Two sobering events marked the academic year 2012-2013. The first one occurred during the last week of October. For several days, downtown Manhattan was without electricity as the city was attempting to recuperate from the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy. While the Silver Towers glowed above the darkened Village, students and faculty joined forces to overcome this temporary misfortune. Those who live close to the Jersey shore, unfortunately, were not as lucky and, for them, the recovery is still under way. The second event, the passing of one of our most distinguished colleagues, affected us all at a deeper and more tragic level. The late Michel Beaujour was not only prominent in building the French department and the Institute for French Studies, he was one of the sharpest intellectuals to have worked and lectured within these walls. Most of you know Michel much better than I do for I first met him in 2005, in a Philadelphia hotel room, as I was being interviewed for an Associate Professor position in the French department. I knew Michel from Le Jeu de Rabelais and Miroirs d’encre, but also for one of his earlier articles, “Some Paradoxes of Description” published in Yale French Studies in 1980. I will remember Michel for the frankness of his conversation (“I thought your job talk was boring, but you won me over during the discussion”), and for his passion for poetics, a subject which we were able to talk about on a number of occasions. Last year, several of us celebrated his retirement with “Les jeux de Michel Beaujour,” a tribute to his intellectual legacy. I remember his perplexed smile and his genuine emotion as he accepted the Center’s Medal of Honor from Tom Bishop’s hands. Michel is survived by his wife Liz and his son Thomas. He is present to us through his publications (including his last manuscripts on poétologie which are currently being transcribed and edited), and shall continue to support new generations of students through the very generous gift that he and Liz donated to the French department and the Institute for French Studies to fund dissertation fellowships. Liz also gave many of Michel’s books to the department. Standard works, such as a copy of Diderot and D’Alembert’s Encyclopédie and several Pléiade editions will join the Dulau and Morot-Sir collections in the conference room. The shelves of the seminar room will now host important collections on auto-fiction, surrealism, 20th-century poetry and literary theory.

However sad, these events did not entirely darken yet another glowing academic year. Several colleagues were promoted: Ludovic Cortade received tenure and was appointed Associate Professor; Stéphane Gerson was promoted to Full Professor; Olivier Berthe and Nils Froment were promoted to Senior Language Lecturer. Our faculty has also been honored with prestigious awards. Aline Baehler’s Papiers Mâchés tutorial website was named on of the top-five “incontournables” sites by the Centre Collégial de Développement de Matériel Didactique (Québec) and received the CALICO (The Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium) 2013 Esperanto “Access to Language Education award”; and Alyson Waters, adjunct faculty in the M.A. in Literary Translation, received the French-American Foundation’s 26th Annual Translation prize.

Our body of excellent language lecturers grew with the hiring of Melanie Hackney and Anna-Caroline Prost (to whom I extend my warmest welcome) and we are in the process of recruiting an Assistant Professor in the field of early-modern French literature for September 2014.
Eight Ph.D. students defended their dissertations in 2012-13. Recent graduates have been awarded tenure-track jobs (at University of Wisconsin - Madison, the Catholic University of America, University of Southern Indiana, and the Borough of Manhattan Community College), one-year appointments (at Bryn Mawr College and Wagner College), a post-doctoral fellowship in the Princeton Society of Fellows, and post-doctoral instructorships at NYU.

This year our graduate students received a record number of competitive fellowships (their names and awards are listed on page 6), as our Ph.D. program continues to attract a large number of gifted students: nine were admitted for the 2013-14 academic year. The first cohort of graduates from the new M.A. in Translation program have also had several publication and award successes.

Of the two thousand students who took undergraduate courses in the department, seventy-four have graduated with a major and one hundred nine with a minor in French. Three of these students have graduated with honors, one of whom was accepted to the French graduate program at UCLA.

These impressive accomplishments, along with the forthcoming move of our Paris center to its new location on Boulevard Saint-Germain, reinforce our position as one of the leading French departments in the United States. With such dynamic faculty, students and administrators, Michel Beaujour’s legacy could not be in better hands.

Benoît Bolduc, Chair

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**Visiting professors**

**2013-2014**

Réda Bensmaia (Brown)
Fall seminar : “Topics in Francophone Literature: Maghreb.”

Marielle Macé (EHESS)
Spring seminar: “Technique du vertige, de Mauss à Quignard.”

François Cornilliat (Rutgers) Spring seminar: “Rabelais, Montaigne: sagesse de la littérature?”

