

## **NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**

**January 31 – February 3**

**This is an “A” Week**

**There are four links for all classes throughout the semester: Auditorium, Classroom 15-17, Classroom 52-53, 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 <https://zoom.us> 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.**

### **FOR ALL AUDITORIUM CLASSES:**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84152954768?pwd=c0ZVbm5IRGEvbG9WWH NxbFI4YnRwdz09>**

**Meeting ID: 841 5295 4768**

**Passcode: 252525**

### **FOR ALL MEETING ROOM 15-17 CLASSES**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82513720307?pwd=a21sdmNOaWpyN1g0Um xTbDRXQ0RDQT09>**

**Meeting ID: 825 1372 0307**

**Passcode: 252525**

### **FOR ALL MEETING ROOM 52-53 CLASSES:**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83796273632?pwd=L0o1RFppTGJBZXF6eGlp WnBGeFNCDz09>**

**Meeting ID: 837 9627 3632**

**Passcode: 25252**

**FOR ALL MEETING ROOM 27 CLASSES:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82484341199?pwd=dEN5SUVkSFdsNHhOek15bmlTNlIjUT09>

**Meeting ID: 824 8434 1199**

**Passcode: 252525**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Unless indicated below, all sessions will be held at 25 Broadway. However, presenters for some sessions may be presenting from home (via Zoom) rather than at 25 Broadway. If this information is important to you, please check with the presenter or lead coordinator of that class to verify the presenter will be at 25 Broadway.

**MONDAY, January 31 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: CLASSIC ROCK ALBUMS**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Album: Isaac Hayes: *Hot Buttered Soul* (1969)**

Issac Hayes was a legendary songwriter and arranger, and one of the creative forces behind Stax Records, the Southern soul music label. *Hot Buttered Soul* is a landmark album in soul music. Ranging from extremely slow cover tracks (“By The Time I Get To Phoenix”) in Hayes’s trademark, rich, deep Romantic Bass, to original “psychedelic soul” tracks featuring body-moving piano riffs and wah-wah guitars bubbling over your psyche, to a heartbreaking Southern soul ballad. Forget “Bolero,” this is the pinnacle of the emotional crescendo in popular music. In 1969 and even now, it was considered a great “bedroom album.”

**Presenters: Steve Koenig, Wayne Cotter**

**Coordinators: Steve Koenig, Wayne Cotter**

**Course: A PASSAGE TO INDIA**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: E.M. Forster's short story, "The Machine Stops"**

**For our first class this spring, we will be discussing E.M. Forster's classic short story, "The Machine Stops." This story, which was written in 1909, presents a futuristic, dystopian society that is completely governed by modern science and technology. Its greatness consists of its uncanny ability to portray the dehumanizing effects of modern science and technology, relevant even in today's America, and its compelling argument against our faith in scientific progress. We will begin our discussion of Forster's "A Passage to India" on February 14. "The Machine Stops" and a document with "A Passage to India" character list and vocabulary will be sent through Questbusiness.**

**Discussion Leaders: Lynnel Garabedian, Sandy Kessler**

**MONDAY, January 31 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: HISTORY OF GERMANY**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: The Holy Roman Empire**

**We will begin our history of Germany and the German people by looking at the Holy Roman Empire, the complex organization that encompassed all of the German people from its origin in 800 CE up until the founding of the German Empire in 1871. In this talk we will begin with the origins of the Holy Roman Empire and follow its history up until about 1500. We'll look at the ways in which this history has always been intimately entangled with the history of the Roman Empire, beginning with Julius Caesar's wars against Germanic tribes, and with the history of the Roman Catholic Church.**

**Presenter: Steve Allen**

**Coordinators: Caroline Thompson, Steve Allen, Linda Downs**

**Course: CONTEMPORARY POETRY**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Contemporary Poetry can enrich us all. We invite you to choose a poem that resonates for you, sending a copy in advance to Martha, at [mdrezin@aol.com](mailto:mdrezin@aol.com) who will create a packet of poems to share on screen. We will ask you to read your poem aloud, including information about the poet's background. We then ask for another reading by a volunteer, followed by class reaction and discussion. Previous experience with poetry is not necessary. All are welcome.**

**Because this is a hybrid class, some participants will be at 25 Broadway in person while others will be on Zoom. If you have a poem to share and will be at 25 Broadway in person, please bring 10 printed copies of your poem to distribute in class.**

