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We started a new practice this year at the Society of Fellows. Once a month, on a Friday afternoon, one of the current Fellows shares a chapter or article-length essay with the rest of the group. I have been calling these workshops First Draft Fridays, but, in most instances, the manuscript often lies somewhere between a first draft and the finalized version intended for publication. We spend an hour or so sitting in the large leather chairs in the newly renovated Fellows’ Lounge in the Heyman Center. Typically, a member of the Governing Board opens the conversation, provides a bit of commentary, and participates in the discussion. At the outset, we ask the author to describe the kind of feedback on the paper that would be most helpful, though sometimes the most helpful discussion moves into unexpected territory. Because we come to these sessions from very different disciplines and often with very different ways of proceeding, often the author must give a presentation of the method as well as the substance.

For those of us reading the paper, the workshops provide a chance to consider how scholars in a different corner of the humanities do their work. For the author, it provides an opportunity to see how a paper looks to interested outsiders. Around 4:45 or so, we retire to a neighborhood bar, where other members of the Governing Board are encouraged to join us. The quality of these meetings and the sense of community they inspire have far exceeded my expectations. I anticipate that these workshops will become a tradition at the Society of Fellows for years to come.

Their origins lie in several conversations I had with current and departing Fellows after my first year as Director. Some wished for additional opportunities to share their work and to meet with members of the Governing Board. A few hoped to test ideas in a setting where the stakes would be a bit lower than in the public Thursday Lecture Series. It seemed to me not only that a further nudge to write would serve the Fellows well, but also that we all would come to know the individual projects better if we collectively read a bit from each of them. I learned some years ago, not long after I came to Columbia in the summer of 2007, that it would be too much to ask visitors to the weekly lectures to review pre-circulated papers before the session, that in this fast-paced university it would limit the audience too greatly. By contrast, meeting once a month, and inviting only the Fellows, the Director, Associate Director, and a Board Member or two, helps ensure that the papers get read thoughtfully and that an informed, informal conversation may ensue.

None of this would work, though, without a talented group of Fellows eager to engage
with each other. Our three new Fellows this year—William Deringer (History of Science), Brian Goldstone (Anthropology), and David Russell (English and Comparative Literature)—brought to the group fresh energy, sharp minds, and new perspectives. They joined our outstanding continuing scholars: Dana Fields (Classics), Emily Ogden (English), Ian McCready-Flora (Philosophy), Edgardo Salinas (Music), and Yanfei Sun (Sociology). All gave superb talks in the fall lecture series. These get better and better every year, in my judgment. We were fortunate to close the term with a lecture by former Fellow Daniel Lee (2010–2011), now an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at The University of Toronto, who gave a rich and subtle treatment of the problem of delegated sovereignty in the work of the Early-Modern jurist and philosopher Jean Bodin.

Spring 2013 served up an intellectual feast. For the lecture series, the Fellows chose the theme of “Animation,” and the scholars they invited pursued that theme in creative and unexpected ways. We had meditations, for example, on the meaning of wakefulness and the cultural expectations for the experience of sleep, on the place of music in the emergence of the human species, on early experiments in the preservation of vital matter, on the animation of memory in Roman Greece, on the practice of inviting spirits to inhabit statues in rural Chinese villages, on the relationship between vision and cognition, on isolation and identity in the films of Michael Leigh, and on the encounter with stone and the experience of time. In addition, the Society of Fellows sponsored three conferences in the second term. In February, Associate Director Eileen Gillooly and I teamed with Susan Pedersen in the Department of History to present a two-day conference on “The Moment of British Women’s History: Memories, Celebrations, Assessments, and Critiques.” Hagar Kotef (2009–2012) returned from Israel to organize at New York University the third installment of “Reworking Political Concepts III: A Lexicon in Formation.” To close the year, Emily Ogden arranged and presided over an energetic and well-attended conference on “Credulity: Enchantment and Modernity in the 19th Century U.S,” a gathering that spoke to the vitality of American Studies at Columbia University.

The coming of spring also brought, inevitably, a string of departures. We had more than usual this academic year, including in the front office. Our wonderful Business Manager Krishana Bristol-Allen left in the summer of 2012 for a challenging new administrative position at Princeton University. Our Program Manager Jonah Cardillo, who has been vital to every aspect of the Heyman Center and the Society of Fellows for almost six years, this past April became Director of Institutional Gifts at St. Mary’s Healthcare System for Children (Bayside, Queens). Five of our Fellows also take the next step in their careers. Dana Fields joins the Classics Department at SUNY Buffalo as an Assistant Professor. Emily Ogden begins a tenure-track job in the Department of English at the University of
Virginia. David Russell takes up a post in English Language and Literature at King’s College, London. Edgardo Salinas continues in the Department of Music at Columbia, where he will teach Masterpieces of Western Music. And Yanfei Sun returns to the University of Chicago, where she earned her doctorate, for a year of lecturing and research before she starts her faculty appointment at Tsinghua University in Beijing. Each will be dearly missed.

These impending departures made our ritual of yearly renewal all the more important. I am pleased to report that the Annual Fellowship Competition produced one of the deepest finalist pools in recent memory. Five received the award, but given the quality of the candidates, we might easily have doubled that number had we had the space and resources. As always, the incoming Fellows bring to the program new projects, new questions, and, in some cases, new disciplinary orientations.

The Institute for Research in African American Studies will host Vanessa-Agard Jones, a recent PhD in Anthropology and French Studies from New York University, who has interests in politics and sexuality in the modern Caribbean. Teresa Bejan joins us from the Department of Political Science at Yale University, where she worked on concepts of civility and on early modern and contemporary debates about religious toleration. Hidetaka Hirota, a prize-winning historian from Boston College, will teach for the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race and continue his work on immigration regulation in the nineteenth-century United States. Rebecca Woods, who joins us from the History, Anthropology, Science, Technology, and Society program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, works at the intersection of science, economy, and nature, with particular emphasis on livestock production, preservation, circulation, and cultural impact. Grant Wythoff, who earned his doctorate in English from Princeton University, has particular interests in media theory, science fiction, and the digital humanities.

We also add three new members to the administrative staff, each of whom comes to the Society of Fellows and the Heyman Center for the Humanities from other parts of the University. Clarence Coaxum moves over from the Center for the Core Curriculum to become Business Manager. Sarah Monks, most recently at the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, becomes Program Manager. And Nicholas Obourn joins us from the office of Communications and Public Affairs to become our first Communications and Web Manager, a role that we hope will coordinate the various humanities projects on campus and disseminate the scholarship generated at the Society of Fellows. It promises to be a very good year.

Christopher L. Brown
Chair and Director
MEMBERS OF THE 2012–2013
GOVERNING BOARD

Courtney Bender  
Religion

Mark Mazower (ex-officio)  
History

Susan Boynton (ex-officio)  
Music

Monica Miller  
English and Comparative Literature and Africana Studies, Barnard College

Christopher L. Brown,  
Chair/Director (ex-officio)  
History

Michele Moody-Adams  
Philosophy

Eileen Gillooly (ex-officio)  
English and Comparative Literature

Samuel Moyn  
History

Patricia Grieve (ex-officio)  
Latin American and Iberian Cultures

Frances Negrón-Muntaner  
English and Comparative Literature and Center for Study of Race and Ethnicity

Holger Klein  
Art History and Archaeology

Elizabeth Povinelli  
Anthropology

Elizabeth Leake  
Italian

Joanna Stalnaker  
French and Romance Philology

David Lurie  
East Asian Languages and Cultures

James Zetzel (ex-officio)  
Classics
The thirty-eighth Society of Fellows in the Humanities Fellowship Competition closed on 1 October 2012, with 793 applicants vying for the five fellowship positions available for 2013–2014. A total of twenty-one departments, institutes, and centers participated in the first round of vetting. The eighty-nine applications they recommended for advancement to the next level of competition each 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 issued invitations to thirteen candidates for interviews, held in January 2013 at the Heyman Center.

The five available fellowships for 2013–2014 were offered to and accepted by Vanessa Agard-Jones (PhD 2013), who joins the Society of Fellows from New York University, Departments of Anthropology and French Studies; Teresa Bejan (PhD 2013), who received her doctorate from Yale University, Department of Political Science; Hidetaka Hirota (PhD 2012), who comes to us from Boston College, Department of History; Rebecca Woods (PhD 2013), who received her doctorate from MIT’s History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology, and Society Graduate Program; and Grant Wythoff (PhD 2013), who received his doctorate from Princeton University, Department of English.

The five Fellows, whose appointments began 1 July 2013, joined three returning Fellows: William Deringer, Princeton University (PhD 2012), Brian Goldstone, Duke University (PhD 2012), and Ian McCready-Flora, University of Michigan (PhD 2011).
## 2012–2013 Competition Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Applicants</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art History and Archaeology</td>
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<td>Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity</td>
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<td>Classics</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Asian Languages and Cultures</td>
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<tr>
<td>English and Comparative Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>Film Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>French and Romance Philology</td>
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<td>2.27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germanic Languages</td>
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<td>History</td>
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<td>Institute for Research in African American Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institute for Research on Women and Gender</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1.51%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin American and Iberian Cultures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies</td>
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<td>Sociology</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>793</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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FELLOWS IN RESIDENCE
2012–2013
William Deringer is a historian of economic and financial knowledge. His research focuses on the history of calculation—on how certain economic calculations emerge, why they are believed, and what values they encode. His first book project, *Calculated Values: Financial Politics and the Dawn of the Quantitative Age, 1688–1776*, reveals how political confusions that arose in the aftermath of Britain’s 1688 Revolution gave rise to a new science of quantitative economic analysis. At its broadest, *Calculated Values* examines how numbers have facilitated the tense co-existence of capitalism and democracy.

