Spotlight on Asian Arts

The Godwin-Ternbach Museum’s exhibition, *The Light of Infinite Wisdom: Asian Art from the Godwin-Ternbach Museum and Other Collections*, will be the centerpiece of a celebration of Asian art and culture that will take place this fall on campus. Besides the exhibition, there will be a series of lectures, performances, and family events celebrating the peoples of Asia. This spotlight on Asian culture is the result of a collaboration among the museum, the Art Department, Division of Education, the Asian/American Center, and Colden Center for the Performing Arts.

*The Light of Infinite Wisdom*, which will be open from October 15 through December 20, will feature objects from the 2nd century B.C. to the 20th century, drawn from the collections of the Godwin-Ternbach Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, and other important New York collections. Designed to increase awareness of the artistic and cultural traditions of Asia, the exhibition will highlight a wide range of artworks associated with Buddhism, Hinduism, Confucianism, Islam, and Taoism. On display will be art from China, India, Iran, Japan, Korea, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tibet, and Turkey.

The exhibition is curated by Amy

continued on page 7
and justice. “I go for issue-oriented documentaries,” she says, “from the black market in plutonium to the worldwide impact of fundamentalism to the tragedy in Tibet. I focus on the human rights of people around the world.”

Lyon, who teaches video production, advanced production and documentary filmmaking courses, makes sure that her students do “real shooting, real editing, real writing, real research, and real projects. . . . We are like modern-day Homers with new equipment and new materials. Nothing replaces learning how to make a good story well told.” Find out more at www.lionessmedia.com.

Zoe Beloff

“We think about our technology in a very drab way,” says ZOE BEOFF, a media artist whose own work is anything but drab. Recently appointed an assistant professor of Media Studies, she explores the evocative possibilities of old and new moving-image technologies. Projecting three-dimensional images in the viewers’ near space, inventing interactive virtual realities with digital media, incorporating live projectionists within gallery installations – in these and other ways, she freely combines stereo slides, film, live music, and other shards of cinema history to revivify the moving image, or “what’s continued on page 8

Administrative Transitions

President Muyskens’ email last week announced important personnel changes in administration. These include Burt Backner’s retirement and his gracious agreement to continue as Dean until a Vice President and Dean of Student Services search is concluded; the appointment of Thomas Strekas as Dean of Mathematics and Natural Sciences; and Jim O’Hara’s assumption of new responsibilities as Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration, in view of Hratch Zadoian’s retirement this year. Please watch upcoming issues of FYI for related stories and profiles.
NEWS FROM THE PROVOST
Provost Evangelos Gizis recently issued a memo about college policies regarding course withdrawals and other related matters. Please click on the link below, which will bring you to the Provost’s “Curriculum and Student Issues” page. Scroll down and click on “Course withdrawals, absences and incomplete grades,” for the latest information. http://www.vanguard.qc.edu/provost/cur_stud/index.html

FLU SHOTS AVAILABLE
Dr. Vinay Kapoor will be at the Health Service Center (Fitz 204) on October 29 from 4-6 pm to give flu shots to staff and faculty. There is a fee of $15 to cover the cost of the vaccine. Students may receive flu shots on November 10 and 11 at the center as part of a free service provided by CUNY.

Please note also that there is a new poison control number: 1-800-222-1222. This number should be changed on the emergency flip charts provided to all offices by the Health Service Center.

ADOPT-A-PROF
Harvey Baker (Psychology) would like to share an apartment/rent a room within a 20-minute drive of the campus two nights a week (usually Wednesday and Thursday) during the fall and spring semesters. You can reach him at 3223.

