

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

# WASCH CENTER FOR RETIRED FACULTY

Newsletter Vol. 6, No. 2

Spring 2015

## • • • Wesleyan's Poet-Translators • • •

*The Wesleyan faculty has an abundance of talented translators of poetry. In this issue we present a kind of menu dégustation for three of Wesleyan's deftest poet-translators. Space limitations allow us to offer only tidbits: six Japanese tanka by Yoshiko Samuel (Asian Languages), four cat poems (plus one about a dog) translated from the French by Norman Shapiro (Romance Languages), and four Illuminations by the visionary, pre-surrealist French poet Arthur Rimbaud, translated also from the French by Joyce Lowrie (Romance Literatures). All poems, where applicable, are reprinted by permission of their translators.*

### SIX TANKA (SHORT VERSE) BY LEE JUNGIA

Translated from the Japanese by Yoshiko Samuel

*Lee is a second-generation Zainichi, Korean resident of Japan (b. 1947). Having survived the long, dehumanizing history of subjugation and forced assimilation throughout Japan's colonization of their country (1910-1945), the Zainichi writers have contributed abundantly to both Korean and Japanese literatures with their typically autobiographical writing focused on the struggle for identity. The longing for the homeland, language, and a culture and tradition they have been forced to disinherit results in a sense of otherness, exile, and lamentation. The binary opposites—assimilation versus dissociation, longing versus detachment, the individual versus society— create in their writings tension and frustration. The results are the expressions of rootlessness and temporary triumphant liberation.*

短歌

*Social conditions have improved for the Zainichi since the 1945 liberation, but prejudice and discrimination still plague them. Today, the majority of the half-a-million Zainichi was born in Japan. Lee Jungia is one of those who continue to question the meaning of "homeland" and authentic self.*

amid the jeer of  
"Korean, You Korean!"  
thrown at me  
I became aware of my ethnicity  
in the sixth spring of my life

\* \* \*

wearing jeogori  
our national costume  
for the first time  
I hum a melody longing for  
the 'homeland' I am yet to see.

\* \* \*

*Continued on page 2.*

“where you  
were born is your homeland”  
it said—  
saddened by the lovely words, I slowly close  
the picture book in my hands

\* \* \*

barefooted  
and standing alone on the field  
of the pampas grass  
I see before me my homeland  
and Japan behind me

\* \* \*

*zainich*  
they call us and so do we  
call ourselves  
not a name of any foreigners’ group  
and we stand on a hill facing the wind

\* \* \*

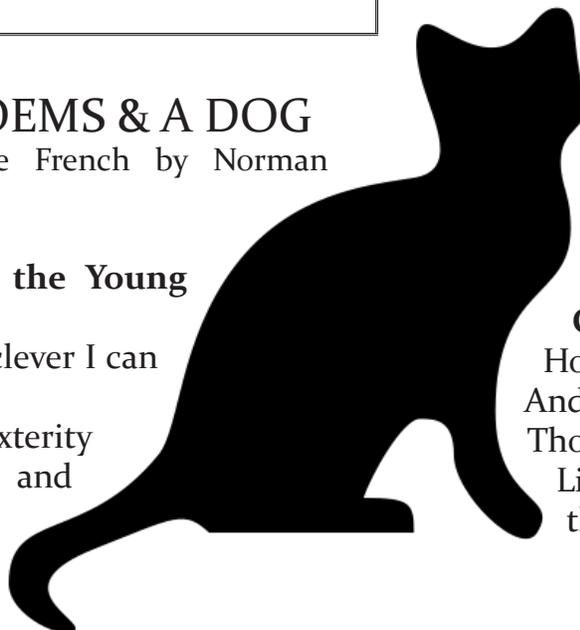
laboring by day  
and drinking by night in this  
Korean alley  
the men sing until late into the night  
longing for their homeland

## FOUR CAT POEMS & A DOG

Translated from the French by Norman Shapiro

### The She-ape and the Young She-cat

“Look! Watch how clever I can be!  
See the tricks my dexterity  
Performs by day and night!” So said  
A she-ape, sly,



high-spirited,  
To a she-cat, young jackanapes.  
“You have a paw quick as an ape’s!  
Why not use it to seize a mouse,  
Or tease some rat about the house?”  
“Alas,” the little puss replied.  
“Too young am I and too untried  
Beside, if I wish to prevail,  
There is one task alone that will  
Consume my time and all my skill.  
To wit: I have to catch my tail...”

