

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

March 13 – 17, 2023

This is an “B” Week

Instructions for Zoom Classes

There are three links for all classes throughout the semester: Auditorium, Classroom 15-17, and Classroom 27. Click on the appropriate link below to join a class no earlier than 15 minutes before its start.

Alternatively, you can enter a class by going to the [Zoom Website](#) and selecting “JOIN A MEETING.” You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the passcode. Also, you can attend classes via phone by dialing 1-929-205-6099. You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the password.

AUDITORIUM:

Meeting ID: 886 445 6806

Passcode: 252525

ROOM 15-17:

Meeting ID: 821 1094 3310

Passcode: 252525

ROOM 27:

Meeting ID: 875 6632 5995

Passcode: 252525

PLEASE NOTE: Unless indicated below, all classes are conducted at 25 Broadway and are listed as either “Hybrid” or “In-person.” “Hybrid” classes are available to members attending at 25 Broadway and to members attending from home via Zoom. “In-person only” classes are presented solely at 25 Broadway with no Zoom option.

MONDAY MARCH 13 @ 10:30- Noon

Course: CLASSICAL MUSIC (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Baroque Music

What, when, why, how do we know a piece of music is Baroque? Complex, highly ornamented, full of contrasts, embellished, intensely emotional, grandiose. confusing, joyous, repetitious, religious, Greek and Roman stories. In its time, Baroque was even called “an oddly or misshapen pearl,” twisted and irregular. It is now recognized as one of the richest and most diverse periods in music history, roughly 1600 to 1750. Moving on from the Arlene Hajinlian’s introduction to the basic pieces that lay the foundation of Western music, this class will explore how the pieces fit together into a new era and style of music we call Baroque – when and how it arose and expanded, composers from Monteverdi to Bach, and what are some of the characteristics and many different forms – operas, sonatas, dances, contatas -- that make it still stand apart today. We will show short examples of different forms.

Presenter: Penelope Pi-Sunyer

Coordinators: Sol Makon, Bob Reiss

Course: A WEEK IN PARIS (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Paris Opera and the Ballet

The presentation will focus on two different aspects of the Paris Opera. The first part will be a survey of the architecture and the neighborhood of the two national opera houses in Paris and will include a detailed discussion of the rich history of the extravagant Palais Garnier.

The second part will trace the evolution of the Opera Ballet Company, starting at the court of King Louis XIV. The presentation will include photographs, interviews, and video excerpts of the buildings’

architecture, as well as historical and contemporary performances of the Opera Ballet Company over time.

Presenter: Ze'eva Cohen

Coordinators: Laura Lopez, Donna Basile, Ellen Rittberg

MONDAY, MARCH 13 @ 12:10 – 12:50 P.M.

Course: LUNCHTIME ACTIVITY (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Theater Talkback

The current theater season in New York is jam-packed with fresh and exciting theater productions ranging from the novel and experimental/avant-garde, to reinterpretations of classics and more contemporary works in both dramatic and musical forms, to new, more traditional offerings.

This is your opportunity to discuss your theatergoing experience with others by sharing an informal, mini-review and critique of the works you have seen recently.

Feel free to bring in and cite a key comment of journalists' reviews, but, more importantly, we want to know what you liked and did not like about a particular show and why, why you chose to see it, and whether or not you recommend it. Productions opening in the coming weeks will also be mentioned.

We also will briefly define and review the roots of experimental theater.

. . . so theater lovers - bring your lunch and join in what promises to be a fun, lively discussion of interesting theater.

Presenters: Yona Rogosin, Mary Ann Donnelly

Coordinators: Andrea Irvine, Sheryl Harawitz

MONDAY, MARCH 13 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: GREAT PLAYS (In-person only)

Room: Auditorium

Playwright: Alan and William

1. Alan Bennett is a renowned playwright and performer, known for, among other works, *THE HISTORY BOYS* and *THE LADY IN THE VAN*. When Frieda Lipp retired, she returned to her first love, acting. In the course of several years of performing, she discovered *THE TALKING HEADS* monologues — all meaty character studies. *BED AMONG THE LENTILS* is one of them.

2. William Shakespeare wrote of heroes and villains. Roy Clary has written a play about some of the villains. The play is called *SHAKESPEARE'S BAD BOYS*. In it, Roy brings to life such villains as Richard III, Macbeth, and Edmund (King Lear). Roy also provides some interesting and fun information about Shakespeare.