In 2012–2013, Dr. Deringer began preparing *Calculated Values* for publication. He presented material from the project, concerning financial valuation during the 1720 South Sea Bubble, at the North American Conference on British Studies and the Institute of Historical Research, London. He also completed the first article to come out of the *Calculated Values* project: “Finding the Money: Public Accounting, Political Arithmetic, and Probability in the 1690s,” appearing in *The Journal of British Studies* in July 2013. In addition, he began work on a new final chapter, which examines the legacy of post-1688 computational controversies in the political and epistemological thinking of David Hume and Richard Price. He plans to continue work on his book manuscript next year, and will present material on the project at the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, the University of Dundee, and the University of Chicago.

Dr. Deringer also began investigating a new research topic: the history of exponential discounting, a mathematical technique that employs the logic of compound interest to put a present price on future economic property. He developed a new article that reconstructs how, from 1610 to 1730, exponential discounting displaced earlier heuristics for valuing the economic future. He presented drafts of that paper, “The Present Value of the Distant Future in the Early Modern Past,” at the Society of Fellows’ Thursday Lecture Series and at Brown, Yale, and the NYU Stern School of Business. In subsequent research, he hopes to trace the history of exponential discounting forward in time, up to 21st-century debates on the present cost of future climate catastrophe. That (distant) project is tentatively called *Discounting: An Intellectual History of Capitalism’s Future*.

During both fall and spring semesters, Dr. Deringer taught Contemporary Civilization. He will teach a course on the History of Finance next fall for the History Department.
Dana Fields is a Classicist with broad interests in Greek and Roman literature, culture, and intellectual history. She specializes in the Greek literary culture of the Roman Imperial period, often known as the Second Sophistic. Her research interests also include rhetoric, the ancient novel, ancient politics, and the use of antiquity in American politics.

In the final year of her fellowship, Dr. Fields continued work on several ongoing projects, including a revision of her book manuscript (based on her PhD dissertation) and the development of a project on animals and politics, the topic of her second book.

Dr. Fields’ book manuscript, Speaking Freely in Imperial Greece, addresses the significance of free and frank speech in Greek culture under the Roman Empire. In it, she argues that the concept of frank speech (parrhesia in Greek) provided Roman-era Greeks with a particularly useful tool to negotiate their relationship to the Greek past, and played an increasingly crucial role in ethical self-definition, with great implications for both philosophy and local Greek politics. It is in connection with this project that Dr. Fields presented her paper “Frank Speech and the Will to Freedom” at the Society of Fellows’ Thursday Lecture Series. She plans to submit her manuscript to the Cambridge University Press series “Greek Culture in the Roman World.”

Dr. Fields co-organized an interdisciplinary workshop on the theme of confinement, in October of 2012 with former Fellow Hagar Kotef (2009–2012). The pre-circulated papers included Dr. Fields’s piece “Chained Animals and Human Liberty: Ancient Greek and Roman Perspectives.” At the newly inaugurated Fellows’ First Draft Fridays, she presented a draft of an article titled “Kingship in Imperial Fable.” With the feedback gained in this venue, she has revised the article for submission to the American Journal of Philology.

During the past academic year, Dr. Fields’s publications have appeared in Transactions of the American Philological Association and Classical Review; in addition, she completed a review of a monograph on the Imperial-era epic poetry of Quintus of Smyrna.

This spring, Dr. Fields taught a Greek course in the Classics department on the adventure novel Leucippe and Clitophon by Achilles Tatius, dated roughly to the second century CE. The course enabled her to develop and sharpen ideas for scholarly articles on gender and sexuality in the novel, as well as to introduce this seldom-taught, strange, and enjoyable text to Classics students.

In Fall of 2013, Dr. Fields joins the Classics Department of the University at Buffalo, The State University of New York as an Assistant Professor.
As a first-year Fellow, Brian Goldstone completed work on two writing projects. The first, an article entitled “Life after Sovereignty,” is slated to appear in the journal *History of the Present*. The second project, *African Futures: Essays on Crisis, Emergence, and Possibility* (co-edited with Juan Obarrio), is under review at the University of Chicago Press. He also wrote a review essay on Taiye Selasi’s novel *Ghana Must Go* for *Public Books*, an online multimedia site affiliated with the print journal *Public Culture*.

In addition to these publications, Dr. Goldstone began work on his book manuscript, *The Miraculous Life: Scenes from the Charismatic Encounter in Northern Ghana*. Arranged as a gathering of disparate scenes—an approach that makes use of an array of ethnographic, literary, philosophical, video, photographic, and historical materials—the book explores the sensuous, intensive, often precarious worlds that materialize as Pentecostal-charismatic believers labor to make the “miraculous life” their own. It also looks at how—against the backdrop of a campaign aimed at reconstituting the social, moral, and spiritual disposition of an alleged “Muslim stronghold”—this reality, this life, is made available to others.

Dr. Goldstone taught two seminars over the course of the academic year, “Signs and Wonders” and “African Futures.” Other activities included invited presentations at the Franklin Humanities Institute at Duke University and at “Contemporality: A Symposium on Politics, Culture, and Time,” hosted by the Committee on Globalization and Social Change at the CUNY Graduate Center. He also served as a discussant at “Moving Toward Confinement: An Interdisciplinary Workshop on the Politics of Space,” held at the Heyman Center for the Humanities in October 2012, and co-organized a panel on “Undeadening Death” for the 2013 meetings of the American Anthropological Association.

Dr. Goldstone begins his second year in the Society of Fellows in September 2013.
Ian McCready-Flora studies the ancient Greeks, Aristotle and Plato, in particular. His current project offers a novel interpretation of Aristotle’s epistemology and psychology, focusing on what makes human thinking unique.

Aristotle defines humans as the rational animals, and the project asks what Aristotle’s notion of “rationality” amounts to. It does so by examining his theory of belief (doxa in Greek), which Aristotle thinks is open only to humans. Aristotle’s direct comparison of belief to both the non-rational cognition of animals and the higher achievements of contemplation and demonstrative science sheds light on this rational/non-rational boundary.

Papers representing two parts of this project have been accepted for publication. The first, “Aristotle and the Normativity of Belief,” is forthcoming in June from Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy. It argues that, for Aristotle, believing occurs under a constitutive norm to believe the truth, similar to how soccer playing operates under a constitutive norm not to pick up the ball. This norm derives from the value of truth for human flourishing and belief’s inherent fallibility. Subjection to this norm is part of what separates rational from non-rational cognition.

The second paper, forthcoming in Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, is “Aristotle’s Cognitive Science: Belief, Affect and Rationality.” It ranges over topics in Aristotle’s aesthetics, rhetoric, psychology, ethics, and philosophy of science. The argument is that, for Aristotle, rationality includes a filter that interrupts the pathways between mental representation and behavior. Aristotle’s view resolves a tension we grapple with today: it accounts for the specialness of human action and thinking within a strictly naturalistic framework. The theory is striking in its insight and explanatory power, instructive in its methodological shortcomings.

Dr. McCready-Flora delivered nine talks during the academic year on three distinct papers. He presented “Aristotle Domesticates Protagoras: Charity and Dialectic” for the Society of Fellows, and “Aristotle’s Epistemology” for the American Philosophical Association’s Central Division Meeting and for Ancient Philosophy workshops at the University of Toronto and Columbia University. Lastly, he delivered versions of a side project on Plato’s Moral Psychology, “How Plato Theorizes Emotion,” at the North American Regional Meeting of the International Plato Society, and at Philosophy Department colloquia for Wayne State University, the University of Iowa, Wabash College, and Carleton College.
Research Project

The Fictional Faculty: American Lay Empiricisms, 1784–1910

**EMILY OGDEN**

**University of Pennsylvania, Department of English, PhD 2010**

Emily Ogden’s teaching and research focus on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century U. S. literature and the occult sciences. She is currently completing a book manuscript entitled *Credulity: Antebellum Mesmerism in Fact and Fiction*.

During the past academic year, Dr. Ogden had two articles accepted for publication: “Pointing the Finger,” an invited contribution to a forum on critical practice, and “Disenchanted with Disenchantment,” both of which appeared in *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists* (Spring 2013). “Edgar Huntly and the Regulation of the Senses” is forthcoming from *American Literature* (September 2013). Dr. Ogden was invited to participate in “Enchanted Criticism: A Roundtable” at the Rothermere American Institute, Oxford University in February 2013. Ogden also presented the paper “Mesmerism and the Historians of Error” in the Society of Fellows’ Fall Thursday Lecture Series, and delivered a work-in-progress, “Feathered Souls: Antebellum Mesmerism and the Skeptical Flight of Fancy,” at the Columbia University Religion in America Seminar. In the fall semester, she taught a seminar in the English and Comparative Literature Department, “Fiction and the Occult.”

In Spring 2013, Ogden organized a conference at the Heyman Center, “Credulity: Enchantment and Modernity in the Nineteenth-Century U. S.” The conference, which was generously sponsored by the Society of Fellows, the Heyman Center, and the English and Comparative Literature Department, explored the place of enchantment in nineteenth-century America. Presenters addressed various beliefs considered “credulous,” or excessive, in the nineteenth-century, including Mormonism, spiritualist psychometry, and fetishism. Ogden’s own presentation was entitled “‘A Negative of All Previous Experience’: Mesmerism’s Errant Knowledge.” With the support of the Society of Fellows, Ogden also organized a talk by Elizabeth Dillon of Northeastern University, entitled “The End of the Line: Kinship Imagined and Unimagined in the Novels of the Haitian Revolution.”

