

BOSTON UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

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President Robert A. Brown introducing Forum 2018: Humanities Approaches to the Opioid Crisis

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Kim Sichel, *History of Art & Architecture*

James Uden (fall), *Classical Studies*

Purpose

The Center for the Humanities supports the work of humanities scholars and students at Boston University through fellowships, awards, and events such as our annual forums that promote dialogue between humanities disciplines and public constituencies in ways that are vital to civic life.



Werner Herzog at this year's Conversations in the Arts & Ideas event

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Letter from the Director



The third year (2018-2019) of my directorship of the BU Center for the Humanities has seen an expansion of our programming and initiatives as we continue to extend the Center's reach and respond to the needs of our student, faculty, and public constituencies.

Forum 2018, this year cosponsored with the BU School of Public Health, addressed the opioid crisis. Forum 2018 began with a Friday night panel introduced by President Robert A. Brown and moderated by WBUR health reporter Martha Bebinger (MA, BU English) and included Sandro Galea, Dean of the BU School of Public Health, public officials such as Nora Volkow, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, and scholars Elaine Scarry (English, Harvard) and Samuel Kelton Roberts (History, Columbia). Subsequent panels on Saturday featured, among others:

Michael Botticelli, Barack Obama's former "Drug Czar" and current Head of the Grayken Center for Addiction Medicine; John B. Rosenthal, founder of the Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative; and BU faculty including Benjamin Siegel, Amy Appleford, and James Uden. Our Forums are intended to generate an afterlife, so it was a particular pleasure for the Center to subsequently cosponsor the School of Public Health's symposium on "Death and Dying" in February 2019 and for me to join Professor Appleford as a participant in that symposium on the Medical Campus. Also to the end of continued examination of the issues raised by our Forums, I have edited a collection of essays that is primarily composed of papers delivered at Forum 2017; the book, *Libraries and Archives in the Digital Age* is forthcoming in December 2019 from Palgrave Macmillan.

One of the Center's central goals is to expose our students to life and work as humanists both within and beyond academia. To this end, we have instituted programs for undergraduates: summer publishing internships at Oxford University Press in New York City; regular "HumaniTeas" gatherings; workshops for students writing theses in humanities fields; and sessions on attending graduate school in the humanities. We plan to expand our undergraduate internship program in New York in the coming year and to develop internships for undergraduates at BU Journals funded by BUCH through partnering with UROP.

In the realm of supporting graduate study in the humanities, this was the second year of our highly successful summer internship program for humanities PhD students, collaborating with the Associate Provost for Graduate Affairs to create a complement to our Graduate Dissertation Fellowships that provides professional opportunities outside of the academy. We will continue to encourage undergraduate and graduate student participation in all of our BUCH programs and events, planning, for example, an undergraduate follow-up event for Forum 2019, "Can We Talk? Dialogue and Debate in the Contemporary Academy."

The heart of the Center's enterprise is supporting BU humanities scholars through project awards, fellowships, publishing stipends, and other types of funding. In particular, the Fellows Seminar, comprised each semester of faculty and graduate students on research leaves funded by the Center, is central to our mission. The intellectual energy and generosity on display during the weekly meetings is a pleasure to see, as is the transformation of each group from a disparate collection of researchers into a democratic community of scholars.

Among the fall 2018 Seminar participants, graduate student Christina An (History of Art & Architecture) illuminated the Dutch nationalist paintings of Vermeer that tell the story of the Empire's acquisition of the treasures of the East, while also affirming the capacity of great art works like his to transcend the global economy of material exchange. Professor Keith Vincent (World Languages & Literatures) introduced us to the Haiku poetry of Masaoka Shiki and his close friend, Natsume Soseki. In a masterful blend of genre, gender, and biographical criticism, Professor Vincent showed us how Soseki's grief over the death of his poet friend Shiki helped transform Soseki into Japan's most influential novelist. Professor Marc Gasser-Wingate (Philosophy) focused on Aristotle's epistemological writings in a bracing analysis of the role played by perception in Aristotle's account of human cognition.

In the spring 2019 Seminar, Professor Daniel Dahlstrom (Philosophy) discussed his work on Anti-Judaism and Modern German Philosophy, an effort to confront a subject that has been much discussed but rarely treated in strict philosophical terms. Graduate student Pamela Feo (Musicology) introduced us to the soundscape of 19th Century Paris, specifically, the songs of Bruant, preparing us for the MFA Exhibit on the city's Bohemian nightlife during the era of Toulouse-Lautrec. We ended the year with Professor Andrew Robichaud (History) presenting his research on the history of the ice trade in 19th century America, an analysis that ranged far and wide, convincing us of the powerful window into US cultural origins offered by this omnipresent commodity.

The Center continues to support faculty research through publishing workshops. In spring 2019, we held the second iteration of our popular new program, "The Second-Book Workshop," hosting eight faculty in individual meetings with Suzanne Ryan, Editor in Chief, Humanities at Oxford University Press.

In the coming year, we look forward to Forum 2019, a one-day event on Thursday, October 3. Forum 2019 will explore one of the biggest challenges facing universities today: the problem of honest discussion within our own institutional borders. In seeking a topic that would serve our own Boston University community we recognized that no subject was of greater moment than the challenge of open debate, and we hope that our event will promote more meaningful and genuine dialogue at BU and beyond.

We also hope that you will follow the life of the Center and the humanities at BU—and in the world more generally—through our [new website](#).

