

# YALE DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH

FALL 2013

## GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR



**IT WAS ANOTHER BUSY YEAR FOR** the French Department, with nearly weekly lectures, a parade of distinguished visitors and many celebratory moments along the way. I feel lucky to have taken up the chair after learning from **THOMAS KAVANAGH**'s superb example during my first three years at Yale. **AGNÈS BOLTON**'s management of our daily operations and the steady support of our colleagues make this challenging job possible—and possibly fun!

### RECRUITMENT

We were delighted to welcome to the faculty Professor **TOM CONNOLLY**, a specialist in modern poetry. Tom received his PhD in Comparative Literature from Harvard, after a brilliant undergraduate career at Oxford and the ENS as a *boursier étranger*.

**SONIA BAUGUIL** completed her first year as Department Registrar: from her friendly office, with its sunny poster of the port of Marseilles, she serves as a trusted guide for our graduate and undergraduate students.

During this 2013-2014 academic year, we will conduct a search for a new assistant professor—field open. Please do write to us about your most talented students on the job market. Yale has switched to a true tenure track with an eight-year “clock” and two years of leave along the way. With these conditions, we recruit with enthusiasm.

The big picture is changing too. **RICK LEVIN** stepped down after twenty years of strong leadership as President of Yale. October 10-13, 2013 celebrated the inauguration of President **PETER SALOVEY**, whose term began in July. Salovey is a former dean, provost, and chair of Psychology—a renowned specialist on emotional intelligence, *and* an accomplished bluegrass musician! We also look forward to working with our new provost **BEN POLAK** from the Department of Economics, and we are grateful to the ongoing support of Dean **MARY MILLER** and Deputy Provost **EMILY BAKEMEIER**, joined this fall by Associate Provost **JOHN MANGAN**.

**EDWIGE TAMALET TALBAYEV** left us to take a new position at Tulane University. We welcomed the birth of her son Solan in January. And I am especially grateful to her for serving as DUS during this momentous year for her family. Edwige has been a respected and beloved teacher and an excellent department citizen. We'll find it very hard to do without her.

**LYDIA UZIEL** left her position as Librarian for Western European Humanities at Sterling Library to become the Librarian for Western Europe at Harvard. We wish her well! Through her scholarship and brilliant support of our students, Lydia was a true member of the department, supporting all of us—faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates—in our research.

### MORE FÉLICITATIONS!

To **RUTH KOIZIM**, who was presented with the insignia of *Chevalier* in the *Ordre des Palmes académiques* at a June 18<sup>th</sup> reception hosted by **ANTONIN BAUDRY**, the Cultural Counselor of the French Embassy, and MacMillan Director **IAN SHAPIRO**.



*New Chevalier Ruth Koizim with Antonin Baudry*

To **NED DUVAL**, our first Henri Peyre Chair in French, and thanks to many of you who contributed to the Peyre endowment.

To **MAURICE SAMUELS**, the Betty Jane Anlyan chair in French, thanks to a newly created chair in the Humanities given by the legendary surgeon and oncologist **JOHN ANLYAN**, who congratulated Maurice in perfect French...

To **ALYSON WATERS**, for her superb translation of Eric Chevillard's *Prehistoric Times*, which won the highly competitive 2012 Translation Prize for best French to English translation of fiction, given by the French-American Foundation and the Florence Gould Foundation. This is the most prestigious annual award for translations of French prose into English. This is a banner year for Alyson, who also celebrates twenty years as editor of *Yale French Studies*.



Congratulations go as well to **KATHLEEN BURTON** (*above left*) and to **CANDACE SKORUPA** (*right*), who were promoted this spring to Senior Lectors, for their excellent teaching.

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## VISITORS

### HENRY ROUSSO

was in residence for the fall semester, the first visiting professor at Professor Maurice Samuels' Yale Program for the Study of Antisemitism. Henry's masterful essay on the challenges of writing contemporary history, "La dernière catastrophe. L'histoire, le présent, le contemporain," was published in November. At Yale he taught an undergraduate course in History on "The Holocaust in France" and a graduate seminar in French, History, and Jewish Studies, "Judging the Holocaust."



In the fall, our King Distinguished Visiting Scholar was **PIERRE BIRNBAUM**, emeritus professor from Paris I and Sciences Po, who lectured on Léon Blum and shared a chapter of his fascinating book about food culture in France, *La république et le cochon*, published in April 2013. (See page 17.)

## COLLEAGUES

Sabbatical leaves supported a variety of books and articles in the making: **THOMAS KAVANAGH** was on leave in the spring to work on two research projects (see *Faculty News*). Also in the spring, **MAURICE SAMUELS** worked on his book on philosemitism in France. He co-edited a *Nineteenth-Century Jewish Literature Reader*, which includes his original translations of nineteenth-century French Jewish fiction. **R. HOWARD BLOCH** was on leave for the academic year, writing a book, on Mallarmé (see *Faculty News*). **CHRISTOPHER SEMK** was the recipient of a Morse Fellowship, working on the martyred hero in early modern French tragedy.

## CONFERENCES

Two important conferences were bookends for the academic year. On October 5, **MAURICE SAMUELS** organized an international event under the auspices of the Yale Program for the Study of Anti-Semitism, "Anti-Semitism in France: Past, Present, and Future." A day of papers by French, American, and Israeli scholars was marked by stimulating debates and original research. For more details on the conference, see the following: a brief [overview](#) on

YouTube, the conference [program](#), and a [video](#) of talks by **BRUNO CHAOUAT**, **DORIAN BELL**, and **ROBERT WISTRICH**.

On March 29-30, professors **CHRISTOPHER MILLER** and **EDWIGE TAMALET TALBAYEV** sponsored an international conference, "Beyond French: New Languages for African Diasporic Literature." This conference, the first of its kind, brought together critics with creative writers from former French colonies who have settled in other European nations and begun to write in languages other than French: Spanish, Italian, Catalan, German, Dutch... For further details, click [here](#).

The conference received wide support from the Department of French, The Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Fund, the Council on African Studies, the Council on Middle East Studies, the Program in Ethnicity, Race, and Migration, the Departments of Comparative Literature, Italian, and Germanic Languages and Literatures, and the Whitney Humanities Center.

**ANOUAR MAJID**, Director of the University of New England's Center for Global Humanities, wrote an eloquent appreciation of the event on his blog. After discussing several brilliant papers, he remarked, "The vast amount of knowledge at this conference is a powerful testimony to the value of literary criticism. Yale's graduate students are also an accomplished lot and have done so much already before starting



full-time careers in teaching. And then I got the pleasure of meeting, for the first time, Christopher Miller, the legendary scholar of Francophone African literature, and his colleague Edwige Tamalet Talbayev, a rising scholar in Maghrebian and Mediterranean Studies." You will find more [here](#).

## UNDERGRADUATE

It's a pleasure to report some remarkable news: a sudden rise in majors, from 2 or 3 in the leanest years, to 22 last year, counting freshman through seniors who have declared. With the great teamwork of our new Director of the Language Program, **FRANÇOISE SCHNEIDER**, and our DUS, **EDWIGE TAMALET TALBAYEV**, we made a number of small changes in the undergraduate curriculum, designed to encourage students to move more quickly into the upper level courses. A particularly dynamic group of majors, among them **ZOE EGELMAN**, **BENJAMIN MAPPIN-KASIRER**, and **JOHN SUNUNU** re-launched the undergraduate bilingual magazine, *L'Amuse-Bouche*, founded in a paper version in 2007, and now [online](#) and on [Facebook](#), in a striking graphic rendering by *Directeur créatif* and webmaster **SETH THOMAS**.



Highly recommended: **JOHN SUNUNU**'s investigative report on hamburgers in Paris; **ELIZABETH CHRYSAL**'s "Jour au Cordon Bleu;" and **BENJAMIN MAPPIN-KASIRER**'s "Tableau de New Haven," à la manière de Louis-Sébastien Mercier...

James T. King's generosity over the years has truly enhanced the life of the department. His gift sponsors our annual two-week James T. King Distinguished

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Visitor Program. Now, with our majors stronger than ever, we have initiated the first undergraduate prize for distinction in the senior essay written in French or in English, The James T. King Prize for Distinction in the Senior Essay. (See *DUS* notes on page 9 for this year's winners.)

## GRADUATE

Thank you to **CHRIS MILLER** for a dynamic year returning as our DGS, taking up the excellent work done by **MAURICE SAMUELS**. With the contracting job market, his strong guidance to our *doctorants* has become all the more essential. Chris was also the organizer of this year's French Department Forum, where graduate students and faculty come together to discuss intellectual and professional issues.

## LECTURES AND ROUND TABLES

**PIERRE BIRNBAUM** lectured on Léon Blum. (See page 17.)

The Naomi Schor Memorial Lecture was given by **ROYA HAKAKIAN**, an Iranian-American writer, journalist and human rights activist.



**MARC CAPLAN** from Johns Hopkins lectured on Yiddish and Islamic Negritude.

**JOHN KULKA**, editor at Harvard Press, and **HAROLD AUGENBRAUM**, Director of the National Book Foundation, discussed translations from the point of view of translators, authors, and publishers in a round table with me.

**JEAN-MICHEL RABATÉ** lectured on "Gide, Genet, Autobiography and Transgression."

**SYLVAIN VENAYRE**, historian from Paris I, lectured on adventure novels in French, 1780-1940.

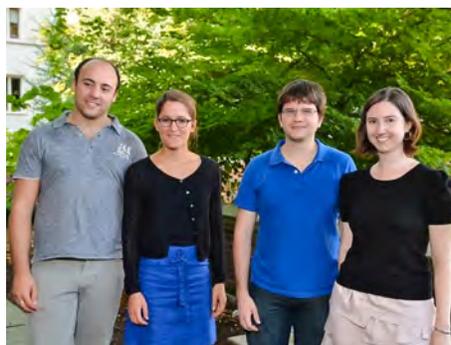
**LAURE MURAT**, Professor of French and Francophone Studies at UCLA, gave a talk entitled "On Rereading: An Investigation into French Literary Practices Today."



**ERIC AESCHIMANN**, humanities correspondent at the *Nouvel Observateur*, under combined sponsorship from the Yale Poynter Fellowship program in Journalism and our department, lectured on a "theological turn" in French philosophy. (See page 13.) During his week in residence, he joined **LAUREN PINZKA**'s Advanced Culture and Conversation class and my course on autobiography and autofiction for lively debates.

Also in April, at the Beinecke Library, **DANIEL DEFERT**, the companion of **MICHEL FOUCAULT**, presented Foucault's library, recently acquired by the Beinecke.

**NED DUVAL** gave a talk to the Department Forum entitled "From Reading a Poem to Publishing an Article."



We were also delighted by the contributions to departmental life made by our visiting lecturers from the *Ecole normale supérieure* (above, left to right): **JULIAN MICHELET**, **PAULINE LAMBERT**, **JONATHAN CORNILLON**, and **MARIE-SOPHIE CARUEL**, including a highly successful series of "*Soirées cinéphiles*." We hope this will become a tradition.

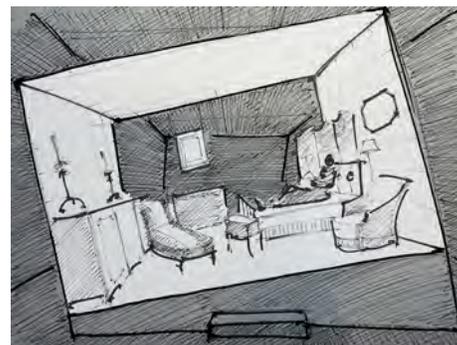
## A NEW PLACEMENT TEST

Under the direction of **FRANÇOISE SCHNEIDER** and in collaboration with the Center for Language Study, the department launched an online placement test this summer. Students were able to take the test from home, facilitating their course selection. A special thanks to **SOUAMIA KOUNDI** for her technical expertise.