*Jean-Baptiste-Joseph Willart de Grécourt*  
(1684-1743)

### Kochka

Kochka-the-Cunning got a notion that –  
One can’t guess why! – he’s quite the athlete-cat.  
Craving that flower-bouquet perched on the table,  
“Ha! Shame on me,” he thinks, “if I’m not able –  
Killer-cat! – to leap high, I guarantee it!”  
And so, bye-bye bouquet and vase!...So be it.

*Marie Bataille (b. 1949)*

### Little Fable of the Mouse

A mouse of proper pedigree,  
Unschoolled, untutored by her mother-  
Or, to be sure, by any other -  
Versed all the same in mouseliness,

Knew what a mouse was meant to be;  
And so, indeed, as one might guess,

Became a tasty fricassee  
For tomcat quite untutored too,  
But who, well-pedigreed no less,  
Knew what a cat was meant to do.

*Eugène Guillevic (1907-1997)*

### Cats

Hot-blooded lovers, in their latter days,  
And scholars stern of mien, dote upon cats,  
Those lordly, lithe household aristocrats;  
Like them, thin-skinned; like them, set in  
their ways.

*Continued on page 3.*

Poet-Translators continued from page 2.

Passionate and astute, randy and wise,  
Craving the hushed portentous gloom, they might  
Have served as courtiers in the Stygian night  
Had they but deigned assume a servile guise.

Like sphinxes in some lonely waste, that seem  
Dozing forever in an endless dream,  
Musing, they sprawl, striking that pose august:

Their rich flanks bristle with a magic glimmer;  
Glistening sparks and flecks of gilt beshimmer,  
Dimly, their mystic eyes, with golden dust.

*Charles Baudelaire (1821-1867)*

### **The Hound, the Rabbit, and the Hunter**

César, a bold retriever of renown,  
Full of himself and of his hunting skill –  
Stock-still, had cornered and pinned down  
A rabbit in his hole. Tasting the kill,  
The hound stood fast before his hapless victim.  
“Give yourself up!” he growled with thunderous cry,

Filled with the haughty pride that pricked him,  
Setting the forest folk a-shudder. “I...

I am César! Known round the land for my  
Valorous exploits!” At his name, Jeannot,  
Commending unto God his sinful soul,  
Penitent, sighs, a-tremble in his hole:

“Brave mastiff serenissimo,  
If I give up, what shall become of me?”  
“You die!” “And if I flee?” “Flee? Flee?...Ho ho!

Surely no less dead shall you be!”  
The rabbit, nibbling on a sprig of thyme,  
Exclaims: “Pardon me, sire, I see no rhyme

Or reason...Since I die... Or die!..  
Excuse my quibbling if, at least, I try.”

(Cato, illustrious *philosophe*,  
Might blame him. I would not!..) And off  
He scampers through the wood. The hunter, then-  
Dim-eyed – aims, fires, and missing, hits the hound,  
Who dies before he hits the ground!

What would say our good La Fontaine?  
“Heaven will help you. But first you  
Must help yourself!” I like that moral too.

*Napoléon Bonaparte (1769-1821)*

## **THE WASCH CENTER AFTERNOON LECTURE SERIES SPRING 2015**

*All presentations are in the Butterfield Room  
at the Wasch Center.*

Wednesday, February 4th, 4:15pm  
PETE PRINGLE

“Rings, Collisions, and Computers”

Wednesday, February 25th, 4:15pm  
TONY CONNOR

“Seventy Years of Trial and Error -  
Tony Connor Reading and Talking  
about his Poetry”

Wednesday, March 4th, 4:15pm  
CHARLES LEMERT

“The Geometry of Individualism”

Wednesday, March 25th, 4:15pm  
IRIS BORK-GOLDFIELD

“Collective Memories and History,  
Early Youth Resistance in the  
Former GDR”

Wednesday, April 1st, 4:15pm  
Informational Meeting for Faculty  
Considering Retirement

Wednesday, April 22nd, 4:15pm  
BILL BLAKEMORE

“Kubrick’s ‘Shining’ and What Do  
We Mean by Great?”

