

## NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

**May 12 - 15, 2025**

**This Is a B Week**

There are three links (given in red below) for all classes for 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.

### **AUDITORIUM**

**Meeting ID: 861 6851 3691**

**Passcode: 252525**

### **ROOM 15-17**

**Meeting ID: 886 0175 9047**

**Passcode: 252525**

### **ROOM 27**

**Meeting ID: 872 5172 0128**

**Passcode: 252525**

Also given are meeting IDs and passcodes for the three meeting rooms. If you don't have Zoom installed, you can still enter a class using your browser by clicking on

<https://zoom.us/join>

and typing in the Meeting ID for the room of your class along with the passcode.

In addition, you can attend classes on your phone by dialing 1-929-205-6099. You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the passcode.

**NOTE:** All classes are conducted at 25 Broadway and are listed as either Hybrid or In-person only. 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.

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**MONDAY, MAY 12 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY**  
**Subject:** Jerry Herman: Master of the Broadway Show Tune  
**Presenter:** Debbi Honorof  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** Peter Dichter, Arlynn Greenbaum, Sol Makon  
**Tech Support:** Victor Brener, Wayne Cotter

Jerry Herman wrote the words and music for some of the most successful and beloved musicals of the 20th century. Best known for his ebullient, optimistic, and hummable songs Jerry Herman embodied Broadway's Golden Age. Starting with witty off-Broadway revues in the 1950s, his Broadway triumphs in the 1960s included "Milk and Honey," "Hello Dolly," and "Mame." Throughout the 1970s, Herman continued to charm audiences with productions like "Dear World," "Mack & Mabel," and "The Grand Tour." His triumphant hit in 1983, "La Cage aux Folles," made social and political history. Awarded the Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2009, Jerry Herman's legacy continues to inspire and entertain, leaving an indelible mark on the world of musical theatre.

**Course:** **WONDERFUL BOOKS OUT LOUD**  
*Billy Budd, Sailor* by Herman Melville  
**Subject:** *Billy Budd, Sailor*, Sections 26-30  
Special Supplement: Billy Budd, the 1962 movie  
**Facilitator:** Harriet Finkelstein  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Harriet Finkelstein, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward  
**Tech Support:** Ruth Ward, Larry Shapiro

**NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

We will read out loud and discuss Sections 26-30. The narrator introduces these concluding chapters as a kind of "sequel" to Billy Budd's story.

Special supplement: Billy Budd (the movie) with Peter Ustinov, Robert Ryan and Terence Stamp. We will view the last third of the film starting at the point where Claggart confronts Captain Vere and makes his accusations against Billy Budd.

**MONDAY, MAY 12 @ 12:10 -12:50 PM**

**Course:** NOONTIME MEDLEYS  
**Subject:** “Bingo – Our Way”  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine

**Join Us for Our Final Lunchtime Activity of the Semester!**

Get ready to shout "BINGO!" as we wrap up the semester with a twist on the classic game. Experience “*BINGO - Our Way*”— fun-filled session featuring quirky categories and plenty of laughs. It's the perfect way to celebrate the end of term with friends.

Don't miss out on this unique experience and bring your lunch.

**MONDAY, MAY 12 @ 12:45 – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** GREAT PLAYS  
**Play:** A Streetcar Named Desire  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Roy Clary, Wayne Cotter, Frieda Lipp  
**Tech Support:** Wayne Cotter

**Note the early start time of 12:45 PM.** Today, we'll present an abridged version of A Streetcar Named Desire by the American playwright and screen writer, Tennessee Williams. Written and produced in 1947 at New York's Ethel Barrymore Theater, the play ran for 855 performances and won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1948. A critically acclaimed film adaptation was released in 1951.

Cast: Ruth Ward as Blanche Dubois, Mary Ann Donnelly as Blanche's sister, Stella Kowalsky, Art Spar as Stella's husband, Stanley Kowalsky, and Frank Montaturo as Stanley's friend, Harold Mitchell. Peter Dichter will provide Narration.

**MONDAY, MAY 12 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** WOMEN LEADERS  
**Subject:** Billie Jean King  
**Presenter:** Ilene Winkler  
**Room:** 27

**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** Laura Lopez, Joan Vreeland  
**Tech Support:** Felix Pina

What defines a sports star as a leader? Is it records, earnings, or her impact on her sport and society? For Billie Jean King, it was all of these. By age 22, she was the top female tennis player in the world but earned only a £45 gift certificate for sweeping every event at Wimbledon. She devoted the rest of her career fighting for equality for women in tennis and advancing the prominence of women's sports. Outed as a lesbian in 1981, she became an advocate for LGBT rights and received the Medal of Freedom from President Obama for her contributions beyond tennis.