## STAY TUNED

On November 16, with support from the **GUICHARNAUD** Funds for Theater and Film, a group of undergraduate and graduate students will sponsor a 24-hour marathon reading of *Swann's Way*, expertly

directed by **SARAH KRASNOW** and designed by **EDWARD MORRIS**, both of the Drama School. All alumni are cordially invited to join the reading— in the language of their choice! Marcel Proust has enrolled at Yale University— or at least in a virtual Yale— and you can reach him via email at: [marcel.proust@yale.edu](mailto:marcel.proust@yale.edu). (More on page 11.)



Sketch by Edward Morris of set for Proust Marathon

## MISCELLANEOUS

**YUE ZHUO** was our official greeter in Boston at the New Year, representing the Department at the MLA cash bar. With our own job interviews taking place this year on Skype, MLA became a destination for papers rather than for recruiting. It will be interesting to follow the effect of this new technological development on attendance at what has always been the largest meeting for scholars in our field.

Finally, we are grateful to **R. HOWARD BLOCH**, **AUDREY HOFFMANN**, **SOUAMIA KOUNDI**, **MATUKU NGAME**, **CONSTANCE SHERAK**, **FRANÇOISE SCHNEIDER**, and **CANDACE SKORUPA** for animating a rich French curriculum in Yale's summer school, both in New Haven and Paris.

## A POSTSCRIPT ON "SPACE"

Anyone who studied French at Yale before 1990 remembers the wood-paneled lounge, the red tiled floors and narrow corridors of the third floor of Harkness Hall. The move to 82-90 Wall Street, strategically situated above (now) Blue State Coffee and Naples Pizza, has given us wider hallways, larger offices, and more public space. Still, the new offices have always been a bone of contention, and with passing years, our 1990s

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headquarters slid into “neo-bulletin board” style. All this has changed, thanks to exceptional support in trying times from **LLOYD SUTTLE**, Yale’s Deputy Provost for Academic Resources, Project Manager **JOYCE MCJUNKIN**, **SUSAN LACEY** of RedThread, and **DOTTIE NORTHOP**, interior decorator. When



you come to New Haven to see the newly renovated Yale Art Gallery, please also stop by 82-90 Wall to say hello and admire the *relooking* of the French Department, pronounced “awesome” by our majors. In the hallways hangs a quite extraordinary exhibit of posters on the theme, “The Yale French Department Remembers.” The

posters were designed by graphic artist **JESSICA SVENDSEN** from the Art School. Doctoral candidates **DUSTIN HOOTEN** and **MARY ANNE LEWIS** did remarkable research in Sterling and the Beinecke Library on the history of the Department, now represented in a series of thirteen *affiches*, serious and whimsical.



(For more, click on the poster.) Sit on the leather couch and the swivel chairs or, if the weather is good, on our outdoor terrace. — *Alice Kaplan, summer 2013*

## FACULTY NEWS

**R. HOWARD BLOCH** was on sabbatical working on a new book: *The World’s Most Difficult Poem* on Stéphane Mallarmé’s “Un Coup de dés jamais n’abolira le hasard,” slated to appear at W. W. Norton. This year he also published several articles on Eugène-Emmanuel Viollet-le-Duc and the restoration of medieval cathedrals, as well as an Introduction to a translation of the *fabliaux*, which also appeared at W. W. Norton, and was reviewed in the *Wall Street Journal* as well as in *The Daily Beast*.

**KATHLEEN BURTON** attended two conferences on improving technological use in the classroom and in teaching. One was organized by the Yale Center for Language Study. The other one took place at the University of Minnesota Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition. She spent most of the rest of the summer translating her book *Nazisme comme religion, Quatre théologiens déchiffrent le code religieux nazi, (1932-1945)* and taking her son to baseball games!

**DIANE CHARNEY** translated interviews in 2013 with writers Ismail Kadare and Jacqueline Raoul-Duval on behalf of son Noah’s weekly interview column in *The Daily Beast*. The interview with the author of “Kafka In Love”/“Kafka, l’éternel fiancé” is on the [site](#) in both French and English.. She felt honored to be asked to write a blurb for colleague **VLADIMIR ALEXANDROV**’s new book *The Black Russian*. After 30 years of teaching French at Yale, she taught for the first time the English Department’s Daily Themes course. Her Italian *alter ego* writes the blog, “In Love With France, At Home In Italy.”

**THOMAS CONNOLLY** very much enjoyed his first year in the department, teaching a Freshman Seminar on modern French poetry, as well as undergraduate and graduate courses on the prose poem. In the spring semester he taught in the literature track of Directed Studies, also lecturing on Flaubert and Proust. In April he attended the ACLA conference in Toronto, presenting a paper which explored ways of using Rimbaud’s later interest in cartography to

read the *Illuminations*. This year will see him teach three new undergraduate courses on French Poetry, Ekphrasis, and Poetry and the Holocaust, as well as a graduate seminar on Mallarmé. An article entitled “Oils, Psalms, and Scum: Anadyomene Paint and the Limits of Ekphrasis in Paul Celan’s ‘Einkanter: Rembrandt’” is due to appear in the April 2014 edition of *Modern Philology*.

**NED DUVAL** taught in the Directed Studies Program again last fall, lecturing on Virgil’s *Aeneid* and Dante’s *Purgatorio* and *Paradiso*. In October Ned was invited to speak at Yale’s Sir Thomas More Lecture Series on the subject of “Classical and Renaissance Literature.” In April he was invited to Washington University to deliver the Isidore Silver Lecture. The title of his lecture was “Music in the Service of the Text? The Case of Pierre de Ronsard.”

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## GREETINGS FROM THE DGS



**REFLECTING OUR “NEW NORMAL”** demographics, this was a relatively quiet year for dissertations, with only one student finishing: **THOMAS CHAPMAN WING**, whose “The Future Looks Backward:



Projection and the Historical Imagination in Nineteenth-Century France” (directed by **MAURIE SAMUELS**) won the Marguerite Peyre Prize awarded by the department.

The pipeline is, however, full of exciting projects, including no less than *seven* new ones approved this past year:

- **NATHALIE BATRAVILLE**, “The Subject in Isolation: Haitian Literature Under the Duvalier Regime”
- **COLIN FOSS**, “Literature Under Siege: Reading And Writing During the Siege of Paris, 1870-1871”
- **BENJAMIN HOFFMANN**, “L’Amérique posthume – Recréations littéraires de

l’Amérique entre la Guerre d’Indépendance et la Guerre Civile”

- **ANNIE DE SAUSSURE**, “Brittany and the Postcolonial World: Literature and Nationless Nationalism in Brittany, the French Caribbean and Québec”
- **CLEMENTINE FAURÉ-BELLAICHE**, “L’air protestant’: Gide, Sartre and Barthes and The Religion of Literary Modernism”
- **ELIZABETH HEBBARD**, “Collecting Desire: The Poetics of Nostalgia in Medieval French and Occitan Lyric”
- **DUSTIN HOOTEN**, “Animals and French Realism”

The job market showed some improvement. **MARY ANNE LEWIS**, who is now completing her dissertation on the “worlding” of North African literature, was hired as assistant professor at Ohio Wesleyan University, where, together with one other new hire, she will be redesigning the French program from the ground up. **ERIN TREMBLAY PONNOU-DELAFFON** ’11 PhD is now assistant professor at Illinois State University. **CHAPMAN WING** ’13 PhD is a lecturer at Tufts. **BRIAN REILLY** ’08 PhD was hired as assistant professor at Fordham University. **JOHN LYTLE** ’07 PhD has just accepted a position as a permanent, full-time teacher of French at the Hopkins School in New Haven. **JESSICA DEVOS** ’12 PhD will be teaching this fall at Connecticut College. **JEFF LEICHMAN** ’08 PhD is an assistant professor at LSU.



Left to right: Grad students Kristin Graves, Annabel Kim, and Julie Elsky

**AWENDELA GRANTHAM** ’12 PhD is now Special Program Assistant at the Virginia Home for Boys and Girls.

**MARY ANNE LEWIS**, by the way, spent a good part of this past summer as a fellow at the Centre Les Glycines in Algiers, where both **ALICE KAPLAN** and **ALEXANDRA GUEYDAN** ’08 PhD have studied and lectured. This residential center, run by the Catholic diocese in Algiers in a former monastery, plays an important role in the intellectual life of Algiers—it has wonderful library resources and language teaching classes. Les Glycines welcomes scholars from around the world working on Algerian and North African history, literature and culture. Mary Anne assisted with fund-raising and networking initiatives for the Center as well as working on her dissertation and visiting the city. We hope that other scholars from the Department will be able to visit the Center in the years ahead.

We continue to offer a rich array of graduate seminars:

### FALL 2012

ROUSSEAU

Thomas Kavanagh

REALISM & NATURALISM

Maurice Samuels

COMMUNITY & COMMUNICATION

Yue Zhuo

JUDGING THE HOLOCAUST

Henry Rousso

THE FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN NOVEL

Christopher Miller

### SPRING 2013

THE MEDIEVAL LYRIC

Ardis Butterfield

LES ANNÉES 30 DU XVIÈME SIÈCLE

Edwin Duval

MONTAIGNE & THE

ESSAY TRADITION

David Quint

LE POÈME EN PROSE

Thomas Connolly

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF

SWANN’S WAY

Alice Kaplan

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**ALICE KAPLAN** reports, “It was a year for editions, prefaces, translations: The French translation of *Dreaming in French* was published in October as *Trois américaines à Paris* (Gallimard). Nathalie Sarraute’s wonderfully evocative *Childhood* had been out of print for too long, and I was delighted to write a preface for a reissue by the University of Chicago Press. Chicago also published my translation of Roger Grenier’s memoir of cameras and photos, *A Box of Photographs*, adding Grenier’s own photos to the original French text. Also in May, Arthur Goldhammer translated, and I edited and prefaced, the first English language edition of Camus’ 1957 *Algerian Chronicles* (Harvard). In occasional writing, I’ve continued my bi-monthly pieces for the online journal *Contreligne* ([www.contreligne.eu](http://www.contreligne.eu)): on Spielberg’s *Lincoln*; on Amanda Knox; on Margaretha von Trotta’s *Hannah Arendt* etc. I taught two new seminars in the spring: “Autobiography and Autofiction” in French (just in time for the Marcela Iacub “affaire”) for undergraduates, and for graduates from a variety of departments, “A hundred years of Swann’s Way” in preparation for the Swann

centenary this coming November. In April I made a memorable visit to the Choate School, where I had a chance to visit upper level French classes and see a remarkably talented young faculty at work.”

**TOM KAVANAGH**’s return to full-time teaching allowed him a fall semester marked by the combined pleasures of offering both a graduate seminar on Rousseau in time for 2012’s many tercentenary celebrations and an undergraduate course on French cinema, which he had not been able to teach since his first semester at Yale in 2002. The spring semester brought a welcome sabbatical leave devoted to two research projects, one on the fate of Enlightenment Epicureanism after the Revolution and the other on a history of French film as a synthesis of personal style and national culture.

**RUTH G. KOIZIM**’s son, Ben, earned his Associate degree, *cum laude*, from Landmark College and will complete his BA at American University’s School of Public Administration starting in the fall. On May 18<sup>th</sup>, she was one of four CT recipients of the *insignes du Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Palmes*

*académiques*. (They now refer to themselves as “Les Chevettes”...!) There was sadness mixed with the joy, however, due to the fact that her husband, **HARVEY KOIZIM** ’51 JD, passed away at the end of May. With the support of colleagues, friends and family, Ben and she are adjusting to their new lives. (*See below.*)

**LAUREN PINZKA** enjoyed serving as course chair of F160 and teaching “Myth and Memory in Modern France.” She also completed “Violent Fantasy in the *Petits Poèmes en prose*: A Psychoanalytic Approach,” which will appear in the upcoming *MLA Approaches to Teaching* volume dedicated to Baudelaire’s prose poetry. She enthusiastically continued in her role as Freshman and Sophomore advisor, as well as referee for the Scott Prize and the Fox Fellowship. She was also a member of the University Wide Committee on Sexual Misconduct.

