OLGA BY STEPHEN HANKIN
DEPARTMENT OF STUDIO ARTS FACULTY EXHIBITION
OCTOBER 1-NOVEMBER 21, 2008
Symposium to Address Pitt Professor’s Book on Pittsburgh’s Urban Planning

Edward K. Multer, University of Pittsburgh professor of history, and his book Before Renaissance: Planning Pittsburgh, 1889-1942 (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2006), will be honored during the Department of History Book Symposia Series, the first of the academic year. “The Scholar in the Community” symposium will take place from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Sept. 26 in the William Pitt Union Lower Lounge.

In addition to celebrating Multer and his work, the symposium will feature commentary by Newton Coleman, past director of Pitt’s Institute of Politics; Howard Gillette, director of the Allegheny Regional Center for the Humanities and professor of history at Rutgers-Camden University; Joel Tar, Richard S. Caliguiri University Professor of History and Policy at Carnegie Mellon University; and August Carline, president and chief executive officer of the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area.

The group will address the significance of this book within the history of planning in both Pittsburgh and the nation, and comment on Multer’s involvement in the public school system. The symposium is free and open to the public. For more information, call 412-648-7451.

—Patricia L. White

Pitt Sets Conference on Islam, Popular Culture in Indonesia, Malaysia

Indonesia and Malaysia are home to approximately one-fifth of the world’s Muslim population, yet they are often overlooked or misrepresented in the media’s portrayal of Islam. Ideas, sounds, images, and gestures associated with Islam abound in contemporary popular cultural forms, including film, music, television, radio, comics, fashion, magazines, and cyberculture.

An Oct. 10-12 conference, Islam and Popular Culture in Indonesia and Malaysia, will address the relationship between Islam and popular culture in the Malay world. Speaker and panel sessions will be conducted at two primary locations: the Pittsburgh Filmmakers Metz screening Room, 477 Thekwood Ave., North Oakland, and the Martin Colloquium Conference Room, 4127 Scaife Square. The full schedule and additional information are available on the Asian Studies Center’s conference Web site at www.ucis.pitt.edu/arcc/conference.

Richard A. Clarke to Discuss Presidential Candidates, National Security

The University of Pittsburgh’s Matthew B. Ridgway Center for International Security Studies will present a lecture by internationally renowned security expert Richard A. Clarke as part of its speaker series. An expert on counterterrorism and homeland, national, and cybersecurity, Clarke will present a free public lecture titled “Which Candidate Is Better Equipped to Deal with National Security?” at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 7 in the Teplitz Memorial Courtroom, the ground floor of the Barco Law Building.

Clarke served the last three Presidents as the senior White House advisor. Throughout his 11 consecutive years of White House service, he has been special assistant to the president for global affairs, national coordinator for security and counterterrorism, and special advisor to the president for cybersecurity. Clarke is an on-air consultant for ABC News and teaches at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government.

He also is the author of the bestselling book Against All Enemies (Free Press, 2004) and its 2008 sequel, Your Government Failed You. More information is available at 412-624-7884 or www.ridgway.pitt.edu.

—Amanda Jeff

Angels in America Part 2: Perestroika

Picking up where Millennium leaves off, Perestroika plunges the audience into a feverish dream of political unreality, personal revelation, and celestial instability. At turns shocking, heartbreaking, and funny, the conclusion reproaches humanity’s hypocrisy and greed and illuminates our capacity for forgiveness, love, and survival—attributes that reveal the true angels among us. Pitt teaching artist Robert C. T. Steele directs.

For more information, visit www.play.pitt.edu or call 412-624-7529.

The Clean House

Oct. 15-26

Henry Heymann Theatre, Stephen Foster Memorial

A Pulitzer Prize finalist and Pittsburgh premiere, The Clean House takes place in a “metaphysical” Connecticut, where no affordable household is complete without a Latin housekeeper. Matilde, a Brazilian cleaning lady, has no interest in cleaning. She decides to devote her time to composing the world’s funniest—and lethal—jokes. Thomas Costello, a Pitt PhD candidate in theater arts, directs.

Lysistrata

Oct. 29-Nov. 9

Studio Theatre, B72 Cathedral of Learning

“Make love, not war” is the message of Aristophanes’ raunchy political comedy from 411 B.C., in which Athenian women bring about an end to the Peloponnesian War by withholding sex from their husbands. More than two millennia later, the Father of Comedy’s classic romp rings true, naughty, and hilarious. Pitt undergraduate student and theater arts major Kaitlyn Wittig directs. Tickets are $10; students, $7.

Angels in America Part 1: Millennium Approaches

Feb. 19-March 1

Charity Randall Theatre, Stephen Foster Memorial

Kushner’s epic masterpiece has been hailed as one of the greatest American dramas. Set in the era of AIDS and the Reagan Administration, Millennium reveals how the afflicted and their loved ones brace themselves as physical realities unravel to make way for disturbing supernatural forces. The intersecting dramas of humans, angels, and phantoms converge on the arrival of a heavenly messenger. What will the millennium bring—a new age or an apocalypse? Pitt teaching artist Holly Thuma directs.
Hands-on History

Bloomfield mansion serves as lab for Pitt’s new architectural research classes

By Sharon S. Blake

Brendan Froeschl remembers being amazed when he first set foot in the Waldorf School of Pittsburgh, housed in a stately post-Civil War mansion in Bloomfield.