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**L’Arc**

NYU Department of French
Volume 27, Fall 2013
Editor: Lise Landeau
Photographs: Jacqueline Chambord
Francine Goldenhar
Françoise Gramet
Lise Landeau
Beowulf Sheehan

Visit the NYU Department of French on the web:
http://french.as.nyu.edu/page/home

Please submit updates and address changes to:
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New York University
13-19 University Place, 6th Floor
New York, NY 10003
Tel: 212-998-8758
Fax: 212-995-4187
E-mail: lise.landeau@nyu.edu
Florence Gould Events

Je poussais donc le temps avec l’épaule
An interpretation of Combray by Marcel Proust by actor Serge Maggiani

Ionesco’s Theater and the Absurdist Sensibility
Roundtable offered in collaboration with BAM 30th New Wave Festival with playwrights Edward Albee, Israel Horovitz, author Marie-France Ionesco, Emmanuel Demarcy-Mota, director of BAM’s production of Rhinoceros. Moderated by Tom Bishop

Edward Albee

Left to right: Israel Horovitz, Edward Albee, Tom Bishop, M-F Ionesco, Michael Chase, Emmanuel Demarcy-Mota

Marie-France Ionesco

Mensonge et philosophie: une approche psychologique du discours philosophique
François Noudelmann (philosopher, critic, professor, Université de Paris VIII)

De la tragédie grecque au cinéma d’horreur: pour une contribution au débat sur la catharsis
Georges Forestier (Université Paris-Sorbonne, Institut Universitaire de France, CNRS)

French Literature in the Making:
Contemporary French writers in conversation with Olivier Barrot

Fall 2012
Nicolas Fargues
Franz-Olivier Giesbert
François Bon

Spring 2013
Olivier Barrot, special edition
hosted by Tom Bishop
Yasmina Reza
Katherine Pancol

Olivier Barrot hosting French Literature in the Making
with Franz-Olivier Giesbert

with Yasmina Reza

Olivier Barrot was awarded by the Académie Française the Prix Hervé Deluen de la francophonie, “pour la promotion de la littérature française.”
LECTURES

Leo Bersani (professor Emeritus, UCLA)
*Stardust. A reflection on the human subject’s correspondence with and to the world*

Christian Biet (Paris X, NYU, author)
*Le Désordre dans les théâtres: une habitude, une histoire (XVIe-XXIe siècles), une manière d’être spectateur*

Translators Alyson Waters and Emmanuelle Ertel with special guest, writer Rick Moody
*Translators Translating: A Conversation*

Raphael Cuir (author)
*Highlights of Anatomy: From Self-dissection to Human Clocks*
Co-sponsored by Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese

Stephen Pinson (curator of photography, NYPL)
*Illuminating Daguerre*

Dany Laferrière (novelist, essayist, poet, journalist)
in conversation with J. Michael Dash (NYU)

Maryse Condé (novelist, playwright, essayist)
in conversation with J. Michael Dash (NYU)

Karen Sullivan (Bard College)
*What Happened by the Lake: History, Fiction, and Arthurian Romance*

Kathryn Banks (Durham University)
*Literature, Prophecy, and Apocalypse in 16th-Century France: The Case of Rabelais*

Stéphane Gerson (NYU)
*Nostradamus: A Cultural History in Modern Times*

Shelley Rice (NYU professor, historian, critic, curator)
*Local Space/Global Visions: Archives, Networks, and Visual Geography around 1900*

Anka Muhlstein (writer, biographer)
*Monsieur Proust’s Library*

M. Christine Boyer (Princeton)
*Le Corbusier: The Writings of an Architect*

Jean Boberot (historian, sociologist, professor Emeritus, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes)
*La Laïcité face aux mutations de la société française*

Marie Chaix (novelist, translator), Harry Mathews (novelist, essayist, poet, translator), Emmanuelle Ertel moderator
*Translating One Another*

David Georgi (translator), Nancy Regalado (NYU), Richard Sieburth (NYU)
*A Piece of My Assets: Puns, Proper Names, and Filthy Jokes in the New Translation for the Poems of François Villon*
Co-sponsored by LMF, Dept. of comparative literature, Medieval and Renaissance

Boulet (comic book writer)
*Illustrated Presentation*

Edwy Plenel (journalist, former editor-in-chief, Le Monde)
*Révolution numérique, révolutions démocratiques*
*Digital Revolution, Democratic Revolutions*

Bernard Stiegler (philosopher)
*Social Networking and Neupower*

Lucien Nouis (NYU)
*Le peuple et l’archive selon Louis Sébastien Mercier*

Rédà Bensmaia (Brown)
*Figures de l’événement*
Co-sponsored by Dept. of French

Guillaume Soulez (Sorbonne Nouvelle-Paris 3)
*Le Cinéma, une pensée de la littérature?
Welcome to **Christina Lau**
Christina is a graduate of NYU’s Department of French and Department of Art History. After a seven-year stint working in contemporary art, she has returned to her alma mater as an administrator at La Maison Française.