Susan Mizruchi
Director, Center for the Humanities



Forum 2019: Can We Talk? Dialogue and Debate in the Contemporary Academy

(left) Featured Panelist, **Crystal Williams**, Associate Provost for Diversity and Inclusion

(right) Featured Moderator, **Maurice Lee**, Professor, Department of English

for more about Forum 2019, see pp. 26-27.

Forum 2018 Reflection



(left to right) Panelists Martha Bebinger, Sandro Galea, Samuel Kelton Roberts, Elaine Scarry, Nora Volkow

“The humanities—from history and philosophy to literary studies—offer perspectives that illuminate our understanding of substance use and dependence. Forum 2018 sought to integrate these perspectives with those of public health and medicine, catalyzing innovative ideas and approaches that can help tackle the opioid epidemic.”

— Sandro Galea
School of Public Health Dean
and Robert A. Knox Professor

To read more about Forum 2018 as well as the art exhibit organized in conjunction with this event, see pp.10-11.

Jeffrey Henderson Senior Research Fellows



Kecia Ali

Professor, Religion

Muslim Women and Islamic Studies



Japonica Brown-Saracino

Professor, Sociology

Lost Cities: Gentrification, Sexuality, and Urban Nostalgia



Daniel Dahlstrom

Professor, Philosophy

Transforming Philosophy: Heidegger's Early Protreptic



Keith Vincent

Associate Professor, World Languages & Literatures

Shiki and Soseki: from Haiku to Novel

Shiki: A Life in Haiku

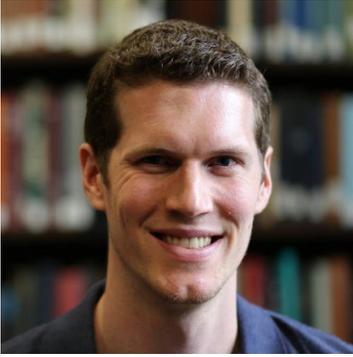


Jonathan Zatlin

Associate Professor, History

German Fantasies of Jewish Wealth, 1970-1991

Junior Faculty Fellows



Marc Gasser-Wingate

Assistant Professor, Philosophy

Learning by Perceiving: Perception, Knowledge,
and Empiricism in Aristotle



Saida Grundy

Assistant Professor, Sociology and African American Studies

Manhood Within the Margins: Making Middle Class Masculinity
at the Historically Black College for Men



April Hughes

Assistant Professor, Religion

Personifying the Buddha: Politics, Gender, and Religion
in Medieval China



Andrew Robichaud

Assistant Professor, History

On Ice: Transformations in American Life, 1800-1900

The Fellows Seminar has been the core of the intellectual community at the Boston University Center for the Humanities since 1984. The Seminar meets throughout each semester to discuss work in progress by one or more of its members.

Graduate Dissertation Fellows



Christina An

History of Art & Architecture

Art Beyond Price or Place: Vermeer, Asia,
and the Poetics of Painting



Maité Cruz Tleugabulova

Philosophy

Hume on Knowledge of the Past



Pardis Dabashi

English

Missing Story: Contingency and Narrative
in Modernist Fiction and Film



Pamela Feo

Musicology

Mapping Sound: The Alternative Spaces of
Music Consumption in Fin-de-Siècle Paris

A gathering for multidisciplinary research, debate, and dialogue among Henderson Senior Research Fellows (HSRFs), Junior Faculty Fellows (JFFs), and Graduate Dissertation Fellows (GDFs), the Seminar assists scholars in the development of their work and engages the larger questions of culture and imagination that humanities disciplines have always examined.

Humanities Approaches to the Opioid Crisis

Forum 2018 | October 12-13

Our annual BUCH Forums are designed as intellectual open-air markets that further the exchange of ideas not only among scholars in humanities fields and other professionals but with those who stand to benefit from addressing social problems and their prospective solutions together with humanists. Each year we focus on a subject of vital importance to the Humanities and to society as a whole. Our subject in 2017 was “Libraries and Archives in the Digital Age.” Forum 2018 treated “Humanities Approaches to the Opioid Crisis.”

Our collaboration this year with the BU School of Public Health yielded a range of participants from area schools of public health and medicine, and from city, state, and federal governments to reflect upon the problem of opioid addiction and the social crisis it has generated. The Forum demonstrated the ways in which humanities fields provide a lexicon that builds bridges across disciplinary boundaries while also foregrounding the role of language in the many aspects of treatment and policy, from the obvious social stigma associated with addiction, to the much harder-to-define subjective experience.

The Forum’s three panels — Friday evening, October 12, “The Public Face of the Crisis”; Saturday morning October 13, “The Crisis, Its Internal Language”; and Saturday afternoon, “The Crisis, Its History and Culture” — identified three areas of particular significance: how society comes to define a “social crisis”; the different meanings and various uses of narratives in representing “the crisis”; and the underlying social and political conditions.

Sandro Galea, dean of the BU School of Public Health, observed that one of the most important questions to raise about our current opioid crisis is how it came to be classified as such. Samuel Kelton-Roberts, Columbia University historian, noted how our society tends to tolerate high rates of drug addiction, violence, and even death when it is confined to disadvantaged communities, a sentiment echoed by John E. Rosenthal, founder of Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative.

Eoin Cannon, chief speechwriter, City of Boston, discussed how addiction narratives can be appropriated and misappropriated, and emphasized that the term “narrative” has different meanings in the various spheres dedicated to addressing the opioid crisis, a point Amy Appleford, associate professor of English, elaborated in her remarks and Susan Mizruchi pursued in her paper on David Foster Wallace and *Breaking Bad*.

