

Room 105, 725 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02215
(617) 353-6250, buch@bu.edu



BUCH Director James Winn
Photo by Jackie Ricciardi

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I write these words on the day after our annual Gift to the Faculty, an event in which we try to share some of the excitement of our enterprise with the wider University community. This year, our program, devoted to Bizer's perennially popular opera *Carmen*, featured talks by faculty members from Music and Romance Studies and performances by three splendid young singers from the Opera Institute and ten fearless trumpeters from the BU Trumpet Ensemble. My thanks to Debbie Burton (CFA, Music Theory) for taking the lead in organizing this program.

Like those young trumpeters, who played instruments in three different keys, our resident Fellows have had to find a way of making an ensemble from disparate fields and interests. In the Fall Term, we hosted a trio of scholars with projects focusing on various parts of Africa. Although they had Africa in common, these Fellows represented three different disciplines—Anthropology, Art History, and Romance Studies—and included one member of the Senior Faculty, one member of the Junior Faculty, and one advanced Ph.D. student. Besides finding common ground with their fellow Africanists, they also responded to projects and presentations by fellows representing English, Archaeology, History, and Political Science. In the Spring Term, a slightly smaller group brought together scholars studying the literatures of ancient Greece, 17th-century England, 19th-century Germany, 19th and 20th-century America, and modern Korea.

Our decision to offer fellowships to Ph.D. students has been a resounding success—not only because of their fresh contributions to the Fellows' Seminar, but because of their career development. Three of our four graduate student Fellows have already defended their dissertations, and the fourth will defend this summer; two have jobs for next year, and a third has two interviews next week. We hope they will bring to their new and future careers insights gained from the interdisciplinary discourse we foster. Next year's group, the largest ever in the history of the BUCH, will include six Ph.D. students.

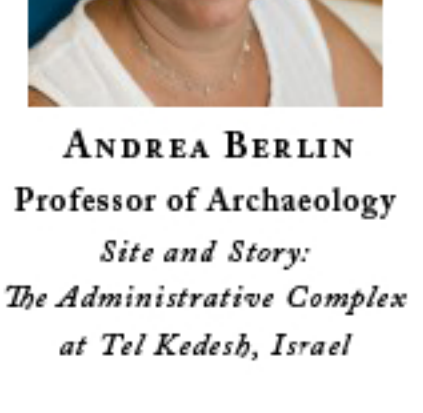
The programs briefly described in this newsletter are only a few of the many lecture series, performances, exhibitions, conferences, and study groups arising from faculty interests and funded by the income from the BUCH endowment. I am grateful every day to the donors who have helped to build that endowment over the last 35 years, and I look forward eagerly to distributing another part of its proceeds in the form of prizes for outstanding undergraduate and graduate students in the humanities, which we will be awarding on May 12th. Please join us if you can for that heartwarming program.

Yours faithfully,

James A. Winn
William Fairfield Warren Professor of English
Director, Boston University Center for the Humanities