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

**TUESDAY, February 1 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: ARTISTS & THEIR WORK**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: The Art of Sophie Tauber Arp (1889-1943) and  
Jean (Hans) Arp (1886-1966)**

**Sophie Taeuber Arp's work represents one of the strongest voices in early modernist abstraction. She was a fiber artist, textile designer, illustrator, interior decorator, and dancer. Jean (Hans) Arp is best known for his pristine abstract sculpture based on natural forms, but he also worked in textiles, collage and was a recognized poet. Their work moved easily between applied and fine art and involved experimentation, exploration and collaboration throughout their time together.**

**Taeuber and Arp first met in Zurich in 1915, four months after the beginning of World War I. In 1917 they were at the center of the creation of Dada in Zurich's Café Voltaire. Dada created a seismic shift from an art based on the visual world to an art of abstraction, disruption, disassociation and ultimately disillusion. Throughout the upheavals in European art and life in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the art and life of Taeuber and Arp remained focused, dedicated and quietly profound.**

**Presenter: Linda Downs**

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

**Course: ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: Poet Laureates**

**We will begin with an introduction to the history of Poet Laureates, starting with the Greeks, reading poems in honor of the mythological events behind the creation. Then a brief stop in Padua where the Italians re-established the tradition, then to Britain where the title, Poet Laureate, became fully invested into the fabric of the country's psyche and finally to the United States, where our unique traditions begin in the Library of Congress. Along the way we will be reading poems that have been curated for this romp through history . There will be something for everyone: history, mythology and poetry, old and new.**

**Presenter: Sheryl Harawitz, and the Quest Community**

**Coordinators: Art Spar, Roy Clary, Mary Ann Donnelly, Sheryl Harawitz**

**TUESDAY, February 1 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.**

**Course: CONVERSATIONS EN FRANÇAIS**

**Room: Classroom 52-53**

**Subject: Easter Eggs**

### **Les Oeufs de Pâques**

**Il fait si froid maintenant que je préfère penser au printemps. Est-ce que l'idée de manger un oeuf en chocolat vous suggère la chaleur du mois d'avril ? Les chefs pâtissiers français célèbrent Pâques avec des oeufs délicieux en chocolat. Quelques-uns sont des sculptures imaginatives, de vraies oeuvres d'art qui prennent des mois à préparer. Nous commencerons cette classe avec quelques comptines et terminerons avec une " dégustation " pour apprécier ces délices insolites.**

### **Easter Eggs**

**It is so cold now that I prefer to think about spring. Does the idea of eating a chocolate egg suggest the warmth of the month of April? French pastry chefs celebrate Easter with delicious chocolate eggs. Some are imaginative sculptures, real works of art that take months to prepare. We'll start this class with some nursery rhymes and finish with a "tasting" to better appreciate these unusual delicacies.**

**Presenter: Ruth Ward**

**Coordinators: Ruth Ward, Donna Basile**

**TUESDAY, February 1 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: COMEDY AND SATIRE**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Behind-the-Scenes TV Geniuses: Desi Arnaz & Norman Lear**

**Desi Arnaz was driven from his native Cuba at the age of 16. Within two decades, he was president of one of the most powerful movie and television studios in America. No other Cuban-American - before or since - has headed a major American studio. In addition, in the early 1950s, Arnaz revolutionized television in ways that still impact the medium.**

**Norman Lear also emerged as a television revolutionary by airing shows in the 1970s on prime-time TV, such as *All in the Family*, that openly addressed various controversial issues, including racism, antisemitism, and abortion.**

**Both men enjoyed huge success. However, Norman Lear, at age 99, continues to flourish even after all his television shows have long departed the airwaves. Desi Arnaz, however, is a different story. Haunted by personal demons, Arnaz never found another outlet for his business talents and creativity.**

**Whether or not you enjoyed the recent film "*Being the Ricardos*" or the PBS documentary on Norman Lear, this presentation will provide new insight into these two complicated television legends.**

**Presenter: Wayne Cotter**

**Coordinators: Wayne Cotter, Leslie Goldman, Michael Wellner**

**Course: CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP**

**(NOTE: *This class runs until 3 p.m.*)**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Please join us in person or on Zoom and share your writing with our small, supportive writing group. You are welcome to attend and participate even if you don't have any pre-written piece to share.**

- **Keep prose to under 750 words. Longer pieces can be read over several classes.**

- **Class will begin with a ten-minute free-writing exercise with the option to share with the class.**
- **All genres of writing are fine.**
- **All pieces will be read by the author.**
- **We suggest you bring a spiral notebook to class for recording your in-class writing.**