Froeschl is the school’s building manager and an alumnus of Belmont Technical College in Ohio, a nationally renowned school for building-preservation technology. He recognized a treasure when he saw it. The Waldorf School is an independent, not-for-profit school with an arts-based curriculum for children in preschool through fifth grade.

“This place just has to be a laboratory for some sort of architectural research,” Froeschl remembers thinking as he gazed at the mansion’s 14-foot high tin ceilings, carved corbels, stained-glass windows, moldings, and etched glass panels on the front doors.

Propelled by his impressions, Froeschl contacted Drew Armstrong, director of Pitt’s Architectural Studies Program, and expressed interest in pursuing a partnership with Pitt. The result: two course offerings where Pitt students use the Waldorf School as a hands-on classroom, with the promise of more courses to come.

This past summer, Froeschl used the school to teach a three-credit class on window restoration. It allowed students to document the condition of some of the mansion’s 130 windows—to remove them, learn how to restore them, and understand how restoration functions in a building.

Art of Historic Documentation

In the second course, Pitt Instructor Jeff Slack, a historic preservation specialist at Pfaffmann + Associates PC, Downtown, had the students trace the architectural history of the 21-room house at 201 S. Winebiddle St., built for Henry J. Lynch around 1867. While currently housing the Waldorf School, the building also has been known as Victoria Hall, a venue for weddings and parties (1993-2001), and the Ursuline Academy for Young Women, (1895-1993), an exclusive college preparatory school administered by the Ursuline Sisters.

Slack’s students pored over old documents and photos, conducted deed searches at the Allegheny County Real Estate Office, scrutinized old city maps, and reviewed census records. They heard from guest lecturers on masonry, wood, and methods for documenting old buildings.

But, most importantly, they interacted with the building itself—studying its condition right down to the bricks and mortar, in an effort to determine whether the structure had been altered—and, if so, when and why.

After 11 weeks of carefully directed research, the students compiled their historical documentation findings into a substantial Historic Structure Report. Submitting the report is a step toward having the house ultimately placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

“It was rewarding to see young people so excited about old buildings,” said Slack, who has a master’s degree in historic preservation from Cornell University. “I enjoyed watching them make their discoveries.”

To give the students a taste of the real world of historic preservationists, Slack began each class with a project meeting to review progress and discuss the next steps. There were weekly assignments in addition to the task of drafting the final report. An old physics lab in Pitt’s Thaw Hall was converted into a studio, to place the students in the actual environment of an architect. According to Slack, these students now have skills they could use in the preservation of historic buildings.

More Courses Ahead

This delving into the past is actually propelling Pitt’s history of art and architecture department forward. The historic preservation and documentation course will be offered every summer, and two other six-credit architectural studio courses are on the schedule for the spring and fall terms. The hope is to have more students back at the Waldorf School in summer 2009, studying and documenting the carriage house, chapel, and auditorium.

Armstrong hopes to expand historic preservation as a component in the School of Arts and Sciences. This would help position Pitt undergraduate students for master’s degree programs in historic preservation. Indeed, a number of the students who graduated from the Architectural Studies Program this past year will continue their studies at the master’s level at Penn State, Cornell, and Columbia universities.

In fact, Pitt is laying the groundwork for what could be a Master of Historic Preservation program. According to Armstrong, he envisions a unique interdisciplinary degree program that would capitalize on the strengths of the University as well as the wealth of on-site study opportunities in Pittsburgh that could attract students from across the country.

“This is trailblazing—to offer these courses at the undergraduate level,” said Armstrong, referring to the new courses taught this past summer. He added that the window-restoration class is a model for future hands-on courses in materials conservation.

It is his hope that similar joint ventures could be formed with other institutions.

Studying historic preservation seems a natural for students in Pittsburgh, with its real-life textbook of historic homes and churches, grand architecture, and three active preservation organizations, including the nationally renowned Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation.

Keeping Site Memories Alive

“Sites are more than just property,” said Armstrong. “Since the late 1960s and early ’70s, we’ve had an awareness that a building needs to be thought about in a more complex way. Documentation is a big part of that. Without it, the significance of the building disappears.” Documentation keeps the memory of a site alive, according to Armstrong, and provides information to the public and scholars.

“It’s the real cornerstone of proper preservation,” he said. “It helps us understand what to preserve and why.”

On July 31, the nine students taking the course presented their findings to a group of about 50 Bloomfield residents, preservationists, and reporters. They discovered that Lynch, a dry goods merchant with a business Downtown, had paid $11,150 in 1865 to buy seven acres of land at the Waldorf School site from Harriet Winebiddle. In 1872, after the Second Empire-style mansion had been built, Lynch sold the mansion along with one acre to William Smith for $22,500.