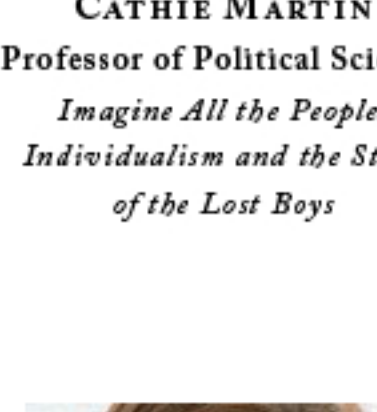
Meet Our Fellows, 2014-2015

JEFFREY HENDERSON SENIOR FACULTY FELLOWS



CYNTHIA BECKER
Associate Professor of History
of Art & Architecture

Gnawa: Visual Art and the Performance of Africa in Morocco



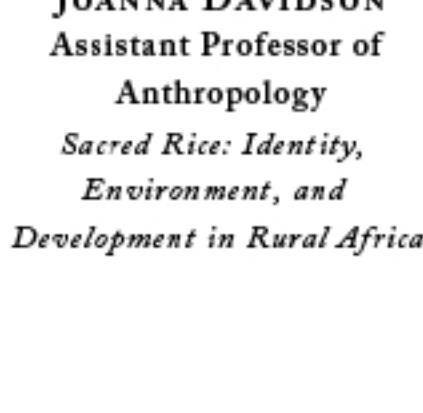
ANDREA BERLIN
Professor of Archaeology

Site and Story: The Administrative Complex at Tel Kedesh, Israel



CATHIE MARTIN
Professor of Political Science

Imagine All the People: Individualism and the Story of the Lost Boys



ERIN MURPHY
Associate Professor of English

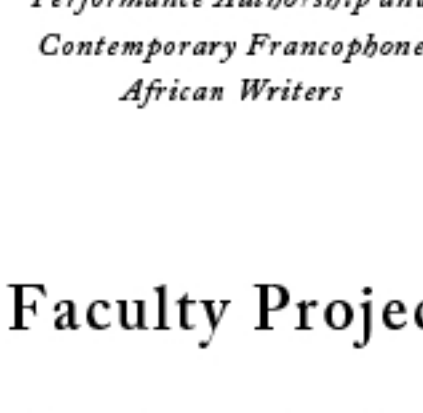
Wartimes: Seventeenth-Century English Women's Writing and its Afterlives

JUNIOR FACULTY FELLOWS



JOANNA DAVIDSON
Assistant Professor of Anthropology

Sacred Rice: Identity, Environment, and Development in Rural Africa

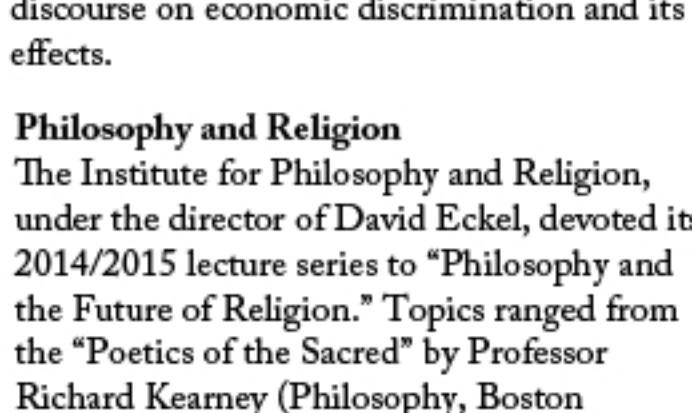


KRISTIN STERN
Ph.D. Candidate in Romance Studies

Writing on Stage: Performance Authorship and Contemporary Francophone African Writers

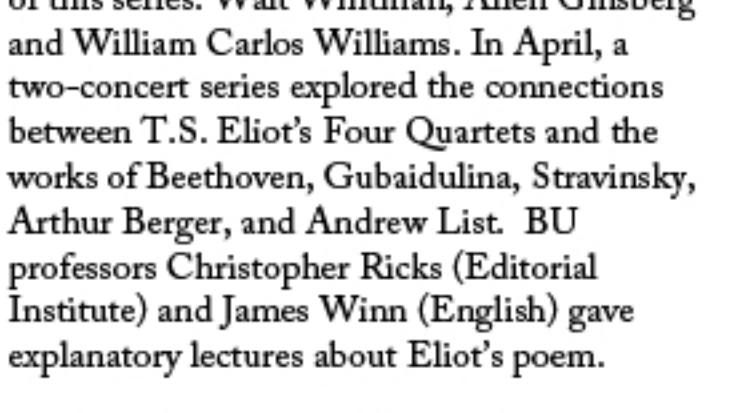
Faculty Projects 2014-15

The Center for the Humanities is supporting 41 faculty projects over the 2014/2015 academic year. Here are a few of the highlights.



History
In November, Jonathan Zatin (History) coordinated an international conference titled "Dispossession," with two related lectures and a historical exhibition titled "Final Sale: The End of Jewish Businesses in Berlin." The exhibition in the Hillel House Gallery gave visual and dramatic shape to the month-long discourse on economic discrimination and its effects.

