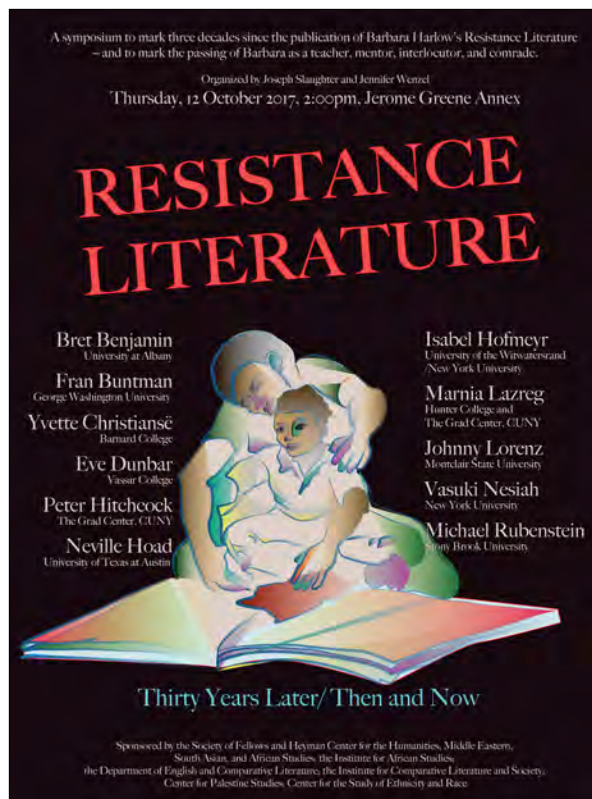
JOYCE IN THE DIGITAL AGE:
A CONFERENCE AND HACKATHON
EXPLORING NEW COMPUTATIONAL APPROACHES
TO THE STUDY OF THE WORKS OF JAMES JOYCE

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY:
HANS WALTER GABLER
(LUDWIG-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITÄT, MUNICH)
WITH TALKS BY: MOACIR P. DE SA PEREIRA (NYU),
JONATHAN REEVE (COLUMBIA), EMILY FUHRMAN
(COLUMBIA), AND RONAN CROWLEY (U ANTWERP)

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A symposium to mark three decades since the publication of Barbara Harlow's *Resistance Literature*
—and to mark the passing of Barbara as a teacher, mentor, interlocutor, and comrade.

Organized by Joseph Slaughter and Jennifer Wenzel
Thursday, 12 October 2017, 2:00pm, Jerome Greene Annex

RESISTANCE LITERATURE

Bret Benjamin
University at Albany

Fran Buntman
George Washington University

Yvette Christiansë
Barnard College

Eve Dunbar
Vassar College

Peter Hitchcock
The Grad Center, CUNY

Neville Hoad
University of Texas at Austin

Isabel Hofmeyr
University of the Witwatersrand / New York University

Marnia Lazreg
Hunter College and The Grad Center, CUNY

Johnny Lorenz
Mendocino State University

Vasuki Nesiah
New York University

Michael Rubenstein
Stony Brook University

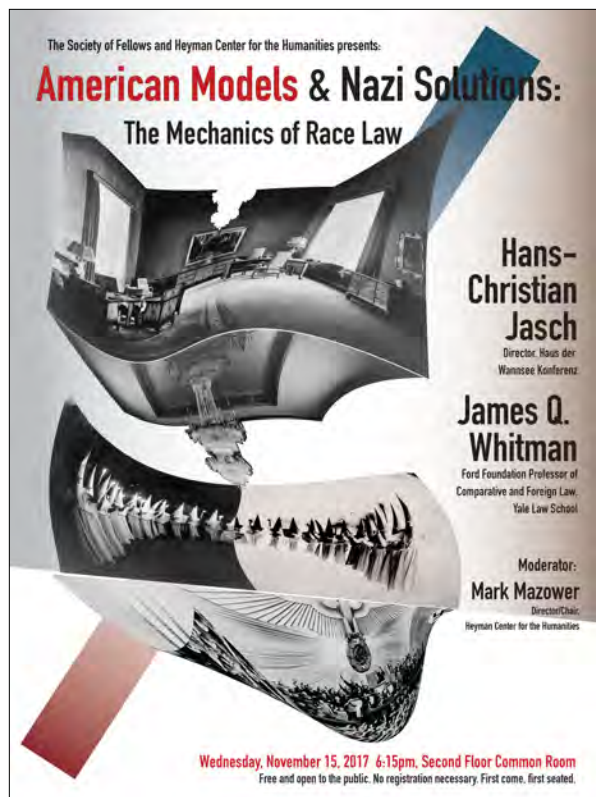
Thirty Years Later/Then and Now

Sponsored by the Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities, Middle Eastern,
South Asian, and African Studies, the Institute for African Studies,
the Department of English and Comparative Literature, the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society,
Center for Palestine Studies, Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race

12 October

Resistance Literature: Thirty Years Later/Then and Now

This symposium, organized by Jennifer Wenzel and Joseph Slaughter, marked the three decades since the publication of Barbara Harlow's *Resistance Literature* and her recent passing. It also celebrated her career as a teacher, mentor, interlocutor, and comrade. Panelists included many former students from her long tenure as Louann and Larry Temple Centennial Professor of English Literature at the University of Texas at Austin, as well as colleagues who were influenced by her work. Panelists spoke on two roundtables, one on "Resistance Literature Thirty Years Later," which offered re-examinations of Harlow's formative publication, and the other on "Resistance Literature Now," which addressed the current state of literature and resistance.



15 November

American Models and Nazi Solutions: The Mechanics of Race Law

The interconnections of migration, law, bureaucracy, and race form the subject of some of the most exciting current research into the Nazis in history. The American roots of National Socialism were explored by James Whitman (Yale Law School), author of a study of the influences exerted upon the Third Reich by interwar US immigration laws. Alongside Whitman, Hans-Christian Jasch (Haus der Wannsee Konferenz) spoke about new insights to be gleaned into the emergence of the wartime German genocide through a focus on the careers, personalities, and intellectual outlooks of the civil servants who participated in the Wannsee Conference, a key turning-point in the Final Solution of the Jewish Question.

16 November

Poets at the Heyman Center

Women Poets at Barnard: Gwendolyn Brooks: A Centennial Celebration

A major American poet of the twentieth century, Gwendolyn Brooks is a writer of great formal mastery and intimate observation, most beautifully of the Chicago communities of which she writes. Brooks authored twenty separate volumes of poetry, including the celebrated *A Street in Bronzeville* (1945), the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Annie Allen* (1949), and *In the Mecca* (1968), as well as the experimental novel *Maude Martha* (1953) and other volumes of prose and collected verse. This event was presented as a part of "Our Miss Brooks 100" presented by the Poetry Society of America, the Barnard Center for Research on Women, and the Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities.

6–7 December

Monteverdi at 450: Experiments in Sound, Image, and Movement

With a concert, two discussions, and an exhibition of materials related to Luciano Berio's "revisitation" of Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, a collection now held at the Paul Sacher Foundation (Basel), these two days of events explored Monteverdi's impact on the music and ideas of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, and how his work stimulated artists in a range of media—particularly Luciano Berio (1925–2003). Organized by Board Member Guiseppe Gerbino, Professor of Music.