Ogden begins a tenure-track appointment in the University of Virginia English Department in the fall of 2013.
DAVID RUSSELL

Princeton University, Department of English, PhD 2011

David Russell’s book project, A Literary History of Tact: Sociability, Aesthetic Liberalism and the Essay Form, identifies the development of an ethic and aesthetic of tact in nineteenth-century Britain. The meaning of tact travelled in this period from the realm of politesse, and the prerogative of an elite, to the field of politics and an everyday urban sociability.

The project credits this development to the experiments in style of the under-studied essay form and demonstrates how tact emerged in the creative response of Romantic essayists to urban modernization. The project challenges current readings of nineteenth-century sociability as an assertion of power relations, proposing instead that tact provided the basis of an “aesthetic liberalism”—a speculative and aesthetic response to the question of how people are to live together.

Dr. Russell’s second project, “Learning from Experience: Aesthetic Education and Literary Criticism,” examines how the writing of Thomas Carlyle and John Ruskin, the poetry of Tennyson, and the novels of George Eliot sought to change their audiences through the experience of reading, and the ways in which this tradition provided a basis for the development of the discipline of literary study, in particular with the work of I. A. Richards.

During his year at the Society of Fellows, Dr. Russell drafted chapters of his book on George Eliot and British psychoanalysis and was awarded a book contract with Princeton University Press. A Literary History of Tact will be released in Fall/Winter 2014.

Dr. Russell delivered a talk entitled “George Eliot’s Rage” as part of the Fellows’ Fall Thursday Lecture Series, and arranged for Andrew Miller, Professor of English at Indiana University, to give a lecture in the Spring Thursday Lecture Series. He taught Literature Humanities both semesters.

In September 2012, he presented work from his second project, “Stupid like Tennyson, Stupid like Bion: On Poetry and Psychoanalysis,” at the North American Victorian Studies Association Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. He also revised an essay “Teaching Tact: Matthew Arnold on Education,” for publication in the journal Raritan (Winter 2013) and had his article “Aesthetic Liberalism: John Stuart Mill as Essayist” accepted for publication with the journal Victorian Studies.

Dr. Russell’s research and teaching have been supported by the Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation and by a postdoctoral fellowship at the Mahindra Humanities Center at Harvard University.

In July 2013 he will move to London, where he will take up a position as Lecturer in English at King’s College London.
During the 2012–2013 academic year, Edgardo Salinas focused on completing his book manuscript. The work, entitled *The Sound of Modernity: Beethoven’s Piano Sonatas and the Media of Romantic Poetry*, links Beethoven’s reinvention of the piano sonata to the theory of the novel that Friedrich Schlegel formulated as the intellectual leader of Jena Romanticism. Reflecting on the print media revolution unfolding in the late eighteenth century, Schlegel and the Jena Romantics first conceived of form as an open-ended process of mediation, epitomized by the modern novel and predicated on the material understanding of art as medium introduced by Gotthold Ephraim Lessing.

Dr. Salinas argues that the Romantic theory of the novel offers an alternative framework of historical relevance, helping us to understand how the drastic transformation of domestic music-making that Beethoven’s piano sonatas represent was inextricably tied to literary conceptions of form, self, and media. These notions had themselves been widely disseminated thanks to the unprecedented expansion of print culture around 1800, which reconfigured the practices of everyday life in the modern West.

Dr. Salinas has two articles on key issues addressed in his book currently under review at musicological journals.

In his concluding year as a Fellow, he started a new research project that investigates the aesthetic categories of kitsch and camp as a way to reexamine the modernist concept of artwork in its fraught relationship with mass media technologies. Salinas’s last lecture at the Society developed this line of inquiry. Centered on pianist and entertainer extraordinaire Liberace, it discussed Liberace’s iconoclastic “reinterpretations” of Beethoven’s piano sonatas from the perspective of theories of media. Integrating his various projects, Dr. Salinas is organizing a new study group, “Music, Media, Modernity,” under the aegis of the American Musicological Society. The group will function as an open forum to discuss and foster new interdisciplinary perspectives that have been opened up by recent research in the emerging fields of sound studies and the archaeology of media.

In the spring, Dr. Salinas taught “Masterpieces of Western Music” in the Core, for which he developed a multimedia online syllabus that proved to be successful in introducing students to the repertoire of Western art music. In Summer 2013, he taught a doctoral seminar at Facultad de Humanidades y Artes of Universidad Nacional de Rosario in Argentina. The seminar, entitled “La Música en la Crítica de la Modernidad,” examined the relationship between musical practice and philosophical discourse throughout Western modernity.

In 2013–2014, Dr. Salinas will be Adjunct Assistant Professor in The Department of Music at Columbia. He will also continue teaching and mentoring doctoral students as Visiting Professor in the Graduate School of the Facultad de Humanidades y Artes of Universidad Nacional de Rosario in Argentina.

Over the course of the past academic year, Dr. Sun gave four talks, at the Conference on Religion and Politics in Greater China at Oregon State University, the Columbia University Society of Fellows’ Thursday Lecture Series, the Comparative Research Workshop at Yale University, and the Religion and Politics Spring Conference at Yale.
THURSDAY
LECTURE SERIES
Society of Fellows in the Humanities
Columbia University
Lunchtime Lecture Series  Fall 2012

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

IV. Lunchtime Lecture Series Fall 2012

September 20
Yanfei Sun
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Sociology and EALAC
"Colonialism, Communism and Christianity: the Change of Religious Ecology in China"

September 27
Ian McCready-Flora
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Philosophy
"Aristotle Domesticates Protagoras: On Charity and Dialectic"

October 4
Brian Goldstone
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Anthropology
"Life after Sovereignty"

October 11
Emily Ogden
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in English and Comparative Literature
"Mesmerism and the Historians of Error"

October 18
David Russell
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in English and Comparative Literature
"George Eliot's Rage"

October 25
Dana Fields
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Classics
"Frank Speech and the Will to Freedom"

November 15
Will Slauter
Society of Fellows (2007-2009), Lecturer in History, University of Paris 8
"News Piracy in Historical Perspective"

November 29
Will Deringer
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in History
"The Present Value of the Distant Future in the Financial Revolution"

November 8
Edgardo Salinas
Society of Fellows/Lecturer in Music
"Liberace or the Apotheosis of Kitsch"

November 15
Will Slauter
Society of Fellows (2007-2009), Lecturer in History, University of Paris 8
"News Piracy in Historical Perspective"

December 6
Daniel Lee
Society of Fellows (2010-11), Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Toronto
"Delegating Sovereignty: Jean Bodin on the Rights of Magistracy"
Fall 2012
Fellows’ Talks

20 September
Colonialism, Communism and Christianity: the Change of Religious Ecology in China
Yanfei Sun, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in Sociology and EALAC
Dr. Sun’s talk sought to explain the explosive growth of Protestant Christianity in post-Mao China. While acknowledging the important roles that Protestant groups’ institutional features played in this growth, she argued that an analysis of the institutional features of the Protestant groups alone cannot provide an adequate explanation. In this talk, she provided an analysis of how the Maoist state and the post-Mao state have created and shaped social conditions that allowed some institutional features of Protestantism to facilitate a growth rate historically unprecedented for this religion in Chinese society. The findings show that the effect of institutional features is contingent on the sociopolitical environment in which the religious group is situated and that the state is the most powerful actor in creating and shaping this environment.

27 September
Aristotle Domesticates Protagoras: On Charity and Dialectic
Ian McCready-Flora, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in Philosophy
In this talk, Dr. McCready-Flora examined a moment in philosophical history when charity seems both required and abused: Aristotle’s engagement with Protagoras. In one striking passage, Aristotle concludes that Protagoras is really saying “nothing surprising” with his famous dictum that “man is the measure of all things.” In Aristotle’s hands, the doctrine becomes true, but anodyne, and even contrary to what Protagoras meant.
Dr. McCready-Flora asked why Aristotle might make such an interpretive move. He argued that, for Aristotle, Protagoras’s doctrine (as typically read) erodes the foundations of communication and reason itself. The only charitable thing is therefore to read the claim differently, and Aristotle provides such a reading. There is, however, a danger: Protagoras makes sense, but can tell us nothing new. Interpretation gives way to assimilation, domestication.

4 October
Life after Sovereignty
Brian Goldstone, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in Anthropology
Over the past decade, few conceptual rubrics have more thoroughly suffused the theoretical vocabularies of those working in the humanities and social sciences than that of sovereignty. But at what cost? How is it that this single concept, with its accompanying cast of characters (bare life, precarious life, creaturely life), has managed to capture so dramatically our political and philosophical imaginations no less than our theological imagination? Could it be that our preoccupation with sovereignty, in all of its ‘emergent’ permutations, has prevented us from narrating those other stories, those other worlds, whose modes of death and life are irreducible—even indifferent—to its dialectics and determinations? Drawing on ethnographic research in northern Ghana, Dr. Goldstone asked what it would mean, not simply to pluralize or horizontalize or even “democratize” sovereignty, as some have tried to do, but to begin to envisage life outside the whole sovereignty edifice altogether.
11 October

Mesmerism and the Historians of Error
Emily Ogden, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in English and Comparative Literature

In 1837 Providence, some invalid women turned out, under hypnotic treatment, to have a sixth sense: they could see into the bodies of others to diagnose illness; they could follow unspoken mental commands; and they could read letters sealed in heavy envelopes by pressing the letters against their parietal bones. These events initiated the science of mesmerism, or hypnosis, in the United States, which would blossom into a major national movement (encompassing Spiritualist séances and mediumistic practices in the late century) and produce a series of compelling social-psychological theories. The talk offered a genealogy of the “sixth sense” of these early clairvoyants as a first step toward understanding the subsequent developments. Dr. Ogden argued that the sixth sense is sentiment. In a move that had antecedents in the eighteenth-century culture of sensibility, mesmerism reworked feeling, especially diseased or excessive feeling, into a source of empirical information about the natural world and the minds of others. The question is, what ways of imagining the social did this reworking make available?