**CHRIS MILLER**, in his spare time, has been raising questions about Yale’s new venture in Singapore. See [this](#), [this](#), and [this](#).

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## LE RUBAN VIOLET POUR RUTH KOIZIM

*I thank the French Government, Antonin Baudry, my family, friends and everyone else who has made today’s event possible. My sincere congratulations to the other Chevaliers.*

*As an undergraduate at Douglass College, as a graduate student at Yale and later as an instructor at Harvard, I learned to teach with and from some of the most skilled practitioners of the pedagogical arts: Micheline Herz, Marie-Jacques Hoog, Georges May, Jacques Guicharnaud, Pierre Capretz, Wilga Rivers and others.*

*While I cannot pretend to the same scholarly and methodological renown as those individuals, I strive to continue their tradition of generous mentoring in my work with students at Yale and through my involvement with the French Resource Center at Yale and the CT Chapter of the AATF.*

*To the extent that I succeed, it is due to the fact that I have the good fortune to be surrounded by devoted colleagues who are also friends, many of whom are here today and others who are with us in spirit.*

*I must also acknowledge the thousands of students who individually and collectively remind me that teaching is as much – and I would suggest, even more – about human values and human contact as it is about a particular academic discipline.*

*Nonetheless, the greatest joys in my personal life are inextricably linked with French. Among my Fauchon customers was a Yale physics professor who invited me to assist him with an advanced French cooking course during the summer of 1979. It was in that class that I met – and fell in love with – Harvey Koizim, whose love, encouragement and support over our 34 years together will sustain*

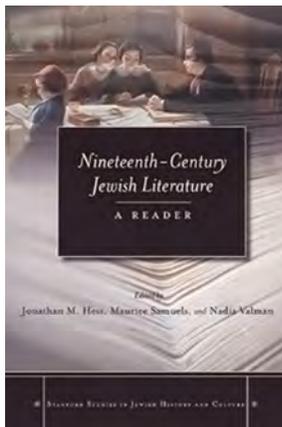


Ruth Koizim with her son Ben

*me forever. Thanks to Harvey, I have our amazing son, Ben, whose wisdom, maturity and sense of humor make each day so very special. Merci de tout coeur!*

— Ruth G. Koizim, May 18, 2013

**MAURICE SAMUELS'** co-edited volume, *The Nineteenth-Century Jewish Literature Reader*, which included his translations of some of the works of fiction he discussed in his book "Inventing the Israelite," was published by Stanford UP. He delivered papers at two conferences in honor of the centenary of the publication of *Du Côté de chez Swann*, one at Harvard and one at the Collège de France. Under his directorship, the fall conference at Yale on "Antisemitism in France, Past and Present," brought noted speakers from France, the US, and Israel.



Thanks to a grant from the *Centre national du livre*, **ALYSON WATERS** spent three months in France in 2012-2013 working on her translation of Emmanuel Bove's *Henri Duchemin et ses ombres*, which will be published by New York Review Books in 2014. In June 2013, she was awarded the French-American Foundation Prize for her translation of Eric Chevillard's *Préhistoire* (*Prehistoric Times*, Archipelago Books, 2012), which was also shortlisted for the Best Translated Book of the Year award. Her translation of art historian Daniel Arasse's spirited collection of essays *On n'y voit rien*, as *Take a Closer Look*, has just been published by Princeton University Press.

**YUE ZHUO** taught three new courses this year: a graduate seminar on community and communication in modern French thought, "French Fiction since 1800," and "French Literary Movements from Romanticism to Decadence". In the fall, she participated in a colloquium on the enigmatic intellectual community of the Collège de Sociologie (1937-1939) at IMEC, organized by the

association "Anamnèse," attached to the Université de Caen/Basse Normandie, and presented her work on Georges Bataille (in the form of a dialogue with Stefanos Geroulanos from NYU) as part of the Modern European Colloquium events at Yale. In the spring, she gave two conferences on Pascal Quignard, one at the University of Pennsylvania and the other at the annual 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium in Atlanta. She published two pieces: an article on Bataille and the concept of sacrifice, in *Cultures and Poetics*, a Chinese academic journal; and a book review on Rodolphe Gasché's *The Stelliferous Fold*. In addition, she has transformed her talk on the Collège de Sociologie and an earlier conference on René Girard into articles, both forthcoming next year.

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Below: The Yale Department of French, Fall 2013



Our graduate students had terrific success in securing grants and fellowships to support their research. **JULIA ELSKY** held the Albert G. Feuillerat Fellowship, and **KRISTIN GRAVES** had the Samuel K. Bushnell Fund for 2012-2013. **CATHERINE CHIABAUT**, **LAURA JENSEN** and **SEAN STRADER** all won departmental Kenneth Cornell grants to support summer study. **DUSTIN HOOTEN** received both a John F. Enders Fellowship and a Claire Levillain Prize for dissertation research this summer on animals in nineteenth-century French literature. **NATHALIE BATRAVILLE** (*below*) a Latin American and Iberian



Studies Travel Award; **JULIE ELSKY** a highly competitive Whiting Fellowship to support the completion of her dissertation; and **ANNIE DE SAUSSURE** a Chateaubriand

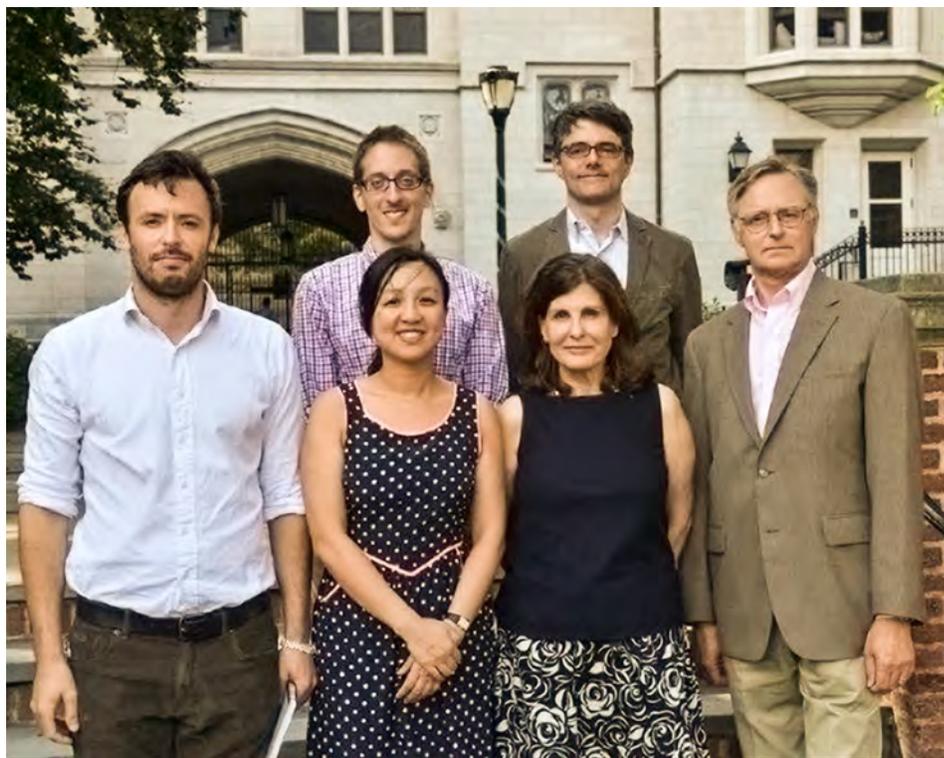
Fellowship for research in Paris next year. Annie will be joined at the ENS by **NATHALIE BATRAVILLE**, **COLIN FOSS**, and **ELIZABETH HEBBARD**.

**SEAN STRADER** (in our joint program with Film Studies), **LIZ HEBBARD**, **USHA RUNGGOO**, **ANNABEL KIM**, **JULIE ELSKY**, and **CHAPMAN WING** all gave papers at conferences, from Stanford to Rutgers and including the MLA.

The graduate students, working together, are planning a conference for next semester, on an excellent subject: "Bad Literature." See their call for papers [here](#).



*Graduate students enjoying the department's outdoor terrace.*



*The Graduate Faculty, Yale Department of French. Front row, left to right: Tom Connolly, Yue Zhuo, Alice Kaplan, and Chris Miller. Back row, left to right: Chris Semk and Maurie Samuels.*

The other new development in the last year is the promulgation of a Certificate in Second Language Acquisition or SLA. (For those of us above a certain age, SLA still stands for something quite different.) Offered by the Center for Language Study in cooperation with the McDougal Graduate Teaching Center—both valuable resources here on campus—this optional certificate will give students a new credential and new pedagogical qualifications on the job market and in their careers.

We are delighted to welcome a small but distinguished incoming class: **JENNIFER CARR** from UC Berkeley (BA) and the American University in Paris (MA), and **JESSICA KASJE** from UC Santa Barbara (BA).

It has been a pleasure for me this past year to work with our superb new departmental Registrar, **SONIA BAUGUIL**.

— Christopher Miller

The Department of French will hold its traditional cash bar for alumni, faculty and current graduate students at the annual meeting of the **MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION**. Please join us:

**FRIDAY,  
JANUARY 10, 2014**

**7:00–8:15 pm**

**Mayfair  
Sheraton Chicago**



# GREETINGS FROM THE DUS



**2012-2013 HAS PROVED A** remarkable year for our undergraduate program. For the first time in decades, the Department counted no fewer than 22 majors, of whom 10 graduated as seniors this spring. This spectacular upswing in numbers is a testament to our exceptional curriculum and to the inspired teaching that keeps our students engaged and avid to continue their study of French

in both language and literature courses. Ours is a vibrant, thriving discipline, and this new trend in enrollment confirms once more the key importance of French and French-language literature to a well-rounded liberal arts education.

All of our graduating class—**JOY CHEN** (“Étonnante dualité: L'esthétique de l'androgynie dans la création d'un genre”), **ZOLA CHIHOMBORI QUAO** (“Deconstructing Stereotypes and Influencing a National Discourse: The Reimagining of French African Immigrant Identity in Alain Mabanckou's *Black Bazar* and Fatou Diome's *La Préférence Nationale*”), **ELIZABETH CHRYSTAL** (“Pomme de terre en robe de mots: Émergence de la pomme de terre dans la littérature française du XXe siècle”), **ZOE EGELMAN** (“Un petit foyer chaud et lumineux : Littérature dans le Journal d'Hélène Berr”), **EFE CHANTAL GHANNEY** (“An Exploration of Ethnicity in Rwanda as Portrayed in Notre-Dame du Nil”), **MICHAEL GLENMULLEN** (“François Truffaut's Transformation of Difficult Life Circumstances into Universally Comforting Films as Seen Through The Five Films of the Antoine Doinel Cycle”), **ELENA LIGHT** (“Being Bébé: The Artful Parisian Life of Christian Bérard”), **VINICIUS LINDOSO** (“Un

drame en trois actes: chronologie critique du Comité d'Histoire de la Deuxième guerre mondiale”), **DAVID ORTEGA** (“The path to identity in Franco-Algerian literature: emphasis on selected works by Leïla Sebbar”), and **ELSIE SOWAH** (“Interracial Interactions in Colonial French West Africa: Broussard and *L'étrange destin de Wangrin*”)—competed for the newly created James T. King Prize for Distinction in the Senior Essay. With remarkable insight and distinctive literary sensibility, our two winners, **ELIZABETH CHRYSTAL** and **ZOE EGELMAN**, set very high standards for future generations of graduating seniors. Both of them also graduated with distinction, as did **JOY CHEN** and **VINICIUS LINDOSO**. Our warmest congratulations to all!