**EXHIBITIONS**

**Paul Resika**
*Houses in Provence*

**CINEMA**

**Documentary Film Screening**
*An encounter with Simone Weil*
with film director **Julia Haslett**

Rendez-vous with French Cinema 2013
*Boudu Saved from Drowning (Boudu Sauvé des eaux)* by **Jean Renoir**
*Journal de France* by **Raymond Depardon & Claudine Nougaret**
*Three Worlds (Trois Mondes)* by **Catherine Corsini**

**PEN WORLD VOICES**

**Agata Tuszynska** (writer) *in conversation with Jean-Euphèle Milcé* (novelist, preserver of Haitian archives)
Co-sponsored by Cultural Services of the French Embassy

**James Kelman** (novelist)
*in conversation with Emmelie Prophète* (novelist, poet, journalist)
Co-sponsored by FEN Haiti

**CONCERTS**

**Anne Azema**
The Grand Tradition of French Narrative Song

**Janus Trio**
*AMANDA BAKER*, flute
*BETH MEYERS*, viola
*NUIKO WADDEN*, harp

*Gossamer Threads:* Music by Debussy, Caleb Burhans, Cameron Britt, Jan Bach, Martin Matalo

**Tessera Quintet**
*MAUREEN KEENAN*, flute
*NICHOLAS ABEL*, oboe
*YI-CHUAN CHEN*, clarinet
*ELIZABETH MARTIGNETTI*, horn
*DANIEL LIAO*, bassoon

French music by Ibert, Taffanel, Milhaud

**CONFERENCES**

**Translating/Writing Caribbean Literature**

**J. Michael Dash** (NYU)

**Christine Raguet** (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle)

**Roger Célestin** (U. of Connecticut)

**Peter Constantine** (translator)

**Prince Guetjens** (Haitian poet)

**Emmanuelle Ertel** (NYU)

**SPECIAL EVENT**

**Co-sponsored by the NYU School of Law**
*Militant of Memory*
*A conversation with Serge Klarsfeld*
historian, lawyer, activist, Nazi hunter
Ph.D. in French Literature

Steven Crumb Recomposing Contemporary French Literature: The Poetics of the Collection in the Works of Michel Butor, Jacques Roubaud and Denis Roche

Paul Descloitres Des vers satiriques à la poésie homosexuelle (1871-1925)

Raluca Manea Recompositions of Place: The Loco poetics of Jacques Roubaud, Emmanuel Hocquard and Jacques Derras

Dane Stalcup Fragmented Totalities: the Autobiography of Composer Hector Berlioz

Natalia Wodnicka The New Mythic Theater in French

Joint Ph.D. in French Literature and French Studies

Phoebe Maltz Bovy “Embrasser les Juifs”: Jews and Intermarriage in Nineteenth-Century France (1792-1906)

Chelsea Stieber Regional, Cosmopolitan, Indigenous: Writing Cultural Nationalisms in Early 20th-Century Haiti

Emily Craighead Teising Career Ambitions: Representations of the Legal Professions in France, 1830 - 1850

Fellowships and Awards

Mellon Dissertation Fellowship: Kathrina LaPorta
GSAS Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship: Annie Brancky
Georges Lucry Fellowship: Iris Brey
Andrew Dulau Fellowships: Kevin McCann and Raphael Sigal
Michel Beaujour Fellowships: (French) Christopher Bonner,
Fredrik Ronnback, Megan Russell, Maximillian Shrem
French Department Fellowships: Aurélie Chatton, Julie Hugonny, Soledad Sklate
Ecole Normale Supérieure Exchange: Joshua Jordan and Maximillian Shrem
Bradley Rubidge Prize: Laura Hughes
CAS Outstanding Teaching Award: Susan Cater
GSAS Dean’s Outstanding Dissertation Award: Stéphanie Ponsavady
GSAS Summer Fellowship: Whitney Krahm
French Department Summer Fellowships: Wes Gunter, Joshua Jordan, Ana Christina Celestino Montenegro, Maximillian Shrem, Dane Stalcup, Sophia Wilson, Tamara Wood
American Society of the French Legion of Honor Fellowship: Joe Johnson

M.A. in French Literature

Awarded 2012

Erika Hendrix
Reene Kimble
Aubrey Korneta
Audrey Lambert
Raine Levesque
Anna Amelia Raff
William Santagata
Tamara Wood

Awarded 2013

Elena Aleksandrova
Pierre André
Downing Bray
Ana Cristina Montenegro
Sarah Cleary
George Formenti-Ujlkki
Lisa Gerard
Joseph Johnson
Emily Kate Price
Kara Waybright

M.A. in French Language and Literature

Awarded 2012

Heather Cohu
Serene Hakim
Kacie Hall
Evan Knight
Lorraine Leftwich
Berenice Magistretti
Alison McQuown
Tyler Mitchell
Donatella Pes
James Valentin
Elizabeth Walle

Awarded 2013

Sarai Juarez
Marc Kohlby
Lorraine Leftwich
Megan Marz
Stephanie Ann Ochipinti Julia Poltorak
Deborah Anne Schneider
James Valentin
Anna Christine Wilson

M.A. in Literary Translation: French - English

Awarded 2012

Lara Bensonia Vergnaud
Christopher Clarke
Heidi Denman
Sabrina Rosenberg
Allison Schein
Sophie Tejeiro
Peter Vorissis

Awarded 2013

Serene Hakim
Christiana Hills
Joseph Patrick Stancil
Hannah Stell
Margaret Yang

Master of Philosophy in French Literature

Awarded 2012

Annie Brancky
Whitney Krahm
Maximilian Shrem

Awarded 2013

Daniel Benson
Manoah Finston
Laura Hugues
Youna Kwak
Michelle Lanchart
Kathrina Laporta
On March 8th and 9th, The French Graduate Student Association held its annual conference, “...But is it Art?” However whimsical or old-fashioned the question might sound, entitling the 2013 French Graduate Student Conference, “...But is it Art?” was our collective attempt to be absolutely modern. Rather than use a thematic approach, as most graduate conferences do, we sought to collect presentations based on a common methodology: one that examines the institutional, social, and political valorization that the word “art” confers to an object, a text, a performance.