7–8 December

The Success of Failure: Perspectives from the Arts, Sciences, Humanities, Education, and Law

The many bromides teaching us the value of failure on the path to success are familiar: it builds character, shows perseverance and dedication, demonstrates willingness to take a risk, and so forth. All perhaps true, but all constrained by a view of failure as a means to an end, an unfortunately necessary obstacle to

be overcome. One may learn from failures, but what is mostly meant is that one learns not to do that particular thing again. We take here an alternative view of failure. What about failure as a good? Can there be such a thing as positive failure? How do we recognize important failures? This symposium investigated these and other perspectives on failure across disciplines, searching for commonalities and differences. This symposium brought together scholars and practitioners in the arts, sciences (natural and social), humanities, economics, business, law, and education to examine the value of failure in making progress in each of these areas. Historical, current, and future perspectives were discussed through a combination of short presentations, discussions, and panels divided by disciplinary topic. Organized by the Center for Science and Society.

13 December

Hypomnemata/Reminders: Photography by Jesús R. Velasco

In 2016, thousands of people erected an ephemeral wall of Post-its throughout the burrow-like hallways of 14th Street Subway station. Hundreds of thousands of colorful messages were written, put up, memorialized, photographed, touched, read, and cried upon—right before falling down to the floor, only to be replaced with new ones. They conveyed a little bit of fear, a little bit of hope, and, above all, things that we should remember be-

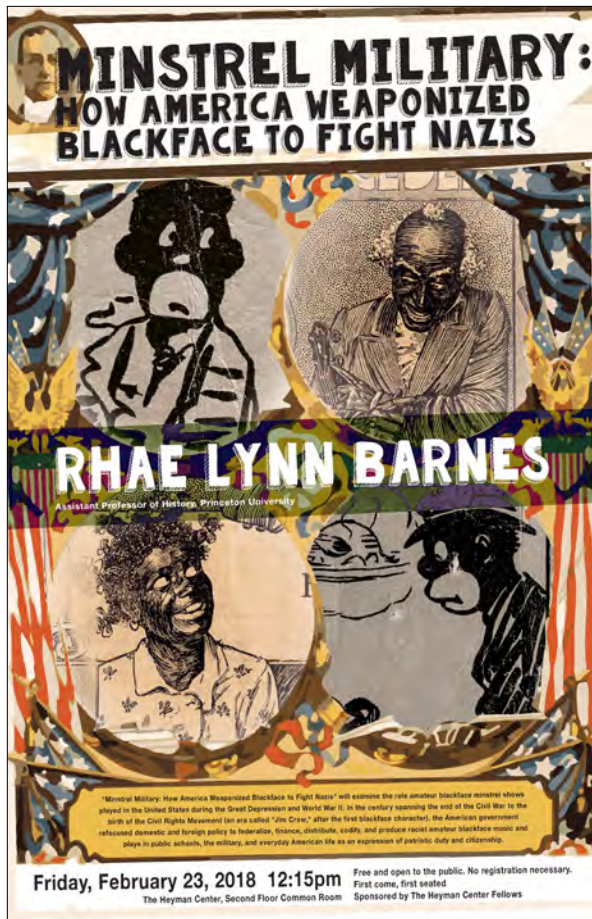


fore they become normalized: messages about gender and race equality, about police brutality, about values we hold dear that suddenly became endangered. The sticky notes have no theory, they have no space, they are part of the bodies of those who wrote it while they were walking through those dark passageways. Remembering, writing, being in contact with those reminders—this is also one of the modalities of uprising. As part of the 13/13 project on Uprising, these pictures want to convey that ephemeral moment: they are, also, fragmentary reminders of something that cannot be lost for history. This event included an exhibition of Jesús R. Velasco's photography and an auction that benefitted Columbia Community Services.

12 February

Transparency in Post-War France

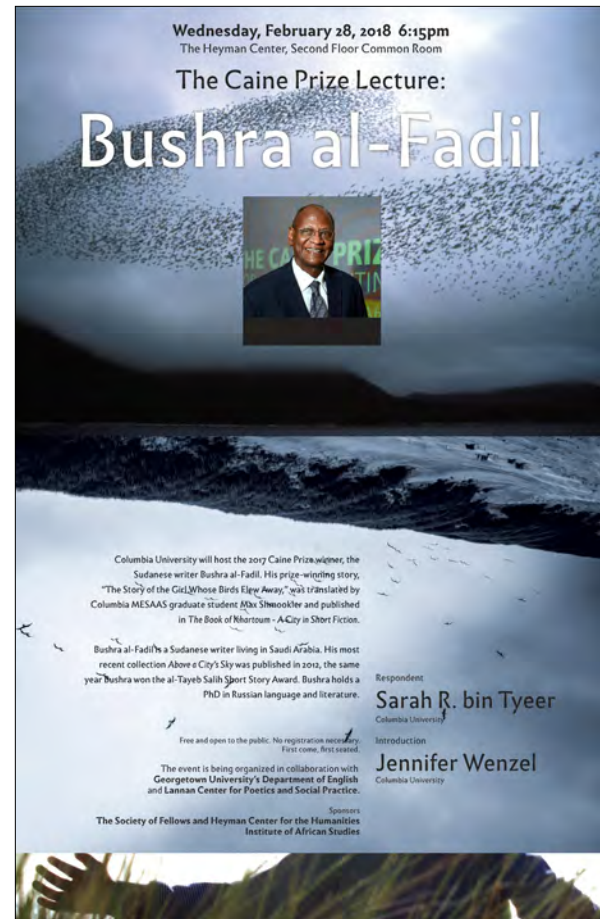
Stefanos Geroulanos (NYU) presented from his new book, *Transparency in Postwar France*, which returns to a time and place when the concept of transparency was met with deep suspicion. Geroulanos offers a panorama of postwar French thought where attempts to show the perils of transparency in politics, ethics, and knowledge led to major conceptual inventions, many of which we now take for granted. Between 1945 and 1985, academics, artists, revolutionaries, and state functionaries spoke of transparency in pejorative terms. Associating it with the prying eyes of totalitarian governments, they undertook a critical project against transparency in education, policing, social psychology, economic policy, and the management of information. In his talk, Geroulanos explored the work of ethicists who proposed that individuals are transparent neither to each other nor to themselves, and philosophers, who clamored for new epistemological foundations. These decades saw the emergence of the colonial and phenomenological "other," the transformation of ideas of normality, and the effort to overcome Enlightenment-era humanisms and violence in the name of freedom. These thinkers' innovations remain centerpieces for any resistance to contemporary illusions that tolerate or enable power and social coercion. Ayten Gundogdu, Associate Professor of Political Science at Barnard College, served as a respondent to the talk.



23 February

Minstrel Military: How America Weaponized Blackface to Fight Nazis

In this lecture, Rhae Lynn Barnes (Princeton) examined the role amateur blackface minstrel shows played in the United States during the Great Depression and World War II. In the century spanning the end of Reconstruction to the birth of the Civil Rights Movement, the American government refocused domestic and foreign policy to federalize, finance, distribute, codify, and produce racist amateur blackface music and plays in public schools, the military, and everyday American life as an expression of patriotic duty and citizenship. Organized by Heyman Center Fellow Joseph Howley, Assistant Professor of Classics.



