

**NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**  
**September 23, 2019**

**This is a “B” Week**

**MONDAY, Sep 23 @ 10:30 AM**  
**(Tech support: Nina Dioletis, David Judlowitz)**

**Course:** Fascinating Non-Fiction      Room 15-17

**Subject:** *Working* by Robert Caro

**NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

In *Working*, Robert Caro, two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Power Broker* and *The Years of Lyndon Johnson* gives us an unprecedented gathering of vivid, deeply revealing recollections about his experiences researching and writing his acclaimed books.

For the first time, Caro allows us a glimpse into his own life and work in these evocatively written personal pieces. He describes what it was like to interview the mighty Robert Moses; what it felt like to begin discovering the extent of the political power Moses wielded and the combination of discouragement and exhilaration he felt confronting the vast holdings of the Lyndon B. Johnson Library.

Caro has discovered within himself a redemptive hunger that still perplexes him even after decades of literary and popular triumph. He can't stop asking questions.

**Presenter:** Harriet Finkelstein

**Coordinators:** Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss

**Course:** South of the Border Before Columbus      Auditorium

**Subject:** Maya of Mexico

The Maya are an indigenous people of Mexico and Central America who have continuously inhabited the lands comprising modern-day Yucatan, Quintana Roo, Campeche, Tabasco, and Chiapas in Mexico and southward through Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador and Honduras. We will focus on the Maya of Meso American Mexico from the Yucatan and Chiapas and their most famous cities, Chichén Itzá and Palenque, particularly. We'll speculate on the mystery of the collapse of the Classic Maya period in about 900 CE, a fascinating story.

**Presenter:** Sandra Abramson

**Coordinators:** Frank Montaturo, Ruth Ward

**Course:** Managing Money & Investments      Room 27  
**Subject:** Risk tolerance

Every investor has a different style and methodology, in large part because everyone has a different tolerance for risk. As one pundit once put it, investing is always a choice between "How well you want to eat, vs. how well you want to sleep!" Today we'll take a look at risk tolerance, and how that affects your own investing style."

**Presenter:** Michael Wellner  
**Coordinators:** Peter Fleischman, Steve Allen, Marion Shulthies

### **MONDAY, Sep 23 @ Noon**

**Course:** Noontime French      Room 19  
**Subject:** The Economic Emancipation of Women in France

Join Bob Reiss for this timely presentation on French plans to improve the personal and economic wellbeing of women in France. A group discussion will follow. The class is conducted entirely in French and all French speakers are welcome.

**Presenter:** Bob Reiss  
**Coordinator:** Ruth Ward

**Course:** Freshman Class      Room 27  
**Subject:** Inaugural Session

The Freshman Class is designed to develop familiarity with all aspects of Quest and to encourage new members toward the goal of active participation in our community. Our first session will include Bob Gottfried (president) and Arlynn Greenbaum (chair, Guest Lecture Series).

The second session is Tuesday, October 22.  
The third session is Thursday, November 21.

**Coordinators:** Pam Gemelli, Betty Farber

### **MONDAY, Sep 23 @ 1:00 P.M.** **(Tech support: Michael Wellner, Nina Dioletis)**

**Course:** Law & Order      Room: 15-17  
**Subject:** Rikers Island

From the time it was opened more than seventy years ago, there have been calls to close the prisons on Rikers Island due to the inhumane conditions. As time has passed,

and living conditions have declined from awful to hellish, the calls have become louder, but still nothing concrete has been accomplished. In this presentation, you will learn everything you need to know about what neglect means, and why New Yorkers should be ashamed.

**Presenter:** Ellen Gottfried

**Coordinator:** Michael Wellner, David Judlowitz, Bob Gottfried

**Course:** Contemporary Poetry                      Room 22

Contemporary Poetry enriches the lives of its readers. Class members bring poems to share with the other members of the class. The poems are read, re-read and discussed. Participate with us in learning about contemporary poetry.

**Coordinators:** Betty Farber, Martha Drezin, Frieda Lipp

**Course:** 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 welcome additional members to our Life Drawing workshop. 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.

**Model:** Albena Kerkvanbashieva

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

**MONDAY, Sep 23 @ 2:30 P.M.**

**What:            First monthly Quest Social**

**Where:        Lunchroom**

**Why:           Meet new and old friends and have some ice cream, too!**

**Coordinators:** Marcia Friedland and Lois Cardillo

**TUESDAY, Sep 24 @ 10:30 AM**  
**(Tech support: Howard Salik, Victor Brener)**

**Course:** Artists and Their Work      Auditorium

**Subject:** Edvard Munch: The Unknown Artist

Edvard Munch is known for one painting, *The Scream*; although most people know this painting they very rarely know the artist. *The Scream* was one of roughly 1700 of his works mostly unknown to art critics and the public. We will look at the range of his paintings including portraits and landscapes, and observe his very personal painting techniques.