HELPFUL FORMS ONLINE
The Human Resources Web site now features a number of forms in PDF format that can be easily downloaded, including forms for the direct deposit of checks and GHI Health Insurance claims. For more information, go to www.qc.edu/hr/forms.php. The Provost’s website also has a number of forms, model letters, and policy statements that may be accessed at www.vanguard.qc.edu/provost/fac_staff

SYMPOSIUM ON ARTS DOCUMENTATION
Richard Wall (Library), a member of the Theatre Library Association, notes that the association will be holding a symposium on cutting-edge issues of performing arts documentation in a virtual environment on Friday, October 10 from 9 am to 5 pm. Archivists, librarians, conservators, scholars, and practitioners are invited to attend. The symposium will be held at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center. For more information, visit http://tla.library.unt.edu/symposiumagenda.htm

LIBRARY GUIDELINES
Chief Librarian Sharon Bonk notes that a CUNY Task Force recently issued guidelines for libraries concerning copyright compliance. To review these guidelines, go to library.gc.cuny.edu/Copyright/Gudelines/Index.asp

Where We Rank
The annual listings of colleges are out and Queens is doing fine. The college is included once again in the Princeton Review’s The Best 351 Colleges. In this book the college is ranked fourth in the nation for its diversity, behind Rutgers University (New Brunswick, NJ), George Mason University (Fairfax, VA, and the University of Maryland (Baltimore). The college can also claim 14th place among the soberest campuses nationwide.

The 2004 edition of America’s Best Colleges, published by U.S. News & World Report, also has good news for the college. Queens ranks first among all CUNY colleges with a graduation rate of 42%, and also has the highest percentage of freshmen who were in the top quarter of their high school class (58%).

Tree Planting on 9/11:
Saying “Yes” to the Future

Under a sunny sky, members of the Queens College community gathered outside Powdermaker Hall on September 11 to plant a young tree. “Across the world, people are commemorating this tragedy by looking to the future and planting trees, a symbol of life,” said President Muyskens. Also participating in the ceremony, presided over by Dean Burt Backner, were Father John Antonopoulos, pastor, St. Demetrius Cathedral, Astoria; Muhammad Jawaid, co-president, Muslim Student Association; Tim Duffy, president, Day Students Association; Rabbi Moshe Shur, Hillel; and Father Paul Wood, Newman Center.

“The tree roots represent the religions of all mankind. As they grow, the tree will be strong,” said Rabbi Shur, who noted the many religions and backgrounds of Queens College students. “Our battle,” he said, “is the battle for brotherhood, justice, and kindness.” Appropriately, the tree planted on campus has international roots: it is a Katsura tree, which originated in Asia.
JON A. PETERSON’S (History) book on urban planning, *The Birth of City Planning in the United States, 1840–1917*, has just been published by the Johns Hopkins University Press. Heavily illustrated, the book explores the origins of American urbanism as shaped by market forces, and attributes the rise of “city planning” to Progressive Era urban reform. Peterson documents piecemeal attempts at planning in the nineteenth century, relates Progressive city planning to the emergence of the metropolis, and links its decline with the decentralization of cities. City planning, he argues, was characterized by a comprehensive vision of the city, the public interest, and planning practice. In the face of a more diffuse reality, it lost its primacy of place, but left a legacy of ideas and techniques for modern planners.

City Lights Books in San Francisco recently published *Nine Alexandrias* by Bosnian poet Semezdin Mehmedinovic, translated by AMMIEL ALCALAY (Classical Languages). The work is a “poetry of witness” inspired by a cross-country train journey in post-9/11 America. Alcalay was also tapped to write text for a photo exhibit, *Diaspora: Homelands in Exile*, which opened at the Brooklyn Museum October 1. The exhibit’s related book of photography, Frederic Brenner’s *Homelands in Exile: Portraits of the Jewish Diaspora*, is being published by HarperCollins this month. Alcalay’s essay “No Return” will also appear this month in *Wrestling with Zion: Progressive Jewish-American Responses to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict* (Grove Atlantic), an anthology edited by Tony Kushner and Alisa Solomon.