18 October

George Eliot’s Rage
David Russell, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in English and Comparative Literature

George Eliot’s novels are famous for their tact and serene sympathy, but her essays are nothing of the sort. Her understudied career as an essayist and editor for the Westminster Review between 1851–1856, before she began to write fiction, is remarkable for its often contemptuous and objurgatory tone. Dr. Russell’s talk identified the unifying principles in these apparently disparate essays by demonstrating how Eliot used the essay form to explore the constricting limitations of the culture she was attempting to make her way in as a single woman from Warwickshire. He argued that it was from these experiments in critical form and affective tone that Eliot developed her own distinctive and innovative novelistic technique.

25 October

Frank Speech and the Will to Freedom
Dana Fields, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in Classics

Dr. Fields’s talk looked at Greek writings of the Roman Imperial period and the use of frankness (parrhēsia) as a term freighted with the history of classical Athens and its participatory democracy. The strong associations between frankness and the free status of the citizen endured even in the political environment of the Empire, which saw the Greek world dominated by both a foreign power and an autocratic leader.

At the same time, however, the close conceptual connections between frankness and freedom form part of a larger development in ethical philosophy, starting in the Hellenistic period but continuing into the Roman Empire, transforming highly valued characteristics like freedom and happiness into features determined internally by force of will, rather than by conventional external determinants such as law or wealth. Literary sources provide evidence not only for the prevalence of this notion of the will in popular philosophy but also for its broader cultural relevance, as connected with the practice of frankness.

8 November

Liberace or The Apotheosis of Kitsch
Edgardo Salinas, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in Music

In 1953, pianist and entertainer extraordinaire Liberace entered American culture with a TV show that introduced millions of viewers to canonic works and composers of Western art music. In his show—which garnered higher ratings than I Love Lucy—Liberace regularly performed shortened and “enhanced” versions of musical works such as Beethoven’s piano sonatas and Chopin’s
Polonaises. In these free reinterpretations, Liberace routinely left out the “difficult, boring parts,” orchestrated the original piano score, and eventually created eclectic mash-ups that seamlessly blended jazz, bossa nova, and classical music. This cut-and-paste approach outraged music critics, and Liberace soon came to be portrayed in mainstream media as the very incarnation of kitsch, and later, as the paradigm of camp.

Dr. Salinas’ talk traced the genealogy of the notions of kitsch and camp in the discourse of modern criticism and sought to complicate them, by analyzing representative performances of classical works that Liberace recorded for his TV show. As a symbolic case representing an extreme tendency within mass culture, Liberace’s interventions can help us both to rethink the relationship between artwork, media, and performance and to reframe the anxieties undergirding the dichotomy between serious art and popular entertainment that has been central to modern aesthetics.

15 November

*News Piracy in Historical Perspective*

Lecturer in History, University of Paris VIII/8

The standard narrative of copyright history involves two major assumptions: first, the law expanded over time to cover a greater range of works for longer periods of time; second, as technology advanced, copying became easier, which motivated publishers to seek stronger protection against piracy. But serial publications have followed a very different trajectory than books, and the authorship of news has never fit comfortably into Anglo-American copyright law.

To explain why, Dr. Slauter examined changing attitudes toward the copying of news alongside shifts in its material form. The presentation surveyed developments during the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries. Returning to these periods reveals just how many obstacles—cultural, political, and legal—had to be overcome before news could become a form of private property.

29 November

*The Present Value of the Distant Future in the Financial Revolution*

William Deringer, Society of Fellows, Columbia University
Lecturer in History

Few computational practices are more fundamental to the logic of financial capitalism than that of “present value,” by which the exponential action of compound interest is deployed to translate the economic future into present terms. Critically, and as a rule, such present-value techniques heavily discount the value of future economic events. But such definitions of economic reason, however foundational, are not historically timeless. At the beginning of modern financial culture, the rectitude in early-modern terminology, “ready money”—techniques were not taken for granted.

Beginning with arguments arising out of the financial consequences of the Anglo-Scottish Union of 1707, Dr. Deringer explored how financiers, journalists, and politicians during Britain’s age of “financial revolution” disputed what the distant future was worth. Arguments about the proper value of very long-term annuities, for example, were not simply narrow technical disputes, but rather pitted different visions of economic rationality against one another: the common sensical versus the mathematical, the vernacular versus the elitist. These arguments, Dr. Deringer showed, resonated more broadly in British culture, shaping how Britons came to think about the possibility of controlling the political future.
6 December

**Delegating Sovereignty: Jean Bodin on the Rights of Magistracy**
Assistant Professor of Science, University of Toronto

It is a point of conventional wisdom in public and international law that sovereignty is fundamentally non-delegable. In support of this doctrine, legal theorists have often appealed to the authority of the sixteenth-century French legist, Jean Bodin (1529/30–1596), whose classic analysis of sovereignty is understood to be a prohibition on all forms of delegated authority. But, as Dr. Lee argued in this paper, Bodin not only developed a doctrine of delegated sovereignty, but also actively advocated the permanent delegation of sovereignty as essential for securing stability and justice in governing the modern state.

Dr. Lee’s talk explored the Roman law origins of Bodin’s delegation doctrine in early modern debates on legal rules governing delegation of magisterial authority in Justinian’s *Digest*. Bodin adopted a surprisingly familiar position advocating the delegation of imperium through the legal constitution of permanent impersonal offices of government, acting on behalf of the sovereign by way of agency. In this way, magistrates turn out not to be personal servants of the sovereign authority, but rather ‘trustees’ of sovereign rights belonging to an impersonal legal order.

**SPRING 2013**

**Animation**

Guest speakers offered meditations on animation: on having a soul, being and seeming alive, affecting vivacity. What can be said about becoming animated? At a broad level the series asked, where do we recognize life, and how have the grounds of these recognitions changed throughout history? How do we respond to the partially or apparently alive—when is life-likeness horrifying, and when is it awe-inspiring or even cute? And finally, what consequences do we face when we grant or deny that some other piece of our world is alive?

14 February

**Thoreau’s Bed: Walden and the History of Modern Sleep**
Benjamin Reiss, Professor of English, Emory University

Professor Reiss argued in this talk that Henry David Thoreau is one of the great critical modern sleepers, someone who both diagnosed and resisted the commodification and regulation of the sleep-wake cycle. Thoreau recorded modernity as a series of shocks to the sleep-wake system (producing chronic exhaustion, insomnia, sleepwalking, industrial accidents, and addiction to stimulants and sleep aids) coupled with a contradictory set of demands to regularize the body’s rhythms according to the needs of industry and commerce.

The sleep disturbances that were endemic to what Thoreau called “the restless, nervous, bustling, trivial nineteenth century” have only intensified in our time, when sleep has become a battleground of late-stage capitalism. It is increasingly studied and tinkered with by the forces of biomedicalization, corporate (micro) management of time and behavior, and a consumer culture that is fed by the first two. Re-reading Thoreau’s work in this light can help us to see the sources of these problems and to re-imagine the place of sleep in our world.
February 14
Benjamin Reiss
Professor of English, Emory University
“Thoreau’s Bed: Walden and the History of Modern Sleep”

February 21
Gary Tomlinson
John Hay Whitney Professor of Music and the Humanities, Yale University
“Musicking at the Limit of the Human”

February 26
Joanna Radin
Assistant Professor in the History of Medicine, Yale University
“Within Cold Blood: Freezers, Biological Anthropology, and the Remaking of Human Nature”

March 7
Janet Downie
Assistant Professor of Classics, Princeton University
“Animating the memorial topography of Hellenism: The Heroes of Philostratus”

March 14
Wei-ping Lin
Professor, Department of Anthropology, National Taiwan University

March 28
Patrick Grim
Distinguished Teaching Professor, Stony Brook University
“Animation & Dynamic Visual Intelligence”

April 4
Andrew H. Miller
Professor of English, Indiana University
“On Not Being Someone Else”

April 11
Hugh Raffles
Professor of Anthropology, The New School
“Stone”

April 18
Spyros Papapetrou
Assistant Professor, History and Theory of Architecture, Princeton University
“You live and do not harm me! Shifts in Approaches to Objects in Turn-of-the-century Anthropology and Histories of Art”
21 February

Musicking at the Limit of the Human
Gary Tomlinson, John Jay Whitney Professor of Music and the Humanities, Yale University

In this discussion, Professor Tomlinson examined how the deep, extraordinary history of musicking offers several heuristic opportunities of extra-musical reach. It traces the emergence of a semiosis, unique in some regards, that builds complex, systematic organization onto non-symbolic signification. In doing so, it suggests an approach to the human/non-human limit that minimizes language and consequently turns away from human exceptionalism to emphasize our participation in a broader animal community. This in turn opens a vista looking out from characteristic human capacities onto the broadest reaches of sign-making, information, and animateness.

