

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST FEBRUARY 11, 2019

This is a "B" Week

MONDAY, Feb. 11 @ 10:30 AM
(Tech support: Nina Dioletis, Michael Wellner)

Course: Fascinating Non-Fiction

Room: 15-17

Subject: War! What Is It Good For? Conflict and the Progress of Civilization by Ian Morris

NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED

"War .../What is it good for?/Absolutely nothing," says the famous song -- but archaeology, history and biology show that war in fact has been good for something. Surprising as it sounds, war has made humanity safer and richer.

War is wrong, so why is war still with us, and why has it occupied so much of human history -- even before recorded history shaped our evolution. Let's talk about Ian Morris's book - War! What Is It Good For?

Presenter: Gil Santiago

Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss

Course: The Art of Illustration

Room 27

Subject: Ludwig Bemelmans, Creator of *Madeline*

Creators of the images of children's books have often been quiet, retiring, private individuals with serious careers, like the Reverend Mr. Dodgson a.k.a. Lewis Carroll, or A.A. Milne, or even Charles Schultz. But a vastly different sort of person was Ludwig Bemelmans, the creator of Madeline, the little convent-school girl in a blue dress, yellow hat, lots of red hair and a mischievous smile.

Who knew that she was the image of her creator, a free-wheeling, free-spending, free-lance artist - a free spirit who was always on the go, getting into and somehow usually getting out of impossible situations?

Presenter: Liesje ten Houten

Coordinators: Helen Goodman, Ellen Shapiro

Course: Acting Workshop: Beginners

Auditorium

This class will be open to beginners only. Through the use of acting exercises, we will learn the basic techniques of acting and focus on concentration and observation. We will also use improvisation to learn the skills of listening and reacting to each other. We do request that you attend each session because they are sequential. The class promises to be stimulating, enlightening, and just plain fun!!!

Coordinators: Marilyn Rosen, Panny King

MONDAY, Feb. 11 @ Noon

Course: Noontime French

Room 19

Noontime French will be meeting during lunch in Room 19. Participants will share their reactions to a presentation by Jane Pittson-Chianese. The class is conducted in French, and all French speakers are welcome!

Coordinator: Ruth Ward

MONDAY, Feb. 11 @ 1:00 P.M.

(Tech support: Michael Wellner, Nina Dioletis)

Course: Contemporary Poetry

Room 22

Put some poetry in your life. Contemporary poetry says things to us that prose just can't do. In our class, members bring in contemporary poems which have struck them. Everyone gets a copy and after a

reading there is a lively discussion of the poem and the thoughts it inspires. This is a very participatory class.

Coordinators: Joe Nathan, Betty Farber, Stan Raffes

Course: Turning Points in American History

Auditorium

Subject: The Birth of Environmentalism

The sanctity of private property has a long history in the United States and is the bulwark of American capitalism but what about when it goes head to head with the rights of people to clean air and water?

Coming to terms with these issues is the turning in American history that led us to the age of environmental awareness and the establishment of the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970. Today, global warming is a world-wide issue and disaster after disaster has led to an awakening which we can only hope is not too late.

Presenter: Helen McMahon

Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss, Sandra Southwell

Life Drawing

Room 27

There is something magical about having a blank piece of paper in front of you and in just a few minutes a piece of art appears.

We would love to add a few additional members to our Figure Drawing group. Beginners and dabblers are welcome. Everyone works at their own level. Just enjoy being creative!

We have the paper and pencils and encouragement to get you started or you can bring your own (dry) supplies, which can be stored with us.

Coordinators: Carole Abrahams, Paul Adler, Gary Friedland. Marilyn Weiss

TUESDAY, Feb. 12



NO CLASS - LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY



WEDNESDAY, Feb, 13 @ 10:30 A.M.
(Tech support: Art Spar, Wayne Cotter)

Course: The Roaring Twenties
Subject: The Harlem Renaissance

Auditorium

“This era continues to be one of the most widely discussed periods of American art and literary history not only because of ongoing scholarly debates, but also because of its fundamental importance to American thought and culture.”