Paul Summergrad, chair of the department of psychiatry at Tufts, offered a stirring account of the “savagery” of our contemporary culture, responding implicitly to Michael Botticelli, director of the Grayken Center for Addiction Medicine, who highlighted the social breakdown that has contributed to the crisis. Perhaps the most poignant moment of the Forum occurred when Nora Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, described one of the inadvertent consequences of the opioid crisis: that for the first time, we do not have a lack of organs for donation.

Art Exhibit

The BU Center for the Humanities hosted an exhibition of work by local artists in conjunction with Forum 2018. In addition to the four works that were displayed during the Forum at a pop-up exhibit on October 13, four other artists contributed their work to this month-long exhibition in our office. We are grateful to our jury and to everyone who sent in submissions.

Participating Artists:

Laurence Cuelenaere, *Payphone in Lowell, MA*, 2017, Pigment Print from Scanned 35mm Negative*

Cindy Lu, *So are the Days*, 2018, Plexiglass, Gelatin Capsules, Plastic Figurines*

Dara Herman Zierlein, *America, Guns & Pills*, 2012, Watercolor on Arches Paper

Coral Woodbury, *Cracker Box Heart*, 2014, Gouache, Graphite, and Gesso on Paper

Karen Krolak, *A Dictionary of Negative Space*, 2018, Gouache, Graphite, and Gesso on Paper

Yetti Frenkel, *Outbound*, 2009, Colored Pencil on Toned Paper*

Ariana Kam, *Pesha*, 2018, Animation*

Catherine Titcomb, *A New Way to Handle the Opioid Crisis*, 2018, Digital Art Printed on Paper

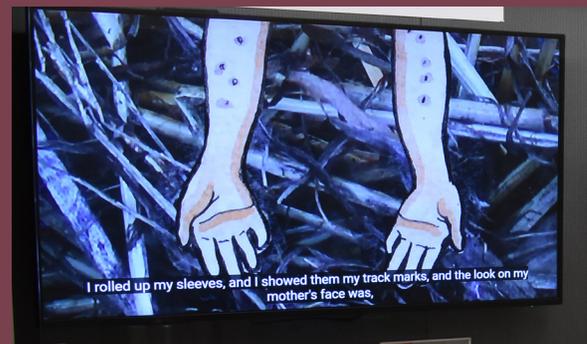
* featured in the pop-up exhibit



Cindy Lu, *So are the Days*, 2018, Plexiglass, Gelatin Capsules, Plastic Figurines



BUCH Fellow Maité Cruz Tleugabulova with artist **Karen Krolak's** work



Ariana Kam, *Pesha*, 2018, Animation



Alexis Peri (History) speaking at the HumaniTeas

Second Book Workshop

On March 29-30, 2019, the Center hosted the Second Book Workshop, featuring Suzanne Ryan, Editor in Chief, Humanities at Oxford University Press. Participants met with Ryan for one-on-one consultations about their book proposals and project goals. “It was great to have the opportunity to speak with an editor when the stakes are low,” said Deanna Klepper, associate professor of religion and history. “It wasn’t like meeting with the editor you hope will want your book—you get all the expertise without the pressure.” “[Ryan] had clearly read my proposal with care and was able to approach it from the proposal-reader’s point of view, not something I had ever encountered before,” said Margaret Litvin, associate professor of Arabic & comparative literature, WLL. Given its success, the Center looks forward to hosting the Second Book Workshop in AY 2019/2020.



Chris Stokum, 2018 Boston Red Sox PhD intern, with Gordon Edes, team historian

PhD Internships

During the summer of 2019, five BU humanities PhD students hold internships at the Boston Athenæum, the Boston Public Library, the Boston Red Sox, the Gardner Museum, and the Mayor’s Office. These internships introduce humanities PhD students to career opportunities at institutions beyond academia. Located at leading institutions throughout the Boston area, these internships demonstrate to professionals at these institutions what humanities graduate students have to offer. Through their respective positions, the graduate interns do a variety of work that leverages their skills as PhD candidates. “Working as a graduate intern expanded my educational horizons,” said Chris Stokum, 2018 PhD intern with the Boston Red Sox. “This opportunity showed me what I have to offer to an institution with deep ties to the city of Boston.”



BU faculty member editors Aaron Garrett (Philosophy), Sarah Phillips (History), and Adriana Craciun (English) discuss their journals

BUCH Summer Graduate Internship

In the summer of 2019, the Center started to employ an advanced graduate student to work as a program intern. The BU Center for the Humanities intern assists in coordinating the Center’s programming and operations, including the Center’s annual Forum. The internship provides doctoral candidates in the humanities with an opportunity to cultivate and apply research, editorial and writing, and administrative skills in a humanities setting distinct from the classroom and away from their home departments. “Working at the Center has been a fascinating and fulfilling experience,” said Christine D’Auria, PhD candidate in American & New England Studies and the Center’s inaugural graduate intern. “It’s a great way to apply my academic interests in an administrative setting, and I’ve developed new professional and technical proficiencies that will assist me in my future career endeavors.” This position is ideally suited for students interested in careers in university administration or at research and arts institutions.

Undergraduate Internships at OUP

The Center continued its program of paid publishing internships at Oxford University Press USA’s office in New York City. For eight weeks during summer 2019, BU humanities undergraduates once again worked at the OUP offices on Madison Avenue as editorial assistants, helping to prepare manuscripts for production, devising publicity plans, and engaging in the daily tasks of the publishing industry. They also attended editorial meetings and participated in activities with OUP interns from other universities. One of our past OUP interns (now employed there) wrote that as an intern she “learned how to operate in an office environment” while growing familiar with “the ins and outs of academic publishing.” Importantly, this publishing internship helped her to develop as “a writer, worker, and thinker” and was “a truly invaluable experience.”