The property would eventually change hands eight more times.

The student team had researched each architect of the home’s separate additions, and they revealed the possibility that the unknown architect of the main house may have been Isaac Hobbs, architect of the Dollar Savings Bank on Fourth Avenue, Downtown. The students’ research showed that Hobbs and Lynch worked closely together when Lynch sat on the bank’s board of directors, from 1864 to 1906.

Pitt student Denise Duryea said finding long-lost information about the house and its owners was “very exciting.” The course was extremely informative and very effective at imparting a practical understanding of the field, said Duryea, who has applied to a number of Master of Architecture programs, with a focus on sustainable architecture and preservation.

“Jeff promised that by the end of the summer, we would be employable as preservation assistants,” she smiled. “And he delivered.”
When the war was over, I’d probably look back at the sacrifices I made and see them for how small they really were, but right now, in the fray, every one of us needed something forbidden, not because we were greedy pigs who didn’t care about our boys abroad but because we needed to be reminded of how normal life once was. (Rosie Winter in The Winter of Her Discontent)

If you imagine 1943 as a time when people blissfully sacrificed comfort for victory, then Rosie Winter will set you straight. Keep your ration stamps and dim-outs—the just wants a good steak and a decent man to chew it with.

A sharp New York “dame” with a blunted acting career, Rosie is the fictional star of a mystery series by Pitt staffer Kathryn Miller Haines, associate director of the Center for American Music. In the books, Haines’ 1940s New York is saturated with detail and stripped of nostalgia, as readers and reviewers happily note.

To achieve this, Haines pored over memos, autobiographies, and back-issues of The New York Times for the sights and sounds of the time. She filled her head with day-to-day information from radio programs, like the price of codfish cakes (85 cents).

She also absorbed the general mood of a nation locked in a massive war whose outcome no one knew. In her books, Haines peels back the popular sentimentality about a generation that she admires too much to be dishonest about. Contemporary perception of the American homefront—a grand time of sacrifice and camaraderie—is shaped by the knowledge of victory. But at the time, as the nation pulled together to defeat the Axis powers, people also succumbed, quite understandably, to a feeling of foreboding and frustration.

Haines’ novels unravel sentimentality about 1940s America. In the books, Rosie passes the time between stalled productions and the next ration by unraveling murders.

Haines began her writing career with a book, The Winter of Her discontent (Harper, 2007)—and a possible series. But with the rejection of her earlier would-be book still stinging, Haines wasn’t sure Rosie would do any better—misgivings familiar to Rosie in Miss Winter as she wrestles with her boss’ baffling murder and her fading Broadway aspirations. “When I look back on it, I put Rosie in my place,” Haines said. “Rosie and I found ourselves on bigger stages than we thought we’d find ourselves on—and fearing that we don’t belong there. Writing the first book, I had a sense of getting my sea legs back. In art, rejection of your creation can feel like rejection of you as a person.”

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Haines, whose second Rosie Winter book, The Winter of Her discontent (Harper), was published in June, is working on the third installment of the well-received series that once seemed impossible.

A longtime actress and a playwright, Haines began her writing career with a book, The Winter of Her discontent (Harper, 2007)—and a possible series. But with the rejection of her earlier would-be book still stinging, Haines wasn’t sure Rosie would do any better—misgivings familiar to Rosie in Miss Winter as she wrestles with her boss’ baffling murder and her fading Broadway aspirations. “When I look back on it, I put Rosie in my place,” Haines said. “Rosie and I found ourselves on bigger stages than we thought we’d find ourselves on—and fearing that we don’t belong there. Writing the first book, I had a sense of getting my sea legs back. In art, rejection of your creation can feel like rejection of you as a person.”

New Year’s Eve [1942] was a bust. The war had muted it as though we’d all come to the silent conclusion that any joy was disrespectful. Everywhere we looked were soldiers with their girls, fiercely embracing, kissing, and dancing as though they had a lifetime of those activities to cram into one evening. (Rosie Winter in The War Against Miss Winter)

Haines’ 1940s New York is saturated with detail and stripped of nostalgia, as readers and reviewers happily note. To achieve this, Haines pored over memos, autobiographies, and back-issues of The New York Times for the sights and sounds of the time. She filled her head with day-to-day information from radio programs, like the price of codfish cakes (85 cents).

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Haines, in a recent interview, attributed the plot problems to her background as a playwright. “Playwrights learn to focus on dialogue and let the director handle everything else,” she said. “I really had to push myself to write narrative description, but I wasn’t ready to give up on writing yet. This is really what I want to do.”

The two genres, plays and novels, are worlds apart, said Haines. In writing for the stage, Haines develops the story, sets the scene, and writes the dialogue. The plot moves along with the help of actors and directors. And nuances, such as mood and what characters look like, audience members can see for themselves. It’s a cooperative experience.

But, as Haines said, Haines, are a far lonelier endeavor, as every scene, gesture, expression, and conflict is the creation of the author.