— Wil Haygood

In this presentation, we'll consider why Harlem and why the 1920s? We will introduce a number of the main characters of the Harlem Renaissance, and look at its impact in the 100 years since the era's heyday.

Presenter: Nan McNamara

Coordinators: Wayne Cotter, Leslie Goldman, Michael Wellner

Course: American Ideals in Troubled Times

Room 15-17

Subject: Sexual Equality

We will start our study of "American Ideals in Troubled Times" this session by discussing the subject of sexual equality. Our guiding question will be: do the biological differences between the sexes have moral, social, and political significance? Subjects to be discussed include the new effort to pass the Equal Rights Amendment, equality of opportunity in American society, sex roles in marriage and parenthood, same-sex marriage, and the future prospects for sexual equality. Short reading selections for the first class will be provided at the beginning of class.

Presenter: Sandy Kessler

Coordinators: Sandy Kessler, Bob Gottfried

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 13 @ 1:00 P.M.
(Tech support: Bob Reiss)

Distinguished Guest Lecturer Series

Auditorium

Margalit Fox, author of:

“CONAN DOYLE FOR THE DEFENSE: The True Story of a Sensational British Murder, a Quest for Justice, and the World’s Most Famous Detective Writer”

A sensational Edwardian murder. A scandalous wrongful conviction. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to the rescue. In 1908, a wealthy woman was brutally murdered in her Glasgow home. The police found a convenient but innocent suspect in Oscar Slater—an immigrant Jewish cardshark—who was tried, convicted, and sentenced to a brutal Scottish prison.

Conan Doyle, already world famous as the creator of Sherlock Holmes, was outraged by this injustice and became obsessed with the case. Using the methods of his most famous character, he worked tirelessly to win Slater’s freedom in 1927. With its deep undercurrent of ethnic, religious and anti-immigrant bias, the case is a morality play for our own time.

In her 24-year career at The New York Times, Margalit Fox wrote more than 1,400 obituaries of some of the leading cultural figures of our age. She received the Front Page Award from the Newswomen’s Club of New York. She is also the author of *Talking Hands* and *The Riddle of the Labyrinth*, which won the William Soroyan Prize for International Writing. She lives in Manhattan with her husband, the writer and critic George Robinson.

A distinguished guest deserves a significant QUEST audience. Potential members and guests are always welcome to this special lecture series.

Coordinators: Arlynn Greenbaum, Bob Reiss, Arlene Hajinlian, Estelle Selzer

♥ **THURSDAY, Feb 14 @ 10:30 A.M.** ♥
(Tech support: Pete Weis, Michael Hamburg)

Course: Environmental Issues

Room 15-17

Subject: What's All this Fuss about Plastic?

Marine litter/trash/waste/garbage – whatever you call it, it’s mostly plastic. Once considered wonderful because it didn’t decay or break, now we see the consequences of not breaking down. It’s found on beaches throughout the world, in rivers, lakes, and the ocean, on the ocean bottom, even in the deepest trenches seven miles down. Plastic bags, bottles, polystyrene foam, and straws are some of the “single use” plastics that we use once, and then discard. Many of these are not recyclable; others are recyclable but seldom recycled.

We will discuss the problems plastic causes when it is eaten by marine animals or they become entangled by it. We are aware of tiny pieces of “microplastics” that are found in oceans, freshwater, groundwater, soil, and air. They are eaten by tiny plankton and filter feeders like oysters and mussels and are passed up the food chain. What do they do?

We will also discuss potential solutions – beach cleanups, the large contraption that was supposed to clean up the Pacific Garbage Patch and failed spectacularly, and ways to reduce plastic use in the first place. And, finally, what you can do yourself.

Presenter: Judith Weis

Coordinators: Judith Weis, Pete Weiss

Course: Presenter's Showcase

Auditorium

Subject: Between Faith and Reason: On Reading the Bible

This is an introduction to a (post)modern approach to sacred Scripture. The talk will focus on the problems of context, translation (not necessarily from Hebrew to English) and 'hearing' the text.

Paul Golomb is a retired rabbi, and former Editor-in-Chief of the "Reform Jewish Quarterly."