We could not have been more pleased with the result: with nearly 60 abstracts to choose from, with nearly half coming from doctoral students in France, Canada, and elsewhere, we were spoiled for choice on an international scale. This allowed us to craft panels with coherence and substance, creating real dialogue among the participants, both during the conference and in the lively conversations between panels. Presentations were remarkably diverse, and included: reconsiderations of the grotesque and the obscene in contemporary art; the examination of the tension between art and folklore in 17th century contes; analyses of engaged art versus propaganda; theoretical discussions of aesthetics and the avant-garde; and many other topics in literature, the visual arts, and performance studies.

A special thanks should be made here to the keynote speaker, Professor Gabriel Rockhill from the philosophy department at Villanova University. Prof. Rockhill’s presentation intersected perfectly with the conference’s agenda, as it attempted to conceptualize a radical historicization of art through a critical discussion of Jacques Rancière, Arthur Danto, and Gustave Flaubert. In addition to the impressive quality of his talk, Prof. Rockhill also provided an intellectual and personal presence that added another level of coherence and rigor to the panel discussions.

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Tom Bishop directs the Center for French Civilization and Culture whose mission it is to organize cultural events and to raise funds to facilitate the work of the Department of French and La Maison Française ($200,000 raised in 2012-13). With Olivier Barrot he organized the six yearly evenings of French Literature in the Making, and during one of these, reversed roles with Barrot and served as host while Barrot was the evening’s featured writer. Bishop also hosted the annual luncheon of the Friends of New York University at the Senate in Paris with former Minister Georges Kiejman as guest of honor, to whom Bishop presented the Center’s Medal of Honor. In New York, Bishop organized and took part in the Proust Marathon marking the centennial of the publication of Du côté de chez Swann.

As editor of The Florence Gould Lectures at New York University, Bishop produced Volume 13, a special issue devoted to Autofiction: Literature in France Today, to which he also contributed an article “From the Nouveau Roman to Autofiction.” He authored a retrospective glance at the founder of the legendary Grove Press, Barney Rosset, for The Beckett Circle.

Bishop served on the department’s Advisory, Salary, and Graduate Studies Committees. He is a member of C.A.S.H. (The Council of Arts and Science Chairs and Directors).

During his first year as Chair of the French department, Benoit Bolduc supervised a major restructuration of the Ph.D. program, instituted new summer and post MacCracker fellowships for graduate students, as well as two new post-doctoral teaching fellowships, funded a new graduate student luncheon seminar series, hired two junior language lecturers, promoted two language lecturers to a senior rank, oversaw the tenure and promotion of two faculty members and advised the Office of the Global Network University on...
foreign language acquisition abroad and the future of NYU Paris. Together with administrator Emmanuelle Hernandez, he also reviewed the operating budget and the responsibilities of the administrative staff, moved a few books and furniture around to make room for a new graduate student lounge on the 6th floor of the building. He invited writer Dany Laferrière in the fall, and Prof. Réda Bensmaïa in the spring for a series of events at La Maison Française. Prof. Bolduc published “La Fête de papier (1549-1679): des ateliers parisiens au Cabinet du Roi” in the journal XVIIIe Siècle (258, 2013/1), an article that presents the argument of his upcoming book, and presented a paper on “André Félien’s Miraculous Descriptions: Visions of the Heavenly Jerusalem in the Divertissements de Versailles (1676),” at the 128th MLA Annual Convention in Boston.

Ludovic Cortade was promoted to Associate Professor and received tenure after the evaluation of his teaching and publications over the course of the past six years. In 2012-2013, he gave several lectures on the relations of French cinema with the 19th century literature, politics and cultural diversity, notably at Princeton University and the National University of Seoul (South Korea). He was also invited by the Department of French at Brown University to give a graduate seminar devoted to the relationship between cinema and literature during the spring of 2013. He published “The Paradox of Familiarity: Truffaut, Heir of Renoir” in the collective work directed by Dudley Andrew and Anne Gillain (Wiley-Blackwell), as well as “The Microscope of Time: Slow Motion in Jean Epstein’s Writings” in the proceedings of the Epstein conference held at the University of Chicago. The book was published by Amsterdam University Press under the direction of Sarah Keller and Jason Paul. Finally, he joined the organization committee of the annual congress of specialists of French and Francophone literature of the 20th and 21st centuries, which will be co-organized and hosted by NYU, CUNY, and Columbia in March 2014.


Michael Dash is a member of the Editorial Committee for Research in African Literatures, Journal of West Indian Literature, Small Axe, Mondes Francophones, and the Journal of French and Francophone Philosophy; the Editor of New World Series, University Press of Virginia; and a Permanent Member of the Jury of Prix Carbet de la Caraïbe. He is also a member of the Department’s Graduate Studies Committee.