For a crash course on tight plotting, she turned to mystery novels, where storylines spiral in wild, uncertain directions before looping around to a tidy conclusion. After months of cramming on whodunits, Haines thought that writing her own mystery was a logical next step and abandoned the first project, which wasn’t selling.

Enter Rosie Winter. The spunky young actress gave Haines a fresh start. After three years of writing, she had her first book, The War Against Miss Winter (Harper, 2007)—and a possible series.

But with the rejection of her earlier would-be book still stinging, Haines wasn’t sure Rosie would do any better—misgivings familiar to Rosie in Miss Winter as she wrestles with her boss’ baffling murder and her fading Broadway aspirations.

“Rosie’s fed up and she’s tired, as many people were,” Haines said. “People in 1943 didn’t know the war wasn’t going to drag on for 15 years. A friend told me. ‘The war was a big bother—and she’s Jewish! But that was her reaction as a 17-year-old girl at the time who couldn’t go to parties and whose friends were going away.”

When I told this story, some people are offended, but not everyone was planting [Victory gardens] with a smile, like on the posters. There was constant fear as to whom and what we would lose next.

“We think that everyone who lived during World War II were good people, but that wasn’t true,” Haines continued. “There were terrible people involved, just like any other war or disaster. After Sept. 11, we heard of people scamming insurance companies and setting up fake charities. That happened then, too. Now, we hear Tom Brokaw talk about the Greatest Generation, and we think there’s been a decline in decency since then, when really we’re the same people.”

None of us wanted to acknowledge that maybe the country our men were fighting for didn’t deserve that degree of sacrifice. We weren’t all good people. We sold forged bonds, collected for phony charities, and gave soldiers venereal disease. We preyed on the grieving with overpriced funerals and the hungry with black market meat. We could be worse than the enemy. I certainly wouldn’t have risked my life for us.

(Continued on page 10)
Calendar

September

22


October

22
Ellie Kihonion & Wasonga Dance Company, noon-1 p.m., musicians and dancers from Congo perform ancestral songs and dances of Central Africa, free lunch, Nordy’s Place, Lower Level, William Pitt Union, Artful Wednesdays, Pitt ARTS, 412-624-4499, www.pittarts@pitt.edu.


“Flamencos en El Aire,” noon-1 p.m., flamenco dance and music, free lunch, Nordy’s Place, Lower Level, William Pitt Union, Artful Wednesdays, Pitt ARTS, 412-624-4499, www.pittarts@pitt.edu.

1
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“President’s Own” U.S. Marine Band, 7:30 p.m., Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum, 441 Fifth Ave., Oakland, Soldiers and Sailors Military Band Concert Series, free admission to museum 10 a.m.-6 p.m. of performance day, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

2
RAD Day at the National Aviary, October 4


3
RAD Day at Pittsburgh Glass Center, glassblowing demonstration, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., free admission, 5472 Penn Ave., Friendship, Allegheny County Regional Asset District RAD Days, www.pghfilmfest.org.


RAD Day at Society for Contemporary Craft, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., free admission, 2100 Smallman Street, West End, Allegheny County Regional Asset District RAD Days, www.sccraft.org.

4

El Metodo (2005), film directed by Marcelo Pineyro, 7:30 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Latin American Film Series, Pitt’s Center for Latin American Studies, latinoamericanistema008@blogspot.com, class@pitt.edu.

University of Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m., performing Beethoven’s Symphony No. 5, Heinz Hall Auditorium, Pitt Department of Music, 412-624-4115, www.music.pitt.edu.

RAD Days at the Pittsburgh Opera, free concert by POC’s resident artist program, 9 p.m., open house, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Oct. 4, POC’s new performance space, 2425 Liberty Ave., Strip District, Allegheny County Regional Asset District RAD Days, reserve tickets in advance, 412-281-0912, www.pittsburghopera.org.


10 a.m.-5 p.m., free admission, One Schenley Park, Oak-land, Allegheny County Regional Asset District’s RADical Days, 412-622-3131, www.carnegiemnh.org.


RAD Day at the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylva-nia, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., celebrate appleskins with games, entertainment, crafts, and activities, 614 Dowsesville Rd., Fox Chapel, Allegheny County Regional Asset District RADical Days, www.ausw.org.


The Hard, performed by the Aquala Theater Company, 8 p.m., through Sept. 29, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Maxine Hong Kingston, reading, 8:30 p.m., David Lawrence Hall, Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series, 412-624-6506, www.english.pitt.edu.

Pittsburgh’s Hidden Treasures: An Antiques Show September 28
October


25 Watts (2002), film directed by Juan Pablo Rebella and Pablo Stoll, 7:30 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Latin American Film Series, Pitt’s Center for Latin American Studies, amigoinculturamericana00@blogspot.com, clai.pitt.edu.


Kiss Is Not It? Trying to Disentangle the Real From the Mythical Plants, 3:30 p.m., Colum Hourihan, Princeton University, 5:30 p.m., Room 203 Frick Fine Arts Bldg., Pitt’s Medieval and Renaissance Studies Program, 412-624-5220.