28 February

The Caine Prize Lecture: Bushra al-Fadil

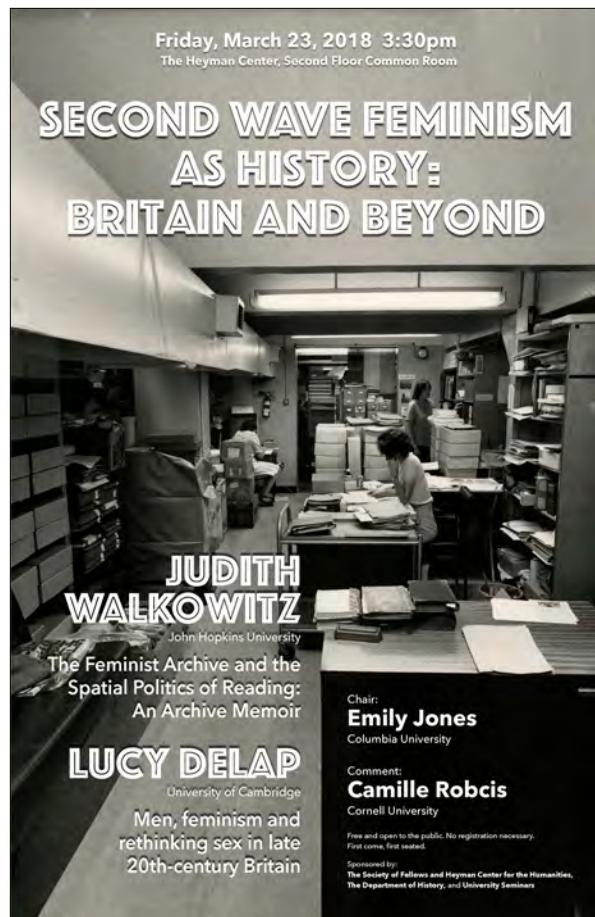
The Caine Prize for African Writing is awarded to an African writer of an English-language short story. The prize was launched in 2000 to encourage and highlight the richness and diversity of African writing by bringing it to a wider audience internationally. The focus on the short story reflects the contemporary development of the African story-telling tradition. The 2017 winner is Sudanese writer Bushra al-Fadil, whose prize-winning story, "The Story of the Girl Whose Birds Flew Away," was published in translation in *The Book of Khartoum—A City in Short Fiction* (Comma Press, 2016). It vividly describes life in a bustling market through the eyes of the narrator, who becomes entranced by a beautiful woman he

sees there. After a series of brief encounters, tragedy unexpectedly befalls the woman and her young female companion. Caine Prize judge Nii Ayikwei Parkes praised the story: "Rooted in a mix of classical traditions as well as the vernacular contexts of its location," Bushra al-Fadil's story shows how "we can become mentally exiled in our own lands."

23 March

Second Wave Feminism as History: Britain and Beyond

As part of the fifth annual New York-Cambridge Training Collaboration (NYCTC) workshop organized by Susan Pedersen (Gouverneur Morris Professor of History, Columbia), SOF/Heyman hosted a public discussion on second wave feminism



as history. The event featured papers by Lucy Delap (Faculty of History, Cambridge) on "Men, Feminism and Rethinking Sex in Late Twentieth-Century Britain" and Judith Walkowitz (Professor of Modern European Cultural and Social History, Johns Hopkins) on "The Feminist Archive and the Spatial Politics of Reading: An Archive Memoir." The discussion was chaired by Emily Jones, Lecturer in Discipline, Modern British History at Columbia.

30 March

Colin Barrett and Colm Tóibín in conversation

Colin Barrett is the author of *Young Skins*, a debut collection of stories, which won the Guardian First Book Award, the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature, and the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award. Barrett read from some of his work and discussed the readings with Colm Tóibín, whose own highly acclaimed fiction includes *The Master* (2004), *Brooklyn* (2009), *Nora Webster* (2014) and, most recently, *House of Names* (2017). Award-winning author Sam Lipsyte, Chair of The Writing Program, provided the introduction.



Colm Tóibín and Colin Barrett



4 April

The Evolution of Beauty

Richard Prum (Yale), author of *The Evolution of Beauty*, discussed his book and its implications and its problems with philosopher Philip Kitcher (Columbia), historian of science Deborah R. Coen (Columbia), and literary scholar George Levine (Rutgers). Prum's book, listed by *The New York Times* as one of the best of 2017, attempts to restore Darwin's theory of sexual selection, not only

explaining through Prum's own original work in ornithology how it works, but also making a powerful case for the explanatory inadequacy of the popular "Darwinian" adaptationist paradigm in evolutionary biology. Sexual selection, particularly mate choice, Prum argues, accounts not only for the gorgeous plumage of male birds, but also for the splitting of humans from their simian cousins. Working independently of and often in conflict with natural selection, sexual selection leads us to a new definition and understanding of aesthetics. Perhaps even more strikingly, it leads Prum to a very strong feminist theory, with intellectually revolutionary implications.

10–11 April

Migration and Mobility in a Digital Age: Paradoxes of Connectivity and Belonging Conference

This conference addressed a broad range of conflict-related issues on migration in a digital age. Using the latest insights from a range of interdisciplinary fields—analysis of virtual communities, social media platforms, and digital activism—the group explored theories of displacement such as diaspora, cosmopolitanism, and nomadism, and the transformations brought about by the digital revolution. It also focused on media production and the regulation of information on forced migrants in a 'post-truth' era. The image of Syrian refugees with smartphones shooting 'selfies' upon reaching dry land has captured the international imagination. Migrants are expected to be people fleeing from war, violence, and poverty; they are not expected to be 'digital natives', equipped with technologies to navigate their difficult journeys. While smartphones are accessible, affordable, and easy to use, in the realm of the public imaginary the image of the disenfranchised and disconnected migrant remains that of the 'have nots', and therefore subject to 'high tech orientalism.' The conference was organized by Sandra Ponzanesi, Visiting Professor in the Department of English and Comparative Literature and Professor in the Department of Media and Culture Studies at Utrecht University.

12 April

Haunting Heroines: Greek Plays and Transnational Novels

In two recent novels, Kamila Shamsie and Colm Tóibín recreate classical mythology to address contemporary audiences and transnational subjects. Kamila Shamsie's *Home Fire* brings the story of Antigone to the contemporary British Pakistani community, while Colm Tóibín's *House of Names* re-imagines the Agamemnon tragedy from the points of view of Clytemnestra and Electra. These two authors joined each other in conversation to discuss their modern adaptations of these Greek classics and to explore why these heroines continue to haunt writers and readers today. Christopher Morash, Seamus Heaney Professor of Irish Writing at Trinity College Dublin, moderated the discussion.



16 April

Judging Shaw? A Roundtable and Keynote

Judging Shaw is the title of both an exhibition produced by the Royal Irish Academy and the National University of Ireland at Galway and a new biography by the renowned journalist and literary scholar Fintan O'Toole. To mark both book and exhibition, Irish and US scholars discussed the life, work, politics, celebrity, and legacy of George Bernard Shaw. Roundtable participants included: Catriona Crowe (National Archives of Ireland), Ruth Hegarty (Royal Irish Academy), Barry Houlihan (NUI Galway), Lucy McDiarmid (Montclair State University), Adrian Paterson (NUI Galway), and Keri Walsh (Fordham University). The evening concluded with Fintan O'Toole's keynote lecture, "GBS Versus Ireland: Bernard Shaw and Irish Nationalism."

Public Humanities Initiative

The Public Humanities Initiative sponsors cultural events, discussions, and collaborative projects that advance public engagement with the humanities. These projects involve faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, community organizations, and local artists.

These events were co-sponsored by the Center for Justice at Columbia University and SOF/Heyman, as part of the Justice-in-Education Initiative, a partnership that aims to increase educational opportunities for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals as well as to integrate the study of justice more fully into the Columbia curriculum.