Presenter: Paul Golomb

Coordinators: Palma Mahl, Steve Allen, Joyce West

Course: Point of View

Room 22

This is an interactive discussion class in which both the coordinators and class members bring in short opinion pieces from newspapers and magazines (editorials, op-ed pieces etc.) on which the class votes and then discusses in depth.

Discussion Leader: Barbara Gordon

Coordinators: Barbara Gordon, Bob Hartmann, Terri Hicks

**Thursday, Feb. 14 @ 1:00 P.M.
(Tech support: Beth Callender, Steve Allen)**

Course: Explorations in Philosophy

Room 27

Subject: Cultural Identity and Universal Values

In discussing the philosophical issues of cultural identity and universal values, we'll look at questions about (1) the value of preserving cultural traditions that may violate individual rights and about (2) how groups with fundamentally different views can enter into meaningful dialogue with one another. Readings for this discussion are by the Ghanaian-American philosopher Kwame Appiah -- they can be found in the B Week box in the lunchroom.

Discussion leader: Steve Allen

Coordinators: Steve Allen, Larry Shapiro

Course: Film Today

Auditorium

Subject: Welcome Back to Film Today

FILM TODAY

▪ **NEW MOVIES**

If you are a movie lover, join your fellow Questers who dig in and review the best (and the worst) of newly released movies

• **ELIA KAZAN**

A look at the career of one of the greatest American Stage & Screen Directors of all-time.

“WAS KAZAN THE BIGGEST RAT OF THE PACK?”

• **THE BEST OF THE 2019 OSCAR NOMINATIONS**

Each Director is seen discussing their vision for each of their movies.

- 1. - VICE – 2. - ROMA – 3. - FAVOURITE**
- 4. - BLACK PANTHER – 5. - A STAR IS BORN**
- 6. - GREEN BOOK – 7. - BLACKKLANSMAN**
- 8. - BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY**

Question: Did the members of the Academy of Motion Pictures Association identify eight best of the year nominees by yielding to the pressure of “political correctness”?

Which movie do you feel they’ve missed?

Coordinators: Howard Salik, Bobbie Gold, Rita Buttolph

CultureQuest Tour

FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Friday, February 22nd

“EXHIBITIONISM: 50 YEARS OF THE MUSEUM AT FIT”

The FIT museum has been the site of more than 200 exhibitions since the 1970s, and *Exhibitionism* commemorates approximately 33 of the most influential of these, including *Fashion and Surrealism* (1987), a groundbreaking show that explored the relationship between art and fashion; *The Corset* (2000), a beautiful and brilliant exploration of the most controversial garment in fashion history; and *Fairy Tale Fashion* (2016), a magical look at the such enchanted and emblematic items as the glass slipper and the red riding hood. *Exhibitionism* also includes highlights from more recent, award-winning exhibitions, such as *A Queer History of Fashion: From the Closet to the Catwalk* (2013) and *Black Fashion Designers* (2017).

Each exhibition will be highlighted using garments, photos of its original installation, and text that explains its importance, providing an engaging, “behind the scenes” look at the process of exhibition making.

Ticket Cost: Free – Limited to 25 people

Meeting Place: Lobby of FIT Museum at the Goodman Center at 7th Ave. at 27th Street

Meeting Time: 9:50 a.m. The one-hour guided tour begins at 10:00 a.m. Museum opens at 10:00 a.m. There is no coat check.

Lunch: No lunch reservations have been made for this tour. Suggested options are: *Panera*, 7th Ave between 28th and 29th; *Asuku Sushi*, 300 W 23 St.; *The Wilson*, 132 W 27th St.; *Zia Maria*, 318 W 23rd St.; *Maison Kayser* at 7th Ave. and 29th Street; *Zagara* at 216 7th Ave. (btw 22nd and 23rd Streets).

Sign-up on the Sign-up Sheet that will be posted on the Quest Bulletin Board on February 11th

Emergency Response Notice

PLEASE NOTE: If you cannot walk down seven flights of stairs in the event of an evacuation please add your name to the list posted on the Quest Bulletin Board. By law the Engineer's Department must have the names on file so that they can be prepared to provide alternate means of evacuation.

Thank you,

Doreen De Martini, Warden, Emergency Response team