

# **NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**

**May 15 – 19, 2023**

**This is a 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 MAY 15 @ 10:30- Noon**

**Course:** **CLASSICAL MUSIC** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Subject:** Ballet: Classical Music and Choreography

From the outset, critics, composers and audiences slighted the value of employing classical music in ballet. Classical music's relationship to choreography evolved slowly, first from a complement to the dance, to ultimately an independent art form, assimilated with the choreography. I will present a short history of ballet, and afterwards we will view extended scenes from the ballets *Giselle*, *Swan Lake*, and *The Firebird*.

George Balanchine was the revolutionary choreographer in the 20th century, who transformed ballet from its prevailing plot driven style into a plotless neoclassical style. I will present a short biography of Balanchine, his important moments with the New York City Ballet, and a summary of his methods and techniques. Afterwards, we will view extended scenes from his ballets *Apollo*, *Serenade*, and *Stravinsky Violin Concerto*.

**Presenter:** Sol Makon  
**Coordinators:** Sol Makon, Bob Reiss

**Course:** **A WEEK IN PARIS** (*In-person only*)  
**Room:** Classroom 15-17  
**Subject:** A Personal Visit to Paris

Paris, what can one say about the City of Lights that hasn't been said? Sit back and enjoy some of the city's most beautiful museums – and the art they contain -- that I've visited over the past nearly 40 years. Join me as I walk its streets, travel on its canal and enjoy its restaurants, markets and churches.

**Presenter: Sandra Abramson**  
**Coordinators: Laura Lopez, Donna Basile, Ellen Ritberg**

**MONDAY MAY 15 @ 12:10 P.M. – 12:50 P.M.**

**Subject: BOOK CHAT (*In-person only*)**  
**Room: Classroom 15/17**  
**Subject: 'NOT Your Typical Book Group'**

**It's all about discussing & sharing our book suggestions. Participants will give short descriptions, Kathy will write them up and later send to the Community.**

**This is a great event for readers who are looking for new authors or genres or simply like to talk about books. Casual & Fun. Readers of any and all genres welcome. Bring lunch**

**Presenters: Kathy Cook**  
**Coordinators: Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine**

**MONDAY MAY 15 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: GREAT PLAYS (*In-person only*)**  
**Room: Auditorium**

**In 1998, Matthew Shepherd, a resident of Laramie, Wyoming was tortured and killed. The play consists of how family members and citizens of the town of Laramie responded.**

**Cast: Linda Amster, Lois Cardillo, Mark Cardillo, Roy Clary, Jennifer Jolly, Panny Mitchell, Sol Zalcgender, Yona Rogosin, Art Spar, Mary Beth Yakoubian**

**Director/Presenter: Roy Clary**  
**Coordinators: Roy Clary, Panny Mitchell, Art Spar**

**Course: THE SIXTIES (Hybrid)**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**The class will not be meeting this week.**

**Presenter:**

**Coordinators: Richard Byrd, Diane Reynolds**

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**TUESDAY, MAY 16 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK (Hybrid)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Hans Holbein**

**Hans Holbein (1497-1543) is widely considered not just one of the greatest Northern portraitists, but . . . “one of the finest portraitists the history of art has ever known.” But describing him as just a portraitist does him an injustice, because he was a very versatile designer in many media.**

**His painting technique was so virtuosic –it seems almost magical. He could capture every detail, texture, or surface with extraordinary precision and, clarity. But he also could suggest the inner character of his subjects.**

**We are very lucky to be living in NYC, because we have wonderful examples of his work available to us at the Met, the Frick, and the Morgan Library.**

**The Black Plague and the Protestant Reformation – roiled the world in which Holbein lived and operated. Born in Augsburg Germany, he traveled and worked in Basel and England. He was “following the money,” but he was also looking for security and peace. As we will see, those could be elusive goals in those turbulent times.**

**Presenter:** Helen Goodman (*will be presenting from home*)  
**Coordinators:** Linda Downs, Bob Reiss, Lynnel Garabedian, Ellen Shapiro

**Course:** **SYMPOSIUM** (*In-person only*)  
**Room:** Classroom 15-17  
**Subject:** All About Cannabis

**This presentation will take you on a fascinating journey through the world of cannabis, exploring its origin, history, spread, multiple uses, and the complex issue of legality. Cannabis has been used for medicinal and recreational purposes for thousands of years, with evidence of its use dating back to ancient civilizations in Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. However, cannabis has also been illegal in many parts of the world for decades, leading to controversies and debates over its effects and potential benefits. One of the most complex issues surrounding cannabis is its legality, which varies widely from country to country and state to state. We will examine the factors that have influenced the shifting attitudes towards cannabis, including changing social and political attitudes, scientific research, and economic considerations. We will also explore the challenges and opportunities presented by the legalization of cannabis, including the potential benefits for public health, social justice, and the economy. This presentation is sure to be both informative and thought-provoking.**