The 2012-2013 academic year has been very busy and successful for Anne Deneys-Tunney. In 2012, she co-organized two major international conferences to celebrate the tricentennial of Jean Jacques Rousseau’s birth. The first conference, “Rousseau, Nature/Culture,” (organized with Yves-Charles Zarka and Tanguy Laminot) at Université Paris V in May 2012 with funding from the CNRS, Paris V, Paris IV, and NYU Paris, was one of the largest conferences on Rousseau in France. A 52-minute film on Rousseau directed by Gérard Paquet was made for National Television in France with extracts of this conference. The film was broadcasted 3 times in France on National Television in January 2013. The second, “Rousseau, Nature/Culture,” (with Zarka and Helena Rosenblatt) at NYC/CUNY in November 2012 funded by the NYU Department of French, Humanities Initiative, Swiss Embassy, French Cultural Services, CUNY, Boucheron, Air France, and the Center for French Civilization and Culture at NYU, was the largest in the USA. The two conferences gathered world renowned philosophers and literature specialists of Rousseau from all over the world (including China, Germany, France, the USA, Italy, and England).

Deneys-Tunney published an article, “Man is born free but is everywhere in chains” in The Guardian, “Big idea series” by Philip Oltermann (July 15, 2012), which led to an online public debate that lasted over a month. Her book, Philippe
Sollers ou l’Impatience de la pensée (published in France by the PUF in 2011) is currently being translated into Chinese to be published in China by China Social Sciences Press. She gave eight talks at international conferences in France, Germany, Switzerland, New York, and Peru.

Stéphane Gerson published his cultural history of the Nostradamus phenomenon, Nostradamus: How an Obscure Renaissance Astrologer Became the Modern Prophet of Doom (St. Martin’s Press), and gave half-a-dozen talks on the book at venues including the NY Public Library, 92Y-Tribeca, and the Maison Française at NYU. Gerson also co-edited a new Penguin Classics edition of Nostradamus’s Prophecies. He organized and moderated the plenary roundtable at the 2013 meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies (Cambridge, Mass.): “For Whom Do We Write? French History, Crossover Books, and Trade Publishing Today.” Gerson and Sylvain Venayre (Paris I-Sorbonne) participated in a discussion organized by Frédéric Viguier at the IFS: “Une conversation sur l’écriture de l’histoire au-delà de la monographie universitaire.” Finally, Gerson served as Director of Graduate Studies at the IFS.

Henriette Goldwyn finished re-editing the fourth volume of Théâtre des femmes de l’ancien régime being published by Garnier. She gave three talks: “Éducatrices sous l’ancien régime,” in Augsburg, June 2013; “Theater on the Margins of the Diplomatic World: Coverage of the Peace Treaty of Utrecht in 1713 by Mme Du Noyer in Utrecht,” April 2013, and “Versailles” at the American University in Paris, February 2013. She presided over a session titled “Rencontres iconographiques” at NASSCFL 2013 in Marseille in June. In the spring of 2013, she taught at NYUParis, served as Acting Site Director, and with the funds received from the Global Research Initiatives, she organized a “journée d’études” for departmental doctoral students to present their work in progress at NYUParis in March 2013. She also inaugurated the Amiel Van Teslaar Prize for the best MA thesis in Language and Civilization.

Denis Hollier is currently on leave. He is completing the edition of the second volume of Michel Leiris’ works for La Pléiade (to come out in 2014) and working on the “Arts et métiers de Michel Leiris” show he is co-curating for the Pompidou-Metz Museum (to open in April 2015). He published “Pour le prestige : Hegel à la lumière de Mauss,” (Critique, 2013) and “Copia,” in The Human Snapshot, Thomas Keenan and Tirdad Zolghar eds, Sternberg Press, 2013.

Sarah Kay had a busy year as incoming Director of Graduate Studies. She had the pleasure of meeting virtually every one of the graduate students over the course of the year and working closely with several, especially the officers of FGSA, Manoah Finston, Laura Hughes, and Josh Jordan. Together with a hard-working Graduate Studies Committee they made significant changes to the doctoral program in French Literature so that future students will have a more stream-lined and hopefully speedier progression from the breadth of first-year requirements to the depth of a Ph.D. dissertation.

Prof. Kay completed the copy-editing of her most recent book Parrots and Nightingales. Troubadour Quotations and the Development of European Poetry (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013). The Humanities Initiative generously awarded her a grant to support the publication costs of this book, which has over 200 pages of appendices detailing which passages of troubadour songs are quoted or anthologized and by whom. Sarah Kay has also started a new project on bestiaries, in anticipation of which she wrote a review article on surface reading and skin studies, “Surface reading and the symptom that is only skin-deep,” Paragraph, 35.3 (2012): 451-459. A number of other articles and essays relating to this project have been submitted for publication.

Prof. Kay has given several talks and lectures, of which the most significant were an invited lecture at the Centre d’Études médiévales, Geneva University, on “L’enchante ment du chant chez Guillaume de Machaut” and an invited lecture at the summer school of the Centre d’Études Supérieures du Moyen Age at Poitiers on “L’homme et l’animal dans les bestiaires latins et français.”