Heinz Chapel Choir, 3 p.m., Heinz Chapel, Benedum Hall Auditorium, free, Pitt Department of Music, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.

Robin Williams, comedian, 8 p.m., Benedum Center, 719 Liberty Ave., Downtown, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

Music in the Edge Chamber Orchestra, music by John Adams, Amy Williams, John Germwood (Radiohead), and others, 8 p.m., Benedum Hall Auditorium, Pitt Department of Music, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.


Drew Heinz Literature Prize Reading and Award Ceremony, featuring 2008 Drue Heinz Literature Prize winner Anthony Varallo and 2008 Drue Heinz Literature Prize judge Scott Turow, 7:30 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series, 412-624-6506, or www.pittsburghkids.org.

Temporada de Poesía (2004), film directed by Fernando Eibbes, 7:30 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Latin American Film Series, Pitt’s Center for Latin American Studies, amigoinculturamericana00@blogspot.com, clai.pitt.edu.


Diane’s Heart, through Nov. 1, Kunta Repertory Theater, Seven-Floor Auditorium, Alumni Hall, 412-624-7298, www.kunta.org.


Full Flower Show, through Nov. 9, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, One Schenley Park, Oakland, 412-441-4442, www.phippsconservatory.org.

November

27
“What is the European Genizah? A Survey of Hebrew Manuscript Discoveries in Italy and Spain and Their Importance for Jewish Studies,” Mauro Perani, University of Bologna professor of Hebrew, paleography, and palaeography, 4 p.m., 501 Cathedral of Learning, Jewish Studies Program and the Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, 412-624-5520.

Listo de Espero (2000), film directed by Juan Carlos Tabo, 7:30 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Latin American Film Series, Pitt’s Center for Latin American Studies, amisculcinelatinoamerican@ccp.pitt.edu.


Ken Burns, lecture by award-winning documentary, 7:30 p.m., Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum, 414 Fifth Avenue, Oakland, Gerald McGinnis Cardiovascular Institute Speaker Series, 412-621-4523, www.soldiersandsailorshall.org.

28
Mata String Quartet, noon to 1 p.m., free lunch, Nordy’s Place, Lower Level, William Pitt Union, Artful Wednesdays, PITT ARTS, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

To the Elen (2000), film directed by Andreas Wad- dington, 7:30 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Latin American Film Series, Pitt’s Center for Latin American Studies, amisculcinelatinoamerican@ccp.pitt.edu.

University of Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, featuring Jauquecky’s The Village Fiddler’s Child Ballad and Ives’ Symphony No. 2, 8 p.m., Free, Bellefield Hall Auditorium, Pitt Department of Music, 412-624-4125, www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

Russell Banks, fiction writer and poet, 8:30 p.m., David Lawrence Hall, Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series, 412-624-6506, or www.pittsburghwriters.org.


29
Mata String Quartet, noon–1 p.m., free lunch, Nordy’s Place, Lower Level, William Pitt Union, Artful Wednesdays, PITT ARTS, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.


“Reading and Writing Chinese,” Charles Peretti, director of Pitt’s Learning Research and Development Center, noon, 4530 Povran Hall, Asia Over Lunch Lecture Series, 412-624-7370.

30
“Reading and Writing Chinese,” Charles Peretti, director of Pitt’s Learning Research and Development Center, noon, 4530 Povran Hall, Asia Over Lunch Lecture Series, 412-624-7370.

Heinz Chapel Choir, November 29

1


Capitol Steps, political satire theatrical troupe, 4 p.m., Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Opera, 412-281-0912, www.pittsburghopera.org.


Mosulhona, noon–1 p.m., music from Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador, free lunch, Nordy’s Place, Lower Level, William Pitt Union, Artful Wednesdays, PITT ARTS, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

Las Doce Sillas (1962), film directed by Tomas Gutiérrez Alea, 7:30 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Latin American Film Series, Pitt’s Center for Latin American Studies, amisculcinelatinoamerican@ccp.pitt.edu.

10


Dono Alley, Pittsburgh modern dance company, noon–1 p.m., free lunch, Nordy’s Place, Lower Level, William Pitt Union, Artful Wednesdays, PITT ARTS, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

Conciertos del Paraíso (1997), film directed by Marcelo Pineyro, 7:30 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Latin American Film Series, Pitt’s Center for Latin American Studies, amisculcinelatinoamerican@ccp.pitt.edu.
November

**Arts & Culture**


- **Dundie Cannon**, Bolivian guitarist plays flamenco music, noon-1 p.m., free lunch, Nordy's Place, Lower Level, William Pitt Union, Artful Wednesdays, PITT ARTS, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts@pitt.edu.

- **The Velveteen Rabbit**, 2 p.m., through Nov. 23, five locations including Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh International Children's Theater, 412-222-5520, www.pghkids.org.


- **Heinz Chapel Choir Holiday Concerts**, 8 p.m. Nov. 29; 3 p.m. Nov. 30; 8 p.m. Dec. 5; and 3 p.m. Dec. 7, advance tickets required, Pitt Department of Music, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.


