Upcoming Event: Gunn Lecture

Literary critic and columnist Michael Dirda will deliver the annual Richard W. Gunn Memorial Lecture, “Thirty-Five Years at The Washington Post Book World,” on Tuesday, 29 October, at 5:00 pm, in the Big 12 Room of the Kansas Union. More details next week. The Gunn Lecture is one of three endowed lectures sponsored by the English Department each academic year.

Jill Lepore Visit

On Tuesday, 22 October, Jill Lepore, Chair of the History and Literature Department at Harvard University, will be featured in the next installment of the Hall Center’s Humanities Lecture Series. She will speak at 7:30 pm in Woodruff Auditorium of the Kansas Union. Her topic is “Unseen – The History of Privacy.” She will also lead a more informal “conversation” on Wednesday, 23 October, at 10 am in the Hall Center Conference Hall. Lepore embodies interdisciplinary work in the humanities. She holds a BA in English, an MA in American Culture, and a PhD in American Studies. Currently, she is David Woods Kemper ’41 Professor of American History at Harvard as well as a Harvard College Professor (for distinction in undergraduate teaching). She is also a staff writer for The New Yorker. According to Lepore’s university bio, “her research focuses on the histories of war and violence and of language and literacy.” Her most recent book is Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin, a biography of Benjamin Franklin’s sister, a finalist for the 2013 National Book Award for Nonfiction. Her HLS lecture will be similarly wide-ranging. In an illustrated presentation that will invoke (among other topics) the mysteries of the medieval church, H.G. Wells’s invisible man, and the privacy settings on Facebook, “Lepore argues that what was once mysterious became secret and, finally, private” (Hall Center website).

Presentations

Harris, William J.
“Amiri Baraka’s Blues People at 50: A Conversation with Professors William J. Harris, Robert G. O’Meally and John F. Szwed,” Center for Jazz Studies, Columbia University, 14 October.

Calendar

T 22 Webinar with C. Leigh McInnis, English, Jackson State University, 12:00 pm, CST. Sponsored by Project on the History of Black Writing (see “Announcements”).

Voting Department Meeting, 4:00 pm, 4019 Wescoe. Agenda: 1) assessment issues.

Humanities Lecture Series, “Unseen – The History of Privacy,” Jill Lepore, History and Literature, Harvard University, 7:30 pm, Woodruff Auditorium, Kansas Union.

W 23 Humanities Lecture Series, “A Conversation with Jill Lepore,” 10:00 am, Hall Center Conference Hall.

Langston Hughes Visiting Professor Lecture, “Race, Religion, and Ritual: Afro-Cuban Poets in the Age of Revolution,” Matthew Pettway, Department of Romance Languages and Literature, Bates College, 3:00 pm, Kansas Room, Kansas Union.

Department of English Undergraduate Reading Series, 7:00 pm, Jayhawk Room, Kansas Union.

F 25 Kenton Rambsy, Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam, 8:00 am, 3001A Wescoe (Graham, W. Harris, Reiff, Bolden, Jelks).

Jennifer Colatosti, Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam, 2:00 pm, 3001A Wescoe (Harrington, S. Harris, W. Harris, Moriarty, Carlson).

Red Hot Research, research-sharing featuring Jonathan Lamb, English; Cathy Jonitz, Film & Media Studies; Jenny Gleason, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology; Paola Sanguinetti, Architecture; Rafe Brown, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, 4:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

Pre-Performance Lecture, “Mark Twain on the Lecture Circuit,” Susan K. Harris, English, 6:30 pm, Lied Center. Free. Hal Holbrook’s Mark Twain Tonight follows at 7:30 pm. Decidedly not free.


Publications

Krug, Louise
“Imagine Yourself as a Mother” (essay). Echoes of the Prairie: A Collection of Short Memoirs.
Announcements, Notes, & News

• The Project on the History of Black Writing is sponsoring a series of webinars as follow-ups to this summer’s “Don’t Deny My Voice: Reading and Teaching African American Literature” NEH Summer Institute. This week, C. Leigh McInnis will be the speaker (see “Calendar”). Consult http://www.dontdeny.dept.ku.edu/public/virtual-seminars.shtml for more information about the series.

KU and Regional Events

• Nature & Culture Seminar/Reimagining the City Seminar, “Reading Urban Environments in Africa: Intersections of Urban Political Ecology & Ecocriticism,” Garth Myers, Urban Studies/International Studies, Trinity College, 18 October, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• TGIF, 18 October, 4:00-5:30 pm, Adams Alumni Center

• University Theatre continues Dracula, adapted by Dennis Christilles from the novel by Bram Stoker, 18-19 October, 7:30 pm; 20 October, 2:30 pm, Crafton-Preyer Theatre, Murphy Hall.

• KU Open Access Week, 21-25 October, numerous events. See KU Open Access website for details.


• The Big Share, discussion of service-learning pedagogy, 21 October, 1:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall. Sponsored by the Center for Civic & Social Responsibility.

• Philosophy Lecture, “Convention and Imagination,” Ernie Lepore, Philosophy, Rutgers University, 22 October, 8:00 pm, 100 Stauffer-Flint.


• Latin American Seminar, “Is the Human Rights Approach Useful in Understanding Injustices in Latin America?” Cristian Dimitriu, Philosophy, 25 October, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• University Theatre presents And I and Silence, by Naomi Wallace, 25, 26, 29, 30 October, 7:30 pm, 27 October, 2:30 pm, Inge Theatre, Murphy Hall.