Students at the Undergraduate Thesis Workshop

HumaniTeas

These afternoon undergraduate teas allow students with common interests to come together with distinguished faculty, who share personal stories about finding their ways to careers in the humanities. Our four HumaniTeas this year featured Assistant Professor Alexander Nikolaev (Linguistics), Professor Louis Chude-Sokei (African American Studies, English), Associate Professor Alexis Peri (History), and Associate Professor Gregory Williams (History of Art & Architecture). Nikolaev described his experience in both the European and US education systems and how these affected his decision to study Linguistics. Chude-Sokei discussed his path to academia and how his interdisciplinary interests have converged in his research. Peri detailed her journey through different occupations and her experience as a first-generation college student attending graduate school and becoming a professor, while Williams talked about how his curatorial work in the art world informs his work as an academic. All four scholars addressed student questions and concerns, including what humanities majors can do with their degrees.

Undergraduate Thesis Workshop

On October 26, 2018, the Center organized an undergraduate thesis workshop structured as an informal panel discussion aimed at students in the humanities who were either currently writing a thesis or thinking of writing one in the coming year. The event featured panelists who had written theses in the past few years on a humanities subject. Each of the panelists discussed their decision to write a thesis, the writing process, and how writing a thesis has affected their growth as scholars and people. They also answered questions from undergraduates in the audience and addressed the concerns of those considering taking on a thesis project.

Celebration of BU Journals

On February 5, 2019, the Center cosponsored with the Office of the Associate Dean of Faculty/Humanities, “A Celebration of Boston University Humanities Journals.” The event featured a panel of editors representing six celebrated humanities journals, all of which are associated with BU. The journals featured were *AGNI*, *Arion*, *The Black Scholar*, *The Journal of Modern Philosophy*, *Modern American History*, and *Studies in Romanticism*. In addition to highlighting



Graduate student panelists Pardis Dabashi, Brian Barone, and Julia Mix Barrington on the Graduate School Panel

the unique perspectives the journals provide in the context of their fields, the editors discussed the shifting media landscape and its impact on academic publishing. They also discussed the methodological and disciplinary flexibility that their journals strive to encourage. The event concluded with a moving, memorable reading of Horace by esteemed poet David Ferry, whose own work has been published in *Arion* for many years.

Death and Dying

In February 2019, the Center was pleased to be a cosponsor of the School of Public Health's symposium, "Death and Dying: A Population Health Perspective," which featured talks by experts from BU and around the world on a range of issues related to death. Having worked with them on Forum 2018, "Humanities Approaches to the Opioid Crisis," SPH Dean Sandro Galea invited Center Director Susan Mizruchi and her colleague in English, Amy Appleford, to participate. Mizruchi spoke on "The Literature of Grief," while Appleford, who directs BU's Medieval Studies program and moderated a panel at Forum 2018, brought to bear on the contemporary scene her research on the culture of death in the late Middle Ages. Intending to expand our conceptions of and conversations about death and dying, the symposium addressed the issue at the population level, emphasizing varying causes of death according

to location, as well as the ways in which people respond to death. Panelists additionally spoke to issues concerning control throughout the process of dying and grief in the moments following death. By engaging with this difficult topic, all speakers contributed to a discourse aimed at improving our lived experience.

Graduate Student Panel

On April 5, 2019, the Center hosted a panel for undergraduates considering applying to graduate school in the humanities, featuring a lineup of graduate students from English, Ethnomusicology, American & New England Studies, and the History of Art & Architecture. Representing a wide variety of graduate school experiences, the panelists' expansive conversation detailed the graduate school application process, the dissertation itself, the political implications of graduate school, and the academic job market. The panelists spoke engagingly about their reasons for applying to graduate school and answered the questions of undergraduate attendees with warmth and frankness. The desire to inhabit a genuinely intellectual community came through from all participants. Graduate students and undergraduates kept talking long after the panel ended and exchanged emails so that the conversations could continue.

Werner Herzog: Every Man for Himself, and God Against All

Conversations in the Arts & Ideas 2019 | March 25-26



Acclaimed director, filmmaker, and writer Werner Herzog was the featured guest of the Boston University Conversations in the Arts & Ideas series on March 25, 2019, sharing his characteristically wide-ranging insights on aesthetics, film craft, philosophy, and humanistic inquiry to a captivated audience of BU community members at the Tsai Performance Center. In addition to this large gathering, Herzog continued the conversation over breakfast with BU undergraduates the following day.

The Arts & Ideas event at Tsai primarily took the form of a lively discussion between Herzog and Professor of Classical Studies Herbert Golder, whose longtime friendship and history of collaboration with the director resulted in an intimate, rigorous dialogue. “Herzog and Professor Golder had great rapport,” said Kimber Chewing, a PhD student in the History of Art & Architecture. “I don’t think the talk would have been nearly as entertaining or insightful if it hadn’t been a conversation between two close friends.”

“He is a visionary who gave us a vivid glimpse of the creative process, which in his experience is some combination of spontaneity, wide reading, boundless

curiosity and openness, and a determination to follow his own artistic convictions,” reflected Professor of History James H. Johnson, one of the co-organizers of the event.

