

URI SPRING HUMANITIES FESTIVAL

“BRIDGING THE ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND SCIENCES”

Thursday, March 10 – Friday, March 11, 2011

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6:30pm **URI Alumni Center, Upper College Rd., Kingston, RI**

Wine and Hors d'Oeuvres Reception,
Celebratory Toasts for Distinguished Guests and Donors
URI Faculty Jazz Ensemble

7:30pm **Swan Hall Auditorium, Upper College Rd., Kingston, RI**

**Welcome: Winifred Brownell, Dean of the College of Arts &
Sciences**

Introduction: Ryan Trimm, Professor of English and Chair

Mary Cappello
URI Department of English

**"Swallowed and Saved: The Chevalier Jackson Foreign Body
Collection and the Art it has Inspired"**

An illustrated reading by the author, Q&A, and book signing.

*Swallow: Foreign Bodies, Their Ingestion, Inspiration, and the Curious
Doctor Who Extracted Them.* New York, NY: The New Press, 2010.

**Friday, March 11 (All events take place in Lippitt Hall Auditorium, Room
402, Lippitt Rd., Kingston, RI)**

10am **Welcome: Karen de Bruin, Festival Director, URI, Languages
(French)**

Readings: Undergraduate Students in Philosophy
Colin Burns, Mary Hopkins, Michael Hartley

“The Manifesto of the Vienna Circle” (excerpt)
“The Function of General Laws in History,” Carl G. Hempel (excerpt)
“The New Archaeology,” Clark Wissler (excerpt)
Knowing the Past, by Peter Kosso (excerpt)

10:15am Introduction: Mary Hollinshead, Professor of Art and Art History

William H. Krieger

URI Department of Philosophy

Co-Director, Israel Coast Explorations

“Coming to Akko: Developments in Underwater Archaeology”

Abstract: In their signature paper, “Wissenschaftliche Weltauffassung,” the Vienna Circle sought to ground scientific inquiry in logic and empirical truth. Carl Hempel, a protégé of the Vienna circle, created models to accomplish this in the physical sciences, but he always had in mind the eventual application of these same principles in the social sciences. Terrestrial archaeologists incorporated Hempelian concepts by calling for global changes in archaeological methodology. These changes, explicitly designed to maximize data collection (a necessary first step to develop archaeological general laws, crucial to Hempelian explanation and confirmation), were developed using particular, idiosyncratic geographical cues that would undermine archaeology if implemented in other contexts. Today, I will argue that (unconscious) artifacts of particular archaeologists’ goals and locations have also governed underwater archaeology’s growth as a discipline. This paper will showcase some of those features that brought underwater archaeology to its current place and will use URI's new project at Akko to highlight ways that we are pushing the field forward.

11:15am Interpreting the Humanities: URI undergraduate students directed by Prof. Karen de Bruin, Languages (French)

"Slam Poetry and Michel Foucault" by Nicholas McKnight (Art and Art History), Stephanie Batters (English), and Chad Self (Art and Art History)

"To Kill a Mockingbird," by Rebecca Renna (English)

11:45am Spotlight on the Humanities: Premiere of Film Screenings of Interviews with URI Humanities Faculty; URI undergraduate film students of Prof. Annu Matthew (Art and Art History)

Professors in the Spotlight:

Richard McIntyre, Economics, film by Teresa Kelly and Lindsay Cox

Catherine Sama, Italian and Film Media, film by Carolyn Huff and Donald Dauphinee

Mary Cappello, English, film by Elias Benson and Lisa DeCesare

12 Noon Lunch (on your own)

1:30pm **Welcome: Donald DeHayes, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs**

Readings: Nancy Caronia, PhD student in English

"Silas Deane to the Committee of Secret Correspondence, 8 October 1776," *The Revolutionary Diplomatic Correspondence of the United States*, 2: 167.

"Silas Deane to the Committee of Secret Correspondence, 28 November 1776," *The Revolutionary Diplomatic Correspondence of the United States*, 2: 196-200.

1:45pm **Introduction: Evelyn Sterne, Professor of History**

Martha Rojas
URI Department of English

“First Impressions: Becoming a Nation Among Nations”

Abstract: Over the past decades, scholars of early American literary studies have considered the ideas of foundational fictions, imagined communities, nation and narration. These rich metaphors and analogies have been a way of accounting for the importance of fiction and literature to the emerging nation, structures of nationalism, and the paradigms that shape spaces and networks beyond the nation’s geopolitical borders. The book from which this talk is drawn looks at U.S. public documents and diplomatic objects produced in and for negotiations with foreign states and Native American nations, exchanges that bring to the fore the contradictions of “Americanness.” Today, I examine the materials — first requested by Silas Deane, produced and circulated by Benjamin Franklin — by which the United States, in an early and still formative moment, introduces itself to the "candid world."

2:45pm **Interpreting the Humanities: URI undergraduate students directed by Prof. Karen de Bruin, Languages (French)**

"History/Art Project," by Ioana Alexandrescu (Art and Art History/French), Katherine Babula (History), Shaina Burrows (History), Blake Collins (History), and Erin Mullen (History)

"French Themed: Jacques Prévert Music/Photography Project" by Michael Wilkens (French)

"French Existentialism, Virginia Woolfe, Diego Rivera," by Hilary Barrett (Spanish and English), Krista Damico (English), and Maxwell Edmonds (French)

3:15pm **Mary-Kim Arnold, Executive Director, RICH**
Greetings and Remarks on Behalf of the RI Council on the Humanities

3:30pm **Introduction: Mary Cappello, Professor of English**

Carolyn Betensky
URI Department of English

“Feeling for the Poor”

Book release for *Feeling for the Poor: Bourgeois Compassion, Social Action, and the Victorian Novel* (University of Virginia Press, 2010) with a talk by the author, Q&A, and signing, followed by a reception.

Abstract: What if the political work of Victorian social-problem novels was precisely to make the reader feel as if reading them -- in and of itself -- mattered? Surveying novels by Charles Dickens, Elizabeth Gaskell, and George Eliot, among others, I track the promotion of bourgeois feeling as a response to the suffering of the poor and working classes. Victorian social-problem novels, I argue, volunteered the experience of their own reading as a viable response to conflicts that seemed daunting or irreconcilable. Encoded at multiple levels within the novels themselves, reading became something to do about the pain of others.

4:30pm **Closing Reception**

Festival Director:

Karen de Bruin, Professor of Languages (French)

Director, URI Center for the Humanities

Galen A. Johnson, Professor of Philosophy

Festival Planning Committee:

Stephen Barber, Professor of English

Naomi Mandel, Professor of English

Karen Markin, Director, Research Development

Annu Matthew, Professor of Art and Art History

Catherine Sama, Professor of Languages (Italian)

Evelyn Sterne, Professor of History

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