*The Film Series will show “The  
Shining” Tuesday, April 7 at 3:00pm*

Wednesday, April 29th, 4:15pm  
RUTH STRIEGEL WEISSMAN

“A Conversation with the Vice  
President of Academic Affairs”

Wednesday, May 6th, 4:15pm  
WIS COMFORT & JAZZ BAND

“Life Performance”

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# News & Notes

from retired members of the faculty

*The Wasch Center Newsletter welcomes short, first-person descriptions (ca. 175 words or fewer) of retired faculty members' research, scholarly writing, or other activities of note. The deadline for the next issue (September, 2015) is August 1, 2015.*

## **Richard Boyd Martha Crenshaw**

Martha and I just returned from a Stanford Alumni trip focusing on archaeological sites around the Mediterranean. She was the faculty speaker for the Stanford members. Yale/Columbia and the World Affairs Council also had speakers. Accordingly we had nine lectures from the three speakers during the voyage.

Martha is still a senior research fellow at Stanford and we will likely be here for at least a few more years. We need to return to Wesleyan for a good visit with old friends.

## **Bill Firshein**

My book *The Infectious Microbe*, published in February 2014 by Oxford University Press, has continued to sell fairly well for a narrative such as this which strives to acquaint the public with many aspects of the microbial world as it relates to infectious diseases. So far approximately 700+ books have been sold and the end is not in sight. A former colleague in MB&B may be using my book for his non-major class soon. I am already considering writing a "second edition" to cover some of the latest crises such as the EBOLA scare, and the possibility of new emerging diseases. Of course, flu (influenza) will sadly kill thousands more people even this year than EBOLA ever would, but EBOLA must be recognized as yet another burden humanity must face (more so in the "third" world) than in Western nations. As part of my outreach, I am preparing to present a few lectures in public settings, the next one sponsored by the Israeli Consulate in NYC.

Otherwise I am enjoying this magnificent fall weather at the Wasch Center and happily attending the Wednesday afternoon gatherings.

## **Stew Gillmor**

Been very busy making three wines this fall (Cab Franc (red); St. Croix (Red) and Vidal Blanc (White), while friends are making my Riesling, Traminette,

(Gewurz hybrid) and Chardonel (Chardonnay hybrid) whites. Got the last grapes picked by Oct. 10th.

Giving one or two lectures in Fort-De-France, Martinique in early December. My hero Charles-Augustin Coulomb (of physics and engineering fame) built Fort Bourbon there in the years 1764-1772, after the Brits blew things apart in the Seven Years' War. Guess I will have to spend some days on the beach between examining the yellow fever, earthquakes, hurricanes and other events of the mid-18th century in Martinique.

## **Peter Kilby**

Two items to note for me. First, in early November I presented the Keynote Lecture — "Entrepreneurship in the Developing World: Where does Management Fit In" — to the Business School Ph. D. Conference of the Open University of the Netherlands. The second item was acceptance of an article, "The Quiddity of Third-World Entrepreneurship", in the *Journal of Entrepreneurship* to be published in February.

## **Charles Lemert**

In the year past, I made my annual visit to the University of South Australia in Adelaide, where I was honored by being named the first Vice-Chancellor's Professorial Fellow. I gave a public lecture on "The Future of Globalization" (also the subject of a Master Class I led during the visit). The high point of my time in Adelaide was a small, but selective international conference meant to reflect on the tenth anniversary of the book *The New Individualism: the Emotional Costs of Globalization*, which I wrote with Anthony Elliott, now Director of the Hawke Institute at the University. For me the importance of the event was that no fewer than four Wesleyan alumni were invited, each from a different part of the world. Sam Han ('06) is a professor of sociology at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. Daniel Chaffee ('06) and Eric Hsu ('07) are members of the senior sociology research cohort at the

*Continued on page 5.*

*News & Notes continued from page 4.*

Hawke Institute. Ann Branaman ('96) is professor of sociology at Florida Atlantic University. Each presented important papers. I gave a modest keynote address, "The Geometry of Individualism." Speaking of former students, another Wesleyan student, Jeff Lane ('01), gave a brilliant paper, "The Digital Street," at Yale's Urban Ethnography Project (which I have joined as a Senior Fellow). Jeff is teaching at Rutgers after finishing his Ph.D. in sociology at Princeton.