Presenter: Roy Clary, Frieda Lipp

Coordinators: Roy Clary, Wayne Cotter, Frieda Lipp

Course: THE SIXTIES (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Jackson State - The Atrocity Kicked to the Back of the Bus

On May 4th 1970 four students at Kent State were killed by the Ohio National Guard. Ten days later on May 14th, 1970 in Jackson Mississippi, 40 State Highway Patrolmen fired more than 460 shots, claiming they were being attacked by sniper fire. Two young men were killed and subsequent investigations found no evidence of sniper fire. However, the greater travesty was the scant attention paid to this assault on human dignity, by the press in particular and the general public. While Kent State evoked emotions, be they pro or con, Jackson

State was regulated to a mere footnote. This is what I intend to delve into during my presentation.

Presenter: Richard Byrd

Coordinators: Richard Byrd, Paul Golomb, Diane Reynolds

TUESDAY, MARCH 14 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Winslow Homer

People and landscape were inseparable for Winslow Homer, each meaningless without the other, and both essential to the mood. Homer's gift was to catch the eternal moment—not a generalized view but a single instant that epitomizes an aspect of the universal.

We shall follow Homer's artistic development, from his beginning as an artist for the wood engravings of *Harper's Weekly*, including his work during the Civil War, through his self-taught start as a painter in oils, with his deep feeling for African-Americans, to his wonderful watercolors of the Bahamas and Cuba. We shall finish with his paintings of people living and working near and on the sea, to his breathtaking seascapes.

Homer engaged in a single-minded quest to understand what was really true and to create this truth in paint. Come share and appreciate his engrossing journey.

Presenter: Ellen S. Shapiro

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

Course: **SYMPOSIUM** (*In-person only*)
Room: Classroom 15-17
Subject: Historical Views of Women

According to Christine de Pizan, 14th century, "All manner of philosophers, poets and orators too numerous to mention, seem to speak with one voice and are unanimous in their view that female nature is wholly given up to vice." We'll look at this statement from several perspectives, including that of the learned men who expressed them. Are we still battling this negative attitude, or are men and women equal these days? How have present day concepts of gender identity been influenced by earlier perceptions of their role in society?

Do come along and express your viewpoint. There will be several readings, but we want to know what you think.

Presenter: Judy Hampson
Coordinators: Sheryl Harawitz, Mary Ann Donnelly, Donna Ramer

TUESDAY, MARCH 14 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.

Course: **SE HABLA ESPAÑOL (Spanish Conversation)** (*In-person only*)
Room: Classroom 27

Co-coordinator Bob Hartman will lead the group in conversation about the meaning of darkness, launching from a Spanish version of an essay that appeared in the *New York Times*. Those who need help expressing their ideas or understanding vocabulary in the article will be offered assistance. The group's members have varying degrees of fluency and all are welcome and are made to feel comfortable, whatever their levels of fluency.

Presenter: Bob Hartmann,
Coordinators: Ellen Rittberg, Bob Hartmann, Rosemary Feal

TUESDAY, MARCH 14 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: HISTORY OF GERMANY (Hybrid)
Room: Auditorium
Subject: The Rise of Hitler and the Completion of the Unification of Germany

How was it possible that a lowly corporal in the Kaiser's army, Adolph Hitler, could within 15 years become Chancellor of Germany? Here was a man who stood on the fringes of German society and yet became the embodiment and personification of the General Will of the German people. We will examine briefly the early life of Hitler, see his rise in the Nazi party, and his ultimate seizure of power in 1933. Hitler unified Germany, became the most important world historical figure of the 20th century, and led his country, and almost all of Europe, to ruin and destruction.

Presenter: David Grossman
Coordinators: Steve Allen, Linda Downs

Course: BLACK WOMEN'S VOICES (In-person only)
Room: Classroom 15-17
Subject: Audley "Queen Mother" Moore

Often called the Grand Lady of the Worldwide Black Liberation Movement, Audley Moore was born on July 27, 1898 in New Iberia, Louisiana and passed away on May 2, 1997.

As a young woman she was a fervent supporter of the Marcus Garvey movement. Throughout her long career as a relentless uncompromising freedom fighter, she was friend and adviser to such luminaries as Malcolm X, Nelson and Winnie Mandela, Rosa Parks, Adam Clayton Powell, and a plethora of other prominent figures in the struggle for African-American self determination.

My presentation will encompass her endeavors on behalf of her people from Soweto to South Carolina, and all points in between.

Presenter: Richard Byrd

Coordinators: Ilene Winkler, Barbara Barnes, Susannah Falk Lewis, Penelope Pi-Sunyer

Course: MODERN OPERA: THE 20TH & 21ST CENTURIES (NOTE: NOW HYBRID)

Room: Classroom 27 - New Location

Subject: I Hate Mozart by composer Bernhard Lang (2006)

MusicWeb International writes, “In a world where contemporary opera can either be unchallenging or impenetrable, Lang and Sturminger have come up with a lively and rather off-the-wall little gem.”