A number of awards are given each year by the Department to recognize our many accomplished students. This year, the Scott Prize for the best essay in French at the upper level was awarded to **VINICIUS LINDOSO** for his essay entitled “Les Indigènes civilisés: ‘Des Coches’ et la découverte de la civilisation dans le Nouveau Monde;” and, at the gateway level, to **NICHOLAS WILSON** for “La Belle est La Bête: Le

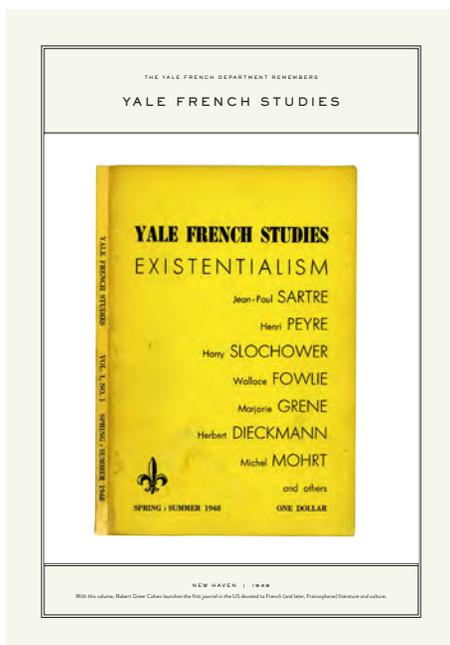
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## YALE FRENCH STUDIES NEWS

July 2013 marked my twentieth anniversary as Managing Editor of *Yale French Studies*. It is quite remarkable for me to look back and see the tremendous variety of topics covered in the almost forty volumes I have overseen. From crime fiction to Baudelaire's poetry; from Haïti to Québec; from Lévinas to Lévi-Strauss; the theater, the visual arts, the French educational system, contemporary cinema: such a wide range of subjects has been explored, probed, dissected, and discussed, by scholars from so many disciplines, countries, and institutions.

*Yale French Studies* has become broader in scope over the years, more open to topics not strictly “literary,” and the journal has provided a cornucopia of thoughtful essays to our many readers, both in print and electronically through JSTOR. Our forthcoming volumes will continue to offer insight and information on all things French and Francophone, opening new lines of exploration and discovery in the field.

— Alyson Waters



Monstrueux dans *Madame Bovary*” (1<sup>st</sup> place) and to **WOJCIECH OSOWIECK** for “Un mauvais mode de perception” (2<sup>nd</sup> place). The Montaigne Prize for proficiency in speaking and writing French was awarded to **CHRISTOPHER BAKES** and **ZOE EGELMAN** (1<sup>st</sup> place), **ELIZABETH CHRYSAL** and **NATHANIEL HARRINGTON** (2<sup>nd</sup> place), and **ANDREW KAHN** and **ISABELLE NAPIER** (3<sup>rd</sup> place). The Kenneth Cornell Memorial Fund Fellowships for research in French and Francophone Studies were awarded to **CHRISTOPHER BAKES**, **JOY CHEN**, **CATRIN DOWD**, **LAUREN HOFFMAN**, **VINICIUS LINDOSO**, **BENJAMIN MAPPIN-KASIRER**, and **JOHN SUNUNU**. Many thanks to all of our judges whose diligent work made these competitions possible—**PAULINE LAMBERT**, **LAUREN PINZKA**, **CONNIE SHERAK**, **FRANÇOISE SCHNEIDER**, and **CHAPMAN WING**.

This year’s offerings at the undergraduate level included “The Prose Poem” (Connolly), “The Holocaust in France” (Rouso), “Francophone Postcolonial Theory and Literature” (Tamalet Talbayev), “Culture and Literature of Quebec” (Cayer), “French Cinema” (Kavanagh), “The French Renaissance” (Duval), “French Fiction since 1800” (Zhuo), “Jewish Identity and French Culture” (Samuels), “Introduction to Maghreb Literature and Culture” (Tamalet Talbayev), “Art and Literature in Modern France” (Girard), “French Theory from Sartre to Derrida” (Zhuo), “Francophone Novel and Film” (Miller), “Introduction to Medieval Literature” (Cayer), “The Two

Congos: Literature and Culture in the Heart of Africa” (Miller), “Modern French Autobiography and Auto fiction” (Kaplan), and “French Literary Movements from Romanticism to Decadence” (Zhuo).

I would like to end this note by saying what a pleasure and privilege it was to serve as DUS under the inspired leadership of our new chair, **ALICE KAPLAN**, and in collaboration with our esteemed DGS **CHRIS MILLER**. My

gratitude goes to both of them for their unflagging support and astute advice, to my two predecessors in this position, **YUE ZHUO** and **NED DUVAL**, who never hesitated to lend a hand when it was most needed, and to our exceptional staff **SONIA BAUGUIL** and **AGNÈS BOLTON** for their incomparable professionalism and dedication. I now pass the baton to **CHRIS SEMK**, incoming DUS.

— *Edwige Tamalet Talbayev*

### L’AMUSE-BOUCHE, by Benjamin Mappin-Kasirer

“L’AB renaît!” Voilà la devise pour la réédition de L’Amuse-Bouche au Département de Français en 2012. Renaissance



plutôt que retour, dira-t-on: la publication, fondée d’abord en 2007 et muette depuis quelques années revit le jour munie d’une mission et d’un médium changés. Désormais uniquement disponible en ligne, le nouveau magazine des étudiants du Département publie le travail académique et créatif des francophiles et francophones de Yale. Prose, poésie, cinéma, histoire rencontrent discussions d’actualités et de politique sur les pages de L’Amuse-Bouche. Étudiants de tous les départements de Yale, doctorants et professeurs ont relevé le défi. À lire, entre autres, une série sur le meilleur hamburger de Paris, un article sur

les lettres d’amour de Balzac, et un commentaire de Prof. Alice Kaplan, directrice du Département, sur une nouvelle édition illustrée de *L’Étranger*.

Bien qu’innovante dans son format, L’AB rappelle une infaillible tradition du Département de Français de Yale: les leçons uniques que peuvent apporter l’étude d’une langue étrangère. Seule publication sur le campus à la fois gérée par des étudiants et dédiée entièrement à une culture, une littérature et une histoire autre que la nôtre, l’équipe de l’AB anticipe avec hâte la nouvelle année à venir et vous invite à consulter [lamusebouchemag.fr](http://lamusebouchemag.fr) ou à nous contacter [allez@lamusebouchemag.fr](mailto:allez@lamusebouchemag.fr)

L’AB revient à Yale sous la tutelle du Prof. **ALICE KAPLAN** et sous la direction de **ZOE EGELMAN** (PC ’13), **BENJAMIN MAPPIN-KASIRER** (TD ’14) et **JOHN SUNUNU** (SY ’15).

## YALE COLLEGE FRENCH MAJOR ALUMNI NEWS

**VANESSA ANDERSON** ’99 BA writes, “I am currently the Director of Research and Evaluation at Bard High School Early College, a collaboration between Bard College and New York City and Newark public school districts that offers high school students a rigorous college preparatory experience and the opportunity to earn an Associate’s degree in liberal arts from Bard College.”

**JONATHAN BERKEN** ’10 BA is pursuing a PhD in the cognitive neuroscience of bilingualism at McGill, where he has been able

to meld his passions for French and the brain sciences. “I use neuro-imaging to explain how the bilingual brain is shaped by the age at which a second language is acquired. I live in the Plateau district of Montreal, *très francophone*, and use my French daily. I have fond memories of Yale’s French Department, especially **MAURICE SAMUELS**, **FRANÇOISE SCHNEIDER**, and my thesis advisors **MATUKU NGAME** and **MARIE-HÉLÈNE GIRARD**. It seems that only yesterday I was working on the

French journal and attending events in the Romance Language Lounge. I am glad to see that others have continued l’Amuse-Bouche. *Comme le temps passe vite.*”

**JULIE BRADLOW** ’85 BA, who has a JD from the University of Chicago Law School, has joined Moore & Van Allen PLLC’s Federal & International Taxation team in Charlotte, NC as Counsel. Bradlow has served as in-house tax counsel at Fortune 500 aerospace and

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16 NOVEMBRE 2013

## THE TEAM

### DRAMA SCHOOL

Sarah Krasnow & Edward Morris

### FRENCH MAJORS

John Sununu & Benjamin Mappin-Kasirer

### GRADUATE STUDENTS

Laura Jensen, Annabel Kim & Julie Elsky

### LECTORS

Gabrielle Stemmer & Juan Branco

### GUEST READERS (*with many more to come*)

Peter Brooks, *professor emeritus from Yale now at Princeton*

William C. Carter, *professor emeritus of French at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and esteemed Proust scholar*

Elizabeth Ladenson, *Columbia*

John Palatella, *The Nation*

Lorin Stein, *The Paris Review*

Leon Wieseltier, *The New Republic...*

**From:** Marcel Proust [mailto:marcel.proust@yale.edu]

**Sent:** Monday, September 16, 2013 3:45 AM

**To:** my nearest and dearest

**Subject:** Me, marathon, madeleines & more

Chers amis,

As I am sure you all know very well, this fall will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my *Du côté de chez Swann*, the first volume of my monumental *Recherche*, the work that is nearest and dearest to my heart. To celebrate this momentous occasion, my dear friends in the French Department at Yale surprised me with the idea of a most fitting celebration: a 24-hour read—in, a marathon of sorts — of my novel. I invite you to join us at the Saybrook Underbrook all day and night on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. Edward Morris, a renowned set designer, is working with *dramaturge* Sarah Krasnow and brilliant French majors Benjamin Mappin-Kasirer and John Sununu to bring my fantasies to life. Do come read alongside my friends William Carter and Leon Wieseltier in my cork-lined bedroom, which will be recreated in New Haven — bed and all — for this special event. I invite you all to contact me at [marcel.proust@yale.edu](mailto:marcel.proust@yale.edu) should you desire more information.

Yours in remembrance,

*Marcel*

## GRADUATE ALUMNI NEWS

**JOSEPH ACQUISTO** '03 PhD published the edited volume *Thinking Poetry: Philosophical Approaches to Nineteenth-Century French Poetry* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013). He is at work on a book with the working title *The Fall out of Redemption*, with chapters on Baudelaire, Benjamin Fondane, Cioran, and others.

**DIANNE ALSTAD** '71 PhD says her current focus is making her 39-year collaboration with Joel Kramer more accessible through digitization, including posting free videos, podcasts, "Maps" of their books, reviews,

articles, interviews, and a blog on their new Wordpress website. She is pleased to announce e-book publications in 2012 of *The Guru Papers: Masks of Authoritarian Power* (1993) and in 2013 of *The Passionate Mind Revisited: Expanding Personal and Social Awareness* (2009). She and Joel live in Bolinas, CA on an ocean cliff and welcome Yale visitors there, on Facebook, and at [www.joeldiana.com](http://www.joeldiana.com).

**JEAN-VINCENT BLANCHARD** '97 PhD will spend 2013-2014 on sabbatical, finishing a book manuscript on the

politics of monumentality in Louis XIV's France, and traveling to Vietnam and Morocco to boost his next project for general audiences, a biography of Maréchal Lyautey (due in 2015 at Walker/Bloomsbury USA).

**BRUNO BRAUNROT** '70 PhD retired in June 2012 from the Department of Modern and Classical Languages at Georgia State University. His most recent (and last)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

publication (2010) is *An Anthology of Sixteenth-century French Poetry* (European Masterpieces, Molière & Co. French Classics No. 13, Newark). Earlier this year he was named by the French government to the rank of *Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes académiques* for his role in the promotion of French language and culture in the United States.

**JOE BREINES** '94 PhD, who teaches at Boston College, recently wrote a chapter on Diderot's *Jacques le fataliste* for the book *New Essays on Diderot* (Cambridge UP).

**VICTOR BROMBERT** '48 BA, '53 PhD has a new book *Musings on Mortality. From Tolstoy to Primo Levi* coming out in October at the U Chicago Press.