28 February

Within Cold Blood: Freezers, Biological Anthropology, and the Remaking of Human Nature
Joanna Radin, Assistant Professor in the History of Medicine, Yale University

The International Biological Program (IBP) was a mid-20th century effort to take stock of the biosphere. With new access to industrial technologies of cold storage, certain IBP-affiliated scientists endeavored to collect and freeze blood from members of human populations depicted as primitive and endangered. Professor Radin examined three episodes in the trajectory of these preserved tissues: the circumstances of their collection in the field, their decades-long suspended animation in freezers, and their contemporary re-animation in the genomic laboratory. In doing so, she demonstrated how what has been understood as being “within” cold blood reflects a historically-specific choreography of bodies (human and otherwise), technologies, and attitudes about life itself.

7 March

Animating the Memorial Topography of Hellenism: The Heroes of Philostratus
Janet Downie, Assistant Professor of Classics, Princeton University

For imperial-era visitors to the Troad—the legendary site of the Trojan War—the heroic burial mounds that dotted that landscape were part of a memorial topography that reflected a strong Homeric literary tradition. In this talk, Professor Downie presented several imperial Greek texts that reflect upon the value of these tumuli as places of memory and argued that Philostratus, in particular, saw the burial landscape of the Troad as offering a way to articulate contemporary Greeks’ relationship to the past. In his Life of Apollonius of Tyana and the dialogue On Heroes, Philostratus dramatizes the heroic anabiosis—or “return to life”—to reflect upon the animation of the literary and cultural tradition to which he belongs.

14 March

Conceptualizing Gods through Statues: A Study of Personification and Localization in Chinese Popular Religion
Wei-ping Lin, Department of Anthropology, National Taiwan University

Although widespread in Taiwan and China, god statues have received little attention from anthropologists. By examining god statues, Professor Lin attempted to answer several important questions in Chinese religion: how are Chinese deities perceived by ordinary people, and what is the nature of their power? Are they seen as bureaucrats, as Arthur Wolf argues, or is there also a non-bureaucratic understanding of the supernatural? By considering the internal and external strategies of animation developed by Gell (1998), Professor Lin discovered that two crucial symbolic processes, personification and localization, bestow power and efficacy (ling) upon a god statue. She showed that the personifica-
tion process engaged Chinese ideas of the body/soul and the social person, in which kinship relations are stressed. She also demonstrated that localization is built upon traditional cosmological models, which, in Taiwan are encapsulated by the ideas of the five spirit-soldier camps (*wu*ying). It is in terms of these cultural concepts that we see how the Han Chinese in Taiwan perceive deities and how the fundamental characteristics of Chinese religion have developed locally.

28 March

*Animation & Dynamic Visual Intelligence*

Patrick Grim, Distinguished Teaching Professor, Stony Brook University

Against a history of animation from Windsor McCay to contemporary fine art, Professor Grim’s paper focused on both the psychological facts and the philosophical questions regarding our dynamic visual processing. Evolution has made us particularly adept at both pattern recognition and dynamic cognition—talents based in perception, but with promise far beyond the purely visual and into the conceptual and the abstract. The emphasis of the talk was on open questions and intellectual horizons.

4 April

*On Not Being Someone Else*

Andrew H. Miller, Professor of English, Indiana University, Bloomington

Professor Miller’s talk considered the imagination of counterfactual self-understanding in literature and film, with special attention to the film *Another Year* (director Mike Leigh, 2010). This “optative” mode of self-understanding compares who one is with whom one might have been had events in the past been different; it is sustained by branching or forking narratives. Leigh’s film portrays such self-understanding by both isolating its various middle-aged characters and juxtaposing those isolated lives. The particular technical devices used by Leigh receive special attention.

11 April

**Stone**

Hugh Raffles, Professor of Anthropology, The New School

Professor Raffle’s talk was drawn from an ongoing book project that explores the lives of stone. There are two problems: What are the forms of life enacted by a substance that, in “the Western philosophical tradition,” is commonly considered inanimate?, and what can we learn from stone? The talk explored these questions ethnographically through specific examples.

18 April

*“You Live and do not Harm me!”: Shifts in Approaches to Objects in Turn-of-the-Century Anthropology and Histories of Art*

Spyridon Papapetros, Associate Professor in History and Theory of Architecture, Princeton University

“*Du lebst und thust mir nichts!* [You live and do not harm me!]”: a statement in which a human subject, specifically an art historian, addresses an object as if it were a living being. But how much confidence can we bestow upon this “nothing”? Is it not the object’s status as a living entity that enables it to do something? Could the subject’s denial then be a form of exorcism against all the things that objects can do, the harm that they are capable of inflicting? And would not this refutation ultimately provoke a response by that interlocutor who is condemned to say or do “nothing”?

Drawing from a number of aphorisms included in Aby Warburg’s incomplete project on aesthetics originally titled “Foundational Fragments for a Monistic Psychology of Art (1888–1903)” (from which the motto in the title of this lecture is excerpted), Professor Papapetros described how turn-of-the-century art history projected ethnographic theories of animistic practices on Renaissance and modern artworks while endowing inert images with the semblance of liveliness (*Lebendigkeit*) and animation (*Belebung*).
In support of the Society’s goal of fully integrating the Fellows into their host departments and encouraging them to partner with other institutions, the Society funded three conferences in the spring of 2013, organized by current and alumni members.

The first, The Moment of British Women’s History: Memories, Celebrations, Assessments, Critiques, was presented by Christopher L. Brown, Eileen Gillooly, and Susan Pedersen as a joint project of the Society of Fellows, the Heyman Center, and British Studies at Columbia University. With additional support from other Columbia institutes and academic departments, this conference brought together a broad cohort of scholars from the U.S. and the U.K.

The second event, Reworking Political Concepts III: A Critical Lexicon, was the continuation of an ongoing series organized by alumna SOF Fellow Hagar Kotef (2009–2012). The conference was supported by Columbia and attracted a stellar group of participating scholars.

The third event, Credulity: Enchantment and Modernity in the Nineteenth-Century U.S., was organized by current Fellow Emily Ogden, and presented the work of an equally fine group of scholars.

SPECIAL EVENTS
8 and 9 February

The Moment of British Women’s History: Memories, Celebrations, Assessments, Critiques

About forty years ago, historians of women began to claim a place for their subject as a distinct scholarly field. This movement emerged particularly powerfully in Britain, its early preoccupations and questions shaped by the feminist movement, the New Left, and especially by Thompsonian social history.

With the founders and pioneers in the field now retiring, it seemed a good moment for celebration and acknowledgement, and also for reflection. How does this field now look to some of its early pioneers? How has mentorship and “school-formation” worked? What have successive generations taken from earlier generations’ work, and how have they transformed it? What happened to those early institutions and networks? What has been gained and lost through the process of institutionalization? What has happened both to the “place” of the feminist imperative within history, and to the relatively privileged place of Britain within that scholarship?

The conference brought together scholars from across England and the U.S. and received additional support from The Heyman Center for the Humanities; The Department of History; The Department of English and Comparative Literature; The University Seminar in Modern British History; British Studies at Columbia; The Institute for Research on Women and Gender; and The Office of the President, Barnard College.
Participants included:

Sally Alexander, Professor of Modern History, Goldsmiths, University of London
Bonnie Anderson, Professor Emerita, Brooklyn College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York
Christopher L. Brown, Professor of History, Columbia University
Arianne Chernock, Assistant Professor of History, Boston University
Anna Clark, Professor of History, University of Minnesota
Deborah A. Cohen, Peter B. Ritzma Professor of the Humanities and Professor of History, Northwestern University
Leonore Davidoff, Research Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Essex
Lucy Delap, Faculty of History, University of Cambridge
April Gallwey, Research Fellow in Oral History, Institute of Advanced Study, University of Warwick
Durba Ghosh, Associate Professor of History, Cornell University
Eileen Gillooly, Associate Faculty in English, Columbia University
Kathryn Gleadle, Lecturer in Modern History, University of Oxford
Susan R. Grayzel, Professor of History, University of Mississippi
Mary S. Hartman, Founder and Senior Scholar, Institute for Women’s Leadership, Rutgers University
Jean Howard, George Delacorte Professor in the Humanities, Columbia University
Karen Hunt, Professor of Modern British History, Keele University
Seth Koven, Associate Professor of History, Rutgers University
Thomas Laqueur, Helen Fawcett Professor, University of California, Berkeley
Phyllis Mack, Professor of History, Rutgers University
Sharon Marcus, Orlando Harriman Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
Deborah Nord, Professor of English, Princeton University
Susan Pedersen, James P. Shenton, Professor of the Core Curriculum, Columbia University
Ellen Ross, Professor of Women’s Studies, Ramapo College
Bonnie Smith, Board of Governors, Professor of History, Rutgers University
Penny Summerfield, Professor of Modern History, University of Manchester
Pat Thane, Professor Emerita, University of London
Selina Todd, Lecturer in Modern British History, University of Oxford
Deborah Valenze, Professor of History, Barnard College
Judith Walkowitz, Professor of Modern European Cultural and Social History, John Hopkins University
Ina Zweiniger-Bargielowska, Professor of History, University of Illinois at Chicago
I and 2 March

**Reworking Political Concepts III: A Critical Lexicon**

*Political Concepts* is a multidisciplinary project and annual conference that seeks to be a forum for engaged scholarship, conversation, and constructive debate rather than the construction of an encyclopedic ideal. Each lexical entry focuses on a single concept in the field of political discourse and aims to address what has remained unquestioned or un-thought in that concept. Our aim is to expand the scope of what demands political accounting, and for this reason we welcome essays that fashion new political concepts or demonstrate how concepts deserve to be taken as politically significant. It is our view that “politics” refers to the multiplicity of forces, structures, problems, and orientations that shape our collective life. Politics enters the frame wherever our lives together are staked and whenever collective action could make a difference to the outcome.