Judith Miller has been working as Dean of Arts and Humanities at NYU Abu Dhabi since August 2012. She is helping to build a university that is now only four years old and has currently some six hundred and twenty students from one hundred seven countries, and two hundred and fifty faculty members, one hundred five of whom are teaching in arts (theatre, cinema, visual arts, music) and humanities (literature, philosophy, history, and Arab Crossroads Studies). In addition to those majors, Arts and Humanities also includes Arabic and Chinese language programs and a substantial Writing Program. French is offered not-for-credit, but there are some fifty students in classes and there is a thriving francophone community (staff, students, professors). In May, the new campus on Saadiyat Island, off the coast of Abu Dhabi, will be ready for “move in.” Within the next five years, the Louvre and Guggenheim Museums will be neighbors and there will be a student body of two thousand or so. The project is immensely stimulating, sometimes frustrating, never without complexity. While the new position takes up most of her time and energy, she has managed to keep working on francophone theatre, speaking in Budapest on Camerounian Werewere Liking, translating another play by Québécois Olivier Kemeid (Me in the Red Ruins of the Century), and translating a psychoanalytical essay/memoir by Françoise Davoine (Mother Folly, a Story) that will appear with Stanford University Press in Spring 2014.

This year John Moran took over the department’s Director of Undergraduate Studies position along with continuing to
helm the Language Program. John also continues both to serve as a Faculty Fellow in Residence in Hayden Hall, a first-year residence hall, and to volunteer as the Faculty Affiliate for the French Explorations Floor.

This year John was named the Chair of the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) French Test Development Committee, the committee that creates the CLEP French Test. In addition, John has remained very active with the College Board’s Advanced Placement (AP) program. He continued to serve as an AP Course audit reviewer, and he served once again as a question leader for the scoring of the AP French Language and Culture Exam. John was invited by Cengage Publishing to the most recent ACTFL conference to participate in a focus group concerning the use of recently acquired National Geographic materials in the creation of French textbooks. At that same conference, John was named a member of the advisory board for the French panel of the American Association of University Supervisors and Coordinators (AAUSC) to be organized next year.


This past year, additionally to developing new courses, Lucien Nouis has presented several papers, two of which will be published in article form in the coming months. He has also completed his first book, De l’infini des bibliothèques au livre unique. L’archive épurée au XVIIIème siècle, which was accepted for publication last June, and came out in November 2013 with Classiques Garnier, in the collection “L’Europe des Lumières” directed by Jacques Berchtold and Michel Delon. From the Encyclopédie and Rousseau to Mercier and the French Revolution, this study looks into the reasons, both philosophical and political, why so many writers and men of letters called for an enlightened auto-da-fé to take place, in order to purge the overcrowded libraries of the eighteenth century, and why they believed that their gift to the future should not be positive, but negative: a cleared field, on which posterity would be able to make its own inscriptions.


Richard Sieburth’s translation of The Prophecies of Nostradamus came out in July (Penguin Classics). During his Guggenheim year, he worked on his forthcoming English-language editions of Louise Labé and of Baudelaire’s late fragments. He spoke on Tirdzolghadr’s novel Plot at Cabinet Magazine in September, on Baudelaire’s Špášt at the American Academy of Berlin in December, and on Pound’s late Venice Notebooks at Princeton in May. At NYU, he participated in panels on Villon (La Maison Française) and on the Russian poet Vvedensky (Humanities Institute).


Articles and contributions to books and online publications:


“Bringing the Middle Ages to Life in the Classroom,” with Marilyn Lawrence, for TEAMS, “The Once and Future Classroom.” “Bringing Medieval Stories to Life Digitally,” for conference on “The Digital World of Art History,” Princeton University, Index of Christian Art, July 2012


Lectures and conference presentations:


Professional activities:

Co-organizer of conference “Court and Performance in the Pre-Modern Middle East,” NYU Abu Dhabi, with Maurice Pomerantz, February 2012.

Editorial Board, Le Cigogne (publication of the International Marie de France Association).
Daniel Benson published two articles in 2013. The first is a literary analysis entitled “La communauté en voie d’extinction médiatique. Une analyse de Zone de combat d’Hugues Jallon” for issue 6 of the online Revue critique de fiction française contemporaine. The second is a review of Bruno Bosteels’ book Badiou and Politics for the literary research website Fabula, entitled “Le renouvellement de la dialectique.” He also made two appearances at the 2013 American Comparative Literature Association’s conference in Toronto: as a co-organizer of the seminar: “Aesthetic Realism: Narrating the Social”; and as a participant in another seminar where he presented a paper entitled “The Meanderings of the Dialectic: Between Jean-Paul Sartre and Alain Badiou.” Finally, he was also a co-organizer for the 2013 NYU graduate student conference, “...But Is It Art?.”

Lara Bensenia Vergnaud (MA in Literary Translation, 2012) is currently co-translating with Allison Schein Marie-Monique Robin’s Our Daily Poison, published by New Press in the fall. In addition, she had a translation published by Inventory last year and also has had a translation included in the 20th anniversary installment of the TWO LINES print series.