International Week Sept. 22-28 Celebrates Cultural Diversity

By Amande Leif

Pitt’s International Week 2008 will celebrate the cultural diversity of the University, Oakland, and the greater Pittsburgh community Sept. 22-28. The week features panel discussions, lectures, and international food, dance, art, music, and films.

International Week aims to expand the awareness of and interest in global learning opportunities by celebrating the intercultural diversity of campus life. It also supports and complements the University’s academic and public service missions.

This year’s International Week lineup includes four lectures of global interest by renowned experts in the fields of international public health, business law, and on the war on terror. More information on these events as well as other highlights follow.

Sept. 23

Lecture
“The Eradication of Smallpox: What We Should Have Learned but Didn’t”
3 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium
The 2008 John C. Cutler Memorial Lecture in Global Health will feature D.A. Henderson, Pitt University Distinguished Service Professor and Resident Scholar at UPMC’s Center for Biosecurity, on the eradication of smallpox and the lessons learned for international public health. Henderson was director of the World Health Organization’s global smallpox eradication campaign and the founding director of the Center for Civilian Biodefense Strategies at Johns Hopkins University. The Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) is sponsoring the event.

Sept. 24

Lecture
“The Rule of Law in Modern Iraq: Personal Perspectives”
6 p.m., Teplitz Memorial Courtroom, Barco Law Building
Hassan Ala Hamoudi, Pitt professor of law, and U.S. Marine Colonel Paul Amato will present the first lecture in the Center for International Legal Education Rule of Law Lecture Series for the 2008-09 academic year. Hamoudi served as project manager for the DePaul University/USAID program to reform legal education in Iraq and as legal adviser to the finance committee of the Iraqi Governing Council. Amato served as the Marine Rule of Law Officer and later, the senior advisor for a Military Transition Team in Anbar Province. Amato worked to develop the criminal court system in Anbar and later trained, advised, and mentored members of the Iraqi Army.

Sept. 25

Lecture
“Women Who Surrendered Children for Adoption in the Decades Before Roe v. Wade”
3 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium
Lucy Fischer, Pitt Distinguished Professor of Film in the School of Arts and Sciences, and Jeanne Hood, in installation art. She book was selected by the National Book Critics Circle as one of the top five nonfiction books of the year.

“Fessler is a professor of photography at Rhode Island School of Design and a specialist in installation art. She is also the recipient of grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the LDEF Foundation, the Rhode Island Foundation, Rhode Island Council for the Humanities, and Art Matters, New York. In 2008, Fessler received a Ballard Book Prize given annually to a female author who advances the dialogue about women’s rights.

The Pittsburgh Consortium for Adoption Studies (PCAS) and Pitt’s School of Arts and Sciences, Women’s Studies Program, Department of English, and Cultural Studies Program are sponsoring the event.

PCAS is a group of scholars and writers in the Pittsburgh area who want to advance the understanding of adoption in both academic and nonacademic settings and includes faculty members from Pitt, Duquesne, Carlow, and Carnegie-Mellon universities. University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University. Other universities have contributed to funding. Through a coordinated series of events, the consortium provides a prominent forum for students and faculty whose research, writing, and/or teaching deals with adoption, spreads information about adoption-related courses, and also serves the public need for more understanding of adoption.

Information about PCAS is available on www.english.pitt.edu/adoption_studies/index.html. For information on the event, contact Marianne Novy at mnovy@pitt.edu.

Sept. 26

Study Abroad Information Session: International Fair
11 a.m.-3 p.m., WPU Ballroom and Kurzman Room
Students who are interested in studying abroad can discover the thousands of study abroad options available. Study abroad providers and cultural organizations will be available to answer questions. Participants also will be able to enjoy cuisine from around the globe.

Sept. 27

29th Annual Latin American and Caribbean Festival
Noon-midnight, WPU
The University of Latin American and Caribbean cultures will be displayed through exhibitions, food, arts and crafts, fine art, music, and dance. The festival will feature special guest Lula das Vassouras, a Brazilian carnival mask artist since the 1960s. He will display his masks and demonstrate how he creates them. Masks will be available for sale to the public. At 10 p.m., a salsa dancing with Marlon Silva will begin in the WPU Assembly Room.

For more information about International Week, contact Global Studies at 412-648-5085 or global@pitt.edu. Visit www.ccis.pitt.edu/global/international-week for a complete calendar of events.

Sept. 22 Pitt Forum to Feature Author Discussing Adoption Prior to Roe v. Wade

By Patricia Lomando White


“This film is a heart-breaking collision of the authoritative ‘educational’ films and scripted ‘newsreels’ of the time that reinforced shame and perpetuated the notion that babies born outside of marriage were unwanted, and the voice-over testimony of the mothers who lived through the experience,” said Fessler, who is an adoptee.