The conference was co-sponsored by The Humanities Initiative and the Department of Comparative Literature (NYU); The New School for Social Research; The Society of Fellows in the Humanities, Columbia University; and The Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, Columbia University.

The conference was organized by:
Adi Ophir, Ann Stoler, Hagar Kotef, and Jacques Lezra

Participants included:
Roy Wagner on Alienation
Avital Ronell on Authority
Nitzan Lebovic on Biometrics
James Miller on Consent
Nilüfer Göle on Contemporary
Jacques Lezra on Enough
Stathis Gourgouris on Human/Animal
Emily Apter on Impolitic
Juan Obarrio on Interest
Antonio Vazquez-Arroyo on Liberal Democracy
Ben Kafka on Repression
Joan Copjec on Repetition
Yves Winter on Siege

Souleymane Bachir Diagne on Time
Stathis Gourgouris on Human/Animal
Yves Winter on Siege

For more information, please visit:
https://www.politicalconcepts.org/conference-2013/

Organized by Adi Ophir, Ann Stoler, Hagar Kotef and Jacques Lezra

Funding is generously provided by Humanities Initiative, NYU, Comparative Literature, NYU, The New School for Social Research, Society of Fellows, Columbia University, ECS, Columbia University.

This conference is free and open to the public. No registration or tickets necessary. Seating is on a first come, first served basis. Photo ID required for entry.
29 March

**Credulity: Enchantment and Modernity in the 19th-Century U.S.**

What is the place of enchantment in nineteenth-century America? Scholars of the secular have accumulated a rich description of what it meant in this period to “aim for ‘modernity,’” in Talal Asad’s phrase. This conference asks about the persons and knowledge that appeared as excessive, even dangerous, to this project—while assuming that this excess cannot simply be described as “religion.”

Credulity, a frequent term of abuse in antebellum sources, meant believing too readily and too well, often with the implication of bodily mismanagement: the credulous person’s nerves or brain did her down. So who were the credulous, and what did they know? How were such alleged failures distinctively modern? Did connections develop between forms of credulity at first linked only by their bad reputations? How should we understand credulity’s angle on the rational—as symptom, queering, disability, doubling?

The conference was co-sponsored by The Society of Fellows in the Humanities, The Heyman Center for the Humanities and the Department of English and Comparative Literature.

The conference was organized by:
**Emily Ogden**, Society of Fellows, Columbia University

Participants included:
**Jennifer J. Baker**, Associate Professor of English, New York University
**Courtney Bender**, Associate Associate Professor of Religion, Columbia University
**Jennifer L. Brady**, Fellow of Academic Research, Division of Arts and Humanities, Harvard University
**Lara Langer Cohen**, Assistant Professor of English, Wayne State University
**Peter Coviello**, Professor of English, Bowdoin College
**Jennifer Fleissner**, Associate Professor of English, Indiana University
**Christopher Hunter**, Assistant Professor of English, California Institute of Technology
**Vesna Kuiken**, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of English, Columbia University
**Dana Luciano**, Associate Professor of English, Georgetown University
**John Lardas Modern**, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Franklin and Marshall College
**Emily Ogden**, Society of Fellows in the Humanities, Columbia University
**Sarah Rivett**, Assistant Professor of English, Princeton University
**Cristobal Silva**, Assistant Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
**Jordan Alexander Stein**, Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, Fordham University
**John Tresch**, Associate Professor, History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania
The Society of Fellows provides major funding for the extensive series of conferences and lectures presented by the Heyman Center for the Humanities (heymancenter.org), which brings together the interests of Columbia’s various departments in the humanities and the broad conceptual, methodological, and ethical issues that are of interest to the natural sciences and to the professional schools of law, medicine, journalism, arts, and international affairs. The series includes the Lionel Trilling Seminar, given once each semester, and several themed series. The offerings for 2012–2013, a sampling of which we include here, were exceptionally rich. For a complete list of all the programs presented, visit heymancenter.org/events.
FALL 2012

9 and 10 September

Jewish Internationalism: Collective Politics in the 19th and 20th Centuries

This conference on Jewish Internationalism was hosted by The Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies and the Department of History at Columbia. Speakers at the conference included Tobias Brinkmann, Malvin and Lea Bank Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and History at Pennsylvania State University; Daniel Cohen, Associate Professor of History at Rice University; Jonathan Dekel-Chen, Senior Lecturer in Russian and Slavic Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Dan Diner, Professor of History at the Hebrew University and Leipzig University; David Engel, Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University; Carole Fink, Humanities Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Ohio State University; Malachi Hacohen, Fred W. Shaffer Associate Professor of History, Political Science, and Religion at Duke University; Markus Kirchoff, Saxonian Academy Leipzig; Rebecca Kobrin, Assistant Professor in History at Columbia University; Nathan Kurz, Yale University; Lisa Leff, Associate Professor of History at American University; James Loeffler, Associate Professor of History at University of Virginia; Samuel Moyn, Bryce Professor of European Legal History at Columbia University; David N. Myers, Professor and Director of the Center for Jewish Studies at University of California, Los Angeles; Jacques Picard, Professor of Jewish History and the Culture of Modernity at University of Basel; Gil Rubin, Columbia University; Zohar Segev, Chair, Department of Jewish History at University of Haifa; Mira Siegelberg, Lecturer on Social Studies and on History and Literature at Harvard University; Adam Teller, Associate Professor of Judaic Studies and History at Brown University; Natasha Wheatley at Columbia University; Tara Zahra, Professor of East European History at University of Chicago; Ron Zweig, Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, Marilyn and Henry Taub Professor of Israel Studies, and Director of the Taub Center for Israel Studies at New York University.

12 September

The Disciplines Series: Evaluation, Value, and Evidence


In this talk, Marion Fourcade, Associate Professor of Sociology at University of California, Berkeley, examined the concept of terroir—a French expression that captures the correspondence between the physical and human features of a place and the character of its agricultural products. Tied to the protection of economic rents threatened by competition and fraud, the practice of
classifying certain lands, grapes, and properties both substantively and qualitatively has become the organizing principle of the entire French wine industry. Often derided as a snobbish, monopolistic practice by New World producers, the notion of *terroir* in France and its rejection in America exemplifies how the “principles of vision and division” of the natural world are always intertwined with the “principles of vision and division” of the social world. The paper discussed these affinities through an analysis of wine classifications in the French regions of Bordeaux and Burgundy, and some of the critiques to which they have given rise in the United States. Steven Shapin, Franklin L. Ford Professor of the History of Science at Harvard University, served as respondent. This talk was made possible through the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

### 21 September

**Rousseau and Republicanism—a Day-long Conference**

The year 2012 marked the 300th anniversary of Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s birth and the 250th anniversary of his *Social Contract*. This conference, intended to celebrate these milestones, was held under the auspices of the Conference for the Study of Political Thought (CSPT), a professional association.

21 and 22 September

**Cinema and the Legacies of Critical Theory:**
*An International Conference in Memory of Miriam Hansen*

The conference was dedicated to the memory of Miriam Hansen and to her seminal work in film history and film theory, with special attention paid to her posthumously published book *Cinema and Experience: Siegfried Kracauer, Walter Benjamin, and Theodor W. Adorno* (University of California Press, 2011). Other topics included early cinema, on which Hansen published an influential book, and the idea of a vernacular modernism in global context, the subject of her latest work. The conference brought together major film scholars from Europe and the United States. It was organized by the journal *New German Critique* on whose editorial board Hansen served for several decades.

15 October

**The Writing Lives Series**

**Prescribing Stories: Reading and Discussion with Physician Authors Chris Adrian and Terrence Holt**

Chris Adrian and Terrence Holt are both physicians and award-winning fiction writers: Adrian of the novel *The Children’s Hospital*, Holt of the short-story collection *In the Valley of the Kings*. They read from their recently published and in-progress work, among other topics, the nature of narratives told at the intersection of medicine and literature.

Sayantani DasGupta, a pediatrician on faculty in Narrative Medicine at Columbia and co-editor of the award-winning *Stories of Illness and Healing: Women Write Their Bodies*, moderated the discussion.
22 October

Memory vs. Oblivion: A Chess Game

In the face of sudden and unexpected changes, collapsing regimes, or vanishing ways of life, how is it that a great number of men and women intimately linked to these changes forget a substantial part of their history and modify the meaning of their pasts? In the long course of human events, how many ideologies and beliefs have been erased? How many cities and languages have vanished; how many populations have been exterminated? With the disintegration of the patrimony of memories of vanquished cultures or obsolete mentalities, entire worlds are at risk of becoming extinguished or unintelligible. Remo Bodei, Professor of the History of Philosophy at the University of California, Los Angeles, explored the questions of memory and forgetting, and why individuals and communities renounce or forget their pasts.

25 October

The History and Theory Lecture

Martin Jay on “Intentionality and Irony: The Missed Encounter of Quentin Skinner and Hayden White”

The Annual History and Theory Lecture featured Martin Jay, Ehrman Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, whose talk compared the legacies of Quentin Skinner and Hayden White, two of the most renowned, yet rarely juxtaposed, historians. Julian Bourg, Associate Professor at Boston College, served as respondent.
12 November

The Disciplines Series: Evaluation, Value, and Evidence
Lorraine Daston on “Rules Rule: From Enlightenment Reason to Cold War Rationality”

Lorraine Daston, Visiting Professor of Social Thought and History at the University of Chicago and Executive Director at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, charted the rise of the algorithm as the backbone of rationality in post-World War II America, in contrast to earlier concepts of both reason and rules.