**If you need some inspiration:**

- 1. Shopping Trip**
- 2. Best Game Ever**

**New Feature This Semester: We will be exploring different aspects of the writing process, such as dialogue, openings, and settings, There will be in-class writing based on these topics.**

**Coordinators: Helen Saffran, Judy Hampson, Donna Ramer**

**Course: **READING EDITH WHARTON** (*In-person only*)**

**Room: Classroom 27**

**We will discuss Ethan Frome, different from any other of Wharton's major fictions and perhaps her best known work. It is a tragic tale set in a stark and impoverished winter setting, far from New York City's "gilded age".( The work is approximately 100 pages, and no specific edition is recommended).**

**Coordinators: Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curinga**

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**WEDNESDAY, February 2 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: **SLAVERY'S ROLE IN U.S. CAPITALIST DEVELOPMENT****

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: J. Edgar Hoover's Role in Hindering Black Progress**

**J. Edgar Hoover the Director of the FBI from its inception until his death in 1972 targeted African Americans by spying on vast numbers**



**of people using illegal acts including blackmail, breaking and entry, character assassination, and in at least one instance, assistance with a murder. Come to Slavery's Role in U.S. Capital Development to learn about this horrible part of our nation's history.**

**Presenter: Bob Gottfried (*presenting via Zoom*)**

**Coordinators: Richard Byrd, June Zaccone**

**Course: **SHAKESPEARE****

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Play: Romeo and Juliet**

**1. Roy Clary will talk about various aspects of the play including:**

**A. Date and Sources**

**B. Notable Productions/Legacy**

**C. Themes: Generation Gap, Masculine Violence, Opposites and Equals, Love.**

**D. Poetic Language.**

**2. Ellie Schaffer will report on several lectures by scholar, Paul Cantor, which focused on: Shakespeare's times, Shakespeare's concept of the human psyche, and Romantic Love.**

**Coordinators: Roy Clary, James Brook, **Ellie Schaffer****

**WEDNESDAY, February 2 @ 12:10 P.M. – 12:50 P.M.**

**Course: **ART TALKS** (*In-person only*)**

**Room 15-17**

**Come join for short talk and fun discussion. This month we'll take a look at a very special black female artist, Emma Amos, who sadly died in 2020. An exhibition of her work was recently at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.**

**Presenter: Andrea Irvine**

**Coordinators: Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine**

**WEDNESDAY, February 2 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: READING THE RABBIS**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: What is a Woman**

**The world of the Rabbis was unselfconsciously patriarchal, but the Talmud nonetheless raises issues that tends to pierce the firmly accepted notion of male domination. We will examine in the first two sessions texts that reflect discomfort with the lowered status of women in society. The first session will deal with the question of creation. Just what was that rib?**

**For first time attendees, I will provide a brief introduction to the general study of Talmud.**

**Presenter: Paul Golomb**

**Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss**

**WEDNESDAY, February 2 @ 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**Course: INDIE FILMS**

**Room: (Zoom only - use Auditorium link to enter session)**

***(note 2 p.m. start time)***

**Our discussion leaders and films for today's reviews are:**

**Madeline Brecher - "BELFAST" NETFLIX**

**Bobbie Gold - "CODA" (Children of Deaf Adults) APPLE TV**

**Howard Salik - "POWER OF THE DOG" NETFLIX**

**During each segment we'll include an interview with the film's director.**

**Our requirements are simple: we'll review three highly rated nominees from major film festivals that are currently streaming on-line.**

**You can search Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Prime, Apple tv, etc. to watch the film.**

**If you are not a subscriber there may be a slight charge...usually under \$10.00 *cheaper than theater box office admissions* (except for "BELFAST" where the charge is \$19.99.)**

**You'll have an opportunity add your comments.**

**If you've seen a new or memorable movie that you believe may be worthy of class discussion, send us an email with the info and we'll consider it when it's released to a streaming site.**

***"SEE YOU AT THE MOVIES"***

**Coordinators: Howard Salik, Marian Friedmann, Bobbie Gold, Brenda Zusman**

**THURSDAY, February 3 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: ANTISEMITISM: PAST, PRESENT, FACTS, MYTHS**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Antisemitism on the far right and left; Antisemitism on social media**