“The Girls Who Went Away is based on oral history interviews Fessler conducted between 2002 and 2005 with ‘surrendering’ mothers across the country. She was awarded a prestigious Radcliffe Fellowship for 2003-04 at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, where she conducted extensive research for the book. In 2006, her book was selected by the National Book Critics Circle as one of the top five nonfiction books of the year.

Fessler is a professor of photography at Rhode Island School of Design and a specialist in installation art. She is also the recipient of grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the LDEF Foundation, the Rhode Island Foundation, Rhode Island Council for the Humanities, and Art Matters, New York. In 2008, Fessler received a Ballard Book Prize given annually to a female author who advances the dialogue about women’s rights.

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Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series Celebrates Literature and Creative Thought

By Patricia Lunando White

The 2008-09 Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series launched its 11th season on Sept. 12 with a reading by poet Claudia Rankine. The schedule for the remainder of the series follows.

Sept. 20

Maxine Hong Kingston
8:30 p.m., David Lawrence Hall

Oct. 15

Drue Heinz Literature Prize Reading and Award Ceremony With Anthony Varallo and Scott Turow
7:30 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium
Varallo, the 2008 Drue Heinz Literature Prize winner for the short story collection *OutLoud* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2008), is also the author of the story collection *This Day in History* (University of Iowa Press, 2005).

Turow, the 2008 Drue Heinz Literature Prize judge, is the author of *Limitations* (Picador, 2006), * Ordinary Heroes* (Farrar Straus Giroux, 2005), and *Reversible Errors* (Farrar Straus Giroux, 2002), as well as several other books.

Oct. 29

Rashid Banks
8:30 p.m., David Lawrence Hall

Nov. 12

Fred R. Brown Literary Award Reading and Award Ceremony
8:30 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium
Novelist Sabina Murray, the author of *Forgery* (Grove Press, 2007), *A Cornucopia’s Inquiry* (Grove Press, 2004), and *The Caprices* (Houghton Mifflin, 2002), will read.

Feb. 6

Microconference on African American Poetry
Opening Remarks by Arnold Rampersad
Noon, 501 Cathedral of Learning
Rampersad, a biographer and literary critic, is the author of several books, including *Ralph Ellison* (Knopf, 2007), *Jackie Robinson: A Biography* (Knopf, 1997), and *Days of Grace: A Memoir* (Knopf, 1995).

Panel Discussion: Tradition and the New
2 p.m., 501 Cathedral of Learning
Mendi Obadike, a poet and interdisciplinary artist, is the author of *Armor and Flesh* (Lotus Press, 2004). Her work has appeared in such publications as *The Art Journal*, *Arthrub*, and *Black Arts Quarterly*.

G.E. Patterson, a poet and freelance writer, is the author of *Foot and From* (Ahsahita Press, 2008) and *Tag* (Graywolf Press, 1999). His work has appeared in such publications as *Rum Rush the Page*, *Poetry 180*, and *American Letters and Commentary*.


Poetry Readings
7 p.m., Giant Eagle Auditorium, Carnegie Mellon University’s Baker Hall, 5000 Forbes Ave., Oakland
Obadike, Patterson, Phillips, and Rampersad
Feb. 26

William Henry Lewis
8:30 p.m., 501 Cathedral of Learning

April 2

2008-09 William Block Sr. Writer Reading and Presentation With Paul Muldoon
8:30 p.m., Frick Fine Arts Auditorium
Muldoon, a poet and editor, is the author of more than 25 collections of poetry and two children’s books and has served as an editor of various anthologies and literary publications. He has been described by the *Times Literary Supplement* as “the most significant English-language poet born since the Second World War.”

The 2008-09 Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series season is cosponsored by Pitt’s University Center for International Studies, Asian Studies Center, China Council Confucius Institute, Cultural Studies Program, Women’s Studies Program, and Book Center, and by the Carnegie Mellon University Creative Writing Program.

All events in the Writers Series are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Nicole Wolinsky at nrw1@pitt.edu or Jeff Oaks at oaks@pitt.edu.

But Rosie and her compatriots never lose sight of the war’s scope and their connection to it. Haines spins a world of constant exposure, where cooperation and sacrifice are expected—e-mail, posters, rubber drives, Frank Capra’s “Why We Fight” movies, casualty lists in the newspaper with mailing addresses. A girl cannot help but feel involved.

In tailing murderers, Rosie wrestles with the guilt of pursuing her dream career while helping her country. As an actress herself, Haines knows the inherent narcissism of the craft and wanted to pit it against a societal call for altruism. With such a gulf, Rosie and her plucky thespian pals compromise—entertain soldiers at the famed Stage Door Canteen, rub shoulders with a director, producer, or reviewer while they’re there.

As Haines immersed herself in the 1940s, though, she realized the extent to which modern Americans can insulate themselves from today’s wars.

A recently dedicated mural in Blaisdell Hall at the University of Pittsburgh Bradford depicts each of the fine arts taught in that building. The work was designed and painted by a summer-term mural class taught by Kang Ho, UPB art professor and a well-known muralist. A.J. Lagoensky (right), a senior interdisciplinary arts major from Carlisle, Pa., and Bidolum Guenday (left), a professor of French and comparative literature, discusses the mural’s imagery. Lagoensky was one of 10 students who worked on the mural under Ho’s guidance.

