

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

This is a “B” Week

(Note: See information at bottom about the upcoming CultureQuest museum tour)

***QReview* is still calling for your Poetry and Prose**

Do you like to write prose or poetry?

Our November 1 deadline is fast approaching, and *QReview*, our annual literary magazine, is reaching out to you.

Email your prose (800 word maximum) to our prose editor Donna Ramer donnaramer1@gmail.com and your poetry (38-line maximum including the spaces between stanzas and 64 characters per line) to our poetry editor Mary Ann Donnelly madonne1645@aol.com as soon as possible, but no later than Nov 1.

Please send us your creative work — We are eager to share it in our Quest publication!

Note: Registration links, meeting IDs and passcodes for each course will remain the same throughout the semester. However, you must register for each class separately by clicking on the registration link before the session’s scheduled start date. You will then receive a Zoom invitation email that contains a link to the meeting. (We suggest registering a day or two prior to the scheduled class so you won’t lose track of your Zoom invitation.) Most Quest members will only need to click that meeting link to enter the class. If the link fails to work, go to zoom.us and select “JOIN A MEETING.” You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the passcode. If you need to enter a session by phone, dial [1- 929-205-6099](tel:1-929-205-6099) and follow the prompts.

MONDAY, October 26 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: FILM DIRECTORS THEN AND NOW

Subject: Mike Nichols

Mike Nichols had a magnetic personality. He was a comic genius as well as a successful film, theater and television producer. His career spanned six decades, beginning in the late 1950's when he and Elaine May worked together as the comedy team "Nichols and May."

Throughout his career, Nichols won Emmys, Grammys, Oscars and Tonys.

We will see clips from several of Nichols and May's improvisational skits as well as film scenes from his award-winning movies.

Presenter: Karen Levin

Coordinators: Sol Makon, Arlynn Greenbaum, Bob Reiss

Course: A SAMPLING OF ISRAELI LITERATURE

Subject: Poetry of Yehuda Amichai

Yehuda Amichai has been called the most widely translated Hebrew poet since King David. His friend and translator Ted Hughes wrote: "I've become more than ever convinced that Amichai is one of the biggest, most essential, most durable poetic voices of this past century – one of the most intimate, alive and human, wise, humorous, true, loving, inwardly free and resourceful, at home in every human situation. One of the real treasures."

We will read and discuss a previously distributed selection of his poems.

Presenter: Larry Shapiro

Coordinators: Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Art Spar

MONDAY, October 26 @ 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Course: LAW AND ORDER

Subject: Fugitive Slave Act, Underground Railroad and Dred Scott

Three events in the 1850's led to the Civil War. Log on to Law and Order on October 26 to learn how the Fugitive Slave Act, the Underground Railroad and the Supreme Court decision in the Dred Scott case all had major impacts on the nation, and the opposing sides in the Civil War.

Presenter: Bob Gottfried

Coordinators: Michael Wellner, Bob Gottfried, David Judlowitz

Course: GREAT CONVERSATIONS

Subject: *First Snow on Mr. Fuji*

***First Snow on Mt. Fuji*, a short story by Yasunari Kawabata, Nobel-prize winning writer (1968), is our next selection in our text, *Great Conversations*, p. 321.**

Kawabata became a central figure in Japan for a series of acclaimed fictional works that explored the themes of grieving, love, and the nature of self-awareness. While closely linked to his culture and country, he is at the same time universal. How can modern readers relate to and understand his concern with landscapes and people and the beauty of traditions and emotions? Join us for an interesting discussion.

Presenter: Jane Lubin

Coordinators: Jane Lubin, Larry Shapiro

TUESDAY, October 27 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK

Subject: Paul Klee

Throughout his life, the artist Paul Klee was repeatedly inspired by the 20th century European art movements of post-impressionism, cubism, expressionism, surrealism and abstraction. Klee blended many of their characteristics into his own distinctive art form, incorporating both abstract and representational elements. He developed a unique signature style of painting and drawing, characterized by his art credo: “Art does not reproduce the visible; rather it makes visible”.