A particularly memorable way that Herzog shared this artistic vision with the audience came through the film clips and images that Herzog and Golder pulled from an extensive playlist made specifically for this event, adding to its organic and spontaneous quality. This not only provided a comprehensive view of Herzog’s filmmaking practice, but it allowed the audience to enjoy watching segments from some of Herzog’s most celebrated films—including *Aguirre, the Wrath of God* (1972), *Invincible* (2001), *Wild Blue Yonder* (2005), and *Into the Inferno* (2016)—all of which were contextualized by Herzog’s personal reflections on the films’ production and composition.

Engaging the audience in this sustained analysis provided surprising insight into Herzog’s filmography. “I grew up with his films (and our beloved, ancient, barely-running Volkswagen is named Herzog in his honor!), and often delude myself into thinking that I’ve seen the majority of them, but am always somehow delighted by the discovery that there are deeper cuts that I still haven’t yet had the chance to enjoy and think with” said Assistant Professor of History Benjamin Siegel.

PhD candidate in American and New England Studies Mariah Gruner remarked on the rare opportunity to watch the film clips alongside Herzog: “It felt a bit magical to watch Herzog watch his own work and then respond to it with mixtures of delight, frustration, and curiosity.”

Others were struck by Herzog’s willingness to speak directly, and at length, with audience members, many of whom were undergraduates seeking advice about filmmaking, or were curious to learn more about the director. Professor of English and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Director of Kilachand Honors College, and event co-organizer Carrie Preston noted, “Perhaps what most amazed me about the great filmmaker is his generosity of spirit with the students. One of my favorite moments in the lecture was when I said that we had time for just one more question and he determined, no, he would take the questions as quickly as possible! He was similarly warm and generous with the students at the breakfast the next day.”

In addition to speaking at length on the subject of filmmaking, Herzog spoke to the significance of other cultural forms. “Herzog stressed the importance of reading everything, a lesson I think is very important in our day and age of visualization,” said undergraduate Rona Moriah, CAS, English ’22. “The information he has acquired from books over the years has helped him explore the subjects of films he makes or will make.”

The event’s interdisciplinary form and participatory structure channeled Herzog’s humanistic impulse and emphasized the continued power of the humanities as tools of illumination, insight, and critique.



Rosanna Warren (Chicago) gave the keynote address at Translation Now

Translation Now Conference

The Department of World Languages & Literatures hosted the Translation Now conference on September 28-29, 2018, bringing together translation studies scholars from BU and around the world to share their work and to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of Boston University's Seminar in Literary Translation. Rosanna Warren, poet, translator, and writer, who gave the translation seminar its current form and taught it for many years, delivered the keynote, "Translation as Strange Music." Warren's talk drew on different translations of Arthur Rimbaud and Charles Baudelaire to illustrate the flexibility of translations. Attesting to the prestige of the BU translation studies community, as well as to the conference participants, the event was livestreamed to both national and international audiences, with viewers tuning in across the United States, as well as in Europe and Japan. Speakers addressed a host of diverse issues, including the historical role and reputation of translation in the academy; how popular interest in translation is conditioned by contemporary political exigencies; the



Mark Hetfield was the final speaker in the Elie Wiesel Memorial Lecture series

relationship between international publishing markets and translation; the ethics of translation; the translator as a critical and close reader; the importance of the translator's presence in textual sites such as the preface and afterword in a translated text; issues of syntax and grammar; and the politics of translation. The Center was happy to cosponsor this illuminating event, which was well-attended by BU faculty, students, alumni, and members of the national and global humanities community.

Elie Wiesel Memorial Lecture Series: Kristallnacht 1938

The Center cosponsored this year's Elie Wiesel Memorial Lectures, a new series curated by Michael Zank, director of the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies. In fall 2018, the lectures memorialized Kristallnacht 1938 and accordingly the speakers explored different aspects of this legacy. The first lecture was given by Dr. Ute Frevert, director of the Max Planck Institute for Human Development and a scholar of German history, who discussed the



Participants in “Frontier,” the 35th annual Graduate Student Symposium in the History of Art & Architecture

emotional politics of Kristallnacht and Nazi Germany. Frevert explored the emotions that fueled Nazi ideology, as well as the emotional response to Nazi Germany among Jewish and non-Jewish Germans and the role of memory after the fact. This interest in the emotional perceptions stirred by Kristallnacht were explored further in the second lecture given by Omer Bartov, professor of European History at Brown University. Bartov explored the import of the images of Kristallnacht and what it means when people choose not to witness blatant public violence. The final lecture explored the connections among Kristallnacht, the Holocaust, and the modern refugee crisis. This lecture, by Mark Hetfield, who confronts the refugee crisis in his position as president of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), came only days after the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh, in which HIAS was named by the suspected shooter. Hetfield spoke about how Kristallnacht and the resulting displacement of the Jews can inform our understanding of the current refugee crisis.

Graduate Student Symposium in the History of Art & Architecture

The Center cosponsored the 35th annual Boston University Graduate Student Symposium in the History of Art & Architecture, “Frontier: Exploring Boundaries in the History of Art & Architecture,” held at the MFA, Boston on March 2, 2019. The symposium featured graduate speakers who offered wide-ranging, interdisciplinary insights on the symposium’s theme of frontiers and borders, physically and metaphorically conceived. The participants provided engaging and nuanced analyses of transnationality and multinational museum exhibits, Islamic portraiture, cultures of death, Roman art and architecture, Haitian art, and Italian pilgrimage sites. These insights unsettled prevailing notions of frontiers, borders, and otherwise liminal spaces. The symposium concluded with a keynote delivered by Professor Ila Sheren (Washington University) on “Bordering the Sacred: Visualizing the Paradox of Pollution,” which looked to the films *Manthan* (Vibha Galhotra, 2015) and *The Scene of the Crime* (Amar Kanwar, 2011) to interrogate religious customs, natural resources, and pollution in India.