Manea Opens Evening Readings Series

The Queens College Evening Readings will open its 28th season on Wednesday, November 12, with Norman Manea, who is widely regarded as one of Eastern Europe’s greatest living writers. A survivor of the Nazi camps and Ceausescu’s Romania, Manea is the author of several works of fiction that have been translated into English, including *October, Eight O’Clock; Compulsory Happiness; The Black Envelope*; as well as the collection of essays *On Clowns: The Dictator and the Artist*. His most recent work, the memoir *The Hooligan’s Return*, has been receiving exceptional reviews. The *New York Times* found it “captivating,” and the *New Yorker* called it “an extraordinary book.” Manea will read from his works and be interviewed by Leonard Lopate.

Manea will be followed in the series by Irish novelist Edna O’Brien on Tuesday, November 25. Hailed by Philip Roth as “the most gifted woman now writing fiction in English,” O’Brien is the author of many novels, including *The Country Girls Trilogy; Night; Wild Decembers;* and *In the Forest*. Among the authors scheduled to appear in the spring are Doris Lessing and Norman Rush. Season tickets for the six-event series are still available for $39 ($64 for two). Subscribers are entitled to priority seating and also to receive a copy of Manea’s *The Hooligan’s Return*. Tickets for single readings are $10. For more information, visit [www.qc.edu/readings](http://www.qc.edu/readings).
“I want to get students involved in the political process,” says Tim Duffy, the new president of the Day Students Association. “I want to get them registered to vote, I want them to become educated about what’s going on and how they can affect what’s going on.”

Tim says he wasn’t an activist at his high school in Port Washington, but at Queens College, he jumped right in.

He was president of the Environmental Club last year, and has been very involved with NYPIRG. He is trying to expand recycling on campus, and last year worked hard against the tuition increase: “Because of our protests and lobbying efforts, going to Albany, we were able to reduce the tuition hike and restore TAP [Tuition Assistance Program] that was cut initially by one-third.”

Now a junior, Tim is organizing a number of changes to improve student life as well as student events, like a recent charities jam for the homeless. He hopes to make the Student Union more inviting, and feels that the work being done on the facade and parking lot are steps in the right direction. He credits student government vice president, Shih Wan Kong, his officers, and student committees with making a good team. “We’re working on getting kosher meat, and we’re going to get some name brands like Starbucks and Krispy Kremes. I don’t eat donuts, I don’t drink coffee, and I don’t eat meat! But we’re trying to make improvements for students.”

One of his favorite projects involves an attempt to expand the free-hour system (when no classes are scheduled). He is working with the President and Academic Senate, hoping to structure more time for students to participate in campus life. “Queens College has music, theater, all these wonderful things students don’t even realize are going on. That is a time for students to get to know the college, and to get involved, and to listen to speakers and talk about issues.”

An environmental studies major, Tim knows he wants to attend graduate school but is uncertain yet what his career path will be. No problem. “The world is wide open!” he says.

New Graduate Programs Offered

The college’s graduate school is offering two new programs this fall. The School of Earth and Environmental Sciences (EES), in cooperation with the Physics Department, is offering a 20-credit certificate program in earth science. This provides junior high and high school earth science teachers with the comprehensive background required to teach that course successfully. The Regents earth science curriculum is covered completely in five graduate-level courses: Earth Materials and Earth Processes; Earth History and the Fossil Record; Meteorology; Oceanography; Astronomy. A sixth course on the Geology of New York State provides local context and materials for teachers to plan their own field trips.

Teachers who have science certification in other disciplines matriculate into this program and pay the regular graduate student tuition. Upon completion, they will have the required credentials for an earth science license and can apply directly to the state for that license. For more information, contact Allan Ludman (EES) at 3324; allan_ludman@qc.edu

The Graduate School of Library and Information Studies has begun a 12-credit certificate program in archives, records management, and conservation, the only such program in CUNY. It is designed for practitioners in these fields, current students in the MLS program, and those holding the MLS who wish to add this expertise to their credentials without enrolling in a full 30-credit post-master’s studies program.