The talk was made possible through the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

12 November

“Give Us A King!”—Politics Enters Biblical History

From its foundational moment at Sinai, God was Biblical Israel’s sole ruler, often through charismatically appointed agents such as Moses, Gideon, and Samuel. I Samuel 7:15–8 tells how human political authority, in the form of kings, found a place in Israel’s sacral polity. The Israelites demand that Samuel give them a king “as in all the nations”, and God commands the reluctant Samuel to comply. Sages, theologians, and scholars have long debated this puzzling episode. Among many others in the contentiously biblical political culture of 17th-century England, John Milton and James I contested for its authority, while Hobbes read it as explaining how political and divine authority may co-exist. Is Israel wrong to demand a king, and why does God agree? The story is best read as the Biblical mind’s account of the birth of politics and an exercise in ancient political theory.
13 November

The Lionel Trilling Seminar
Darryl Pinckney on “Intellectual Women”

The Fall 2012 Lionel Trilling Seminar featured novelist, playwright, and essayist Darryl Pinckney on “Intellectual Women.” Pinckney is the author of the award-winning *High Cotton*, *Out There: Mavericks of Black Literature*, and a frequent contributor to *The New York Review of Books*. Saskia Hamilton, Professor of English at Barnard College, and Linda Hall, Associate Professor of English at Skidmore College served as respondents. Alondra Nelson, Professor of Sociology at the Institute for Research on Women and Gender, Columbia University, chaired.

17 November

*Free Market, Free Press? The Political Economy of News Reporting in the Anglo-American World since 1688—A Day-long Conference*

The “Free Market, Free Press?” conference brought together a distinguished group of historians and media scholars to chart the evolution of the news business in two of the most important media markets: the United Kingdom and the United States. The current economic crisis in the news business raises many questions about its history. How was news reporting funded in the past? To what extent was its funding contingent on institutional arrangements that no longer exist? To what extent has its funding been sustained by institutional arrangements other than market demand?
26 November

The Edward W. Said Memorial Lecture
Seeing Madness: Insanity, Media, and Visual Culture


28 November

The Disciplines Series: The Idea of Development
Triangulating Property Rights

Private property rights are widely considered effective institutional arrangements to allocate scarce goods and combat what has been termed the “tragedy of the commons.” Their use for governing essential resources, such as food, water, and shelter under conditions of scarcity, however, is less certain. Any governance regime for such resources must meet at least three baseline conditions: equity (fair access), efficiency (improved productivity and growth) and sustainability (environmental). The discussion sought to advance alternative governance solutions drawing on theory and legal and empirical research.

This event was made possible by generous funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
29 November

The Ambiguities of Machiavellian Virtue

In 1512, Giovanni de’ Medici reconquered the republic of Florence, which the Medici had lost control of in 1494. Niccolò Machiavelli, who served the republic as Secretary to the Second Chancery, was deprived of office, accused of conspiracy, arrested, and imprisoned for a time. Released from jail, he retired to his estate and devoted himself to study. In his exile in 1513 he wrote Il Principe, which was published in 1532. On the 500th anniversary of the writing of The Prince, John McCormick, Jean Monnet Chair of European Union Politics at Indiana University—Purdue University Indianapolis, opened the celebrations with a lecture on the text.

Benedetto Fontana, Professor of Political Science at Baruch College, responded, and Nadia Urbinati, Kyriakos Tsakopoulos Professor of Political Theory and Hellenic Studies at Columbia University, chaired.

SPRING 2013

28 January

Poets at the Heyman Center

Nick Laird and Timothy Donnelly—Reading and Conversing with Robyn Creswell

Poets Nick Laird and Timothy Donnelly read from their work and conversed with critic, translator, and scholar Robyn Creswell, Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature at Brown University.

Nick Laird’s most recent poetry collection is Go Giants. He is the recipient of many prizes for his poetry and fiction, including the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature, the Ireland Chair of Poetry
Award, the Betty Trask Prize, a Somerset Maugham award, and the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize.

Timothy Donnelly is the poetry editor of the *Boston Review* and a professor of poetry at Columbia University. His most recent collection was the award-winning *The Cloud Corporation*.

30 January

**Going Solo: The Extraordinary Rise and Surprising Appeal of Living Alone**

Sharon Marcus, the Orlando Harriman Professor of English at Columbia University and the Editor-in-Chief of *Public Books*, interviewed Eric Klinenberg, Professor of Sociology at New York University and author of *Going Solo*. Klinenberg upends conventional wisdom about how the rise of living alone is transforming modern life. Challenging the myths of increasing social isolation and community decline, Klinenberg argues instead that the dramatic emergence of single living is made possible by the robustness of urban societies, and he highlights its benefits as well as its dangers.

31 January

**The Whistleblower: Kathryn Bolkovac—Peacekeeping and Human Trafficking in Bosnia**

Former Nebraska police officer Kathryn Bolkovac was recruited by DynCorp International to support the UN peacekeeping mission in Bosnia. Once in Sarajevo, working as a human rights investigator, she discovered military officers involved in human trafficking and forced prostitution, with links to private mercenary contractors, the UN, and the U.S. State Department. After bringing this evidence to light, Bolkovac was demoted, threatened with bodily harm, fired, and forced to flee the country. She won a lawsuit against DynCorp,

Ms. Bolkovac discussed her story, human trafficking, and other topics with Tanya Domi, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs Officer at Columbia University, whose reporting broke this story.

**20 February**

*The Writing Lives Series*

*Playwright David Henry Hwang in conversation with Jean Howard and Gregory Mosher*

David Henry Hwang, Tony award-winning playwright of *M. Butterfly*, *Yellow Face*, *Golden Child*, and *Chinglish*, visited Columbia to discuss his work, including his recent *Kung Fu* (inspired by the life of Bruce Lee), which premieres at the Signature Theatre Company in 2014.

Joining him in conversation was the theater director and Columbia professor Gregory Mosher, former head of both the Lincoln Center and Goodman Theatres, and Jean Howard, George Delacorte Professor in the Humanities at Columbia and a prominent theater scholar. This event was co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and its Artist at the Center Series. Artist at the Center is an annual program that features artists who engage with race, ethnicity and indigeneity in their production and/or have transformed ethnic identified practices into cultural resources for all.
22 February

The Disciplines Series: The Idea of Development
Joseph Stiglitz, James K. Galbraith, and Branko Milanovic on “Global Inequality”

The relatively new field of inequality studies is gaining increasing momentum as economic disparity grows throughout the world. Speakers Joseph E. Stiglitz, Professor of Economics at Columbia University and the recipient of a Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, James K. Galbraith, Professor of Government at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at University of Texas, and Branko Milanovic, lead economist in the World Bank’s research department, addressed the progressive emergence of this new discipline. The discussion disclosed its roots in classical economics, which focuses on the inequality of social classes, to its shift, beginning in the early part of the twentieth century, toward considering inequality among individuals. What sorts of data make it possible to measure inequality among citizens of a nation—and between citizens of different nations? Can we measure inequality between individuals of different nations as if they belonged to the same one? Does a polarization measure say anything about the structure of a society? How do we measure what happens between the extremes of the very rich and the very poor?

This event was made possible through the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
6 March

The Writing Lives Series
Nick Hornby in conversation with poet Saskia Hamilton

The award-winning novelist, essayist, lyricist, and screenwriter Nick Hornby read from his work-in-progress and discussed the process of transforming literature into theater and film and the ways we consume works of art. Among Hornby’s many bestselling novels are About a Boy, High Fidelity, and Juliet, Naked. His interlocutor for the evening was Saskia Hamilton, poet and Professor of English at Barnard College.

12 March

The Money Series
Should Business Schools Have a Future?

The recent financial crisis has raised disturbing questions about our nation’s business elite. To what extent can this crisis be traced to the pedagogy of our business schools? Can business education promote the public good? If not, then how might we go about re-envisioning the education of the next generation of business leaders? The subject was discussed by a distinguished panel composed of Rakesh Khurana, Marvin Bower Professor of Leadership Development at Harvard Business School; Nicholas Lemann, Dean and Henry R. Luce Professor of Journalism at Columbia University; Martin Dickson, U.S. Managing Editor, Financial Times; and Richard R. John, Professor of Journalism at Columbia University.
Associate Professor of English at the University of Pennsylvania and the author of *Feeling Backward: Loss and the Politics of Queer History*.

**11 April**

**The Writing Lives Series**

*A reading by Uzodinma Iweala*

Uzodinma Iweala, MD, is the author of the award-winning novel *Beasts of No Nation* (prizes from the *Los Angeles Times*, the New York Public Library, the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and *Booktrust*) and of the non-fiction *Our Kind of People: Thoughts on HIV/AIDS in Nigeria*. In 2007, he was selected as one of *Granta’s* Best Young American Novelists. Dr. Iweala read from his latest work, *Speak No Evil*—which he describes as a “a series of inter-

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**28 March**

**Hilton Als and Lisa Cohen in conversation with Heather Love**


Lisa Cohen is the author of the acclaimed biography *All We Know: Three Lives*, described with “unqualified enthusiasm” by Mr. Als as a “remarkable, sui generis study” of three once well-known “modernist figures”—Esther Murphy, Mercedes de Acosta and Madge Garland. *All We Know* was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award.