Hamsa Al-Wadi performing in the “Syria in My Heart” series

Arab Arts Series

The Center cosponsored the Arab Arts Series, which was offered as one of many well-attended programs comprising the Department of World Languages & Literatures Culture Pass events. Organized with the express intention of centering Middle Eastern arts in the BU humanities community, the Arab Arts Series treated audiences to a multidisciplinary perspective on Middle Eastern culture. The first event in the series, “Syria in My Heart,” held on October 16, 2018, was a classical music performance featuring two esteemed musicians, violinist Ashraf Kateb and pianist Hamsa Al-Wadi. The concert foregrounded prewar Syrian classical music and shed light on the ways in which European classical music historically borrowed from Middle Eastern traditions. On March 4, 2019, Ibrahim Miari performed his one-man show detailing his experience growing up Jewish-Palestinian, while on March 22, Egyptian poet and essayist Iman Mersal and scholar-translator Robyn Creswell (Yale) were featured in



Willing Suspension Productions produced *Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay*

conversation at the BU Translation Seminar. Finally, Rebekah Maggor (Cornell) and BU Professor Margaret Litvin undertook a public conversation on the topic of “Arabic Dramas as Mirrors of American Dilemmas.”

Willing Suspension Productions

This year Willing Suspension Productions (WSP) put on a rarely staged historical comedy, *Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay* (c. 1590) by Robert Greene, for a three-night run on March 21-23, 2019, at the BU Student Theater. Directed by three doctoral students in English—Megan Bowman, Julia Mix Barrington, and Liam Cruz Kelly—the production featured a group of BU graduate and undergraduate students, as well as current and former students from Boston College and Harvard. In addition to the three performances WSP also recorded the show for BUiverse, where all of their stagings of early early modern dramas are publicly available online to scholars interested in current stagings of these works.

Marié Abe, Musicology & Ethnomusicology
BU Global Music Festival

Adriana Craciun, Charles J. Rzepka
English
The Boston Area Romanticist Colloquium

William Carroll, English
Visiting Scholar: Pascale Drouet

William Carroll, English
Willing Suspension Productions

Robert Chodat, English
BU Workshop on Literature, Philosophy, & Aesthetics

Robert Chodat, English
Lecture by Ross Posnock

Daniel Dahlstrom, Philosophy
The Boston Phenomenology Circle Symposium

David Eckel, Religion
Institute for Philosophy & Religion Lecture Series

Anna Elliott, World Languages & Literatures
Translation Now Conference

Emine Fetvacı, History of Art & Architecture
BU Graduate Student Symposium in the History of Art & Architecture

Juliet Floyd, Philosophy
The Future of Liberal Naturalism: The Legacies of Hilary and Ruth Anna Putnam

Juliet Floyd, Philosophy
Residency by Sandra Laugier

Juliet Floyd, Philosophy
Continuing Cavell: Must We Mean at Fifty

Aaron V. Garrett, Philosophy
Journal of Modern Philosophy

Abigail Gillman, World Languages & Literatures
BU German Program Coffee Talk

Abigail Gillman & Mira Angrist, World Languages & Literatures
Hosting the National Association of Professors of Hebrew International Conference

Nancy Harrowitz, Romance Studies
Two Silent Film Classics with New Live Music: Assunta Spina and The Immigrant

James Johnson, History
Conversations in the Arts & Ideas: Werner Herzog

Paul Katsafanas, Philosophy
Workshop on Late Modern Philosophy

Victor Kumar, Philosophy
Boston University Evolution and Ethics Conference

Margaret Litvin, World Languages & Literatures
Arab Arts & Humanities Series

Lida Maxwell, Political Science
What is Democracy? Film Screening and Panel

Michaela McSweeney, Philosophy
Logic, Metaphysics, Epistemology Workshop

Robert Murowchick, Archaeology
East Asian Archaeology Forum Public Lecture Series

Shilpa Parnami, World Languages & Literatures
World Languages & Literatures: Annual Pedagogy Symposia

Anita Patterson, Rodrigo Lopes de Barros, Peter Schwartz, English, Romance Studies, World Languages & Literatures
Lectures in Criticism

Adela Pineda, Romance Studies
Mexican Literature, Culture, and Film across Borders: Translation, Migration, and Frontiers

Joseph Rezek, English
Transatlantic Revolutions

Takeo Rivera, English
Sedgwick Lecture Gender & Sexuality Faculty Studies Group

Jeffrey W. Rubin, History
Seeing and Not Seeing Seminar

Peter J. Schwartz, World Languages & Literatures
Third Annual Big Fat Books Symposium: The Faust Tradition -- On Selling One's Soul

Stephen Scully, Classical Studies
The Boston Area Roman Studies Conference

Stephen Scully, Classical Studies
The Study Group on Religion and Myth in the Ancient World

James Siemon, English
Early English Paleography Introduction Membership in Folger Institute

Kate Snodgrass, English
Massachusetts Young Playwrights' Project

Kate Snodgrass, English
Boston Theater Marathon

Daniel Star, Philosophy
Boston University Ethics Seminar 2018-2019

Meg Tyler, College of General Studies, Humanities
The Poetry Reading Series

Meg Tyler, College of General Studies, Humanities
Lecture and Performance Series: Institute for the Study of Irish Culture

Zsuzsanna Varhelyi, Classical Studies
Classical Studies Graduate Student Conference