Upcoming Presidential Roundtables

Richard Bodnar (Psychology) will deliver the next lecture in the Presidential Roundtable series on Wednesday, October 29, with a talk on “Opioids, the Brain’s Hedonistic Peptides: Ingestive and Analgesic Studies in Rats.” On Monday, November 17, Frederick Buell (English) will address “What Counts as Nature Now? A Short History of the Concept from Rachel Carson to the Present.” The latest series of Roundtables began on October 1 with a lecture by the college’s newest distinguished professor, Carl Riskin (Economics). The Roundtables are held from 12 noon to 1 pm in the Patio Room South. Bring your lunch along; beverages are provided. To reserve a seat, RSVP to the President’s Office at 5556 or qcpres@qc1.qc.edu.
LEONARD SLATKES, an expert on Dutch painting and a distinguished professor in the Art Department, died on August 22 at the age of 73. Slatkes, who started at the college in 1966 and became a full professor in 1982, held an MA in art history from Oberlin, and a PhD from the University of Utrecht. Slatkes was the recipient of a number of Fulbright Fellowships as well as fellowships and grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies and the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. He published extensively on Caravaggio and his Dutch and Flemish followers and was the author of a number of books, including Rembrandt and Persia; Vermeer and His Contemporaries; Rembrandt; and The Netherlandish Artists. CUNY named Slatkes a distinguished professor in 2000.

ARTHUR CARIN, who had been a member of the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education for 33 years, died on September 14 at the age of 74. After serving in the army as a medic in Japan at the end of World War II, Carin enrolled at SUNY Oswego and later earned a master’s degree at Queens and a doctorate at the University of Utah. He returned to Queens in 1958 as an instructor and rose through the ranks to become a full professor and associate dean of teacher education. Besides writing a widely used textbook for elementary teachers, Teaching Science Through Discovery, and co-authoring a series of science books for children, Carin was very active on the board of the Jericho school district, where he and his family lived. He retired from the college in 1991.

ALAN DUGAN, a poet whose honors included two National Book Awards, a Pulitzer Prize, and the Queens College Poetry Prize, died on September 3 in Massachusetts at the age of 80. Dugan was born in 1923 in New York City. His father was a salesman whose fluctuating income meant that the family was constantly moving back and forth between Brooklyn (during bad times) and Queens (during good times). After enrolling in Queens College in 1941, Dugan published his first poems in the college’s literary magazine and won the Queens College Poetry Prize in 1943. Shortly thereafter he was drafted into the Army and eventually earned a degree from Mexico City College. In 1960 Dugan won a Yale Series of Younger Poets Award, which led to Yale University Press printing his book Poems, for which he won the Pulitzer. This was followed by six other volumes of poetry. Dugan held numerous teaching positions during his career.

ASCAP Honors Five QC Composers

Five members of the Aaron Copland School of Music recently received ASCAP Awards: Allen Brings, Michael Lipsey, Maurice Peress, Bruce Saylor, and Edward Smaldone (right). The awards are given by ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers) to concert music composers in recognition of “the prestige value of their contribution to composition.” To be considered for an award, a composer has to submit a list of compositions, performances, recordings, commissions, and awards, which are then reviewed by a panel of musicians and professionals in the field. Awards are distributed based on the level and quality of the past year’s activities.
continued from page 1

Winter, the museum’s director and curator; Xiaoping Lin, QC professor of Asian art history; and their graduate students in Asian art and museum studies classes. An opening reception will be held on October 23 from 6–8 pm. Prior to the reception, at 5 pm Maxwell K. Hearn, curator of Asian Art at the Metropolitan Museum, will give a lecture entitled “Dreams of Yellow Mountain: Landscapes of Survival in Seventeenth-Century China.”

For a list of other lectures, visit http://www.qc.edu/art/gtmus.html. Gallery hours for The Light of Infinite Wisdom are Monday through Thursday, 11 am-7 pm. For more information, call 4724 or 4736.