14 August–17 November

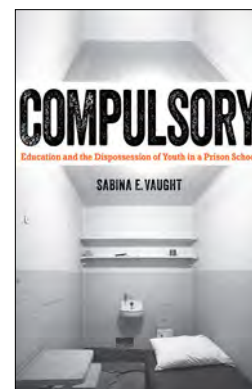
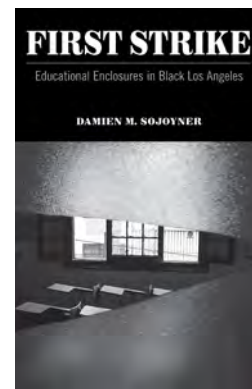
Windows on Death Row: Art from Inside and Outside the Prison Walls

Images can trigger conversations, sometimes far better than words. Internationally known political cartoonist Patrick Chappatte and journalist Anne-Frederique Widmann came together to organize a one of a kind exhibition featuring over sixty works of some of the most famous American political cartoonists as well as artworks drawn from a more unlikely source, death row inmates. By presenting a variety of perspectives, from both inside and outside of the prison walls, Chappatte and Widmann stimulated conversation on an issue that touches politics, race, morality, and the question of equality under the law. The exhibition included educational materials and interactive displays that allowed viewers to engage directly with the complex and challenging subject matter. Using art as a tool for social awareness, it opened a window into an oft hidden part of the ongoing conversation about capital punishment—exploring the system through the eyes of the incarcerated. At a moment when our country is becoming ever more polarized regarding racial injustice and economic inequality, the questions that the exhibition raises could not be more timely.

18 September

Insurgent Knowledges: Book Discussion

The Justice-in-Education Initiative and SOF/Heyman hosted a discussion of books by Damien M. Sojoyner (UC Irvine) and Sabrina Vaught (Tufts). Dr. Sojoyner delves into the root causes of its ever-expansive prison system and disastrous educational policy in *First Strike: Educational Enclosures in Black Los Angeles*. Recentring analysis of Black masculinity beyond public rhetoric, *First Strike* critiques the trope of the ‘school-to-prison pipeline’ and instead explores the realm of public school as a form of ‘enclosure’ that has influenced the schooling (and denial of schooling) and imprisonment of Black people in California.” In *Compulsory: Education and the Dispossession of Youth in a Prison School*, Dr. Sabrina Vaught explores the various legal and ideological forces shaping juvenile prison and prison schooling, and examines how these forces are mechanized across multiple state apparatuses, not least school. Drawing richly on ethnographic data, she tells stories that map the repression of rightless, incarcerated youth, whose state captivity is the contemporary expression of age-old practices of child removal and counterinsurgency.



10 April

Public Humanities Symposium

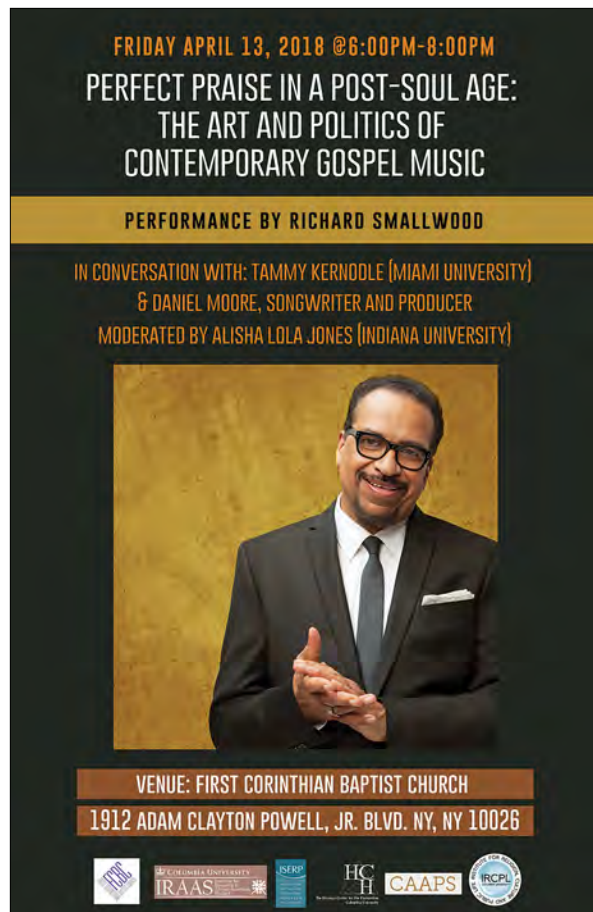
The SOF/Heyman Public Humanities Initiative envisions ways for scholars to interact with and facilitate access to humanities scholarship for a larger public outside of academia. This year, the pilot program supported three scholars’ projects focusing on the impact of scholarship on civic life and society. The symposium was organized

by Public Humanities Fellow Sahar Ullah and included presentations by Leah Pires, Jessica Lee, Adam Blazej, and Soo-Young Kim.

13 April

Perfect Praise in a Post-Soul Age

This event brought together musical performers and academics to talk about the role of gospel music throughout history and today. It also featured a performance by famed gospel singer Richard Smallwood and generated thought-provoking discussion and beautiful music in one of the largest and most historic churches in Harlem, First Corinthian Baptist. Prior to Mr. Smallwood's performance, he joined a panel discussion with Dr. Tammy Kernodle



(Miami University), songwriter and producer Daniel Moore, and Dr. Alisha Lola Jones (Indiana University).

28 April

For the Daughters of Harlem: Working in Sound

Twelve young women from eight public high schools and middle schools visited Columbia University to make music in collaboration with professional composers and sound artists Courtney Bryan (Tulane University), Miya Masaoka (Columbia University), Zosha Di Castri (Columbia University), and David Adamcyk (Manhattan School of Music and Columbia University). After an introductory session with Professor Ellie Hisama and Dr. Lucie Vágnerová on Tia DeNora's influential text *Music in Everyday Life*, participants made, recorded, and produced music and sound pieces, using original poetry, acoustic instruments, synthesized sounds, and beat boxing. The day culminated in a public showcase of the students' work at Maison Française in Buell Hall. The overwhelming response from the students to the workshop was that they wished it were longer and met more regularly. Collaboration in small groups and rotating among all workshop leaders proved to be very successful strategies. Given the enthusiastic responses from student participants, parents, teachers, workshop leaders, and audience members, the organizers plan to continue and expand the program, and have applied for two grants for 2018–19. The workshop has already prompted national attention, with interest from music faculty at Mills College, Florida State University, and Wheaton College (Massachusetts) in initiating similar programs.

4 June

Women Breaking Barriers: Global Women Heroes

Art and Resistance Through Education (ARTE) presented Women Breaking Barriers: Global Women Heroes, a community mural project, honoring the voices of women of color leaders and bringing attention to mass incarceration.

The project is in collaboration with Columbia University's Justice-in-Education Initiative and the Maxine Green School for Imaginative Inquiry.

Heyman Center Series and Workshops

The Heyman Center sponsored several new and ongoing series: Politics of the Present; Uprising 13/13; and the New Books in the Arts and Sciences.


Politics of the Present

In order to address the pressing challenges of our current political moment, the Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities worked closely with partnering centers and institutes to organize and publicize events on topics that included misinformation, political polarization, populism, and migration. Events in this series included "Factions, Fears, and Fake News," which SOF/Heyman co-organized with the Trinity College Long Room Hub Arts and Humanities Research Institute; "Coming to Terms with a Polarized Society," organized by the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy; "Populism and Religion" organized by the Institute for Religion in Contemporary Life; and "Cinema of Resistance" organized by Maison Française. These various conferences, lectures, discussions, and film screenings helped to broaden and deepen the political discussion on contemporary issues across campus and beyond.

Factions, Fears, and Fake News


Panels convened on campuses in Dublin and New York City to discuss contemporary political crises. The first event in the series (November 6–7) took place at Trinity College Dublin and opened with "Behind the Headlines," a discussion on the topic of journalism and freedom of speech with Todd Gitlin (Columbia School of Journalism), Dearbhail McDonald (Independent News and Media Group Business Editor), Eoin O'Dell (Trinity College Dublin School of Law) and Andrea Martin (media lawyer). This discussion was followed by a one-day conference on "The Growth of Right-Wing Nationalism and the Collapse of the Central Left," "Post-Truth," and "Migration in Crisis."