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**TUESDAY, MAY 13 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK  
**Subject:** Rudolf Bauer and the Birth of the Guggenheim Museum  
**Presenter:** Bob Reiss  
**Room:** 15-17 (Please note room change; Zoom attendees should use the **Room 15-17** link.)  
**Format:** Hybrid (To be Recorded)  
**Coordinators:** Linda Downs, Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss, Ellen Shapiro  
**Tech Support:** Susan Diehl, Ellen Shapiro

The origin story of the Guggenheim Museum has enough *sturm und drang* to be a Netflix series. In fact, it was the basis of an off-Broadway play in 2014. More about that play anon.

The presentation will focus on the artist, Rudolf Bauer. It will then recount the efforts of his advocate and sometime lover, the artist Hilla Rebay, to convince Solomon Guggenheim to finance a new museum to exhibit Bauer's art. The talk will attempt to answer the following questions:

- Why have the name Rudolf Bauer and his work disappeared into near oblivion?
- Was his erasure from the annals of art history intentional and malevolent?

These questions continue to stir debate, as the art world begins to rediscover the work of this visionary artist.

**Course:** NEW & CLASSIC ESSAYS  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Steve Allen, Martha Drezin, Larry Shapiro

We will discuss (1) "God Knows Where I Am" by Rachel Aviv from the May 30, 2011 issue of *The New Yorker* and (2) "Why Is It So Hard to Be Rational" by Joshua Rothman from the August 16, 2021 issue of *The New Yorker*.

A copy of these essays will be distributed in advance of the class through QuestBusiness.

**TUESDAY, MAY 13 @ NOON-12:45 PM**

**Course:** ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK  
**Presenters:** Bob Reiss, Roy Clary, June Jacobson, Ruth Ward  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Linda Downs, Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss, Ellen Shapiro

We will present an excerpt from the play *Bauer*. This will elaborate on the morning talk, *Rudolf Bauer and the Birth of the Guggenheim Museum*. Feel free to have your lunch during the play but as usual please silence your cell phones.

**TUESDAY MAY 13 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** FILM FOR THOUGHT  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Steve Allen, Lois Klein, Jane Lubin, Ellen Waldman  
**Tech Support:** Michael Wellner, Pete Weis

We continue with the best of contemporary short documentaries, dramas, and comedies selected for their artistic merit and the probability of producing a lively discussion.

**Course:** ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY  
**Subject:** Whimsical Poetry  
**Class Leaders:** Joyce Hinote, Peter Dichter  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Joyce Hinote, Peter Dichter

For our final class of the semester, no more Joy and Despair, War and Peace or Life and Death but whimsical, uplifting, fanciful, amusing, playful. You get the idea. A fun class to counteract the issues of the day.

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**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **SCIENCE & SCIENTISTS**  
**Subject:** Partnerships in Nature: Mutualism  
**Presenter:** Judy Weis  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** **Jim Brook**, Steve Allen, Judy Weis  
**Tech Support:** **Pete Weis**, Konstantin Dolgitsier

While we are all familiar with relationships between organisms in which one benefits and the other loses, such as predation or parasitism, people are less familiar with relationships that are a win for both parties. Some of these involve very small organisms that live inside larger ones and are beneficial, such as our microbiome, others involve different microbes that team up for mutual benefit, such as lichens. There are many mutualisms between plants and animals such as pollination (by the birds and the bees!), ones in which different plants are connected underground by a fungal "internet," and ones in which different animals help one another, such as ones that get a meal by eating parasites off the other, or animals that team up for hunting - but beware - as with humans, sometimes there are cheaters!