**MATILDA BRUCKNER** '74 PhD writes, "After almost 40 years of teaching (1 at CUNY/Medgar Evers, 8 at Princeton and 30 at Boston College), I have packed up my office, moved my books home and slipped into a new phase as scholar in retirement. My former student, Daniel O'Sullivan (now Associate Prof at University of MS/Oxford) and my BC colleague, Laurie Shepard, organized a *festschrift* and three sessions in my honor at the International Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo last May, complete with celebratory dinner and a roast delivered by Dan with humor and verve. A blissful two days of learning that what I have taught and published over the years has actually reached 'willing hearts and ears', as Calogrenant puts it in Chrétien's *Chevalier au Lion*. I continue to enjoy reading and writing about Medieval French literature and expect to do so for the foreseeable future, as I work on various articles, conference papers, and a new book project on Jewish-Christian textual 'encounters' that take place when biblical materials and exegetical traditions are translated and transformed in vernacular literature of the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> c."

**MARY ANN CAWS** '56 MA, Distinguished Professor of English, French, and Comparative Literature at CUNY Graduate School, writes, "While on sabbatical this past year, I prepared some art catalogues on André Masson and Jean Arp for Blain/diDonna, and just finished 'Surrealism and the rue Blomet' for an exhibition at Eykyn GS Maclean gallery (opens in November). I spoke on the panel 'Editors and Translators' for the BEA exhibition in June 2013. My *Modern Art Cookbook* (Reaktion Books) is forthcoming in September 2013. For fall semester, I will be giving my seminar 'Anxieties in Modernist Representations: Art and Text' in the English PhD Program. I have talks scheduled at

the YMHA, at the National Arts Club, and in Chicago for the Jan. 2014 MLA. Also, forthcoming are *Pierre Reverdy* (with 14 co-translators), ed. Mary Ann Caws, New York Review Books, November 2013; and an article, *Nothing Complete: Fragments Awaiting*, translated in German for the catalogue (ed. Gabriele Schor) of the forthcoming Francesca Woodman exhibit in Vienna."

**KATHRYN CRECELIUS** '78 PhD writes, "I have been the Chief Investment Officer at Johns Hopkins for almost 8 years. In May, I received the Large Endowment Manager of the Year award from *Institutional Investor* magazine. (It's the endowment that is large, not me!) My husband Andy and I continue to enjoy traveling, sometimes on our own (Alaska) and sometimes piggy-backing on my business trips (Jakarta and Bali). Although London is the major European investment center, I do have occasion to attend meetings in Paris.

**CATHERINE CUSSET** '91 PhD had a new novel, *Indigo*, published by Gallimard in January 2013 and received the *Prix de la Ville d'Arcachon*, given by the magazines *L'Express* and *Lire*. After two years in London, Catherine is moving back to Manhattan with her family.

**DEIDRE DAWSON** '89 PhD gave the commencement address for the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities at Michigan State University in May 2013, where she has been Professor of Language and Culture since 2007. Deidre was also recently elected president of the Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Society. Deidre's most recent major publication is an annotated critical edition of the *Lettres sur la sympathie* (1798) of Sophie de Grouchy, Marquise de

Condorcet (published in 2010 by the Voltaire Foundation at Oxford), in which de Grouchy develops her own theory of sympathy as she critiques Adam Smith's *Theory of Moral Sentiments*.

**JOHN RAYMOND DUGAN** '67 PhD writes, "My hand-stitched reproduction of the Bayeux Tapestry, which I completed after retirement, has recently been used in a new George Clooney film released in late 2013, entitled 'The Monuments Men'. It was shipped to Berlin, Germany last winter for that purpose. It has been displayed in various galleries and museums in eastern Canada and the United States, and will be displayed in the *Musée du textile* in Montreal from November 2013 to March 2014."

**KAREN ERICKSON** '87 PhD has begun a second term as Chair of the Department of Languages & Cultures at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University. Her current research project examines the biblical dancer Salomé in art, literature, opera, dance and culture. After 25 years as soprano and director of the Colledgeville Consort, she released their third and final CD: *Alleluia! Sacred Motets live from the Great Hall* in July 2013; the CD includes three of her choral compositions as well as motets by medieval and Renaissance composers. Her poetry chapbook *Dwellings* will be published in August 2013 by the Finishing Line Press. She received the 2013 Robert L. Spaeth Teacher of Distinction award at St. John's University, Colledgeville MN.

**PERRY GETHNER** '77 PhD writes, "I was promoted to Regents Professor, which is the

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## IN MEMORIAM: ALUMNI

**RICHARD MCCLAIN CHADBOURNE** '50 PhD died on June 8, 2013 in Calgary, Alberta, at the age of 90. A descendant of English settlers who came to Maine in the 1630s, he was born in Providence, RI. After serving in the U.S. Army Signal Corps during WWII, he earned his BA at Brown and then his doctorate in French at Yale. He taught at Fordham University and the University of Colorado (Boulder) prior to coming to the University of Calgary in 1971 as Professor of French and Head of what is now the

Department of French, Italian, and Spanish. He became a Canadian citizen in 1978. Widely recognized as an authority on French 19<sup>th</sup> century literature, the essay as a literary genre, Quebec literature, and the Franco-Manitoban author Gabrielle Roy, Chadbourne received several awards for excellence in teaching and research, including the Order of Academic Palms from the French Government and the Killam Fellowship. He also held two lay ministries in the Roman Catholic Church.

## JOHN POYNTER FELLOW IN JOURNALISM — ERIC AESCHIMANN

On Tuesday, April 23, 2013, John Poynter Fellow in Journalism **ERIC AESCHIMANN**, the Senior Reporter at the *Nouvel Observateur* (Paris), delivered the lecture “Le tournant théologique de la philosophie française.” Following are his reflections on his visit to Yale and New Haven.

### YALE EN CINQ MOTS-CLÉS

**L'HONNEUR.** Etre invité à Yale, pour un journaliste, c'est une distinction à laquelle on ne s'attend pas. A l'hebdomadaire français “ Le Nouvel Observateur ”, je consacre mes articles à la vie intellectuelle et aux comptes rendus des essais philosophiques. Le département de français, grâce à une bourse de la Poynter Fellowship, m'a proposé de venir parler aux étudiants de la vie intellectuelle française. Nos philosophes français d'aujourd'hui ont-ils encore quelque chose à dire au monde? La France continue-t-elle d'intéresser l'Amérique?



**LE TRAVAIL.** “Le tournant théologique de la philosophie française:” c'est le sujet de ma conférence au département. Une cinquantaine de personnes et beaucoup de questions, qui marquent toute une grande soif de savoir ce qui se passe en France. Même qualité d'écoute, même attention lorsque je suis invité au cours d'Alice Kaplan sur l'autofiction pour parler de la fameuse Marcela Iacub. Ou chez Lauren Pinzka, pour évoquer la société française. A la Beineke, je retrouve les personnages d'une grande enquête que j'ai publiée l'année dernière sur les archives Foucault : Daniel Defert, qui fut le compagnon du philosophe et qui donne ce jour-là une conférence sur la “ bibliothèque passive ” de Foucault ; et Kevin Repp, grand spécialiste des archives du XXème siècle.

**L'AGRÈMENT.** Formidable accueil de la part l'équipe du département de français. De JFK, je me retrouve à l'étonnant “Study at Yale,” où je débarque vers 20 heures, tombant dans une ambiance de bar étudiant. Cela change des hôtels impersonnels où le journaliste se retrouve souvent. Pendant ces quelques jours, je bénéficie des services de haut niveau que l'université assure à ses membres. Et je jouis du site exceptionnel: les greens, la bibliothèque, les jolies salles du département de français, le restaurant Mory's, le Blue State Café (d'où j'ai rapporté un T-shirt à ma fille).

**LE PARTAGE.** Agnès Bolton est une organisatrice hors pair. Elle a senti ma crainte d'un emploi du temps pas assez rempli et m'a prévu des déjeuners et dîners chaque jour. J'ai ainsi rencontré une vingtaine d'étudiants, doctorants ou professeurs. Tous sont incroyablement gentils, mais surtout, incroyablement engagés dans leurs travaux. Ils m'en parlent avec passion, que ce soit cette étudiante qui, après son BA de français, s'apprêtait à travailler dans un cabinet de consulting, ou avec Yue Zhuo, professeure de littérature française, spécialiste de Lacan, Barthes, Bataille, Quignard... La France est parfois plus aimée ici que par les Français.

**LA NOSTALGIE.** J'ai adoré New Haven, ville double, universitaire et industrielle, riche et pauvre, intacte et abîmée, coquette et négligée. J'ai aimé la communauté intellectuelle que ces quelques jours m'ont permis de découvrir: une communauté soudée par la passion, l'exigence et la bienveillance. Une fin d'après-midi, nous sommes montés dans une voiture, direction Guilford et le Long Island Sound, sous un roulement de nuages et un vent océanique. A Madison, Julie Elsky et Mary Anne Lewis m'ont montré la librairie de village! Depuis longtemps, je me sentais mystérieusement attiré par la Nouvelle-Angleterre. Maintenant, je sais pourquoi. Alors, un grand merci à tous les gens qui m'ont permis cette découverte et – j'espère – cet échange.

– Eric Aeschmann, *Le Nouvel Observateur*, grand reporter Culture, April 2013

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### GRADUATE ALUMNI NEWS, *continued from page 12*

highest academic honor here and reflects accomplishments in scholarship and teaching. Last year OSU was finally approved for a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, an effort that I had worked on for over two decades, and I was elected the first chapter president. I continue to publish critical editions and translations, including collections of work by women playwrights. Current projects include editions of plays by Rotrou, Thomas Corneille and Mme de Maintenon, plus a novel by Mme de Murat.”

**SARA GIBSON** '06 MA earned her JD from Michigan Law in December 2012. She was selected for a Carter Center/Washington &

Lee post-graduate law fellowship in Liberia, where she'll soon be working on human rights issues in the Ministry of Justice in Monrovia.

**ROSS GUBERMAN** '94 MA reports, “We are about to leave for a month in Australia and New Zealand with our 11- and 13-year olds. I'm also writing a book on judges and am continuing to enjoy training lawyers and judges around the world.”

**H. GASTON HALL** '59 PhD writes, “Following acceptance of a second paper on Hamlet by *Cahiers Elisabethains* in Montpellier, I have just submitted a third, this one comparative with reference to Virgil, Garcilaso de la Vega, Racine & Josquin des Prez. The CE, accredited

by the CNRS, is the glossiest learned journal I know. It will soon appear not only in print, but also electronically under the auspices of Manchester UP. That doubtless is the future. It was such a pleasure yesterday revisiting the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford-upon-Avon, where books are still on the shelves classified by subject & findable also in a card catalogue! The electronic catalogue in the Library of the University Warwick, of which I am now an Emeritus Professor, rather than Reader (because nobody knows overseas how delightful it is to be a Reader), continues to baffle me, while the book stock disappears

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

at a great rate to off-campus storage. On the other hand, since it is now 49 years since I was appointed to my first job here, I was invited to record some six hours of interviews about the early days of this university when completely new- for a project in oral tradition in our Institute for Advanced Study. Good luck to all of you."

**SALLY HESS** '91 MPhil is still dancing. Her most recent article, "Waltzing to Standards: The Organic Classicism of Ballroom Dancing", appeared in the Winter 2012/Spring 2013 issue of the Dance Critics Association (DCA) newsletter.

**JEFFREY LEICHMAN** '08 PhD, assistant professor at Louisiana State University, received a 2013-2014 ATLAS Grant, which provides support for a year-long leave to complete his manuscript project on acting theory in eighteenth-century France. A visiting scholar at Columbia University, he is currently living in Brooklyn with his wife **JEANETTE PLOURDE** '95 BA and their recently adopted daughter, Fitsum. He can be contacted at [jleichman@lsu.edu](mailto:jleichman@lsu.edu).