**Presenter:** Deborah Yaffe

**Coordinators:** Bob Reiss, Joan Diamond, Linda Downs, Lynnel Garabedian,  
**Coordinator Emerita:** Sandy Gordon

**Course:** Movers and Shakers      Rm 15-17

**Subject:** Ghenghis Khan

In the early 13th century, the Mongol army led by Genghis Khan subjugated more lands in twenty-five years than the Romans did in four hundred. And all by an army sometimes half the size of those he faced. By managing the Silk Road between Asia and Europe, the Mongols brought an unprecedented rise in cultural communication, expanded trade and a blossoming of civilization. Unlike his European or Asian counterparts, Genghis Khan abolished torture, granted universal religious freedom and smashed feudal systems of aristocratic privilege. And yet this brilliant and sometimes ruthless military strategist had no formal education, and he probably met no more than a few hundred people in his entire childhood. His story is indeed fascinating.

**Presenter:** Susan Diehl

**Coordinators:** Caroline Thompson, Pam Gemelli, Ruth Ward

**TUESDAY, Sep 24 @ Noon**

**Course:** Noontime Knowledge      Rm 15-17

**Subject:** Joyce Silver, author of "Shining a Light on the Mueller Report: A Readable Version for Everyone"

If you didn't have the time or the patience to read the Mueller Report, come hear political activist Joyce Silver discuss the highlights and reasons why it should be

grounds for impeachment of Donald Trump. Books will be available for sale. Note: Joyce Silver is a friend of Arlynn Greenbaum.

**Presenter:** Arlynn Greenbaum

**TUESDAY, Sep 24 @ 1:00 P.M.**  
**(Tech support: Joyce West, Bob Reiss)**

**Course:** Presenters Showcase            Rm 15-17

**Subject:** When Fiction and Reality Collide: A Reading and Q&A with author Matt Bloom and Quest member Bob Bloom, Matt's dad

Matt Bloom's timely new book, *Salt of the Nation* (Adelaide Books, 2019) is the insightful and timely story of an ordinary man on an extraordinary journey: a disillusioned gravel plant worker who impulsively slugs a presidential nominee during a campaign photo-op and instantly becomes America's most famous fugitive and newest hero.

*Salt of the Nation* is a darkly comedic, empathetic novel about a land riven by broken promises, thwarted dreams, and populism gone awry. With its finger on the pulse of the country, this is a story of contemporary America equally divided and galvanized by an ordinary man's rash act and desperate journey. Books will be available for sale.

**Presenter:** Bob Bloom

**Coordinators:** Palma Mahl, Steve Allen, Joyce West

**Course:** A Sampling of Israeli Literature            Rm 27

**Subject:** "Relations" by Amos Oz and "On the Edge of Our City" by Aharon Appelfeld

We will continue exploring the characters in "Relations," a short story by Amos Oz. We will then introduce Israeli author Aharon Appelfeld and meet a holocaust survivor as he makes his way in contemporary Tel Aviv in the short story "On the Edge of Our City."

**Presenter:** Ruth Ward and Martha Drezin

**Coordinators:** Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Art Spar

**Course:** Acting Workshop            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

**WEDNESDAY, Sep 25 @ 10:30 A.M.**  
**(Tech support: Pete Weis, Victor Brener)**

**Course:** Women's Voices      Rm 15-17

**Subject:** Women film directors

What's a nice girl like Katherine Bigelow doing directing a war movie? Winning an Oscar, that's what -- the first woman ever to do so in all the years they've been giving out the Academy Awards. Come learn about *The Hurt Locker*. We will also discuss the four other women nominated at different times for best director who didn't win. That's right -- only five in total since 1929. Their films range from a Marlon Brando biker movie remake to a May-December romance and a tormented mother-daughter relationship. All by women directors. All nominated for Oscars. None awarded! We'll see scenes of note from these films. If we have time, we can discuss the Sofia Coppola remake of *Beguiled*. Some of these movies are emotionally charged, but I promise - after we're done with Katherine's explosives - no more car bombs in Afghanistan.

**Presenter:** Linda Rothstein

**Coordinators:** Sandra Abramson, Diane Crothers, Diane Reynolds

**Course:** Classic Perspectives on Human Nature & Politics      Auditorium

**Subject:** Aristotle's understanding of happiness

During our second class meeting we will discuss Aristotle's understanding of happiness or human flourishing as it appears in his *Nicomachean Ethics*. In this discussion we shall consider the relationship between virtue, friendship, and happiness as well as why the subject of happiness falls within the domain of political science. We shall also compare Aristotle's understanding of happiness with current understandings of happiness in the United States and evaluate this understanding in the light of our own experiences.