Sponsored by the Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities;
Trinity College Long Room Hub Arts & Humanities Research Institute;
the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy




Factions, Fears, and Fake News – In Three Sessions

Session 1: November 6-7, 2017
Trinity College, Dublin



Todd Gitlin | Dearbhail McDonald
Eoin O'Dell | Andrea Martin
Daniel Greay | Juergen Barkhoff
Jacqueline Hayden | Joseph Staughton
Fáilte Ryan | Derry Jones
Hilvaka Hirta | Lorna Carson
Rosemary Byrne | Gillian Wylie
Moderated by Eitan O'Suilleabhain
Stephen Rae | David Rieff

Session 2: November 9, 2017
Columbia University James Room, Barnard Hall



5:00 pm: Coming to Terms with a Polarized Society
"Professional Journalism, Polarization, Post-Truth, and Post-Trump"

Speaker: Michael Schudson
Columbia University

Panelists: Leonard Downie, Jr. Bill Keller
Arizona State University Editor-in-Chief, The Marshall Project

Session 3: November 10, 2017
Columbia University Heyman Center for the Humanities, Common Room

10:00 am: "Challenges of Digital Media"
1:30 pm: "Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Democratic Futures"
3:30 pm: "Religion, Capitalism, and the Rural White Working Class"

Panelists include:

Maria Abascal Whitney Dow Jennifer Lee Jared Roll
McGill University Columbia University University of Missouri
Bruce Western Andreas Wimmer Molly Worthen
Columbia University Columbia University University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Special thanks to Mark Hansen, Shamus Khan, Manan Ahmed, Bernard Harcourt, and Matthew Jones.

On November 9–10 Columbia hosted "Factions, Fears, and Fake News." The conference commenced with a discussion between Michael Schudson (Columbia School of Journalism), Leonard Downie (former Executive Director, *Washington Post*), and Bill Keller (Editor-in-Chief, *The Marshall Project*) on "Professional Journalism, Polarization, Post-Truth, and Post-Trump" as part of the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy's "Coming to Terms with a Polarized Society" (see below for more details about that series). The second day involved a series of panels on "Challenges of Digital Media," "Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Democratic Futures," and "Religion, Capitalism, and the Rural White Working Class."

Coming to Terms with a Polarized Society

The Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy organized a series of conversations on the growing political polarization in state and federal government and diminished empathy and respect between Americans who differ by class, race, religion, sexual orientation, or place of residence. The apparently growing divergence in viewpoints about what kind of country America is, what its strengths and weaknesses are, and how it should go about solving problems has been accompanied by growing distrust of science, expertise, and facts themselves. This series of events explored these issues in a forum that encouraged thoughtful reflection and discussion.

Each of the five events in this series featured a distinguished scholar from the academic community and two distinguished discussants—drawn from the worlds of journalism, politics, and the academy—to offer their perspectives.

Topics in the series were, “Polarization, Partisanship, and the Future of the Constitutional System,” “Strangers in Their Own Land: Where Do We Go From Here?,” “Importing Political Polarization? The Electoral Consequences of Rising Trade Exposure,” and “Rhetoric and Evidence in a Polarized Society.” Speakers included Arlie Hochschild (UC Berkeley), Fred Harris (Columbia), Nick Lehmann (Columbia), Nolan McCarty (Princeton), David Autor (MIT), Thomas Edsall (Columbia), Frank Bruni (*New York Times*), Alan Krueger (Princeton), Thomas DiPrete (Columbia), Frances Lee (Maryland), Mario Small (Harvard), and Robert Krulwich (NPR).

Uprising 13/13 Seminar Series

The purpose of this seminar series was to explore various modalities of uprising, disobedience, inservitude, revolt, or other forms of political contestation. Instead of including them all under the name of “revolution”—a term that has become conceptually and historically fraught—the seminar considered how specific experiences and discourses articulate new forms of upheaval or reformulate well-known ones. By focusing on this conceptual, his-

torical, and political problematic, the series shined a light on experiences and manifestations that take place at the local and at the global level, as well as the subjective and the collective level. The idea was to articulate how critical political practice is expressed and understood today.

Uprising 13/13 looked much like the two previous CCCCT seminar series, namely Foucault 13/13 and Nietzsche 13/13. At each session, two or three guests from different disciplines were invited to present on the themes of the seminar. Each seminar was hosted by specialists from across the disciplines, from Columbia University and from outside campus.

New Books in the Arts and Sciences

Co-sponsored by the SOF/Heyman, Office of the Divisional Deans, Maison Française, ISERP, and various departments, this new book series celebrates recent work by the Columbia Faculty with panel discussions of their work. In addition to New Books in the Arts and Sciences, the Society of Fellows also launched a series of New Books in the Society of Fellows to celebrate recent work by alumni (see Special Events page 36).

14 September

Celebrating Recent Work by Naor Ben-Yehoyada

In *The Mediterranean Incarnate*, anthropologist Naor Ben-Yehoyada takes us on a historical exploration of the past eighty years to show how the Mediterranean has reemerged as a modern transnational region. The author read from his book and entered into discussion with Mark Mazower (Columbia), Konstantina Zanou (Columbia), and Jane Schneider (CUNY Graduate Center) about the historical processes of transnational region formation.



2 November

Celebrating Recent Work by Dennis Tenen

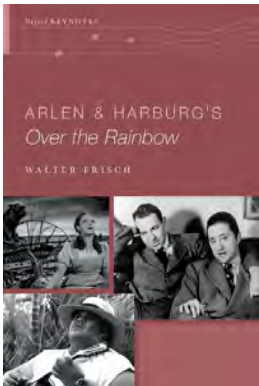
Dennis Tenen’s *Plain Text: The Poetics of Computation* challenges the ways we read, write, store, and retrieve information in the digital age. In discussion with Brian Larkin (Barnard), N. Katherine Hayles (Duke), and Nicholas Dames (Columbia), Tenen addressed today’s strange enmeshing of humans, texts, and machines to argue that our most ingrained intuitions about texts are profoundly alienated from the physical contexts of their intellectual production.



13 November

Celebrating Recent Work by Walter Frisch

In Arlen and Harburg’s ‘Over the Rainbow’, Walter Frisch traces the history of the song from the screenplay for *The Wizard of Oz* to its various reinterpretations over the course of the twentieth century. Through analysis of the song’s music and lyrics, this Oxford Keynotes volume provides a close reading of the piece while examining the evolution of its meaning as it traversed widely varying cultural contexts. The author discussed his work with Kevin Fellezs (Columbia), David Hajdu (Columbia), and Will Friedwald (author and music critic).



17 November

Jane Austen, and Women Writers “At Home in the World”

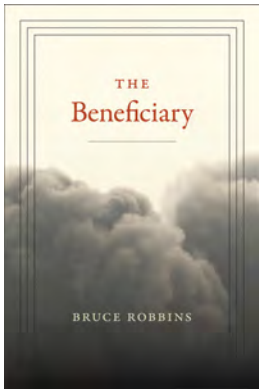
This panel brought together two recent books that focus on Jane Austen and women writers. *At Home in the World* by Deborah Nord (SOF 1980–82) and Maria DiBattista (Princeton University) is a bold and sweeping re-evaluation of the past two centuries of women’s writing, arguing that this body of work has been defined less by domestic concerns than by an active engagement with the most pressing issues of public life. *Reading Jane Austen* by Jenny Davidson looks at Austen’s work through a writer’s lens, addressing formal questions about narration, novel writing, and fictional composition and various themes including social and women’s history, morals and manners. Other panelists included Ruth Yeazell (Yale) and Claudia Johnson (Princeton). The discussion was moderated by Arden Hegele (SOF 2016–19).