Philosophy and Religion
The Institute for Philosophy and Religion, under the director of David Eckel, devoted its 2014/2015 lecture series to "Philosophy and the Future of Religion." Topics ranged from the "Poetics of the Sacred" by Professor Richard Kearney (Philosophy, Boston College) to "God and the Ambivalence of Being" by Visiting Professor Jean-Luc Marion (University of Chicago).



Music
Daniel Doña coordinated a series of performances by the Boston-based Arneis Quartet on the theme of "Poetry and Music." In December, Elisa New (American Literature, Harvard) presented a lecture on the poets who were represented in the musical settings programmed on the first part of this series: Walt Whitman, Allen Ginsberg and William Carlos Williams. In April, a two-concert series explored the connections between T.S. Eliot's Four Quartets and the works of Beethoven, Gubaidulina, Stravinsky, Arthur Berger, and Andrew List. BU professors Christopher Ricks (Editorial Institute) and James Winn (English) gave explanatory lectures about Eliot's poem.

Modern Languages & Comparative Literature
Cathy Yeh coordinated a week-long Asian Film Festival, "Asia: Love and Other Obsessions," in April. Lunchtime talks introduced contemporary films from China, Korea, Japan, and India, which were shown in the afternoons and evenings at the Geddes Language Center and the School of Education Auditorium.

Upcoming Fellows, 2015-2016

JEFFREY HENDERSON SENIOR FACULTY FELLOWS

MARY BEAUDRY Professor of Archaeology, Anthropology, and Gastronomy
Gastronomical Archaeology: Food, Materiality, and the Aesthetics of Dining

BROOKE BLOWER Associate Professor of History
Hidden Fronts: New American Histories of WWII

NETA CRAWFORD Associate Professor of Political Science
"To Make Heaven Weep": Civilians and the American Way of War"

SUSAN MIZRUCHI Associate Professor of English
Risk and the Contemporary American Novel

MICHAEL PRINCE Associate Professor of English
Deism and the Genesis of the Novel

JON ROBERTS Tomorrow Foundation Professor of History
The Science of the Soul: The American Protestantism and the Mind, 1775-1940

KIM SICHEL Professor of History of Art & Architecture
Making Strange: Modernism and the Making of French Photography Books

ALICE TSENG Associate Professor of History of Art & Architecture
Conspicuous Constructions: The Architecture of Imperial Celebrations in Modern Kyoto

JUNIOR FACULTY FELLOWS

MINOU ARJOMAND Assistant Professor of English
Judging in the Company of Others: The Courtroom and the Stage after WWII

YURI CORRIGAN Assistant Professor of Modern Languages & Comparative Literature
Imprisoned in the Other: Dostoevsky and the Riddle of the Self

JONATHAN FOLTZ Assistant Professor of English
Modernism and the Narrative Cultures of Film

ANTHONY PETRO Assistant Professor of Religion
Public Health, Disability, and American Christianity Since the 1950s

ANA MARIA REYES Assistant Professor of History of Art & Architecture
Beatriz Gonzalez Strategic Localism and the Critique of Cultural Modernization in 1960s Colombia

GRADUATE DISSERTATION FELLOWS

LESLIE BROWN History of Art & Architecture
"Picture Ahead! Kodak as you go": The Picture Spot Sign in American Photography, Visual and Material Culture, and the Touristic Landscape

DEVIN BYKER English
Glimmering Worlds: The Drama of Dying in Shakespeare's England

ZACH FREDMAN History
A Wary Embrace: American Servicemen and the Chinese, 1941-1947

REED GOCHBERG English
Novel Objects: Museums and Scientific Knowledge in 19th Century American Literature

NIKI LEFEBVRE American & New England Studies
Beyond the Flagship: Politics and Trade in American Department Stores, 1888-1945

SOPHIE MIZOUNI Romance Studies
Nineteenth-Century Paris, Capital of Illusion: Commercialized Urban Landscapes in the works of Flaubert, Baudelaire and Zola

Banner Image from: Aldro Thompson Hibbard - Red Barn with Figure

buch@bu.edu
www.bu.edu/humanities