**ALEXANDRE LIMOGES** '06 PhD enseigne toujours à John Abbott College, et coördonne le département depuis 4 ans. Il donne des cours de français langue seconde et de traduction à l'Université Concordia (en terminant une maîtrise en traduction).

**BARRY LYDGATE** '63 BA, '75 PhD informs us that for the past two years he's been chair of the French Department at Wellesley College, and working with **PIERRE J. CAPRETZ** on a new edition of the *French in Action* books. (*French in Action*, originally developed at Yale, is the multimedia course in beginning French language and culture funded by the Annenberg/Corporation for Public Broadcasting project and broadcast

for years on stations of the PBS network.) This year the Yale Press published the textbook and workbook of part 1 of the third edition. "We had editorial help from **BENJAMIN** and **AUDREY HOFFMANN** of the Yale French Department and from **SYLVAINE EGRON-SPARROW**, who was a lecturer in the department in 1982-84, and invaluable logistical and moral support from the department's own Agnès Bolton. This edition, the first since 1994 and the first in full color, renews the course for a new generation of students and extends its frame of cultural reference into 21st-century France, Europe and the Francophone world. Pierre Capretz has given the updated lessons of *French in Action* an ingenious interface with the course's well-known video programs: *Le Journal de Marie-Laure*, in which the sassy younger sister of the main character comments on political, technological and cultural developments in France in the 25-plus years since the videos were shot. The volumes of part 2 are due to be published in spring, 2014.

**DANIEL R. MARTIN** (aka Ralph Ximenez) '73 PhD writes, "I live as a retiree from UMASS-Amherst, in the Mexican Caribbean beach resort of Mahahual, Costa Maya, Mexico. My last book is *Caribbean Dialogs on Christian Sexuality* (Hestia Press, 2012), available from AtlasBooks.com."

**RUTH MESAVAGE** '79 PhD presided over the session "Écritures maghrébines" at the Conseil International d'Études Francophones (for which she is a board member) held on Mauritius in June and presented the paper *Surveiller et punir: stigmates des valeurs traditionnelles islamiques dans l'écriture d'une beurette*, which she published in 2012. Her recent publications include: "Palimpseste de la mémoire : engrammes japonais dans l'écriture d'Aki Shimazaki," New York City, Fordham University, NY, October 2010, published in *Nouvelles Francographies*, Vol. 2 Numéro spécial 1 Nouvelle Série (Actes) 2011; "Réalité et poétique dans *La Reine Soleil levée*", in *L'Œuvre romanesque de Gérard Étienne, Écrits d'un révolutionnaire* (s. la dir. de Najib Redouane et Yvette Bénayoun-Szmidt), Harmattan, Paris, mars 2011. She has been certified in "Fundamentals of Nutrition", "Diseases of Affluence" and "Principles in Practice" through the Dr. T. Colin Campbell Foundation of eCornell, and has been giving presentations in the Central Florida area since April 2012 on such topics as "Health, Ethics and the Evolution of Consciousness", "Health, Nutrition

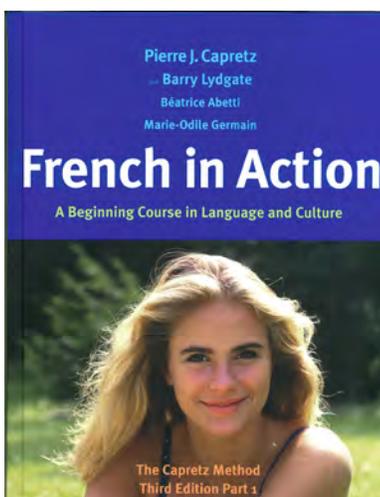
and Ethics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century", and "Heal Your Life, Save the World"; and published "Cognitive Dysfunction, Alzheimer's and Diet: Information and Misinformation," in The Park Press, August 2012.

**KATHRYN OLIVER MILLS** '94 PhD just finished a sabbatical year during which she edited and wrote the Afterword for the *Selected Poems* of Wilmer Mills, her late husband. The book, which includes poems already published in the *Yale Review*, *Poetry Magazine*, *The Hudson Review*, *The New Republic*, and *The New Criterion*, is now in print with U Evansville Press.

**VICKY MISTACCO** '72 PhD says, "I retired from Wellesley College this June after 45 years of teaching in the department of French. At a round table in April to mark the occasion I was joined by French Department Yalies **JOAN HINDE STEWART** '70 PhD and **MARTINE REID** '84 PhD in a lively discussion of "Breaking the Sequence: Woman and Literary Tradition." It was a veritable Yale reunion as **BARRY LYDGATE** introduced the round table, **MATILDA BRUCKNER** '74 PhD came from Boston College and **CHRISTINE RENO** '72 PhD drove all the way from Vassar to attend. Having now overhauled my home workspace to this end, I look forward to continuing my research and writing on women's contributions to women's literary history. Although I will certainly miss the interaction with students, I am happy to have more time to engage in other favorite pursuits: travel, photography, gardening, cooking.

**ELIZA NICHOLS** '98 PhD, Professor of French/Coordinator of Foreign Languages Department of Humanities, History and Social Sciences at Columbia College, Chicago, writes, "I have taken up my faculty appointment after 15 years of deaning and provosting. A career in higher ed administration was not my plan when I entered Yale but it was rewarding and satisfying in multiple ways. I have Georges May to thank for telling me that I could go in that direction and still keep my intellectual integrity and passion for inquiry intact. It is wonderful to be back in the classroom and to finally have time for research. I will be on leave in 2013-14. My current interests center on the French legacy in North America and Louisiana French with frequent trips planned to New Orleans and Lafayette, LA and the French Canadian enclaves of the North East and the Pacific Northwest. I live in Chicago and will be a fixture at the Newberry Library."

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## 2013 WILBUR CROSS MEDALIST — FREDRIC JAMESON

On October 15, **FREDRIC JAMESON** received the Wilbur Cross Medal, the highest honor given by Yale's Graduate School. On October 1, the session of the French Department Forum was devoted to a discussion of two of Jameson's landmark essays, "Third World Literature in the Era of Multinational Capitalism," (1986) and "The Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism" (1991).

Jameson's visit to campus on October 15 included a luncheon with graduate students in French and Comparative Literature, followed by his lecture on "Proust and the Persistence of Narrative."

### THE WILBUR CROSS CITATION:

Fredric Jameson, PhD 1959, French— A graduate student at Yale in the era of Henri Peyre and Erich Auerbach, you published your dissertation on Sartre at age 27; more than a score of books followed, including the canonical *Marxism and Form*; *The Political Unconscious*; and *Postmodernism*. Expositor and critic of Marxism, phenomenology, and post-structuralism, you have ventured beyond literature into architecture, cinema, music. Your ideas reverberate around the globe; China's humanities changed fundamentally after your 1985 visit. At Harvard, UC San Diego, Yale, UC Santa Cruz, and Duke you have surveyed "the cultural logic of late capitalism" in many national settings. As the most important post-war critic of ideology, you have renewed the study of culture with the injunction "always historicize." You have deepened our understanding of Wagnerian opera, science fiction, and Hollywood political thrillers, exposing their political yearnings. You are a generous and inspiring mentor, teaching oversubscribed classes on Arthurian legends one semester, *Das Kapital* the next. Your range as critic and teacher is as limitless as your intellectual curiosity. For your contributions to the world of ideas and for your abiding commitment to justice and social change, the Yale Graduate School Alumni Association is proud to award you its highest honor, the Wilbur Lucius Cross Medal.

### WILBUR CROSS MEDAL TALK

*The Wilbur Cross Medal is the highest honor the Graduate School accords its alumni.*

#### Fredric Jameson

'59 PhD – French

William A. Lane, Jr., Professor of Comparative Literature, Duke University



#### "Proust and the Persistence of Narrative"

Tuesday, October 15, 2013

4:00 PM, Whitney Humanities Center Auditorium, 53 Wall Street

#### OTHER TALKS BY WILBUR CROSS MEDALISTS ON OCTOBER 15

Alan M. Lambowitz '72 PhD – Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry  
"Biotechnological applications of mobile group II introns: targetrons and new methods for RNA-seq and analysis of non-coding RNAs"  
2:00 PM, Brady Auditorium (B131 – BML), 310 Cedar Street – tea at 1:45 PM

Theodore J. Lowy '61 PhD – Political Science  
"A Conversation with Ted Lowy"  
12:00 NOON, ISPS – Room A001, 77 Prospect Street

Annette Thomas '93 PhD – Biology  
"Science and Education in the Digital Age"  
4:00 PM, Luce Hall Auditorium, 34 Hillhouse Avenue – tea at 3:45 PM



### GRADUATE ALUMNI NEWS, *continued from page 14*

**HENRY PILLSBURY** '58 BA, '60 MA writes from Paris: "Re: the Yale French Dept. Newsletter, I would love to provoke a comment or two from the Yale French Community on the following issue: the recent decision to pack the French universities with courses in English. Picturesque details, just for seasoning: An American professor at Sciences Po was quoted as saying something enlightened to the effect that the French could/should just put their thinking in English. Barbara & I see American undergraduates now arriving for 'Junior Year Abroad' who speak no French, and who take their Parisian courses only in English (understand: courses in English, but which are fully part of the French schools' *curriculum* for French students). These young people tell us that they enroll for their months in Paris at

their American university with no obligation to study French in preparation (most recent example: Boston University). Some of them return home with only a smattering of the language. Of course, the defense of this new policy/strategy is set forth powerfully. What would **GEORGES MAY, JACQUES GUICHARNAUD, HENRI PEYRE, JEAN BOORSCH, or VICTOR BROMBERT** say? That question is not rhetorical. I really wonder."

**BARBARA PILVIN** '76 MA relates that her life was *complètement bouleversée* by the recent loss of her brother, who succumbed on one of the hottest days on record in the Mid-Atlantic this summer while outdoors in dangerous weather conditions in MD, where, suffering from schizophrenia, he was in treatment. "I suspect some of the staff

were not keeping a sharp enough eye on him, compounded by being overweight and the effects of a bout with pneumonia last year. He simply couldn't survive such heat, humidity and bad air quality. If you know anyone who's had to live with someone with severe schizophrenia, you'll understand what I mean when I say that I miss what might have been.

I stopped in New Haven overnight on my way up to Northampton for my 40th reunion at Smith in May, and spent a delightful afternoon walking all over the Yale campus with **RUTH KOIZIM**, who gave me the Grand Tour of the renovated reading room in SML and the (relatively)-recently-transformed library that we knew as Cross Campus and is now the magnificent Bass! It puts almost

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

every other library I've seen to shame, and I'm tempted to apply for a job there. Ruth and I hadn't seen each other in about 30 years, but we knew instantly that we both still looked the same...maturing well, like fine wine, as we said. She told me very recently that her husband Harvey had died not long after I was up there. I never met him, but did speak with him once or twice many years ago, and I know he was an uncommonly fine man. I'm attending this year's international Jewish genealogy conference in Boston. It promises to be very informative, as they always are, and with luck I'll get to see a lot of friends from all over the world and make some new ones."

**MICHAEL PRETINA, JR.** '67 PhD is now retired in Cassis, France after 25 years of service as Associate Director and Executive Director of the Camargo Foundation. Michael sends his very best wishes to all the French Department Graduate School students whom he knew during his four years at Yale "and a very special hello to **LINDA DELAURENTIS** '68 MPhil."

**JULIE PRZYBOS** '77 PhD writes, "I have been appointed the Executive Officer of the PhD Program in French at the Graduate Center, CUNY in August 2012 for a three year term. I published a book with Librairie José Corti entitled *Les Aventures du corps masculin* in November 2012. With **MARTINE REID** '84 PhD, a Yale alumna and professor at Lille III, and Pierre Claudes of Paris IV, I participated in a public discussion about my new book at La Sorbonne-Paris IV in January 2013.