The Gramophone reports, “I Hate Mozart” is astute, witty and pacy music-theatre about a fictional staging of The Magic Flute. The randy conductor wants his mistress rather than his preening, prima donna wife to sing Pamina; their production is persistently befuddled by petty Austrian bureaucracy, and the tenor is suffering a midlife crisis: ‘Why do I have to sing Mozart?’ he wails. ‘I hate Mozart.’ But behind the fun is serious intent. Lang’s music – jam-packed with collages, Mozartian parody, purposeful melodic invention and rude stylistic incongruities – always puts music first, and dramatic impetus takes care of itself. I love Bernhard Lang.”

English subtitles.

Coordinators and Presenters: Steve Koenig, Frieda Lipp, Victor Brener

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: **FASCINATING NON-FICTION** (*Hybrid*)
Room: Auditorium
Subject: *All About Me: My Remarkable Life in Show Business*
By: Mel Brooks

NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED

For Mel Brooks fans, come hear about his own retrospective, and his highlights, in his almost 500 page new autobiography, *All About Me!*, which he wrote two years ago at the age of 94.

We'll watch video clips of his most iconic works including: *Young Frankenstein*, *To Be or Not to Be*, *High Anxiety*, *The 2000 Year Old Man*, and his most successful, *The Producers*, as well as hear the best of the stories he recounts with delight.

Presenter: Lois Cardillo
Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss, Ruth Ward

Course: **TONI MORRISON: THE LEGEND** (*In-person only*)
Room: Classroom 15-17
Subject: Defining Black Literature

Toni Morrison has created memorable characters, placed them within a community and watched the action ensue. This class will focus on three of her novels, *The Bluest Eye*, *Sula*, and *Song of Solomon*. We will explore the communities, ancestors, and mystical characters who stir the soul of these books. We have National Suicide Day, a woman without a belly button, and the priest Soaphead Church. The mystical permeates Morrison's books and brings surprises in every chapter.

Her words have so much power that they have been banned wherever small minds exist.

Let's tackle the opening chapters of these books, and see where they take us.

Co-Presenters: CWE Professor Kathlene McDonald & Sheryl Harawitz
Coordinators: Donna K. Ramer, Sheryl Harawitz, Tamara Weinberg

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15 @ 12:00-12:50 PM

Course: NEW MEMBERS MEETING *(In-person only)*
Room: Classroom 22
Subject: New Members Meeting continues our introduction to and overview of the Quest experience.

At this meeting YOU WILL:

- **Meet Sheryl Harawitz, Chair of Quest's Curriculum Committee and other members and learn about their work.**
- **Hear Sheryl's important discussion of "Why Present?"**
- **Learn from Donna Ramer, Chair of the Membership Committee, about attracting new members.**
- **Be able to ask questions about any aspect of Quest's activities.**
- **Engage with other new members.**

Who is invited:

New Spring 2023 members.

All 2022 new members.

Any current members who would like a refresher or may have missed sessions during previous semesters.

Note: Feel free to bring your lunch!

The New Member Committee: John Spiegel, Chair, Susan Keohane, Co-Chair, Renee Woloshin, Leslie Goldman

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Speaker: Roya Hakakian

Subject: What's Next for Iran?

Roya Hakakian is an Iranian-American journalist, lecturer and writer. Born in Iran, she came to the United States as a refugee and is now a naturalized citizen. Her books include her memoir *JOURNEY FROM THE LAND OF NO, ASSASSINS OF THE TURQUOISE PALACE* and *A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO AMERICA: FOR THE IMMIGRANT AND THE CURIOUS*. She is also the author of two collections of poetry in Persian.

Roya's opinion columns and essays have been featured in the *New York Times*, *the Wall Street Journal*, *the Washington Post* and *NPR's All Things Considered*. She is an editorial board member of *World Affairs* and a founding member of the *Iran Human Rights Documentation Center*.

The death of Mahsa Amini has provoked increased protests and violence. What is next for Iran? Roya Hakakian will enlighten us.

Please join us for this special presentation.

Coordinators: Arlynn Greenbaum, Estelle Selzer, Karen Levin, Bob Reiss

THURSDAY, MARCH 16 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: NYC NEIGHBORHOODS (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: The Upper West Side

This presentation will focus on The Upper West Side (UWS) of Manhattan - a residential, retail, cultural, and institutional neighborhood with complex topography, along the Hudson River. The specific boundaries that we will examine are W.59th Street-W.110th Street (the Community Board 7 District), and to some of the northern streets of Morningside Heights.