**Presenters:** Karen Cullen and Susan Keohane  
**Coordinators:** Sheryl Harawitz, Mary Ann Donnelly, Donna Ramer

**TUESDAY, MAY 2 @ @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.**

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

**We will be playing What's My Line (in Spanish, of course). You can pretend you are someone who is currently famous or someone whose name has remained known to us through time. It can be someone known in the U.S. or some famous figure in Spanish politics, history, literature, art or any form of culture, popular or otherwise. For your "reveal" if you want, bring a representation of that person or what they are most known for.**

**Presenter: Ellen Pober Rittberg**

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

**TUESDAY, MAY 16 @ @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: HISTORY OF GERMANY (Hybrid)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Germany & Europe**

**For the final session of our three term course we will look at the difficult road that Germany travelled in facing up to the shameful legacy of the Nazi period and how Germany and the rest of Europe finally found a way towards peaceful coexistence.**

**Presenter: Steve Allen**

**Coordinators: Steve Allen, Linda Downs**

**Course: BLACK WOMEN'S VOICES (In-person only)**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: Black Women Composers: Obstacles and Success**

**All new composers, whenever they are trying to be heard in their particular era of Classical music, have a hard time. But Black women have an especially hard time overcoming the obstacles of gender, race, and promoting their American identity. The world of Classical music -- players, directors of orchestras, composers' organizations, audiences -- has generally resisted leaving the traditional for the**

**unknown. Florence Price, a Black woman composer born in 1887, lay hidden despite her outpouring of orchestral, chamber, vocal and other music. Quite suddenly, she is discovered and promoted. Is this, perhaps, a rather embarrassed awakening of long avoidance?**

**Starting with Florence Price, I will open discussion about several Black women composers, the work they did and the obstacles they met, or didn't, in more contemporary times. This is the final class in the course Black Women's Voices, following on their voices in literature, advocacy and art.**

**Presenter: Penelope Pi-Sunyer**

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

**Course: MODERN OPERA: THE 20<sup>TH</sup> & 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURIES (NOTE: NOW HYBRID)**

**The class will not be meeting this week.**

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

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**WEDNESDAY, MAY 17 @ @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: FASCINATING NON-FICTION (Hybrid)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration by Isabel Wilkerson**

**NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

**In this beautifully written masterwork, Isabel Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history - the decades long**

**migration of black citizens who fled the south for northern and western cities, in search of a better life.**

**From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America. Wilkerson interviewed more than a thousand people, and gained access to new data and official records to write the definitive and vividly dramatic account of how these American journeys unfolded, altering our cities, our country, and ourselves.**

**With stunning historical detail, Wilkerson tells this story through the lives of three unique individuals. She brilliantly captures their escapes in the 30s, 40s and 50s, and their new lives in Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles. Both a riveting microcosm and a major assessment, *The Warmth of Other Suns*, is a superb account of an "unrecognized immigration" within our own land.**

**Presenter: Harriet Finkelstein**

**Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss, Ruth Ward**

**Course: TONI MORRISON: THE LEGEND (*In-person only*)**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: Toni and Slade Morrison's Children's Books  
Why Children's Books?**

**In this class we will briefly introduce you to Toni Morrison's sons and look at why the author and one of her sons wrote books for children. We will bring in copies of the books and discuss why she believed African American children need to be able to identify with the characters in at least some of the books they read. We will look at how learning about their own history and culture is so important to these children.**

**Presenters: Tamara Weinberg and Judy Hampson**

**Coordinators: Donna K. Ramer, Sheryl Harawitz, Tamara Weinberg**

**WEDNESDAY, May 17 @ 12:10 – 12:55 P.M.**

**Course:** **BOOK CLUB** (In-person only)  
**Room:** Classroom 27  
**Book:** *Klara and the Sun*  
**Author:** Kazuo Ishiguro

Set in an unspecified future, the novel is told from the point of view of an android, Klara, a solar-powered "AF (Artificial Friend)", who is chosen by Josie, a sickly child, to be her companion. Equally innocent and astute, Klara observes the world and the people around her. Her story - - an intriguing take on how artificial intelligence might play a role in our future - - is ultimately a poignant exploration of love, loyalty and loneliness.

We hope you'll join us!