**AMY BARAM REID** '96 PhD is happy to announce that her translation of *Far from My Father*, by Véronique Tadjo (*Loin de mon père*, Actes Sud, 2010) will appear in U Virginia's CARAF series in spring 2014. She will also be presenting her work at a conference on Tadjo to be held this November in Johannesburg, SA. In November 2012 she hosted the American Council for Québec Studies conference in Sarasota. As she completes her term as ACQS President (2012-13), she is looking forward to the 2014 conference in Montréal. She is Professor of French at New College of Florida, where she also teaches in the Gender Studies Program. She and her husband, Uzi, have three children, the eldest of whom has just started middle school.

**SYLVIE ROMANOWSKI** '69 PhD has written an article on the play she saw performed at the Avignon theater festival in 2007, entitled "Le huis clos tragique de *Comme deux frères* de Maryse Condé," for *L'Annuaire théâtral: L'Amérique francophone pièce sur*

*pièce: dramaticité innovante et dynamique transculturelle*. Vols. 50-51 (2011-12).

**JAMES SHERRY** '90 PhD won the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual National Adult Spelling Bee on March 3, in Long Beach, CA. There were 32 contestants and the contest lasted 27 rounds and took 3 hours to complete. Sherry won with the word "quincunx" after runner-up Bernetta Gresko misspelled "tourbillion" (English). He retired from full-time teaching at Troy University in August 2012, but remains on the faculty part-time teaching French to undergraduates and also doing one Honors Program per year in masterpieces of French cinema.

**PHILIP STEWART** '62 BA, '67 PhD has recently published his edition of Montesquieu's *Lettres persanes* with Classiques Garnier/Poche 2013, as well as an edition of *Rousseau juge de Jean-Jacques* in vol. III of the Slatkine/Champion edition of the O.C. (2012), and the article: "Tropes et paradigmes de *Rousseau juge de Jean-Jacques*", in Michel E. Slatkine (éd.), *Vitam impendere vero: hommage à Raymond Trousson et Frédéric S. Eigeldinger*, Geneva: Slatkine and Paris: Champion, 2012, 303-345.

**EDWARD BARON TURK** '72 PhD, was named *Officier in L'Ordre des Palmes académiques* in 2012. He is also a *Chevalier in L'Ordre des arts et des lettres* (1995). As Professor Emeritus of French and Film Studies, and John E. Burchard Professor Emeritus of the Humanities at MIT, he is "proud to share his 'Valedictory Thoughts of an MIT Humanist' ([Here](#)) with Yale alums." He currently teaches at Columbia University's School of the Arts.

**CAROLINE WEBER** '98 PhD is at work on her third book, *Proust's Duchess: In Search of the Exquisite in Belle Epoque Paris*, to be published by Knopf in the fall of 2014.

**JONATHAN WEISS** '73 PhD is semi-retired at Colby College. He no longer teaches in Maine but directs Colby's study abroad program every fall in Dijon. In the spring he lives in Sidney, Maine. This past year he had an article on Irène Némirovsky published in *Roman 20-50* (Université de Lille III).

**MARY BETH WINN** '74 PhD and co-editors Laura Youens, Professor of Music at George Washington University, and Barton Hudson, Professor Emeritus of Music at West Virginia University, were honored by the American Musicological Society with the 2012 Claude V. Palisca Award for their critical edition of *Thomasii Crequillonis Opera omnia*, vols. 18 and 20. These

two volumes, published in 2011 by the American Institute of Musicology, conclude the 7-volume edition of *chansons* by the Renaissance composer Thomas Crecquillon.

The Palisca Award honors each year a scholarly edition or translation in the field of musicology deemed by a committee of scholars to "best exemplify the highest qualities of originality, interpretation, logic and clarity of thought, and communication." This is the first time the prize has been awarded to a team of scholars. Their landmark publication offers a thorough critical edition of both the poems and the music of Crecquillon's songs, and it represents the culmination of more than 20 years of collaborative research. Musician and chaplain at the court of Emperor Charles V from c. 1540-50, Crecquillon composed 12 masses and 124 motets in addition to 214 *chansons*, setting to music texts by some of the most celebrated poets of Renaissance France. More than 230 sources, both in manuscript and print, attest to the wide dissemination and popularity of his *chansons*.

**SETH WOLITZ** '65 PhD has two new books coming out this fall: *The French Jewish Theatre of Jean-Claude Grumberg* (U Texas P) with an essay and 3 plays translated by him, and *Yiddish Modernism* (Slavica/Indiana P), a selection of the best articles he has written on Yiddish literature, art and culture dealing with its modernist movement, for which he was the first to introduce and define the term.



He attended Yale's Latin American Institute this summer taking a 6-week course in Intensive Nahuatl, conducted entirely in Nahuatl and Spanish. (*See photo above.*) There is a possible book in mind on *The Cultures of Catastrophe: Provençal, Nahautl [Aztec] and Yiddish*.

**ELÉONORE ZIMMERMANN** '56 PhD says, "I have moved to a retirement home in South Setauket, NY 11720 that is a very nice and welcoming place both for me and my guests. It is close both to where I used to live and to the University of Stony Brook, where I used to teach."

## 2012 KING DISTINGUISHED VISITOR

The King Distinguished Visitor Program was created to consolidate the Department's ties to universities in the French-speaking world, to enter into meaningful dialogue with scholars and writers trained in different traditions, and to introduce undergraduate and graduate students to new developments in the field. In October, 2012, **PIERRE BIRNBAUM**, emeritus professor from Paris I and Sciences Po, lectured on Léon Blum and also shared a chapter of his fascinating new book about food culture in France. Following are some reflections on his visit.

*“Un an bientôt!! Je me souviens avec délice de ce séjour au Département de français de Yale, le bonheur de rencontrer tant de collègues érudits, tant d'étudiants si savants qui s'expriment avec recherche dans la langue de Molière et maîtrisent mieux que quiconque l'histoire littéraire mais aussi l'histoire tout court de la France moderne et contemporaine. Un vrai plaisir d'entamer tant de riches dialogues dans le cadre de séminaires ou autour d'une bonne table conviviale aux discussions animées. Un seul regret: que le séjour soit si court et... qu'il ne se répète pas régulièrement!!!!”*



— Pierre Birnbaum



Yale 2012 Summer Session in Paris  
Class of Soumia Koundi and Vanessa Vysosias

Several alumni are missing from our current contacts, and we would like to be back in touch with them.

If anyone has information about the following lost friends, please let us know (and them!):

**SUSANNAH CARSON**  
**LYNNE BORNSTEIN**  
**PATRICIA GALLAGHER**  
**KATHERINE LYDON**  
**JESSICA NYAMUGUSHA**  
**JENNIFER PHILIPS**  
**AGNIESZKA TWOREK**  
**FRANCIS GUEVREMONT**

Please send information to  
Sonia Bauguil at:  
[sonia.bauguil@yale.edu](mailto:sonia.bauguil@yale.edu)

## IN MEMORIAM: FRIEND

Our colleague and friend **PHILIP WATTS** from the Department of French at Columbia died on July 20. He was 52 years old. He had just edited a special issue of *Yale French Studies* with Richard Golson on the work of Jonathan Littel and Irène Némirovsky. His wife, Sophie Queuniet and his brother Richard Watts hold PhDs from our department. Ned Duval was his undergraduate professor at UC Santa Barbara, and Chris Semk his undergraduate student at Pittsburgh. And he was a member of the first graduate seminar Alice Kaplan taught at Columbia. Everyone who knew Phil loved him—for his kindness, his humor, his fairness. His work as a critic was profound, funny, and smart.

Phil's *Allegories of the Purge: How Literature Responded to the Postwar Trials of Writers and Intellectuals in France* won the prestigious MLA Scaglione Prize in 1999 for the best book in French and Francophone Studies. He wrote widely on post-war cinema and literature and was finishing an important book on Barthes and film theory. His luminous essay on Camus and cinema was translated into French by Benjamin Hoffmann, a doctoral student in the Department, and can be read [online](#).

A memorial service was held at Saint Paul's Chapel at Columbia on September 9.



transportation companies, where she advised on a wide variety of federal and international tax and employee benefits matters, including planning, controversy and litigation, multi-national acquisitions, restructurings and divestitures, corporate treasury matters, and executive compensation. She is a frequent speaker on federal and international tax issues at the local and national level.

**MICHELLE BULGER** '07 BA is pursuing an MBA at the Scheller College of Business at Georgia Tech after three years of teaching AP French. This year she traveled to Belgium while working on a project for Coca-Cola Europe, and she is interning this summer at AGCO, a farm equipment manufacturer with facilities in France and around the world. In April, she was selected to receive the Scheller Dean's Prize for Student Excellence, awarded to an MBA student who demonstrates outstanding leadership, academic success, and service to the Georgia Tech community. After a surprise trip to Paris and a sunset proposal at the *Temple de l'Amour* in the gardens of Versailles, Michelle married animator and motion designer James Mabery in Atlanta last summer.

**TRACY CARLSON** '76 BA sends this update: "After graduating from Yale in 1976 I spent the next few years steeped in languages: a year in Paris completing MA for NYU, a year teaching French at a private high school in California, and two stints studying Russian at Leningrad State University along the way. Eventually I became a French and Russian translator for three years in Washington, DC.

Enter the business chapter: After tasting business problem-solving for the first time when the head of my translation agency left me in charge of the company for a few weeks, I decided to go to business school. I got my MBA at Wharton nearly 30 years ago and plunged into the world of consumer marketing, largely in the Fortune 500, as well as non-profits and higher education.

Now, decades later, I remain an unrepentant French major who believes a humanities perspective and skills are urgently needed in the business world. Through my new company, Right-Brain Brands ([www.rightbrainbrands.com](http://www.rightbrainbrands.com)) I'm working to bring right-brain approaches (of nonlinear artistic/symbolic thinking, empathy, etc.) and humanities-driven insights to help companies develop brands people actually care about. I have a book on this coming out in October: *What Great Brands Know: Unleash Your Right-Brain Genius to Stand Out and Make Customers Care*.

My husband and I, empty-nesters living outside Boston, have two wonderful grown kids (who chose to study Spanish), but I keep up my French through occasional reading and traveling to Paris as often as I'm able!"

**SARAH ESTERLING** '83 BA writes, "I do manage to use my French and other languages, as I travel to Europe frequently for business. I oversee all the buying for World Market, a national retail chain specializing in products from around the world."

**BILL FRY** '55 BA writes, "For 16 years I've helped coordinate a medical school student exchange program between Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine and several French medical schools. I've been a member of the *Société Française de Chirurgie Thoracique et Cardiovasculaire* for over two decades. Locally I volunteer in the Chicago Greeter's program with French speaking tourists to Chicago. Interest in things French has expanded and enhanced both my personal and professional life."

**MARISA GALVEZ** '99 BA is an assistant professor of French at Stanford University. Her most recent book is *Songbook: How Lyrics Became Poetry in Medieval Europe* (Chicago, 2012). She teaches courses on medieval and Renaissance French literature and love lyric, as well as interdisciplinary upper level courses on the medieval imaginary in modern literature, film, and art. She currently serves on the Executive Committee for the Discussion Group on Provençal Language and Literature of the Modern Language Association and acts as Faculty Coordinator of the [Theoretical Perspectives of the Middle Ages Workshop](#) at the Stanford Humanities Center. Her current research project investigates the rhetorical and ideological craft of medieval French confessional texts and its relation to crusade lyrics.

**GABRIEL GOODLIFFE** '94 BA writes, "I am currently working as Professor of International Relations at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM) in Mexico City, where I moved with my wife and two children in 2009 after receiving my PhD in International Relations from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. In 2012, I had my dissertation published as a book entitled *The Resurgence of the Radical Right in France: From Boulangerisme to the Front National*, available from Cambridge UP."

**HENRY GRABAR SAGE** '12 BA is a freelance writer living in New York. He writes

the Dream City column for *Salon* magazine. A version of his senior essay, on French colonial architecture in Algiers after 1962, will be published in the fall.