Colden Center for the Performing Arts will be presenting Asian performances and workshops on everything from drumming to calligraphy on Sunday afternoons in LeFrak Hall. Peking Opera Festival will visit on October 19, to be followed by the puppetry of Tamara and the Shadow Theatre of Java (11/2), Soh Daiko/Taiko Drummers (11/16), and Ethos & Masters of Music (12/21). Family workshops on Asian art will begin on October 26 with Maskmaking & Storytelling from South Asia and will continue with Chinese Calligraphy (11/23) and Indian Dance (12/7). For a complete list of events and times, call the Colden Center box office at 793-8080 or visit www.coldencenter.org.

Spice Up (Powdermaker Hall) by Christian Philipp Müller (above) is a site-specific artwork for three student lounges on the first, second, and third floors of the newly renovated Powdermaker Hall. The work includes 11 oval tables, 19 porcelain enamel letters, each measuring three feet high, and 60 stools. Spice Up (Powdermaker Hall) is one of three commissioned art installations for the high-tech building, which contains classrooms and departmental offices.

“Queens College has a global student body,” says Müller. “These lounges are designed as ‘comfort-zones,’ places for students to meet and rest from academic activities on campus.” The three lounges examine how food staples are shared worldwide, and how specific spices transform basics such as corn, rice, and potatoes into familiar-tasting dishes. Eleven oval tables, laminated with images of bay leaves, cardamom, chilies, cinnamon, lemon grass, dried porcini mushrooms, nutmeg, oregano, tamarind, and turmeric, suggest how students from diverse cultural backgrounds “spice-up” the college and enrich the campus experience.

Müller frequently draws links between the fields of architecture, design, visual and culinary arts.

Art Installation “Spices Up”
Powdermaker Hall Lounges

Spice Up (Powdermaker Hall) was developed collaboratively with students and faculty, who offered recipes from their countries of origin. Students are encouraged to continue contributing and exchanging recipes to share their most comfort-providing food.

Exhibit of Mixed-Media Art Opens

Ciphers in Time: Recent Italian Mixed-Media Art will open at the Queens College Art Center on Tuesday, October 28. It will feature the works of Angela Biancofiore, Luisella Carretta, and Gian Carlo Pagliasso. The exhibit, which will run through December 23, is curated by Peter Carravetta (European Languages).
GRAD GIVES TIPS FOR FUTURE SCREENWRITERS
On Thursday, September 11, Jay Wolpert ’64, a seasoned Hollywood screenwriter, addressed a packed crowd in the Little Theatre. Wolpert talked about his path from the Pomonok Houses through Queens College and on to television and movies. He shared the “back story” of writing scripts and stories for such movies as *The Count of Monte Cristo* and *Pirates of the Caribbean*, and encouraged students to pursue their dreams of show business. “The stuff you dream about in your room is true. It really is a wonderful business,” he said.

*continued from page 2*

become a very dry, unmagical realm” of movies and television. This year, she was awarded a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship to complete a new installation, *The Ideoplastic Materialization of Eva C*.

A native of Scotland, Beloff works and exhibits in Europe and North America. She has taught widely, including at City College, Columbia University, The College of Staten Island, and New York University. Her work incorporates many artistic and intellectual influences, exploring such subjects as the unconscious, the fantastic, and the paranormal. “I’m inspired, on the one hand, by philosophical ideas and, on the other hand, by exploring technologies that will best express these ideas with stories,” she explains. “I think of other ways people can interact with stories and images to break apart the monolithic, classical narrative cinema that we’ve expected for such a long time.”

At Queens, Beloff hopes to encourage students’ appreciation for the “history and poetry” of film. She herself is proficient with varied technologies and film stocks of the past, such as 3D cameras from the 1950s and Kodachrome. A zoetrope sits in her office, along with elegant black-and-white stills of her work. Explaining her work with stereo 16 mm film, she says, “it’s a completely obsolete technology but, when you get it to work, it’s very beautiful.”