4 December

Celebrating Recent Work by Bruce Robbins

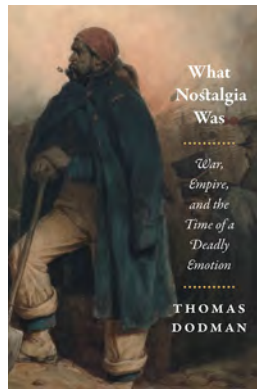
From iPhones and clothing to jewelry and food, the products those of us in the developed world consume and enjoy exist only through the labor and suffering of countless others. In his new book, *The Beneficiary*, Bruce Robbins examines the implications of this dynamic for humanitarianism and social justice. A conversation with Mark Mazower (Columbia), Amanda Claybaugh (Harvard), and Siddhartha Deb (The New School) followed the author’s remarks.



17 January

Celebrating Recent Work by Thomas Dodman

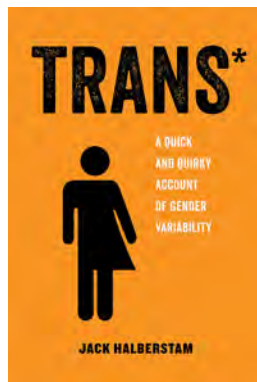
In *What Nostalgia Was*, Thomas Dodman traces the invention of nostalgia as a medical diagnosis in Basel, Switzerland, its spread through the European republic of letters, and its subsequent transformation from a medical term to a broader cultural concept. Engaging the author in discussion were David Bell (Princeton) and Emmanuelle Saada (Columbia).



22 January

Celebrating Recent Work by Jack Halberstam

In *Trans: A Quick and Quirky Account of Gender Variability*, Jack Halberstam explores recent shifts in the meaning of the gendered body and its representation. He explored the possibilities of a nongendered, gender-optional, or gender-queer future with Janet Jakobsen (Barnard), Che Gossett (Rutgers), and artist Kate Bornstein.



31 January

Celebrating Recent Work by Brent Edwards

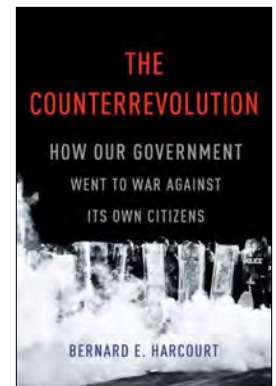
Brent Edwards discussed his new English translation of Michel Leiris' *Phantom Africa* with invited colleagues Denis Hollier (NYU), Brian Larkin (Barnard), Souleymane Bachir Diagne (Columbia), and Emmanuelle Saada (Columbia). The book, never before available in English translation, bears witness to the full range of social and political forces reshaping the African continent in the period between the world wars.



27 February

Celebrating Recent Work by Bernard Harcourt

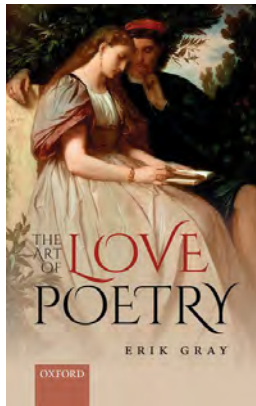
Bernard Harcourt's *The Counter-revolution* is a penetrating and disturbing account of the rise of counterinsurgency, first as a military strategy but increasingly as a way of ruling ordinary Americans. Harcourt shows how counterinsurgency's principles have taken hold domestically despite the absence of any radical uprising. Uday Singh Mehta (CUNY) responded to the author.



8 March

Celebrating Recent Work by Erik Gray

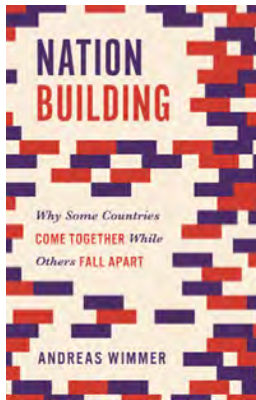
Erik Gray's *The Art of Love Poetry* is the first volume to propose an integral theory of why love poetry is consistently associated with romantic love. The book offers close readings of numerous love poems to guide readers to a deeper appreciation of some of the world's most beautiful love lyrics. Susan Stewart (Princeton), Stefanie Markovits (Yale), and Kathy Eden (Columbia) discussed the genre of love poetry with the author.



27 March

Celebrating Recent Work by Andreas Wimmer

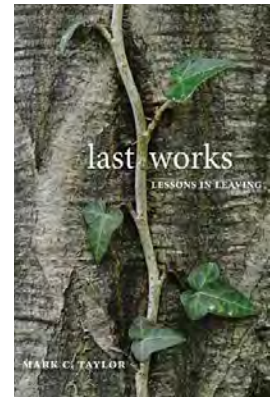
Traversing centuries and continents from early nineteenth-century Europe and Asia to Africa, and from the turn of the twenty-first century to today, Andreas Wimmer delves into the forces that encourage political alliances to stretch across ethnic divides and build national unity. His new book, *Nation Building: Why Some Countries Come Together While Others Fall Apart*, offers a long-term historical perspective and global outlook, which the author discussed with Gwyneth McClendon (NYU), Deborah J. Yashar (Princeton), and Perna Singh (Brown).



30 March

Celebrating Recent Work by Mark Taylor

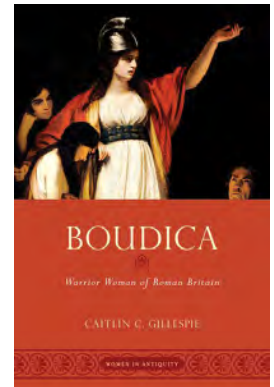
Clémence Boulouque (Columbia), Michael Taussig (Columbia), and author Siri Hustvedt joined Mark Taylor (Columbia) to discuss his recent book, *Last Works: Lessons in Leaving*, a deeply perceptive and personal exploration of last works that explores the final reflections of writers and thinkers from Kierkegaard to David Foster Wallace. Throughout this profound and moving book, Taylor probes how the art of living involves learning to leave gracefully.

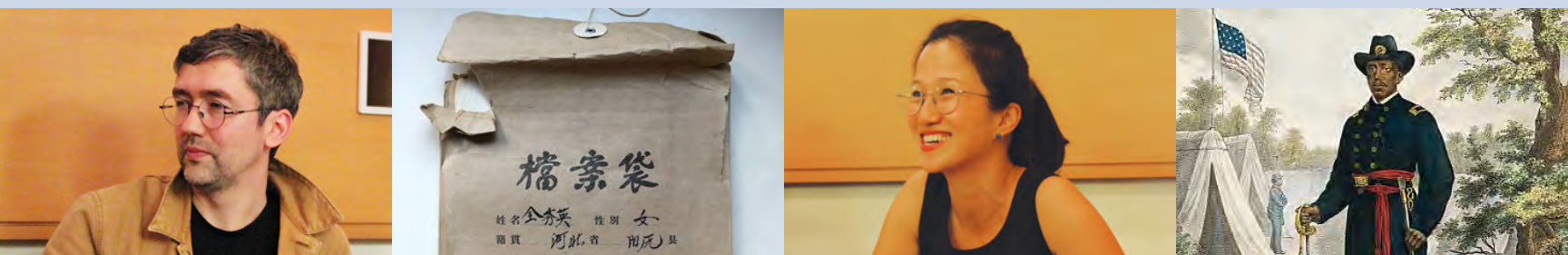


5 April

Celebrating Recent Work by Caitlin Gillespie

In AD 60/61, Rome almost lost the province of Britain to a woman. Boudica, wife of the client king Prasutagus, fomented a rebellion that destroyed part of a Roman legion in Briton and caused the deaths of an untold number of veterans, families, soldiers, and Britons. Caitlin Gillespie's *Boudica: Warrior Woman of Roman Briton* looks at literary and archaeological sources that point towards broader issues inherent in the clash between Roman and native cultures. Discussing this important figure with the author were Kristina Milnor (Barnard), Ronnie Ancona (Hunter), and Helene Peet Foley (Barnard).