I gave two papers at Yale this year: "What are Ethics? [sic et nunc]" and, again, the "Future of Globalization." The latter, under a different title, is the concluding chapter to a new book that will be published this winter, *Globalization: An Introduction to the End of the Known World*. Also this year, I published in *Contemporary Sociology* "Object Lessons" (a review essay on Orhan Pamuk's *Museum of Innocence* in respect to recent sociological work on icons); and, for *The Journal of Modern Psychoanalysis*, "Reading and Resistance" (a long and somewhat personal essay on *The Examined Life*, by the noted psychoanalyst Stephen Grosz).

I have been invited to give the Keynote Address to the Brazilian Sociological Society in Porto Alegre (in October 2015), to serve as an external reviewer of the program in Memory and Culture at Trinity College (Dublin), to speak at the University of Trento (Italy), and to offer some lectures on Italian social theory (at the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis). Otherwise I have begun work on a long-postponed book, now called *The Unknown Dead*, and on a book on ethics with Sam Han.

Geri enjoys work at Writer's House in New York City, the literary agency she joined last year. Anna is in the eleventh grade at Hebron Academy in Maine. Noah ('96) is married happily and teaching Math at a charter school in Manchester, Connecticut.

### **Fred Linton**

This summer and fall saw Fred Linton (Wes Math/CS Emeritus) taking part in mathematical reunions in Korea and Sicily, lands entirely new to him. Korea was the venue for the latest installment of the International Congress of Mathematicians, a recurrent event taking place once every four years, this time in Seoul during August 13-21, with Fred speaking before a Geometry section on "A piecewise

cubic postscript trefoil".

Sicily, in October, saw Fred attending the 96th session of the Peripatetic Seminar on Sheaves and Logic (PSSL for short), hosted by the Mathematics Institute of the University in Palermo the weekend of October 11-12.

As Middletown residents know very well, Sicilian food and wines can be, in the immortal words of one PBS food doyenne, "to die for." But no one died.

Of course, no trip to Korea can be considered complete without sampling a day in the life of a Buddhist temple, taking a side trip to Busan, or visiting museums like the Trick Eye Museum or temple complexes like those on the hills in and around Seoul and Busan. Nor can a trip to Sicily be content with just a busy weekend in Palermo, or side trips to Monreale, Corleone, Agrigento, Gela, Ragusa, Siracusa, Catania, Taormina (with Mt. Etna), or Messina (with its ferry to Calabria). (Alas, time constraints forbade visits to Marsala or Melilli (aka Miliddi).)

That's why these Korean and Sicilian visits lasted three weeks each. Where next? Who knows?

### **Mike Lovell**

When my paper on "Social Security's Five OASI Inflation Indexing Problems" was ready for publication, I decided to submit it to an electronic journal; after all, my next position will not be influenced by where I happen to publish. After expeditious refereeing, the article was "published" in *Economics: The Open-Access, Open-Assessment E-Journal*, 3 (2009-3). Much to my surprise, that paper has been downloaded 2,357 times, which exceeds the number of subscribers to some economic journals I have published in.

I think hard copy journals are an anachronism – they kill trees, they are expensive, you cannot instantaneously download articles onto your computer, and they have long publication lags (my "Data Mining" paper was nine years in the pipeline). But they will hang in there as long as job candidates and faculty up for promotion fear that review committees will give greater weight to articles in hardcopy journals.

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### John Seamon

I just signed a contract with MIT Press and I am putting the finishing touches on a book, *Memories & Movies: A Film Lover's Guide to Understanding Memory*. This book – an outgrowth of a course I taught at Wesleyan – will be published next summer.

### Bill Stowe

Greetings from Princeton, where I have been living full-time since May 2013, enjoying the university's rich artistic and intellectual life, and the company of my wife, Karin Trainer, who has been University Librarian here since 1996. For my first year away from the classroom I had two projects in mind: (re)read some terrific books I'd never taught, and so been away from for decades (Homer, Virgil, Dante, Milton, Tolstoy, Balzac, both Jameses—you get the idea), and take the Rutgers Master Gardener course. The first of these continues to be a joy, though I do sometimes find myself thinking of ways I'd like to teach the texts I've read. The second is over and was a mixed pleasure. Taking a seat in a classroom after 45 years of standing up front wasn't always easy, but I did learn quite a lot about horticulture, and also about intellectual and social life outside the academy.