While working on a dissertation entitled “Marguerite Duras: Rewriting the Crime,” Anne Brancy gave a conference paper at NYU’s Graduate Student Conference called “Copycat Killings: Marguerite Duras and the Aesthetics of True Crime.” She presented another paper at CUNY’s Graduate Student Conference called “Criminal Appropriation in Marguerite Duras.” Anne was also awarded the Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship for the 2013-14 school year.

Suzy Cater published an article titled “Regard, spectacle et séduction dans trois récits merveilleux (Gueullette, Bibiena, Marmontel)” in the periodical Dix-Huitième Siècle, issue 45 (2013). She also won a GSAS Outstanding Teaching Award.

Megan Russell presented a talk at the University of Western Ontario’s Department of Modern Languages. As part of a panel on “Subversive Laughter,” her talk was entitled “The Last Laugh: Coming to Revolutionary Conclusions in Jean Vigo’s Avant-Garde documentary film A Propos de Nice.”

Heidi Denman (MA in Literary Translation, 2012) is currently translating Incendences by Pius Ngandu Nkashama for possible publication.

Marilyn Lawrence (Ph.D. 2001) was guest co-editor with Prof. Evelyn Birge Vitz of a special issue of The Once and Future Classroom: Resources for Teaching the Middle Ages in Grades K-12 dedicated to the two websites that she directs with Prof. Vitz: Performing Medieval Narrative Today: A Video Showcase; <http://www.nyu.edu/pmnt> and Arthurian Legend in Performance; <https://vimeo.com/ArthurPerform>.

Christophe Litwin (Ph.D. 2012) obtained a post-doctoral fellowship from Princeton Society of Fellows.

Hilary Rey received her Ph.D. in 1999 and has been writing fiction ever since. Her first novel, Lessons in French, which draws on her study of French literature and makes a fair amount of reference to her dissertation on 19th century fashion writing, came out on March 5.
COLLOQUIA

Didier Fassin (Institute for Advanced Study)
$\textit{Anthropology of the Police in the French “Banlieues”}$

Henry Rouso (CNRS)
$\textit{Retour sur Le Syndrome de Vichy: 25 ans après}$

Herrick Chapman (NYU), Alexis Spire (CNRS, NYU)
Vanessa S. Williamson (Harvard)
Moderated by Frédéric Viguier (NYU)
$\textit{Anti-Tax Movements and Electoral Politics in France and the U.S}$

Séverine Mathieu (Sociologist, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Études)
$\textit{Assisted Reproductive Technology in Contemporary France: Discourse and Practices}$

Martin Evans (University of Essex)
The 1956 French Republican Front’s ‘Civilizing Mission’: Algeria, the Cold War, and the Third Way

Christelle Taraud (independent scholar), Venita Datta (Wellesley College), Edward Berenson (NYU)
$\textit{Masculinité(s) et virilité: contextes métropolitains et situations coloniales aux XIXe et XXe siècles}$

Bruno Perreau (MIT), Julie Saada (Université d’Artois-Colège International de Philosophie), Frédéric Viguier (NYU)
“Marriage for All!”: The French Debate on Same-Sex Marriage

LECTURES

A Conversation with Pamela Druckerman (author of $\textit{Bringing up Bébé: One American Mother discovers the Wisdom of French parenting}$)

NEW DIRECTIONS IN FRENCH STUDIES

Claudie Bernard (NYU), Todd Shepard (Johns Hopkins), Ann L. Stoler (New School for Social Research), Judith Surkis (Rutgers), Christelle Taraud (independent scholar)
$\textit{Les archives de l’intime}$

$\textit{Queer Napoleon: from Napoleonic Friendship to Gays in the Military}$
Sponsored by Dean of the Humanities, Department of French, and Institute of French Studies

VISITING PROFESSORS

Fall 2013
Delphine Serre (CSE-EHESS)
Alexis Spire (CNRS)
Christelle Taraud (independent scholar)
Sylvain Venayre (Université Paris I-Panthéon-Sorbonne)

Spring 2014
Jean-François Klein (Université de Nantes)
Pascal Ory (Université Paris I-Panthéon-Sorbonne)
Anne-Catherine Wagner (CSE-EHESS)
Claire Zalc (CNRS-ENS)
JOINT PH.D. STUDENTS

Vanessa Agard-Jones (IFS/Anthropology): “Sovereign Intimacies: Scaling Sexual Politics in Martinique”


Charlotte Legg (IFS/History): “Imagining the Peuple Nouveau: Medicine and the Press in French Algeria, 1870-1914”

Chelsea Stieber (IFS/French): Regional, Cosmopolitan, Indigenous: Writing Cultural Nationalisms in Early 20th-Century Haiti

Emily Craighead Teising (IFS/French): Career Ambitions: Representations of the Legal Professions in France, 1830 - 1850

STUDENTS NEWS

Vanessa Agard-Jones (IFS/Anthropology 2013) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at Columbia University Society of Fellows in the Humanities. In 2014, she will be Assistant Professor, Program in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Yale University. Vanessa was awarded an Outstanding Graduate Teaching Prize.