**Antisemitism surges on America's far left and far right, on social media and on the international stage as well. Hatred of Jews has long been the point at which the extremes of the political spectrum meet. Ironically, it is what popular movements on both the right and the left have had in common from the 19th century until today. Americans and people around the globe of all backgrounds and persuasions must recognize antisemitism for what it is, multifaceted and multiform, and that no group or community is immune to it.**

**Technology platforms and social media have not only introduced people to hate speech but have now created online spaces where**

**antisemitism is allowed to flourish unchecked with tragic and long-lasting effects.**

**My talk will highlight recent events around the globe on the right, on the left, in print, in person, online and especially on social media. I look forward to and encourage your thoughts and participation.**

**Presenter: Marian Friedmann**

**Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Marian Friedmann, Bob Reiss**

**Course: THE NOBEL PRIZES**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: The Nobel Peace Prize**

**This first class on The Nobel Prizes will focus on the Peace award, beginning with the founder and the origins of the Nobel Awards, the criteria for selection of Peace Prize laureates, the nomination process, and the Norwegian Nobel Committee. The class will also consider how the Peace Prize has evolved since 1901, discuss criticisms and controversial awardees, and highlight a few Peace Prize laureates.**

**Presenter: Laura Lopez**

**Coordinators: Laura Lopez, Marion Schultheis**

**THURSDAY, February 3 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

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

**Room: Auditorium**

**The class will begin rehearsal for a yearend production: “From Serious to Silly: a Potpourri of Scenes and Skits.”**

**Coordinators: Roy Clary, John Spiegel**

**Course: CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**\*1. “A Shooting in Rathreedane” by Colin Barrett**

**Presenter: Larry Shapiro**

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/12/13/a-shooting-in-rathreedane>

**Colin Barrett (born 1982) is from County Mayo, Ireland. In 2009 he was awarded the Penguin Ireland Prize, and his debut collection *Young Skins* won The Rooney Prize, The Frank O'Connor International Short Story Prize, The Guardian First Book Award and was a National Book Foundation "5 Under 35".**

**\*2. “I, Buffalo” by Vauhini Vara (from *2015 Pen O. Henry Prize Stories*,)**

**Presenter: Arlynn Greenbaum**

**Link to this story: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OnvmLMywyawbWhJNtD2iT8X2Y6p7pvvE/view?usp=sharing>**

**Vauhini Vara (age 40) is a Canadian-born American journalist, fiction writer, and a former business editor. She lives in Colorado and is a contributing writer for The New Yorker website. Her novel, *The Immortal King Rao*, will come out in May 2022**

**(Note: Look for copies of the short stories in a separate email about the class sent via QuestBusiness to all Quest members.)**

**If you have any questions, please email Nancy, [nancyrye@earthlink.net](mailto:nancyrye@earthlink.net)**

**Coordinators: Nancy Richardson, Mary Buchwald, Frieda Lipp**

**Course: **MOVERS AND SHAKERS****

**Room: Classroom 27**

**Subject: Jackie Robinson**

**Jackie Robinson was a remarkable athlete, and as the person who broke the color barrier in professional sports, had a profound impact on African American and Latino athletes who followed him. Come to Movers and Shakers to learn about Jackie Robinson, and especially if you grew up in Brooklyn rooting for the Dodgers, relive part of your childhood.**

**Presenter: Bob Gottfried**

**Coordinators: Bob Gottfried, Caroline Thompson**

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## **CultureQuest Virtual Tour**

**February 11th, 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**

### **MURALS AND MOSAICS OF SPANISH HARLEM with Leigh Hallingby**

**The many colorful murals and mosaics of Spanish Harlem, AKA East Harlem or El Barrio, tell us so much about the history, culture, and politics of this neighborhood and its residents. Some murals and mosaics are dedicated to accomplished citizens, such as the writers Julia de Burgos and Nicholasa Mohr. Others honor world-famous people such as Che Guevara and Celia Cruz. Some of the public art celebrates the Latinx culture or expresses strong political statements. And many of the murals and mosaics include the gorgeous scenery of the tropical islands from which so many members of this community emigrated to New York. A number of the gifted artists who created the artworks received commissions from the City of New York as part of projects to add more public art to the Spanish Harlem community. This virtual tour will be a slideshow with live commentary and an opportunity for Q&A, given by Leigh Hallingby. She is a licensed NYC tour guide and gave a wonderful virtual tour for Quest last spring of the Audubon Mural Project in Washington Heights.**

**All Quest members are invited to attend.**

**To join the tour, please use the Auditorium link in the NWAQ.**