Beginning late last fall, these two projects were nearly eclipsed by another that fell into my lap by pure serendipity. Talking with a man from New Jersey Audubon on a Saturday morning field trip I learned that Pete Dunne was retiring. Dunne, for many years director of the Cape May Bird Observatory, is the author of over twenty books on birds, birding, and natural history, and a major birding guru. In recognition of the literary part of his career, NJ Audubon was thinking of putting together some kind of book in his honor. Would I be willing to give this idea some thought and maybe come up some ideas? The suggestion was catnip to me, and my free time for the next ten months was taken care of. After some discussion we settled on an anthology-cum-Festschrift, a collection of historical and contemporary writing about the natural world, to be called *Pete Dunne's New Jersey: Nature Writing in the Garden State*. I met several times with Pete, whom I had previously encountered only as a lecturer and birding guide, and then settled into the library, searching out material from the seventeenth century to the present. The book was published this week.

What's next? Back to the classroom again, this time as an auditor in my first science class in something like 50 years—"Ecology and Evolutionary Biology 321: Species Interactions, Biodiversity, and Society." The course

material is great, and even though the math is beyond me I'm getting a good sense for how it's used. It's also fascinating to watch an already accomplished scientist in his third year of teaching do his best to engage a roomful of smart undergraduates. I continue to enjoy the life of the campus, the proximity of the city, and the chance to meet Wesleyan friends. This fall the Princeton Environmental Institute is bringing a distinguished group of speakers to discuss the role of the humanities in environmental concerns; a couple of weeks ago I participated in a colloquium organized by Wes grad Karl Kusserow, a curator at the Princeton Art Museum, who is organizing a show on American art ecology and environment; Meryl Streep has been here reading Philip Roth with the Takacs String Quartet; Joyce DiDonato is booked for spring. **Gay Smith** was here recently for an excellent French theater festival; **Al Turco** came to New York for *The Marriage of Figaro* at the Met. Karin and I are often in the city where we've enjoyed seeing **Christina Crosby, Dick Ohmann, Natasha Korda, Elizabeth Willis, and Stephanie Weiner**. If you'll be there or in Princeton please let me know.

### Dick Vann

I find retirement doesn't provide as much free time as I had expected, particularly if one is in correspondence with both the US and UK tax authorities. There are, however, publishers and editors who don't think I have already died, and so I have been reviewing manuscripts and writing book reviews, and still reading and thinking on my own as well.

### Jerry Wensinger

Your correspondent has been working on the 7th volume of the Norman Douglas, *Selected Correspondence*, scheduled for publication before Christmas. Final proofreading still to do. The volumes have been averaging between 300 and nearly 600 pp. One every couple of years has been the goal but the partner and director of the Norman Douglas Forschungsstelle of the Vorarlberger Landesbibliothek cracks the whip to assure the continuing inflow of Austrian gov't funding.

If you don't know who N.D. was, do a Wikipedia and you'll get all manner of misinformation and prejudice; a real search will produce more accuracy but probably not enough. Anyhow, he's worth some time and effort and I'll also personally oblige; his dates, 1868-1952. He has been mein Steckenpferd for some years now. I work on this with a fellow aficionado Michael Allan, a Britisher

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and practicing musician in Cologne, Germany. For immediate past volumes Michael has done the lion's share of the recent work; he's three decades younger and has the vim and vigor that are leaking out of me – but I press on.

Next volume #8 on which I hope to do a bit more productive work will be the letters between Douglas and Nancy Cunard whom you are more likely to know. Keeps one out of some trouble. I returned two days ago [October 19] from the 8th Douglas Symposium in Bregenz/Thuringen, Austria, where I read a paper whose matter I won't bother you with now. Those affairs are more than just "pleasant" – they are civilized and entirely agreeable events. Small, no show-offs allowed, about ten speakers, or a dozen; endless breaks for sustenance and cheer, coffee and sweets, gradually working (after a return to Bregenz from more Alpine Thuringen) toward more serious cheer and meals and talk – it's open season. I hope to attend and contribute to another one (they are bi-annual or do I mean biennial, anyhow every other October) but I'll be four score and ten by then; we'll see. . . .