Stéphanie Ponsavady (IFS/French 2012) is now teaching at Wesleyan, obtained the Dean’s Outstanding Dissertation Prize in the Humanities for her dissertation “Fuelling Discontent: Roads and Cars in Colonial Indochina (1897-1946).” This is one of the most prestigious student awards at NYU.

Rachel Wimpee (IFS/French 2010) has been named a Program Officer at the Rockefeller Archive Center. This position is part of a new program of public fellows launched by the American Council of Learned Societies.
LEAVING THE RUE DE PASSY

It is with great sadness that we prepare to leave our charming townhouse and garden in the 16th arrondissement on the rue de Passy, our home for the past 30+ years. Our landlord, Marie-France Benoist, has been nothing but gracious as we prepare to move. We look forward to continuing our close relationship with her, including regular visits with our students to her lovely home in Normandy near Omaha Beach, where she has shared her passion for the dramatic events that took place there in 1944.

That said, we could not be more thrilled as we anticipate settling into our new neighborhood in the Quartier Latin. Renovations at the new space on the Boulevard Saint Germain are progressing as planned. We look forward to welcoming our first cohort of students to the new center in Summer 2014.

ACADEMIC NEWS AND EVENTS

In collaboration with the Office of Global Programs and the NYU Paris Advisory Committee (which includes significant input from colleagues in the French Department), we are currently at work on how best to build our programs to receive an anticipated four hundred students at the new Center (up from our current totals of approximately two hundred ten undergraduates and twenty graduate students). We remain committed to sustaining the vision that has defined this program since its inception and that has guided us during our expansion of the past fifteen years: namely, the in-depth teaching of French language and culture. We are currently working with new departments on Washington Square to identify how best to integrate new academic areas into this larger design and how to build courses that will serve our future students’ interests and help them make the most of the resources that Paris provides.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

We are very pleased to welcome our colleague Jasmine Getz, Associate Professor at the University of Lille, as new Coordinator of our Graduate Programs. Poet, philosopher, and strongly connected to the Parisian intellectual scene, Jasmine brings rigor, excellence, and enthusiasm to these programs and will be a key colleague in helping us shape their growth.

Our graduate programs currently include Masters in French Literature, in French Language & Civilization, and a two-year program in Teaching French as a Foreign Language in conjunction with the Steinhardt School (the only program of its kind). In addition, this year we welcomed our first student to the new cooperative agreement with the NY-based Program in Museum Studies. This two-year program allows students the opportunity to earn an M.A. in French Language & Civilization in Paris and an Advanced Certificate in Museum Studies in New York.

Starting in Spring 2014, we will also welcome our first cohort of spring semester only 3rd year students from the Law School. These students will take courses at our Center with French students from the prestigious schools HEC and the Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po). Discussions are underway regarding appropriate French language courses to offer the American students.

FACULTY MEETINGS

Starting this fall, we have introduced “Town Hall meetings” to invite faculty to meet with us, raise questions, and generate ideas. Meetings are limited to groups of twenty to maximize discussion, and all faculty are assured a spot should they wish to participate. This is the first time that such an initiative has been tried at NYUParis. To date it has allowed a collegial forum for faculty across disciplines to come together, discuss, and diffuse some of the heightened uncertainties associated with our expansion and move. We are delighted with the outcome and especially the potential of these meetings to generate new initiatives as we move forward.

GLOBAL ORIENTATIONS

This new course, required for all undergraduates at NYU, has so far proved an exciting (albeit logistically complicated) addition to our program. The product of a small, interdisciplinary group of on-site professors (from Art History, Literature, and Anthropology/Sociology), the course is a mix of large lectures with distinguished colleagues, small discussion groups with on-site faculty, and cultural outings. It allows a multifaceted approach to major themes in French history (Revolution and Republicanism, 19th century Modernism, the Avant-Garde, and so on) and has proved a stimulating way to offer visits to museums, the opera and theatre as a part of students’ academic program.

TRAVEL SEMINARS

Starting in 2011, NYUParis began offering students the opportunity to participate in specialized two to three day excursions to explore an idea, a theme, or a historical problem in a particular region of France. Smaller than our regular overnight trips, these excursions are limited to fifteen students who must apply. Ideas are solicited from our on-site instructors, who help conceptualize, organize, and accompany the excursion. Examples of recent trips include exploring Paleolithic art in the Dordogne, following on the tracks of Cezanne and Van Gogh in southern France, and learning about the French Resistance in the Vercors near the mountain-city of Grenoble.
Strategic Plan for the Sphinx Project

University of Chicago Library

SNAPSHOTS

Tom Bishop (right), new recipient of the medal of Commander of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, with Antonin Baudry, Cultural Counselor of the French Embassy

Eugène Nicole (left), new recipient of the medal of Chevalier of the Legion of Honor, with Denis Hollier and Michel Berty

Annual NYU Paris luncheon at the Senate in Paris

Henriette Goldwyn (fourth left) with NYU Paris graduate students during their orientation weekend in Giverny

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