J. Keith Vincent, World Languages & Literatures
The Robert Fitzgerald Translation Prize

Emi Yamanaka, World Languages & Literatures
The 33rd Annual Japanese Language Teachers' Association of New England Conference

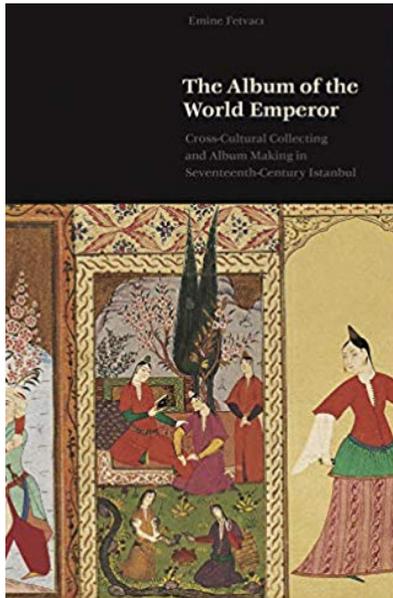
Catherine Yeh, World Languages & Literatures
Chinese Translation Prize

Jeremy Yudkin, Musicology & Ethnomusicology
Boston University Center for Beethoven Research Annual Lecture Series and Symposia

Michael Zank, Religion
Kristallnacht Lecture Series

Michael Zank, Religion
The Modern Israeli Diaspora in Comparative Perspective: A Symposium

Library Acquisition Awards



Victor Coelho, CFA Musicology

Vika Zafrin, Mugar Library

CFA Concert Programs: Bringing a Digitization Project to Completion

Nina Silber, History

Donald Altschiller, Mugar Library

The Black Abolitionist Papers

Catherine Vance Yeh, World Languages & Literatures

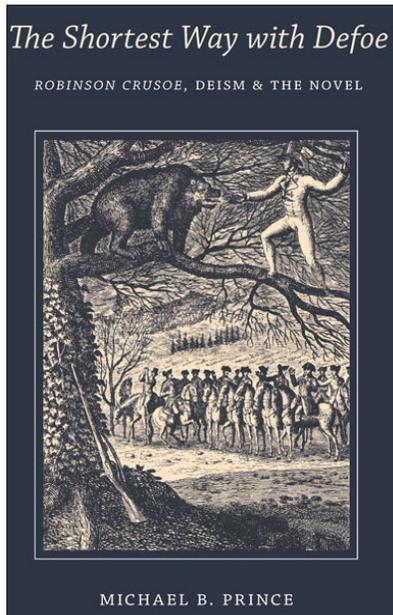
Mark Lewis, Geddes Language Center

Chinese Language Films

Jeremy Yudkin, CFA Musicology

Holly Mockovak, Music Library

Autograph Facsimiles of Beethoven's Seventh Symphony and Third Piano Concerto



Publication Production Awards

Julia P. Brown, English

The Films of John Schlesinger

Jennifer Cazenave, Romance Studies

An Archive of the Catastrophe: The Unused Footage of Claude Lanzmann's Shoah

Emine Fetvaci, History of Art & Architecture

Album of the World Emperor

Sanjay Krishnan, English

Unsentimental Education: V.S. Naipaul's Twentieth Century

William D. Moore, American & New England Studies

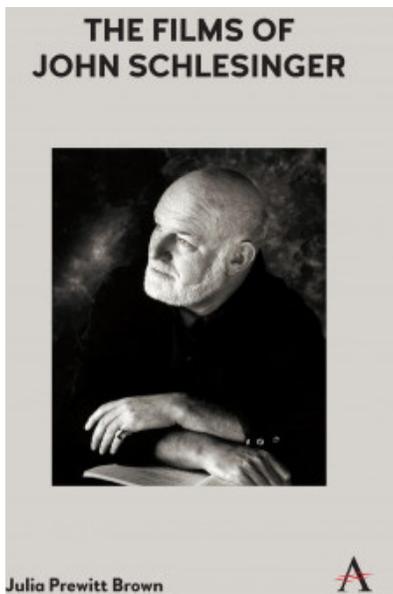
Shaker Fever

Michael Prince, English

The Shortest Way with Defoe: Robinson Crusoe, Deism, and the Novel

Kim Sichel, History of Art & Architecture

Making Strange: Modernism and the Construction of French Photography Books





2019-2020 Graduate Dissertation Fellows (left to right): Joseph Saravo, Mary E. Clarke, Katheryn Viens

Jeffrey Henderson Senior Research Fellows

Ross Barrett	History of Art & Architecture
David Eckel	Religion
Juliet Floyd	Philosophy
John Paul Riquelme	English
Catherine Vance Yeh	World Languages & Literatures

Junior Faculty Fellows

Michaela McSweeney	Philosophy
Ana Villarreal	Sociology

Graduate Dissertation Fellows

Andrew W. Bell	History
Mary E. Clarke	Archaeology
Dat Manh Nguyen	Anthropology
Joseph Saravo	History of Art & Architecture
Katheryn Viens	American & New England Studies



above (left to right): Guiliana Carder and Bridget Cohen; opposite page (clockwise): Christine D'Auria, Robert Kilparick, Kimber Chewning, Aaron Ahlstrom, Mariah Gruner and guest; Donor John Haig with Oddy Awardees.