Other than that? Well, we saw a sizable black bear up near the newly fenced-in veg. garden a short time ago; in general we're swarming with wildlife; deer a dime a dozen but I cannot shoot one. I'll eat them tho'. I work for the resurgence of honey bees and curse the chemical giants, mostly Germans now, like Bayer, whose fertilizers are murdering them.

### **Carol Wood**

Edward Burr Van Vleck Professor of Mathematics Emerita as of July 1, 2013, spent most of the ensuing year and a half fulfilling various obligations to her professional and research community, some of which involvd extensive travel. She agreed to edit the model theory papers of a prominent logician Dana Scott; this took her to Carnegie Mellon University in October 2013 for an editorial meeting. Next she went to Paris to visit colleagues there, then on to Bonn, Germany for a research workshop at the Hausdorff Institute. While in Germany she stopped at the the Weierstrass Institute in Berlin, in her capacity as chair of the National Academy of Sciences' US National Committee for Mathematics, to visit the office of the International Mathematical Union. Together with leaders of the IMU and of the organizers of the upcoming International

Congress of Mathematicians, she staffed an information booth at the January 2014 Joint Math Society meetings in Baltimore, then headed to Berkeley California to chair the organizing committee of a semester-long research program on Model Theory, Number Theory and Algebraic Geometry at the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute. Over 50 researchers, including several postdoctoral fellows and graduate students from around the world, attended during the semester, and many more came for three program workshops.

During the semester, Carol gave an MSRI-Evans Lecture at UC Berkeley, lecture aimed at introducing the mathematics of the MSRI program to the wider mathematical community.

In July 2014 she participated in a week-long retirement meeting in Edinburgh of Angus Macintyre, a friend and colleague since his time at Yale. Most of August was spent in South Korea, where she attended four meetings in three cities: a research conference in Daejeon, then on to Gyeongju as an elected delegate to the General Assembly of the International Mathematical Union. Next came the International Congress of Women Mathematicians in Seoul, for which she had served on the program committee. It was her special pleasure to introduce one of the speakers, Donna Testerman, a former Wesleyan colleague who is now a professor in Lausanne.

Finally came the International Congress of Mathematicians, also In Seoul, a major 10-day meeting held every four years at a site chosen by the General Assembly. The ICM involves many festivities including the awarding of Fields Medals to the most outstanding mathematicians under the age of 40. Carol's official duties involved chairing two sessions and hosting the US reception. In addition she was delighted to witness the first Fields medal ever awarded to a woman: Maryam Mirzakhani, who grew up in Iran and is now a professor at Stanford. Carol also served on an IMU advisory group charged with launching a website by the start of the ICM to provide support for women mathematicians around the world.

At present Carol chairs the Committee for Women of the American Mathematical Society and continues to serve on the U.S. National Committee for Mathematics. She was recently appointed to the Board of the Mathematical Sciences Publishers, a non-profit organization aimed at making research journals of high quality available at low cost. ■

## FOUR ILLUMINATIONS

Translated from the French of Arthur Rimbaud  
by Joyce Lowrie

### Bridges

Crystal gray skies. A strange pattern of bridges, some straight, some curved, others going down, angling obliquely to the first- and these shapes repeat themselves in the other lighted circuits of the canal, but all so long and light that shores, burdened with domes, sink and diminish. Some of these bridges are still filled with shacks. Others bear masts, signals, fragile parapets. Minor chords intersect, fade away; ropes rise from river banks. You can make out a red jacket, other outfits, perhaps, and musical instruments. Are these popular tunes, bits from lordly concerts, remnants of national anthems? The water is gray and blue, wide as an ocean arm.

A white ray, streaming down from heaven's peaks, obliterates this farce.

### Mystique

On the side of the slope, angels twirl their woolen robes in fields of emerald and steel. Meadows of flame leap to the top of the knoll. To the left, the crest's humus is trampled by all the manslaughters, all battles – all calamitous sounds weave their curve. Behind the crest on the right – lines of risings, of progress. And, while the strip at the top of the scene is created from turning and rebounding sounds of sea conches, human nights,

The blossoming sweetness of stars and of sky and all else descends, opposite the knoll, like a basket—closeup to our face—and makes the abyss perfumed and blue down below.