**Course:** **UPHEAVAL IN AMERICAN VALUES**  
**Subject:** Local Elections Round Tables  
**Presenters:** Maureen Berman & Several Questers  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Michael Wellner**, Maureen Berman, Terri Hicks  
**Tech Support:** **Michael Wellner**, Wayne Cotter

Given the significant focus on what's happening in Washington, two critical local elections are receiving minimal attention. In the final class of the Spring 2024 Semester, we will focus on two pivotal local races: the New York City Mayoral Race and the New Jersey Governor election to determine the successor to Phil Murphy. A panel consisting of eight Quest members will introduce the candidates participating in each of these elections, and we invite your thoughts and comments. In addition, we will examine the intricate ranked

choice voting system used to select the NYC Democratic Mayoral Candidate. As always, time will be allocated for questions and discussion.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** **DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES**  
**Speaker:** Jodi Kantor, Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist and Author  
Jan and Stuart Eisler Memorial Speaker  
**Subject:** SHE SAID and Her Career as an Investigative Reporter  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Arlynn Greenbaum**, Bob Reiss, Karen Levin, Estelle Selzer  
**Tech Support:** **Bob Reiss**, Wayne Cotter

In 2017, Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey broke the story in the *New York Times* of decades of sexual abuse allegations against Harvey Weinstein. They were awarded the Pulitzer Prize and their exposé helped launch the #Me Too movement. They wrote the bestselling book SHE SAID about their work, and it was made into a popular movie in 2021.

Kantor is now working on behind-the-scenes stories about the U.S. Supreme Court. From 2007 to 2013, she covered the Obamas and wrote a book about them. She became a journalist when she dropped out of law school and joined the *New York Times*, becoming Arts & Leisure editor in 2003. She will discuss her illustrious career as an investigative reporter.

Please join us for this special presentation.

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**THURSDAY, MAY 15 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **NYC & ITS ENVIRONS: PEOPLE, PLACES, THINGS**  
**Subject:** NYC Cemeteries: The Past, Present, and Future of Death  
**Presenter:** Susan Diehl  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To Be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Paul Golomb**, Bob Reiss, Sandra Abramson  
**Tech Support:** **Paul Golomb**, Bob Reiss, Konstantin Dolgitsers

Death is universal. But it's also a practical problem. What do we do with dead bodies? When you die, you can be buried below ground, buried above ground, have a green burial,

cremated with your ashes scattered, incorporated into jewelry, artificial reefs or paperweights. You can have your body frozen or donated to science. Death has been one of our greatest obsessions – and some of the greatest misconceptions — throughout the ages. And cemeteries reflect our views of death, revealing cultural, religious, and historical attitudes. But we are running out of space for cemeteries. We will take a look at NYC's most interesting cemeteries and also look at some creative solutions for the future of death.

**Course:** OLD TESTAMENT AS LITERATURE & IN THE ARTS  
**Subject:** Book Banning  
**Presenter:** Peter Dichter  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Joyce Hinote, Peter Dichter  
**Tech Support:** Ruth Ward

Book banning is on the rise and there are many reasons why a book may be banned. Offensive language, age unsuitability, violence, religious viewpoint -- the list is extensive. But the number one reason to ban a book (92.5% percent of books on the current list) is sexual content. Yes, the mere mention of sex can cause a book to be banned. But what if there were a book that had a wide range of sexual acts and encounters ranging from Sodomy to Adultery to Incest and more? Surely this book would be the first to be banned. Even now it is shocking to write this let alone create a presentation. Join me and feel free to express your rage.

**THURSDAY, MAY 15 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY & LITERATURE  
**Subject:** Leo Tolstoy's novella *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*  
**Facilitator:** Steve Allen  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Larry Shapiro, Steve Allen  
**Tech Support:** Steve Chicoine, Larry Shapiro

A copy of the novella will be distributed in advance of the class through QuestBusiness.



**Course:** **JAZZ: YESTERDAY AND TODAY**  
**Subject:** Jazz Vocal Standards: The Gershwin Songbook  
**Presenter:** Debbi Honorof  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** **Debbi Honorof**  
**Tech Support:** **Bob Reiss**

The timeless compositions of George and Ira Gershwin hold a cherished place in the Great American Songbook and have left an indelible mark on the world of jazz. Their music has been lovingly reinterpreted by vocal jazz legends across generations, breathing new life into each melody and lyric. Join us as we immerse ourselves in the enchanting world of Gershwin standards, as performed by some of the most iconic jazz vocalists of all time. Experience the enduring charm and brilliance of these masterpieces, which continue to captivate and inspire audiences around the globe.

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## **CULTUREQUEST**

**CultureQuest MOMA Tour**  
**Jack Whitten: The Messenger**

**Wednesday, June 18th**  
**Sold out and the waitlist is closed.**