**Presenter:** Tamara Weinberg  
**Coordinators:** Jan Goldstein, Susannah Falk Lewis, Joan Vreeland

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 17 @ 12:45 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

***NOTE TIME CHANGE***

**Course:** **CREATIVITY DAY** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Subject:** **CREATIVITY AT QUEST ANNUAL EVENT**

Prepare to be amazed by your talented fellow Questers at this year's Creativity Event. In addition to written works and artworks, we'll have song, dance, plays, storytelling and more. This year's lineup includes:

- **PERFORMANCE:** Ellen Shapiro (Storytelling), Ellie Schaffer (Song), Jennifer Jolly (Piano), Steve Rosen (Revue), Wayne Cotter (Play), Ze'eva Cohen (Dance)

- **POETRY & PROSE:** Helen Saffran, Judith Winn, Judy Hampson, Penelope Pi-Sunyer, Richard Byrd, Steve Koenig
- **ARTS:** Beth Callender, Diane Figueroa, Ellen Rittberg, Linda Rothstein, Marilyn Weiss, Maureen McLeod, Roy Clary

**Coordinators: Beth Callender, Mary Ann Donnelly**

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**THURSDAY, MAY 18 @ 10:30 A.M.– NOON**

**Course:** **NYC NEIGHBORHOODS** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:** Classroom 15-17  
**Subject:** Williamsburg Brooklyn

Thousands of years ago Williamsburg was carved from a retreating glacier and, when the weather warmed, the Native American moved in. The Dutch arrived and saw a commercial opportunity a mere half mile from New Amsterdam. They started giving away free land in exchange for clearing the land and ten percent of the yield. In many ways it remained a sleepy hamlet until a few Start Up Corporations decided to call Williamsburg home. You might recognize some of these start-ups: Pfizer, Astral Oil aka Standard Oil, Domino Sugar, and Corning Glass.

**Presenter:** Sheryl Harawitz  
**Coordinators:** Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss

**Course:** **CONTEMPORARY POETRY** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:** Classroom 27  
**Subject:** The Poetry of Bob Dylan's song lyrics

**Bob Dylan won the Nobel Prize in Literature. Is he a poet? We will exam the lyrics of several of his songs in an effort to answer that question. This will be a very interactive class. I will be distributing the lyrics in class, send them out via QuestBusiness, and will rely on the**

**class to interpret them. After we thoroughly investigate the poetry of Dylan's lyrics, I will play the songs.**

**Presenter: Bob Gottfried**

**Coordinators: Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Frieda Lipp**

**THURSDAY, MAY 18 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE (Hybrid)**

**Room: Classroom 27**

**Subject: The poetry of Jane Hirshfield**

**For our final class of the term, I'd like to share a recent and ongoing discovery, the poetry of Jane Hirshfield. Her poetry is direct, witty, and filled with as much fun as sorrow, although there is certainly an element of sorrow. Poetry should be based on a thoroughly lived life, Hirshfield has said, and hers has been filled with commitment to social justice, Zen Buddhism (the study of which took her away from writing for several years) and a fascination with scientific discovery, especially human psychology and our place in the biosphere. Readers of Hirschfield can expect to learn, see things in a new light, and have much to think about afterward. I'll be sending a selection of poems via Quest Business.**

**Discussion Leader: Larry Shapiro**

**Coordinators: Larry Shapiro, Steve Allen, Jane Lubin**

**Course: FOOD: BEYOND JUST CALORIES (In-person only)**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: Armenia**

**Armenia is an extremely old country with more than 3500 years of recorded history. The diaspora is about 8 million, with less than 3 million living in Armenia, a land-locked country in the Caucasus region.**

**Come take a guided tour, led by an enthusiastic 1st generation American, raised by immigrant parents, who's been lucky to have visited Armenia twice. Its history and existence has many unique aspects, including some very tasty ones - a few to be shared with Questers.**

**Presenter: Arlene Hajinlian**

**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 "dress or dressing" 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, MAY 18 @ 2:45 P.M.**

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

**Our Q'xtra Fortnightly Event**

**Meet: by elevators on 7th floor @ 2:45pm**

**And we're off again for the last of our Spring walks. Marian Friedmann, Andrea Irvine & Laura Lopez will lead us along the Hudson River. We will proceed to Battery Park and then head North. It is up to you how far you walk - lots of transport 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.**

**A great way to end a week of Questing.**

**FRIDAY, MAY 19 2023 @ 12:00 NOON**

**THE QUEST SPRING GALA LUNCHEON**

**We will celebrate the end of the Spring semester at**

**Arte Cafe**

**103 West 73rd Street**

**(Off Columbus Avenue toward Amsterdam Avenue)**

**New York, N.Y. 10023**