Delany: National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

HEYMAN CENTER FELLOWS

2017–2018

The Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities, working closely with the Office of the Divisional Deans of Arts and Sciences, appointed a second class of four senior faculty, four junior faculty, and five post-MPhil students as Heyman Center Fellows for 2017–18. Funded entirely by the Society of Fellows in the Humanities at Columbia University, these fellowships provided faculty with course relief that enabled them to devote themselves to half-time research and writing. Five post-MPhil students were also appointed and received research allowances.

The Heyman Center Fellows met weekly for most of the aca-

demic year in a seminar chaired by Mark Mazower, Faculty Director of the Heyman Center for the Humanities. In addition to providing the opportunity to present works in progress, the seminar fostered discussion across disciplines and fields, creating opportunities for collaborative research and teaching in future semesters. Fellows were given the opportunity to propose Heyman Center public events, which inspired Fellow Joe Howley to arrange for a guest lecture by Princeton Associate Professor of History Rhae Lynn Barnes on “Minstrel Military: How America Weaponized Blackface to Fight Nazis.”

Senior Faculty Fellowships

Rachel Adams

English and Comparative Literature

“Interdependencies: Narratives of Giving and Receiving Care”

Brent Hayes Edwards

English and Comparative Literature

“Art of the Lecture”

Robert Gooding-Williams

Philosophy

“The Political Thought of Martin Delany”

Celia Naylor

Barnard, History/Africana Studies

“(Un)Silencing Slavery: The White Witch and the (Ghost) Site/Sightings of Slavery at Rose Hall Plantation, Jamaica”



Rachel Adams



Brent Hayes Edwards



Robert Gooding-Williams



Celia Naylor

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Courtesy of University at Buffalo Capen Chair, 2016

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Junior Faculty Fellowships

Matthew Hart

English and Comparative Literature

"Extraterritorial: A Political Geography of Contemporary Literature"

Joseph Howley

Classics

"Reading Roman Books: Ancient Literature in Material Contexts"

Ana Paulina Lee

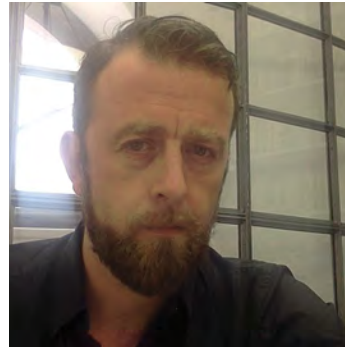
Latin American and Iberian Cultures

"Mandarin Brazil"

Dennis Tenen

English and Comparative Literature

"Author Function"



Matthew Hart



Joseph Howley



Ana Paulina Lee



Dennis Tenen

Graduate Student Fellowships

Robert Goodman

Political Science

"Eloquence and Its Conditions"

Sean O'Neil

History

"The Art of Signs: Symbolic Notation and Visual Thinking in Early Modern Europe, 1500–1800"

Anna Danziger Halperin

History

"Education or Welfare? American and British Child Care Policy, 1965–2004"

Andrew Jungclaus

Religion

"True Philanthropy: A Religious History of the Non-Profit Family Foundation"

JM Chris Chang

East Asian Languages and Cultures

"The Dossier: Archive and Ephemera in Mao's China"



Robert Goodman



Sean O'Neil



Anna Danziger Halperin



Andrew Jungclaus



JM Chris Chang

ALUMNI FELLOWS NEWS

Jordanna Bailkin (1999–2001) will publish her third book, *Unsettled: Refugee Camps and the Making of Multicultural Britain*, this summer (Oxford University Press, 2018).

Jeffrey M. Bale (1994–1996) After many years as a full professor teaching a wide array of graduate-level courses on political and religious extremism, terrorism, and covert politics at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (MIIS), Jeffrey M. Bale will be retiring in two years. He published a large two-volume collection of some of his scholarly research, both unpublished and published, under the title *The Darkest Sides of Politics* (Routledge, 2017). He is also a proud member of the Heterodox Academy, an organization that strongly supports and defends freedom of speech and viewpoint diversity in academia.

Sandrine Bertaux (2002–2004) became Assistant Professor of Humanities at Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey in Fall 2017, after being Visiting Scholar, Department of History, George Washington University, DC in July and August 2017. Her article, *“Asile, immigration, naturalisation: entre préférence ethnique et politique dis-*

crétionnaire,” appeared in *Moyen-Orient*, Special Issue: *Turquie: le tournant autoritaire*, n.37, January–March 2018.

D. Graham Burnett (1997–1999) has a new (co-authored) book, *Keywords; For Further Consideration and Particularly Relevant to Academic Life*, &c. (Princeton University Press, 2018). His collaborative project “Schema for a School” (which was part of the 2015 Ljubljana Biennial) debuted in New York City this spring as part of the soft launch of The Shed arts center at the top of the High Line. Later this year, his work on “Attentional Practices” will be part of the programming of the São Paulo Biennial.

George X. Bournoutain (1978–1980) published the books *Armenia and Imperial Decline: The Yerevan Province, 1900–1914* (Routledge, 2018); *The Chronicle of Catholicos Abraham of Crete* (Persian translation, Tehran, 2018); and the articles “Population of the South Caucasus according to the 1897 Russian Survey,” *Iran and the Caucasus*, September 2017; “Prelude to War: The Russian Siege and Storming of the Fortress of Ganjeh, 1803–4,” *Iranian Studies* (2017); Entries on Arakel of Tabriz, Simeon of Poland, Zakaria of Agulis and

Zakaria of Kanaker in: *Christian-Muslim Relations 1500–1700* (Brill, 2017).

Mary Dearborn (1986–1988) will spend 2018–19 as a Cullman Fellow at the New York Public Library. Her biography of Ernest Hemingway appeared in 2017 and she is at work on a biography of Carson McCullers.

William Deringer (2004–2006) spent 2017–18 as a visiting fellow at the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, where the biennial theme was “Risk and Fortune.” His first book, *Calculated Values: Finance, Politics, and the Quantitative Age*, was published in February (Harvard University Press, 2018). Much of that book was researched and written during his time at the Society of Fellows. In April 2018, the Society of Fellows hosted a book event featuring *Calculated Values*.

Laurence Dreyfus (1979–1981) moved to Berlin a few years ago after becoming Professor Emeritus of Music at Oxford University, though he spent some research time this past winter as a Fellow of the Institut d’Études avancées in Paris, which reminded him of his wonderful time at Columbia years ago. This past year saw

Dreyfus's viol consort *Phantasm* win the Gramophone Award for Early Music as well as the Diapason d'Or de l'Année for its recording of John Dowland's *Lachrimae* on the Scottish Linn label. The group continues to perform worldwide and returned recently from a tour in New Zealand in time to play their third of three concerts this season hosted at the Wigmore Hall in London.

Daniel Harkett (2004–2006) was hired as an associate professor with tenure at Colby College and published a co-edited volume last year: *Horace Vernet and the Thresholds of Nineteenth-Century Visual Culture* (Dartmouth College Press, 2017).

Jonathon Kahn (2003–2005) was promoted to Professor of Religion from Associate Professor of Religion at Vassar College this year.

Murad Idris (2014–2015) will be a Member at the Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton, NJ) in 2018–19, and his book, *War for Peace: Genealogies of a Violent Ideal in Western and Islamic Thought*, is coming out with Oxford University Press in late 2018.