We will explore Klee’s life and examine his accomplishments and his growth as an artist. We will also view short film clips in which dedicated Paul Klee art critics analyze the details of various Klee paintings, completed at different stages of his career.

Presenter: Sol Makon

Coordinators: Linda Downs, Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss, Ellen Shapiro

COURSE: Women’s Voices

Subject: Women as Caregivers and Widows

Is caregiving primarily a women’s issue? As we have aged, many of us have assumed a care-giving role in our families, either for spouses or parents, or both. What are the emotional and financial supports available to us for this role? And what are the myriad, often contradictory feelings that surface? We will discuss these and share our experiences, as well as the political issues involved, including the possibility of affordable long-term care through the NY Health Act.

Discussion Leaders: Sandra Abramson and Diane Reynolds

Coordinators: Sandra Abramson and Diane Reynolds

TUESDAY, October 27 @ 12:15 - 1:15 P.M.

The Quest Book Club meets once a month in the B week. Our next fall book club meeting will be December 8.

TUESDAY, October 27 @ 12:30 - 1:30 P.M.

The Quest Lunchroom is up and running on Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 - 1:30. Stop by to talk and meet in small groups, with or without lunch, to chat, to share what you are doing.

TUESDAY, October 27 @ 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

COURSE: Movers and Shakers

Subject: Angela Merkel

A recent U.S. poll of 13 countries showed four-time German Chancellor Angela Merkel to be the world's most trusted head of state. Widely described as the *de facto* leader of the European Union and the world's most powerful woman, she has collaborated and negotiated with three American and four French presidents, and five British and seven Italian prime ministers. She will not seek reelection in the fall of 2021, and she is closing out her tenure in the face of the coronavirus pandemic and widespread economic pessimism in Europe and elsewhere. Join us to follow her rise and fall and rise, and to understand why she is considered one of the most influential and admired statespeople of our time.

Presenter: Ruth Ward

Coordinators: Jane Lubin, Arlene Hajinlian

WEDNESDAY, October 28 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: FASCINATING NON-FICTION

Subject: *How to Change Your Mind: What the New Science of Psychedelics Teaches Us about Consciousness, Dying, Addiction, Depression and Transcendence* by Michael Pollan

NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED

Michael Pollan set out to research the history of psychedelic drugs and how they are being used to provide relief to people suffering from depression, addiction and anxiety. Upon discovering how these remarkable substances are also improving the lives of healthy people, he decided to explore the landscape of the mind in the first person, taking us on his own mind bending trips. Critics call it a brilliant, brave and personal investigation into the medical and scientific revolution taking place around psychedelic drugs.

Presenter: Jane Lubin

Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Jane Lubin, Bob Reiss

WEDNESDAY, October 28 @ 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Course: DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES

Lecturers: Jess Dannhauser, President and CEO of Graham Windham social services organization, and Thomas H. Haines, Founder of City University of New York Medical School

Subject: *A Curious Life*, a memoir by Thomas H. Haines

Those of you who have seen Hamilton would have heard Eliza Hamilton and the company sing the following lyrics:

Eliza: *Oh. Can I show you what I'm proudest of?*

Company: *The orphanage*

Eliza: I established the first private orphanage in New York City

Company: *The orphanage*

Eliza: I help to raise hundreds of children. I get to see them growing up.

Incredibly, Eliza Hamilton's orphanage exists to this day as Graham Windham social services organization.

***A Curious Life*, a memoir by Thomas H. Haines with Mindy Lewis, is the funny, moving and surprising story of how Thomas Haines – who grew up in the famed Graham School Orphanage – became a prominent scientist, social activist, NYC landlord, educator and founder of the City University of New York Medical School. Tom will be joined in conversation with Jess Dannhauser, President and CEO of Graham Windham, the thriving social services organization serving 4,000 kids and their families in the NYC area. They will discuss Tom's enchanting and impactful life, the important work they continue at Graham Windham today, and their new-found COVID-inspired tradition of monthly walks in Central Park with Tom's better half, Polly Cleveland.**

Please join us for this special presentation.