**JOE HIXON III** '60 BA tells of visiting France in late May with his wife Renate, along with "BUCKY" BUSH '60 BA and wife Patty, **FAY VINCENT** '63 JD and his wife Christina: "Fay and Christina planned a wonderful itinerary featuring the earliest Roman times. We started in Nice, circled up through Beaune, over to Limoges, Carcassonne, the Camargue, Nîmes, and back to Nice. Fay is a wonderful *raconteur*, regaling us with anecdotes of his years as president of Columbia Pictures and as Baseball Commissioner, succeeding **A. BART GIAMATTI** '60 BA, '64 PhD, the former Yale President and his very good friend. Bucky, of course, knows everyone everywhere. All in all my French was passable, though a bit dated. I had almost forgotten how beautiful France is. I do not regret for a moment having majored in French at Yale and am saddened that liberal arts are in such decline."

**DANIEL LEVIN BECKER** '06 BA informs us that his translation of Georges Perec's dream journal, *La Boutique obscure*, was published in February by Melville House.

**MALI LOCKE** '99 BA, the Director of Maverick Capital Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Maverick Capital, a hedge fund, says that she loves reading, wine, and travel, "although I have not been to France in years!"

**KEN MARGOLIS** '77 BA reports: "My experience as a French major is not a current part of my life as I have been a labor lawyer for 30+ years. However, the death a few years back of Alain Robbe-Grillet was a poignant moment for me. When I graduated in 1977, I sent to him a copy of my senior essay, which concerned his early novels. He wrote back an exceedingly gracious note (including the conclusion "*je vous serre les mains amicalement*"), and it remains one of my prized possessions.

**PETER MAY** '87 BA writes: "I have been living for the past two and half years in the Middle East in Beirut, Lebanon (don't believe the news reports – it's not all bombs and violence). French is one of the local languages so my fluency has returned to a large degree, which has been fun. I have spent much of my career since Yale working in the international education and development sector as a corporate attorney – thirteen years with World Learning (founded as the Experiment in

International Living) and now two and half years at American University of Beirut (AUB).

I have two boys, Benson (17) and Gideon (15), with my first wife, and a daughter, Isabella (5), with my wife Elizabeth (who is Colombian, so my Spanish is picking up). We are all thrilled that Benson will be joining the Yale Class of 2017 (in Saybrook) this fall. Family is relocating back to the US this year, to Vermont first, and then ... we'll just have to see what comes next!"

**KRISTEN SCHMITS** '07 BA writes: "As it turns out, I was able to use my French to meet my husband, Ernesto, in Geneva, Switzerland. Between my first and second year of medical school, I did a summer internship at the World Health Organization in Geneva, and I met my husband at the restaurant that he owned at the time. He did not speak any English back then, so I would never have been able to communicate with him if it hadn't been for my French. Now we are married, he has moved to the United States, and I have finished my medical degree. I am currently in my third year of residency in Pathology at the University of Florida, and I still use my French everyday to communicate with my husband (although his English has improved a lot now). I still tutor French on the side when I can. I miss reading French novels, but it seems I have little time these days for any long reads. Anyhow, I still dream of moving to the south of France some day in the distant future. I wish everyone well!"

**JORDAN SHARPE** '11 BA reports that she is currently teaching French at Carter G. Woodson Academy, an all-male middle and high college prep academy taught through the lens of African American history and culture. See: [www.cgwacademy.fcps.net](http://www.cgwacademy.fcps.net)

**JUDITH SHULEVITZ** '86 BA says, "I became a senior editor and columnist at *The New Republic* about a year ago, writing mainly about science, public health, and goings-on in the social sciences. Before that (and this goes back a ways here), I was the founding culture editor of *Slate* and the editor of *Lingua Franca*, which won a National Magazine Award for General Excellence under my editorship. I've been a columnist for *The New York Times Book Review*, *Slate*, and *New York Magazine*. My book, *The Sabbath World: Glimpses of a Different Order of Time* (2010), was a *New York Times* Notable Book, a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award, and winner of The American Library Association's 2011 Sophie Brody Medal for Jewish Literature. I'm married to another journalist, Nicholas Lemann, and have a son (11), a daughter (9), and two

stepsons in their 20s. We live in Morningside Heights in Manhattan.

**PAUL SPERA** '08 BA writes, "I am now an actor based in Paris, working in French and English, in theater, film, TV, commercials, voice, etc. Immediately after Yale, I came to Paris and trained at the *Conservatoire national supérieur d'art dramatique*, the French national conservatory for drama. I haven't left since. Recent and upcoming film collaborations have been with directors Olivier Assayas, Gilles Bourdos, Mia Hansen-Love, Erick Zonca. Look me up on Facebook if you come to Paris!"

**MARY GOODINGS SWARTZ** '10 BA writes: "After graduating, I joined the Foreign Service as a Foreign Service Officer. My time in France and studying French very much contributed to my decision to become a diplomat. I am soon departing my first assignment as an Economic Office at Embassy Nicaragua for my next assignment as a Consular Officer at Embassy Beijing. After that, I hope to have the chance to use my French in my third post.

**PAM WESELY** '96 BA writes: "I am currently an assistant professor of Foreign Language and ESL Education at the University of Iowa. I received an MA from NYU in the Institute

of French Studies in 1998. After teaching French at the elementary and secondary level for 8 years in Massachusetts and Minnesota, I received my doctorate in education with a specialization in Second Languages and Cultures from the University of Minnesota (2009). I have had research and reviews published in *Foreign Language Annals*, *the Modern Language Journal*, *the Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, *the Journal of Teacher Education*, and other publications. I am an author (ed.'s note: joining **EMILY WENTWORTH** '93 MPhil) contributing to a series of secondary school French textbooks from EMC/Paradigm Publishers coming out in 2014 (*T'es Branché*). I teach courses at the University of Iowa in our teacher education program (to foreign language and ESL teachers) as well as in our doctoral program (to students specializing in second language education and acquisition). I'm also a wife and mother of two, enjoying life in the Midwest. Although I do not teach French any more, I am always proud to promote the study of French in the state of Iowa and to work with pre-service and in-service K-12 French teachers whenever I can."

## FROM PATRICK WEIL

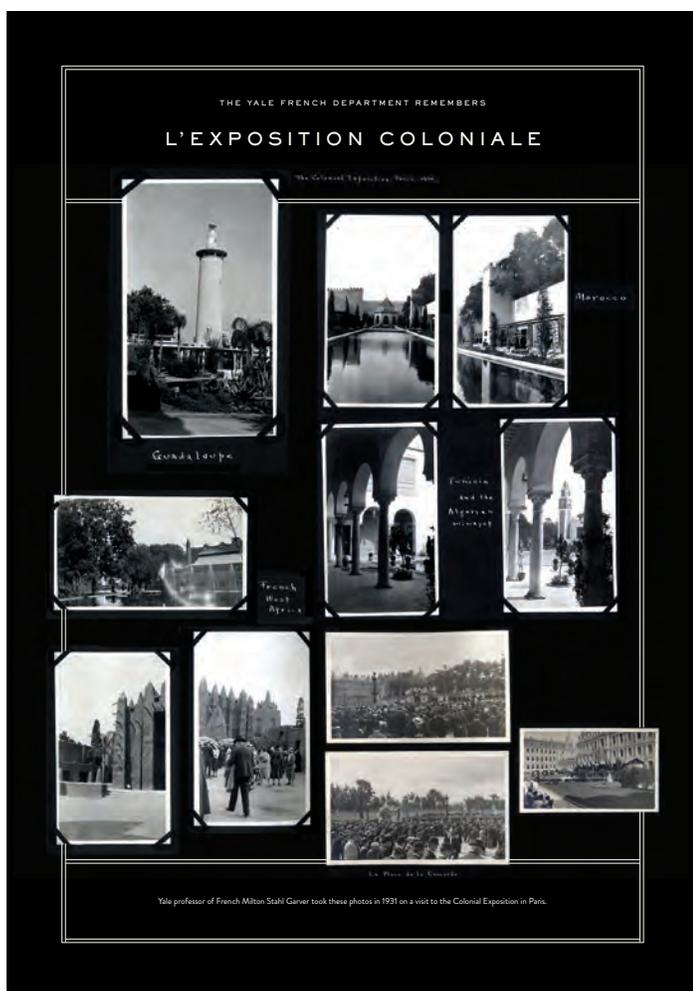
*During the summer of 2013, the wearing of the burqa, and even of the veil, by Muslim women, returned to the French political agenda. More state intervention, greater state regulation, and further bans were requested by some prominent politicians and by the press. It was in this context that I gave a long interview to the daily newspaper l'Opinion. I argue that in 2004, when the French Parliament enacted a law banning the wearing of conspicuous religious symbols in public schools, it came to that conclusion after an open public debate. The Parliament's decision was supported by school principals, teachers, and the parents of many Muslim female students. Its main aim was liberal: the protection of minor children—particularly female students—against pressure from their peers. It was limited to public schools, leaving those girls who wished to keep wearing the veil with an alternative, which was usually that of attending a private school under contract with the state. However, built on*

*the frustration of the limited scope of the 2004 ban and fueled both by an anti-religious and a non-religious social mood and occasionally by Islamophobia, the 2010 ban on the burqa is of a different nature. It is aimed at adults, who pressure no one, in the freest public space—the street. Its radical character offers believers no alternative. This latest ban and the new claims for a further ban are attempts to politicize against a rising phenomenon: the integration of Muslims and Islam in France, within the boundaries of French laïcité, through local accommodations and courts' decisions. (Read the interview [here](#).)*



— Patrick Weil,  
Visiting Professor, Yale Law School  
Affiliate Visitor, Yale French Department

## THE YALE FRENCH DEPARTMENT REMEMBERS...



As students, faculty, researchers, scholars, and visitors walk through the halls of the Yale University French Department on the third floor of 82-90 Wall Street, large images on the walls beckon them to remember its rich past. Simone de Beauvoir speaks to them about her visit to Yale, and Sartre responds to Henri Peyre with regrets that he will not be able to make the journey to New Haven. Naomi Schor's French ID cards demand to be read in detail, Jonathan Littell kindly adorns copies of *Les Bienveillantes* with his autograph, and the Yale French Studies journal announces its début in glorious, existential yellows. Derrida thanks de Man for a fourth season at Yale, and Jean Genet emerges from a black vehicle to join the Black Panthers on the New Haven Green.

It was during the spring of 2011 that **DUSTIN HOOTEN** and I, under the guidance of Professor Kaplan, began to excavate the histories and memories of the department. We scoured documents in the Sterling Memorial Archives room and read through much of Henri Peyre's correspondence at the Beinecke. We explored the archives of Pierre Capretz and navigated Garry Trudeau's *Bull Tales* notebooks. Questions led to answers, answers gave way to memories, and memories began to take visual and textual shape thanks to the astute eye and delicate hand of graphic designer **JESSICA SVENDSEN '12 MFA**. By fall 2012, much of the unearthing, discovering, remembering, and commemorating had been accomplished.

Look closely at these images, read the captions, and allow these stories we have heard and read throughout our studies to come to life. In so doing, you just might start to "remember" the department in a new way.

— Mary Anne Lewis, September 16, 2013

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**Your comments, suggestions and  
news are most welcome!**

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## INTRODUCING DEBORAH PETROSKEY...



Deb is the new Operations Manager, our liaison to the world of policies and procedures, budgets, audits, and "what is possible." She is an expert trouble-

shooter and a calm and generous support for all that we do. She has worked at Yale for 21 years — 14 of them in the Provost's Office and 7 in Business Operations.

## THOMAS KAVANAGH TO RETIRE — GRADUALLY

This summer Professor Thomas Kavanagh decided to enter the Faculty phased retirement program, which will allow him to continue his research with greater freedom.

He is on leave this semester and will return to teaching in Spring 2014. While Fall 2014 will be his last semester of teaching, his official retirement will come in July of 2016.

Please join me in expressing to Tom our appreciation and our esteem.

— Alice Kaplan