**Presenter:** Sandy Kessler

**Coordinators:** Sandy Kessler

**WEDNESDAY, Sep 25 @ 1:00 P.M.**  
**(Tech support: Bob Reiss, Michael Wellner)**

**Distinguished Guest Lecturer Series**  
**Auditorium**

***Dawn Raffel***

***The Strange Case of Dr. Couney***

*The Strange Case of Dr. Couney* is the extraordinary tale of how a mysterious immigrant "doctor" became the revolutionary innovator of saving premature babies — by placing them in incubators in World's Fair side shows, Coney Island and Atlantic City. How this turn-of-the-twentieth-century émigré became the savior to families with premature infants, known then as "weaklings" — while ignoring the scorn of the medical establishment and fighting the climate of eugenics — is one of the most astounding stories of modern medicine.

*The Strange Case of Dr. Couney*, was chosen as one of NPR's best books of 2018 and awarded a 2019 Christopher Award for books that affirm the highest values of the human spirit. Previous books by Ms. Raffel include a memoir, *The Secret Life of Objects*; a novel, *Carrying the Body*; and two story collections, *Further Adventures in the Restless Universe* and *In the Year of Long Division*.

Dawn Raffel currently works as an independent editor for individuals and creative organizations, specializing in memoir, short stories, and narrative nonfiction. She teaches at Columbia University, the Center for Fiction, and Summer Literary Seminars, which met in Tblisi in July 2019.

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

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

**THURSDAY, Sep 26 @ 10:30 A.M.**  
**(Tech support: Michael Wellner, Ruth Ward)**

**Course:** Across the Universe Room 15-17

**Subject:** This Just In – Part 2



**Thursday, Sep 26 @ 1:00 P.M.**  
**(Tech support: Beth Callender)**

**Course:** Explorations in Philosophy                      Room 22  
**Subject:** Education as Socialization and Individuation

This is the first of three classes I'd like to devote to the philosophy of education. I'll begin with an overview of the history of American education to identify some themes that still matter today. Our reading will be Richard Rorty's "Education as Socialization and Individuation," where Rorty, responding to an earlier crisis in the 1980s, revisits the ideas of John Dewey in search of guidance. I'm hoping our discussion will produce good questions, and maybe good answers, concerning issues that I know trouble us all. Copies of Rorty's essay can be found in Explorations in Philosophy folder in the B week file at the back of the lunchroom.

**Discussion leader:** Larry Shapiro  
**Coordinators:** Steve Allen, Larry Shapiro

**Course:** Film Today    Auditorium

**NEW NOMINEES**

**MOVIES**

**CLASS MEMBERS WILL GIVE US THEIR "TAKE" ON FOUR  
NEW MOVIES SELECTED AT OUR LAST SESSION**

**We Invite other members to see one (Or More) of "The Four".  
Then come join us on Sept. 26 and voice your opinion**

**NOW PLAYING AT NYC AREA THEATERS**

**Check your local listings but here are a few:**

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**Check your local listings but here are a few:**

- 1. DOWNTON ABBEY** –19 St. + Kips Bay +Cobble Hill + many others.
- 2. HUSTLER** –Lincoln Square + 19 St, + Regal Courthouse in Brooklyn
- 3. AD ASTRA**-Most Regals Manhattan – Kips Bay – Cobble Hill + others
- 4. WHERE'S MY ROY COHN** – Landmark + Film Forum

**PART II**  
**ADAPTING TO METHOD-ACTING**  
**JOANNE WOODWARD**

**how she and other actors survived  
the ACTOR'S STUDIO and went on to mentor a whole  
new group of young aspiring actors.**

**A FEW "ACTOR'S STUDIO" ALUMNI**

**James Dean; Marilyn Monroe; Jack Nicholson; Paul Newman;  
Marlon Brando; Jane Fonda; Dennis Hopper; Al Pacino.**

**NEW MOVIES:**

**Our members will see 6 promising new movie trailers but  
only 4 are selected; 4 members then volunteer to present at  
our net session**

Coordinators: Howard Salik, Bobbie Gold, Rita Buttolph

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**CultureQuest Tour**

Friday, September 27

**AMERICAN FOLK ART MUSEUM**

Quest will have a tour of a new exhibit at the American Folk Art Museum on Friday, September 27th at 12:30 PM.

The show is titled "MEMORY PALACES: Inside the Collection of Audrey Heckler". This is from one of the preeminent folk-art collections in the world. Quest member John Hood will lead the tour.

The Museum is at 2 Lincoln Square: Columbus Avenue between 65th & 66th St. Admission is free.

Lunch is conveniently available at the Atlantic Grill, 49 W. 64th St. between Broadway and Central Park West, (212-787-4663).

**PLEASE NOTE: There is no need to sign up in advance for the tour.**