Coordinators: Arlynn Greenbaum, Bob Reiss, Estelle Selzer, Phyllis Weiss

THURSDAY, October 29 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

Subject: Taking the Measure of the Cosmos

Just think of the profound significance in the act of *measurement*. There's probably no facet of life that doesn't involve measuring something. In fact, measurement is essential to the very foundation of civilization. We are constantly measuring time, distance, amount, age, velocity, temperature, and size of just about everything in existence. In fact, without measurement, what we call objective knowledge would be meaningless. This morning we will trace highlights of humanity's growing precision in measuring the cosmos. We will examine the achievements of classical antiquity, medieval Islam, the European Renaissance, the Age of Reason and the Scientific Revolution. We will review the accomplishments of the 19th century's Industrial Revolution and the breakthroughs of the early 20th century. We will conclude with an examination of the latest findings from our 21st century and cast an eye toward the uncertain future.

Presenter: Michael Hamburg

Coordinators: Michael Hamburg, Steve Allen

Course: POINT OF VIEW

Join us for an interactive discussion class in which the class coordinators bring in short opinion pieces taken from current publications (editorials, op-ed pieces, reviews, etc.) for discussion that day. We will all have an opportunity to comment and argue our viewpoints.

Following are links to the articles to be read in advance:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/19/opinion/france-liberalism.html?referringSource=articleShare>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/19/opinion/scott-wiener-ganon.html?referringSource=articleShare>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/16/opinion/trump-working-class-economy.html?referringSource=articleShare>

<https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/521782-mcconnell-aims-for-unity-amid-growing-divisions-with-trump>

Presenter: Terri Hicks

Coordinators: Barbara Gordon, Bob Hartmann, Terri Hicks

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THURSDAY, Oct.15 @ 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Course: MEMORABLE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Subject: Jeanette Rankin

Who is Jeannette Rankin and why is she memorable? She was the first female member of Congress and served two terms – separated by a period of 22 years. Additionally, she was the only member of Congress to vote against the US entering both World Wars, first in 1917 and then again in 1941. And, when the Vietnam War was raging, she led the Jeannette Rankin Brigade march in Washington to protest the war. Join us for a ride through feminist, pacifist history.

Presenter: Sandra Abramson

Coordinators: Ellen Gottfried, Bob Gottfried

Course: EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY

Subject: Good Neighbors: The Democracy of Everyday Life in American

In our second discussion of Good Neighbors by Nancy Rosenblum, we will explore the meaning of the book's subtitle, "The Democracy of Everyday Life in America." How does "everyday democracy" differ from political democracy? What is distinctly American about it? Michael Walzer wrote of this book: "From now on, neighbors will stand with citizens in our understanding of the politics of the everyday and of the human response to crisis." (Please email me at larryfhs89@gmail.com if you would like to receive the reading, or if you requested it and I didn't deliver.)

Discussion leader: Larry Shapiro

CultureQuest Museum Tour

Friday, November 6, 11 a.m.

Metropolitan Museum of Art

GERHARD RICHTER: PAINTING AFTER ALL

Devoted to one of the greatest artists of our time, "Gerhard Richter: Painting After All" considers Richter's six-decade-long preoccupation with the dual means of representation and abstraction to explore the material, conceptual and historical implications of painting. Spanning the entirety of Richter's prolific and innovative career, the exhibition presents over one hundred works that focus on his specific

commitment to the medium, as well as his related interests in photography, digital reproduction and sculpture. This will be an interactive tour, and participants will have the opportunity to ask the guide questions.

40 Participants

To sign up for the virtual tour contact Estelle Selzer (eselzer19@gmail.com) with your full name and email address. Put “Gerhard Richter” in the subject line. The first 40 people to sign up will receive an email with instructions for joining the tour several days before the tour date. If you have already attended a virtual tour this semester your name will be placed on a waiting list.

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