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**CUNY Honors College at QC**

The CUNY Honors College class of 2007 at Queens College is a strong group, representing diverse backgrounds and high academic achievement. According to director Janice Peritz, the CUNY Honors College received 350 applications from qualified students, of whom 34 were accepted for admission. Among the admitted students:

- the mean SAT was 1340, and the mean high school academic average was 94;
- 33% graduated from New York City public schools and 63% from private schools (mostly yeshivas and parochial schools);
- their ethnic backgrounds include Asian American, Hispanic, African American, Irish, Italian, Native American, and Jewish;
- they have a wide range of interests, with one-third headed toward the natural sciences, one-third toward the social sciences, and one-third toward the humanities.

The class of 2007 includes a Westinghouse semifinalist, a number of community volunteers, several scholar athletes (in soccer and track), many gifted writers, quite a few musicians, and a filmmaker. This semester the students will be working with members of the Metropolitan Opera to create and present an original opera.

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**FACULTY AND STAFF ASSEMBLY**

Wednesday, October 22, at 3:30
in LeFrak Hall.
Introduction of new faculty and administrators, presentation of President’s Awards, and a State of the College address by President Muyskens.
**OCTOBER EVENTS**

**2 THU**  
CHORUS AND CHOIR: Cindy Bell and James John, directors; Choral Coffee Break; Rosenthal Library Lobby, 12 noon.

**7 TUE**  
PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM: “Engineering of As Nanoclusters in GaAs,” Vladimir Chaldyshev, Brooklyn College; Science Bldg. B326, 12 noon.

**8 WED**  
POETRY READING/DISCUSSION: Maria Terrone (Communications) and Peter Caravetta (European Languages); Rosenthal, 5th flr., President’s Conference Rm. #2, 12 noon.


**14 TUE**  
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY LECTURE: “Jews in Colonial New York,” Leo Hershkowitz (History); Rosenthal, 5th flr., President’s Conference Rm. #2, 12:30–2 pm.

**20 MON**  

MATTERS OF THE SPIRIT/FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Student Union 208 (Newman Center), 12:30–2 pm (for info/to register, call 793-3979).


LECTURE: “Gender and Empire: The Detention of Foreign Women in Ancient Rome,” Joel Allen (History), Student Union, VIP Room, Union Grill, 12 noon.

**23 THU**  
23 THU
EXHIBIT RECEPTION: The Light of Infinite Wisdom: Asian Art from the Godwin-Ternbach Museum & Other Collections; Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Klapper, 4th flr., 6-8 pm.

26 SUN
JEWISH MUSIC/THEATRE PERFORMANCE SERIES: Flamenco Sephard, with the Gerard Edery Ensemble & Flamenco Dancers; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 2 pm ($10, 4-event series price $36).

27 MON
LECTURE/BOOK SIGNING: “From Written Out to Written In: Retrieving Jewish Women’s History,” Emily Taitz and Sondra Henry; Student Union, 4th flr. 12 noon.


29 WED
PRESIDENTIAL ROUNDTABLE: “Opioids: The Brain’s Hedonistic Peptides,” Richard J. Bodnar (Psychology); Dining Hall, Patio Rm. South, 12 noon-1 pm (RSVP to qcres@qc1.qc.edu or 997-5556).

30 THU
CPM FACULTY CONCERT: Margaret Hjaltested & Anthony Newton; works by Bach, Rota, and Brahms; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 12 noon.

GALLERY TALK/RECEPTION: Ciphers in Time: Recent Italian Mixed-Media Art (Angela Biancofiore, Luisella Carretta, Gian Carlo Pagliasso); QC Art Center, Rosenthal, 6th flr., 5-8 pm.


Exhibits
15 WED
EXHIBIT OPENING: The Light of Infinite Wisdom: Asian Art from the Godwin-Ternbach Museum & Other Collections; Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Klapper, 4th flr., 11 am (through Dec. 20).

4 TUE
BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURE SERIES: “Archaeology of Qumran & the Dead Sea Scrolls,” Jodi Magness, Univ. of North Carolina; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 7:30 pm ($5).

5 WED