We will certainly devote much of our time to the earlier 19th century 20th century “Bloomingdale” neighborhood, to the building of subways and elevated train lines to the variety of grand boulevards and avenues of Central Park West, Broadway, Columbus Avenue, Amsterdam Avenue, West End Avenue and Riverside Drive, as well as to the building of a variety of “apartment hotels”, tenements, and row houses.

And finally, we will together examine the contemporary, changing Upper West Side neighborhood that we experience in all its variety in 2023.

Presenter: Ethel Scheffer

Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss

Course: CONTEMPORARY POETRY (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 27

Subject: Artists and The Message In Their Lyrics

My presentation will include the contributions of various artists to cultural, social, and political issues at various periods in history. The artists I have chosen represent a cross section of genres. However, they all have one thing in common. Through their lyrics they speak

about issues that need to be addressed, wrongs that need to be righted, and injustices that need to be rectified.

Presenter: Richard Byrd

Coordinators: Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Frieda Lipp

THURSDAY, MARCH 16 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 27

Subject: Ethical Dilemmas.

When we have discussed ethical issues in our Explorations in Philosophy course, it has almost always been a discussion of policy issues – for example, what should be government policy towards distribution of income or border control or neighborhoods that want to exclude new development. This mirrors a general trend among philosophers who address ethical issues, who only rarely discuss how individuals should resolve ethical dilemmas in their own lives. For this discussion, we will shift our focus to ethical dilemmas in our own lives. We would welcome class members bringing us real life examples that we can discuss.

As background reading, we have distributed through Questbusiness some excerpts from Sissela Bok's 1978 book *Lying: Moral Choice in Public and Private Life*. A summary of this background reading will be presented at the beginning of this discussion, so it is not necessary to do this reading to prepare for the discussion.

Discussion Leader: Steve Allen

Coordinators: Larry Shapiro, Steve Allen, Jane Lubin

Course: **FOOD: BEYOND JUST CALORIES** *(In-person only)*
Room: Classroom 15-17
Subject: Chocolate & Coffee

With nearly 20 pounds per person consumed in the U.S. in 2022, chocolate is clearly one of our favorite foods, but what went into making that delicious treat?

Tamara will whet your appetite by exploring the story of chocolate from ancient times through the age of exploration and industrialization until today. The presentation will cover both savory and some not-so-savory aspects of chocolate, debunking myths and touching on politics, culture, religion, anthropology, science, economics and health issues. And rounding off the topic - some notes on how to taste chocolate!

Mark will present Coffee: from the Ethiopian Forests to American Coffee Houses

Coffee has an interesting history. Its discovery in the 14th century in Ethiopia, reputedly by a goat herder, quickly gave rise to coffee houses in Yemen. Subsequently, coffee trade wars erupted worldwide. Africa, South, and Central America became primary sources.

Expense (and war) gave rise to a competition between the more refined arabica beans and the easier-to-produce robusta beans (Chock full o nuts). More recently the health effects of coffee drinking have come under scrutiny, with surprising results.

Finally, coffee klatches and the recent large growth of coffee houses in America are becoming important in information spread and socialization.

Presenter: Tamara Weinberg & Mark Cardillo
Coordinators: Andrea Irvine, Marion Schultheis, David Bartash

Course: POETS WORKSHOP *(In-person only)*

Room: Brooklyn Room (Note: This class ends at 3 p.m.)

Write a poem using the cue word "bridge" or a word of the poet's choice. Authors will read their poems and bring copies of each poem to the class for a second reading by a classmate. A discussion of the poem will follow.

Coordinators: Judith Winn, Judy Hampson, Helen Saffran

THURSDAY, MARCH 16 @ 2:45 P.M.

Course: SOLE MATES *(In-person only)*

Our Q'xtra Fortnightly event in "B" Week

Meet: by elevators on 7th floor.

And we're off again on our 4th Spring walk! Marian Friedmann, Andrea Irvine & Laura Lopez will lead us along the Hudson River.

Leaving Quest at 2:45, we will proceed to Battery Park and then head North.

It is up to you how far you walk - lots of transport options in the Oculus Train Station with option of ending at a 'watering hole' for good cheer before heading home.

No signups, no commitments - just serendipity, community and a healthy heart and a great way to end a week of Questing.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2023 @ 10:00AM

CultureQuest Presents

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

THIS TOUR IS OVERSUBSCRIBED