Kate van Orden (2017–2018) was a Marta Sutton Weeks Fellow at the Stanford Humanities Center in 2017-18.

David Russell's (2012–2013) book, *Tact: Aesthetic Liberalism and the Essay Form in Nineteenth-Century Britain* came out this year (Princeton University Press, 2018), and has been awarded a research grant from the Leverhulme foundation for 2018–19 for research on John Ruskin.

Peter Sahlins (1987–1988) published his book, *1668: The Year of the Animal in France* (Zone Books, 2017).

Richard Serrano (1996–1998) became Chair of the French Department at Rutgers University on July 1, 2017. He published his third book, *Qur'ān and the Lyric Imperative*, last year (Lexington Books, 2016).

Samer S. Shehata (1999–2000) spent 2015–17 in Doha, Qatar helping develop the political science and international relations program at the newly established Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, an interdisciplinary graduate institute dedicated to the renaissance of the humanities and social sciences in the Arab world. Upon re-

turning to the University of Oklahoma he received the Colin Mackey and Patricia Molina de Mackey professorship in Middle East Studies.

William Sharpe (1981–1983) is a Fulbright Visiting Professor at Edinburgh University in Scotland for Spring 2018. His most recent book, *Grasping Shadows: The Dark Side in Literature, Painting, Photography, and Film*, came out in September 2017 from Oxford University Press.

Ginger Strand's (1993–1995) fourth book, *The Brothers Vonnegut: Science and Fiction in the House of Magic* (FSG) came out in paperback and she joined the faculty of the 2018 Bread Loaf Environmental Writers' Conference.

IN MEMORIAM

William Theodore de Bary (1919–2017)

The Society of Fellows and the Heyman Center for the Humanities owe their very existence to Ted de Bary. It was he who was largely responsible for persuading the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to fund the Society of Fellows back in 1976, and the Society of Senior Scholars a decade later. Ted was the driving force behind the founding of the Heyman Center for the Humanities, originally built to house the offices of the Society's postdoctoral humanities (as well as Lou Henkin's Center for Human Rights), and where Ted served for over twenty years as its resident director. In 1995, Ted also established the Friends of the Heyman Center, which—first under his leadership, then that of Carl Hovde, Jim Mirolo, and currently Gareth Williams—supports the activities of the Center, in particular the Friends Colloquia, a series of weekly seminars led by Columbia instructors throughout the academic year, on subjects and in a format that recalls the Core Curriculum experience—an experience that Ted spent so much of his life honoring in myriad ways.

Ted was tireless in his devotion to Columbia undergraduates, whom he continued to co-teach twice a week every semester in the Boardroom of the Heyman Center—up through the Spring 2017 term, when he was 97 years old (and three decades after his official retirement). Even at age 85, as an Emeritus professor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, he regularly taught more courses per semester than most full-time senior faculty members teach in a year. Ted's energy and perseverance were staggering to witness. His intellectual interests traversed many continents, centuries, and disciplines, but his personal commitments (to Columbia as an institution; to his friends and family;

to his faith) were what made him extraordinary. Ted believed in good works and in the strength of their power over time.

In the Wm. Theodore de Bary Common Room, which hosts almost all of the hundreds of events the Heyman Center sponsors each year, and in the endowed lecture that is named in his honor, Ted de Bary will always be closely associated with the Center that would not exist but for his foresight, generosity, loyalty, and devotion.

—Eileen Gillooly

*Executive Director of the Society of
Fellows and Heyman Center for
the Humanities*

Young Kun Kim (1931–2018)

During my time as a Fellow between 2013 and 2016, I had the privilege of seeing Professor Kim on a regular basis at the Thursday Lecture Series and establishing a personal relationship with him. As soon as he learned that I was originally from Japan, Professor Kim started stopping by my office for a chat after the presentation. As an immigrant scholar from Korea, he probably saw some parallels between his own and my backgrounds. As we discussed diverse topics, he sometimes spoke to me in Japanese, which he picked up earlier in his life. In some of our conversations, he expressed to me his deep concerns about the increasing diplomatic tension between Korea and Japan and emphasized that these two countries must maintain friendly relationships. He also encouraged me to speak up more in Q&A during the lunchtime talk. I took his advice as professional mentorship from a senior scholar,

but his words always carried warmth of a familial sort, as if spoken by a caring parent to a child. And regardless of the topic we discussed, he finished our conversation by cheering for me—often in Japanese by saying “*Gambattene* (Good luck)!” Imagining the Thursday Lecture Series without Professor Kim makes me painfully sad. But the memory of his intelligence, kindness, love of peace, and warmth will stay with me, and they always lead me to smile.

—Hidetaka Hirota
(SOF 2013–2016)

Professor Kim first communicated with me (talk isn’t quite right) during the Q&A that followed my first Thursday lecture for the Society of Fellows in Fall 2015. Perhaps not wanting to take up time and deny someone else the chance to ask a question, he simply passed me a note at one point: “What about Adorno and jazz?” I was charmed by his approach and came to increasingly value his nearly weekly contributions to the conversations following talks by other Fellows and our invited guests. I can’t recall Professor Kim passing a note again, but he did often wait until the discussion was dying down to interject an observation. My recollection of his comments and questions is that they tended to gently push the speaker, and indeed everyone present, to think about the contemporary relevance of topics that were sometimes rather arcane. A favorite example was his (bemused?) alarm following a talk about the history of Early Modern amputation methods: “But you are all so young to be dwelling on death!” These anecdotes don’t do justice to Professor Kim’s special warmth. He was tremendously supportive of all of our research and a kind, indelible presence at the Thursday Lecture Series.

—David Gutkin
(SOF 2015–2017)

Steven Marcus (1928–2018)

Steven Marcus, former Director of the Heyman Center for Humanities, dean of Columbia College, and the George Delacorte Professor Emeritus in the Humanities, brought an astonishing and

indelible consciousness to Columbia University, to the worlds of literary scholarship and to the international study of the humanities. Marcus was renowned for his seminal and defining scholarship in Victorian studies, including literary analyses of Dickens (*Dickens: From Pickwick to Dombey*) and social and psychological examinations of Victorian sexuality (*The Other Victorians*). His exhaustive study of Freud’s biography and psychoanalytic theories helped found the field of psychoanalytic literary criticism (*The Life and Work of Sigmund Freud*, co-edited and abridged with the celebrated scholar Lionel Trilling; *Freud and the Culture of Psychoanalysis*; “Freud and Dora”). Beyond his literary scholarship, he published and performed in far-flung areas of commitment and passion: Marxism and the working class, anti-Vietnam War peace activism, and values and meanings in health care.

Marcus was a leader in the world of literary studies and, more broadly, of the study of the humanities. He was one of the founders of the National Humanities Center (NHC), created in 1987 under the auspices of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences as an independent institute for advanced study in the humanities. It was Marcus who conceptualized NHC’s mission, chose its site in North Carolina, worked with the architects to design the structure and chaired the executive committee of the NHC Board of Trustees. He inspired the American Academy to develop the “Humanities Indicators,” a remarkable resource that tracks the humanities’ accomplishments in fulfilling a variety of academic and pedagogic goals.

Above all else, Marcus bequeathed to his colleagues and students and associates a commitment to freedom. Ideas were not to be restricted to a particular scholarly discipline or theoretical school. There were no politically correct or incorrect boundaries around thinking thoughts and using words. To open one’s thoughts and feelings to take in the social contexts, the aesthetic properties, the historical situations, the psychological and sensory dimensions, the unsayable implications of things was what one does. Being with him simply made life larger than life.

—Rita Charon
*Professor and Chair of the Department
of Medical Humanities and Ethics at
Columbia University*

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