Both authors were joined by moderator Heather Love, Asso-
linked narratives set in Washington, D.C. that explores the themes of choice, freedom, and what we must compromise to live in a secure society.”

12 and 13 April

The Disciplines Series: Evaluation, Value, and Evidence

Medicine, the Humanities, and the Human Sciences—
a two-day conference

Approaching the topic of “medical humanities” from a variety of disciplinary angles, this conference considered some of the investigations and interventions made by those who study illness and health from the perspectives of the arts, humanities, and human sciences. Presentations by medical practitioners, historians, social justice advocates, medical journalists, disability studies and narrative studies scholars were interspersed with readings by poets and novelists, reports from the field, and a theatrical performance.

Participants included Rachel Adams, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University; Jenny Allen, Writer and Monologist; Christopher Baswell, Ann Whitney Olin Professor of English at Barnard College; Joshua Bennett, Poet; Kathy Boudin, Assistant Professor at Columbia University School of Social Work; Paul Browde, Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at New York University; Eric J. Cassell, Emeritus Professor of Public Health at Cornell University; Rita Charon, Director, Department of Medicine at College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University; Susan Coppola, Clinical Professor, Division of Occupational Science at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Sayantani DasGupta, Assistant Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at Columbia University; Elizabeth Emens, Professor of Law at Columbia University; Valeria Finucci, Professor of Italian Studies at Duke University; Eileen Gillooly, Associate Director, Heyman Center for the Humanities; Rishi Goyal, Columbia Medical Center, Doctor and Scholar; Rachel Hadas, Professor of English at Rutgers University; Carolyn Halpin-Healy, Executive Director, Arts & Minds; Terrence Holt, Assistant Professor of Social Medicine and Geriatric Medicine at University of North Carolina; Marsha Hurst, Lecturer, Master Program in Narrative Medicine at Columbia University; Brian Hurwitz, D’Oyly Carte Professor of Medicine & the Arts at Kings College London; Alvan A. Ikoku, Assistant Professor at Albert Einstein College of Medicine; Uzodinma Iweala, Author and Physician; Marie Myung-Ok Lee, novelist; Murray Nossel, Founder & Director Narativ; Gianna Pomata, Professor at Institute of the History of Medicine The Johns Hopkins University; Benjamin Reiss, Professor of English at Emory University; Cerie Rosemond, Co-Director: The Hubbard Program at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Barry Saunders, Associate Professor, Social Medicine at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; David Serlin, Associate Professor, Department of Communication at University of California, San Diego; Judith Shulevitz, Author; Cristobal Silva, Assistant Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University; Maura Spiegel, Associate Professor of English at Columbia University; Ishita Srivastava, Multimedia Producer,
Breakthrough; Jane Thrailkill, Associate Professor, Department of English and Comparative Literature at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Neil Vickers, Reader in English Literature & Medical Humanities at Kings College, London; Jonathan Weiner, Maxwell M. Geffen Professor of Medical and Scientific Journalism at Columbia University; James Whitehead, Lecturer in Medical Humanities and English at Kings College, London.

This Conference was made possible through the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

18 April

Non-Violent Reading

How does the study of anti- and post-colonial history affect our reading practices? This panel featured Leela Gandhi, Professor of English at the University of Chicago, who spoke on Ahimsaic Historiography, and Isabel Hofmeyr, Professor of African Literature at the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, whose paper was entitled “Gandhi’s Printing Press.” Gandhi and Hofmeyr examined theories and practices of anti-colonialism, focusing in particular on the work and legacies of Mohandas Gandhi. Leela Gandhi delivered a paper on “Ahimsaic Historiography: Reflections on a Hermeneutic of Non-Violence.” Isabel Hofmeyr spoke on “Gandhi’s Printing Press: Experiments in Slow Reading.” Tanya Agathocleous, Associate Professor of English at Hunter College, organized the event.
C.P. Snow actually provide a better model than contributions that are normally regarded as more ‘constructive’ and ‘helpful’?

Following his talk, Professor Collini was joined by Respondents Mary Poovey, Samuel Rudin University Professor in the Humanities at New York University; and Bruce Robbins, Old Dominion Foundation Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University.

1 May

The Writing Lives Series
Family Novels: Colm Tóibín and Julie Orringer in discussion with Deborah A. Cohen

Colm Tóibín is the author of the critically acclaimed novels The Master (which was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize) and Brooklyn, the short-story collection Mothers and Sons, and,

23 April

The Lionel Trilling Seminar
“What, Ultimately, For?” Trilling, Leavis, and the Limits of Cultural Criticism

It is often observed that although cultural critics may be good at denouncing the instrumentalism and reductivism they identify as corroding public discourse, they fail to articulate any persuasive statement of a positive ideal. Through a re-consideration of several classic instances, this lecture explored some of the ways in which the very excesses of polemical or satirical contributions to public debate may themselves be the main bearer of more adequate conceptions of human life. It asked the unsettling question: might the outrageous offensiveness of F.R. Leavis’s notorious attack on
most recently, the novel and play *The Testament of Mary*. Julie Orringer is the author of the short-story collection *How to Breathe Underwater*, which won the Northern California Book Award, and *The Invisible Bridge*. Together, they discussed the dynamics of place and family (including their own) in their literary works with Deborah Cohen, Professor of History at Northwestern University and the author most recently of the historical study *Family Secrets*.

2 May

**The Disciplines Series: Evaluation, Value, and Evidence**

*Value: Social and Ecological*

Jonathan Schell, the author of the pioneering work *The Fate of the Earth*, has turned his gaze recently on the urgencies of climate change. He was joined by James Tully, Distinguished Professor of Political Science, Law, Indigenous Governance and Philosophy at the University of Victoria. Together they discussed the moral and political issues of values as they emerge in our relations to nature and to each other.

This event was made possible through the generous funding of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
Jordanna Bailkin (1999–2001) is the Costigan Professor of European History at the University of Washington. She recently oversaw the publication of her new monograph, *The Afterlife of Empire* (Berkeley, 2012). She is now working on a new project about refugee camps in Britain.


Betsy Connor Bowen (1976–1977) is working with the University of Nebraska Press to publish a biography of her father Croswell Bowen (1905–1971), PM and *New Yorker* writer, crusading liberal. She has been working on it for almost six years using family papers and research libraries. The anticipated publication date is in Spring 2014.

Jonathan Crary (1987–1989) is Meyer Schapiro Professor of Modern Art and Theory in the Columbia University Department of Art History and Archaeology. He continues as founding coeditor of Zone Books, which recently marked its 25th year as an independent press. His book *24/7* was published by Verso in June 2013 and six foreign language translations are currently underway.


Gary Hausman (1996–1997) changed jobs from his former position of South Asia Librarian at Princeton University, to a new position (effective July 2013) of South Asian Studies Librarian at Columbia
University. His office is in Lehman Social Sciences Library, in the Global Studies Division.

**Alan Houston** (1988–1989) has been appointed Interim Vice Chancellor—Student Affairs for UC San Diego, effective 1 July 2013.

In the last year, **Muhammad Ali Khalidi** (1991–1993) published his book, *Natural Categories and Human Kinds* (Cambridge University Press) about taxonomic practices in the natural and social sciences. He has participated in several conferences, including the American Philosophical Association (Pacific Division), Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice, European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, and the Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Science. He continues to teach in the Philosophy Department at York University in Toronto, where he also works as the director of the Cognitive Science Program.


**Christian Murck** (1978–1980) is relocating to New York following his retirement as President of the American Chamber of Commerce in China. He plans to do some consulting, serve on several boards, and hang around the Society of Fellows.


**David Novak** (2007–2010) is an Associate Professor in the Music Department at University of California, Santa Barbara, with affiliations in Anthropology, Film and Media Studies, and East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies. He has been awarded tenure. His book *Japonoise: Music at the Edge of Circulation* (Duke University Press) was published in June 2013. He continues to conduct new research on the role of music and sound in the emerging antinuclear protest movement in Japan.

on the Telectroscope” and “Response to Paul St George” in the *Journal of Victorian Culture*, and “Quatermass in Space” in *The Twilight Language of Nigel Kneale*.

He gave the following talks and conference papers: “Bunker Fantasies, Post-Apocalyptic Culture, and an Expanding Subterra,” at the Humanities Center at Cal State Chico; “The World Street, Temporality, and the Victorian City” at the CUNY Annual Victorianist Conference; “Hitchcock’s Underground” at Going Underground: Travel beneath the Metropolis 1863–2013 at the University of London, and “Armchair Undergrounds: Jules Verne and Subterranean Tourism” and “Fun in Victorian London Today” at the Interdisciplinary 19th-Century Studies Conference in Charlottesville, Va.

**Micah Schwartzman (2006–2007)** is the Edward F. Howrey Professor and Professor of Law at the University of Virginia School of Law. In 2013, he received the Law School’s McFarland Prize, awarded to a junior member of the faculty for outstanding research. His recent work has been published in the *University of Chicago Law Review, Virginia Law Review, Constitutional Commentary, Journal of Political Philosophy*, and the *Journal of Moral Philosophy*. His current research focuses on the constitutional status of religion, the rights of groups and associations, and theories of public reason. In Spring 2013, Schwartzman was Visiting Professor at the UCLA School of Law.

**Martha Ann Selby** (1997–1998) is Professor of South Asian Studies and Chair of the Department of Asian Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. She was recently awarded a Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Fellowship, and will leave for Chennai, Tamilnadu in December 2013 for an eight-month stay in the city. She will be translating the complete works of urban-realist Tamil author D. Dilip Kumar.
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