Undergraduate Student Awards

The Dean Elsbeth Melville Latin Prize

Noah Lawson, Classical Studies

The John Oddy Memorial Award

Eleni Constantinou, Classical Studies
Kennedy Blake Farrow, Classical Studies
Wenyi Jiang, Classical Studies
Dorothy Modrall-Sperling, Classical Studies
Ningyin Zhao, Classical Studies

The Alice M. Brennan Humanities Award*

Guiliana Carder, Linguistics
Bridget Cohen, Religious Studies
Hannah Dion, English
Sarah E. Eagan, English
Margaret Evans, Classics
Flannery Grace Gallagher, History of Art & Architecture
Jeanne Coleen Ilano, English
Hannah Jew, History of Art & Architecture
Dylan Pato, Linguistics
Catherine Peerson, English
Mari Rooney, Classical Studies
Elize Steinhoff, Linguistics
Catalina Uribe Saravia, English
Yingshihan Zhu, Philosophy

**All winners of the Alice M. Brennan Humanities Award also receive the Robert E. Yellin Award*



Graduate Student Awards

The Clarimond Mansfield Award*

Christopher Bartlett, English
Patrick T.J. Browne, History
José Luis Nogales-Baena, Romance Studies

The Helen G. Allen Humanities Award*

Lauren Graves, History of Art & Architecture
Mariah Gruner, American & New England Studies

The Alice M. Brennan Humanities Award*

Laurie Mar Garriga, Romance Studies
Carlos Muñoz-Cadilla, History of Art & Architecture

The Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize*

Aaron Alexander Ahlstrom, American & New England Studies
Cari Babitzke, History
Brian Barone, Musicology/Ethnomusicology
Scott Daniel Possiel, Religious Studies
Mohammad Adnan Rehman, Religious Studies

**All winners also receive The Angela J. and James J. Rallis Memorial Award*

Can We Talk? Dialogue & Debate in the Contemporary Academy

Forum 2019 | Thursday, October 3

WBUR CitySpace, 890 Commonwealth Ave.

In previous forums, we reached beyond our academic borders to highlight what humanities fields have to offer a broader public. By partnering with the Boston Public Library and the Boston Athenæum for Forum 2017, and with area schools of public health and medicine, and representatives of city, state, and federal governments for Forum 2018, we demonstrated how humanities disciplines could provide a vocabulary that helps to bridge different approaches to the problems that beset us. The goal both years was to initiate local, national, and global conversations with experts at both academic and non-academic institutions.

Forum 2019 will explore one of the biggest challenges facing universities today: the question of how to promote honest intellectual exchange. In seeking a topic that would serve the Boston University community we concluded that no subject was of greater moment than the challenge of free speech and open debate within our own institutional borders.

Any academic environment depends on its capacity to generate and articulate ideas, while protecting the rights of its various members—faculty, students, administrators, staff—to express and defend those ideas. This capacity, and its status as a value, has become a point of controversy on college campuses and a focus of public discourse.

Our purpose in convening this forum is to address the very subjects that are neglected because they are difficult and generate conflict.

We hope that our dialogue about dialogue will provide a model of open discussion for the larger academic community and the public.

To this end, Forum 2019 will feature three panels: Panel I: “Language Matters: Discussing Difficult Texts”; Panel II: “Corporate University: Acknowledging Student, Faculty, and Administration Fault Lines”; Panel III: “Shop Talk: Dialogue Across Labor Divides.” Each panel will start with a “lightning round” of presentations, with panelists offering short, provocative remarks to set the stage for a discussion that includes the audience. The Forum will conclude with a roundtable reflection. Throughout the day, we are featuring a range of voices from faculty of different levels—contingent, tenured, untenured—to staff, senior administrators, and graduate students.

Forum 2019 will be held at the new WBUR CitySpace, an auditorium whose structure minimizes the distance between panelists and audience. Please join this discussion on Thursday, October 3, 2019. For more information, visit our forum website at <http://sites.bu.edu/humanitiesforums>.

Panel 1 | Language Matters: Discussing Difficult Texts

Moderator: **Gregory Williams**, Associate Professor, Department of History of Art & Architecture

Panelists:

Kimberly Arkin, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology

Emily Gowen, PhD Candidate, Department of English

Stephen Prothero, C. Allyn and Elizabeth V. Russell Professor of Religion

Takeo Rivera, Assistant Professor, Department of English

Crystal Williams, Associate Provost for Diversity and Inclusion

Panel 2 | Corporate University: Acknowledging Student, Faculty, And Administration Fault Lines

Moderator: **Nazli Kibria**, Associate Dean of the Faculty/Social Sciences, Professor, Department of Sociology

Panelists:

Kimber Chewning, PhD Candidate, Department of History of Art & Architecture

Jean Morrison, University Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Peter Schwartz, Associate Professor, Department of World Languages & Literatures

Cady Steinberg, Administrator, Department of History

Jonathan Zatlín, Associate Professor, Department of History

Panel 3 | Shop Talk: Nurturing Honest Dialogue Across Labor Divides

Moderator: **Jeffrey Rubin**, Associate Professor, Department of History

Panelists:

Charles Chang, Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics

Nancy Geourntas, Executive Assistant to the Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

Daniel Kleinman, Associate Provost for Graduate Affairs

Jessica Lambert, PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology

Marisa Milanese, Master Lecturer, Writing Program

Roundtable | Further Reflections: Looking Ahead Together

Moderator: **Maurice Lee**, Professor, Department of English

Panelists:

Julie Levy, PhD Candidate, Department of Classical Studies

David Lyons, Professor Emeritus, Department of Philosophy and School of Law

William Moore, Director, American & New England Studies Program

Adela Pineda, Professor of Spanish, Department of Romance Studies

Carrie Preston, Arvind and Nandlal Kilachand Professor and Director, Kilachand Honors College



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