“...the end was nowhere in sight. (Rosie Winter in *The Winter of Her Discontent*)

For more information, visit Haines’ Web site at www.kathrynmillerhaines.com.
Lectures/Seminars/Readings


Seminar on Google Analytics, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sept. 26, register for first or second session for $25, or both sessions for $40. Mukaiyama University Room, Frame-Westoberger Commons, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, Pitt-Bradford Entrepreneurship Program, register at www.pittpowerofe.com, 814-362-5056.


“Responsible Conduct of Research for Emerging Investigators: Understanding Relations Between Academia and Industry,” Barbara E. Barnes, assistant professor of psychology, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sept. 30, Wilkins, Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses, call 412-624-7298, www.acis.pitt.edu/acis.

Miscellaneous

Health, Safety, and Security Day, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 30, William Pitt Union Patio and Lawn, Pitt Department of Environmental Health and Safety and Staff Association Council, 412-624-4236, sac@pitt.edu.

Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

Diane C. Fredrick, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, "Developing and Implementing a Trauma-Informed Model of Re- titution, Redesign, and Problem Solving for Front-line Health Care Professionals," 1 p.m. Sept. 23, Room 6053 Forbes.

Lauren Johnson, Department of Bioengineering, "Contractile Dysynchrony and Left Ventricular Mechanics-energonic Function," 11 a.m. Sept. 26, Second-floor Conference Room, Center for Biotechnology and Bioengineering, 300 Technology Dr., Hazelwood.

NOTE: Arrivals are included in the Arts & Culture calendar, pages 5-8.

Pain in My Heart

The 2008-09 season of the University of Pittsburgh’s Kuntu Repertory Theatre will shine its spotlight on the legacy of late Pitt professor Rob Penny, Kuntu’s playwright-in-residence for many years. Penny passed away on March 17, 2003. The season will feature four mainstage productions that reflect on Penny’s career and different facets of the Black experience. These productions include "The Pain of My Heart," which will be performed on March 17, 2003. The story of legacies left behind and the impact of forgotten promises leave such a world of temptations.

Clean Drums

By Sharon S. Blake

The 2008-09 season of the University of Pittsburgh’s Kuntu Repertory Theatre will shine its spotlight on the legacy of late Pitt professor Rob Penny, Kuntu’s playwright-in-residence for many years. Penny passed away on March 17, 2003. The season will feature four mainstage productions that reflect on Penny’s career and different facets of the Black experience. These productions include "The Pain of My Heart," which will be performed on March 17, 2003. The story of legacies left behind and the impact of forgotten promises leave such a world of temptations.

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PITT ARTS Begins 11th Year of Exposing Students to Cultural Gems

Last year, more than 35,000 students took advantage of what PITT ARTS has to offer, including those who participated in more than one offering.

The Cheap Seats Program

This program runs throughout the entire year and provides deeply discounted tickets for a number of cultural venues to Pitt students, faculty, and staff. Pitt people may purchase as many as four tickets and may buy for those not within the Pitt community as long as the Pitt person purchaser attends the event. Tickets can be reserved in the PITT ARTS office in 929 WPU.

Last year, PITT ARTS sold 11,000 “cheap seats” to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Pittsburgh Opera, Pittsburgh CLO, CLO Cabaret, and other performance venues.

For more information, contact PITT ARTS at 412-624-4498 or visit www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

By Sharon S. Blake

On the heels of its 10th anniversary, PITT ARTS has begun another academic year in which it will expose thousands of Pitt students to ballet, opera, art exhibitions, and other cultural gems, both on and off campus.

Last year, more than 35,000 students took advantage of what PITT ARTS has to offer, including those who participated in more than one offering. This year, as Oakland hosts Life on Mars, the 55th Carnegie International exhibition at the Carnegie Museum of Art, and the T. Rex vs. T. Rex exhibition at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, PITT ARTS is expecting an encore year of brisk participation.

PITT ARTS programs follow.

Pitt Nights
Oct. 10, Nov. 1, Nov. 15, Jan. 30, and Feb. 18
Pitt faculty and staff are invited to join graduate and undergraduate students on these nights for outings to the symphony, ballet, opera, public theater, or other venues. The discounted ticket price includes free transportation, a free dessert reception, and a visit with a cast member or artistic director.

Free Arts Encounters
Similar to Pitt Nights, these are offered exclusively to Pitt undergraduate students. More than 100 outings are offered throughout the academic year, ranging from film and dance to other arts events. Transportation; a dinner, buffet, or dessert; and tickets to the performance are free.

Artful Wednesdays
Sept. 24-Dec. 3
Needy’s Place, Lower Level, William Pitt Union
A free lunch and performance will take place for Pitt students from noon to 1 p.m. for 10 consecutive Wednesdays. The lineup includes Flamenco dancers on Sept. 24 and master drummers, musicians, and dancers from the Republic of Congo on Oct. 1.