### Flowers

From a golden row of steps—among silken cords, gray gauze, green velvets and crystal disks darkening like bronze in the sun—I watch the foxglove unfold on a carpet of silver filigree, eyes, and tresses.

Gold-yellow coins are strewn over agate, mahogany pillars support an emerald dome, bouquets of white satin and delicate ruby sprays surround the water rose.

Like a god with enormous blue eyes and body of snow, the sea and the sky entice a host of strong young roses toward marble terraces.

### The City

I am a transient and not too unhappy citizen of a metropolis considered modern because all known taste was ignored in its furnishings, in the outside of houses, as well as in the city's layout. Here you would find no traces of monuments to past belief. To be blunt, ethics and language have finally been reduced to their simplest expression. These millions of people, who feel no need to know each other, conduct education, business and old age in the same way, so that their way of life must be several times shorter than anything mad statistics show for peoples of the continent. Thus, from my window, I see new specters roaming through thick, endless fumes of coal – our woodland shade, our summer's night! – new Eumenides outside, in front of my cottage, which is my homeland, my whole heart, since everything here looks like this – tearless Death, our active daughter and servant, a desperate Love and a lovely Crime howling in the mud of the street.



# Necrology

## **GEORGE CREEGER**

George Creeger, Wilbur Fisk Osborne Professor of English, emeritus, died in Wilder, Vermont on November 1, 2014. He was 89 years old and was predeceased by his wife, Elva, daughter of Wesleyan Professor of Astronomy Carl Stearns. After graduation from DePauw in 1945, he served in the Army Air Corp in Japan. George received his M.A. and B.A. from Yale and joined the Wesleyan faculty in 1951, teaching for 48 years until his retirement in 1999. He served as Dean of the College from 1971 to 1973 and was Chair of the Faculty in 1991-1992. A brilliant teacher, he taught courses in English and American literatures. Beyond the hard-core English offerings, he also taught courses in the eighteenth-century domestic architecture of Connecticut as well as in opera and myth. His deep knowledge, his love of all things beautiful, and his resonant and commanding bass voice endeared him to generations of students. He became the first recipient of the Binswanger Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1993.

George is survived by his son, Kit, his daughter, Katie, and two grandsons. Memorial contributions in his name may be made to the Center For Faculty Career Development at Wesleyan as follows: note "CFCD in memory of Professor George Creeger" when contributing at [give.wesleyan.edu](http://give.wesleyan.edu) or on a check mailed to Wesleyan University, 164 Mount Vernon Street, Middletown, CT 06459.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday morning, May 30, 2015 at the Russell House.

## **MIMI O'GORMAN**

Marion (Mimi) O'Gorman, ninety, died December 18, 2014 at her home in Middletown. She was the wife of the late Bob O'Gorman, founder of the Wesleyan Sociology Department. She attended The Julliard School, later becoming an opera singer and Broadway actress. She and Bob came to Middletown in

1968. Mimi was one of the first docents at the Davison Art Center, later becoming a docent at the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford.

She is survived by her son Hugh. Memorial gifts in the name of Marion "Mimi" O'Gorman may be made to the Northern Middlesex YMCA, 99 Union Street, Middletown CT 06457 or to the Friends of the Davison Art Center, Wesleyan University, Middletown CT 06459. A memorial service is being planned.

## **JASON WOLFE**

Jason Wolfe, Professor of Biology emeritus, died on December 23. He was 73. He received his bachelor's degree at Rutgers and his Ph.D. at Berkeley. He held two post-doctoral fellowships, one at Kings College, London, the other at Johns Hopkins. He joined Wesleyan's faculty in 1969, where he remained for 39 years. He was an exacting teacher, mentoring undergraduates and graduate students with great compassion and insight, teaching a wide range of courses well beyond the normally constricted hard-core courses for majors. Besides his notable research in cell biology and related fields, Jason led the effort that resulted in Wesleyan's first Howard Hughes Medical Institute Grant for Undergraduate Life Science Education, which provided support for undergraduates in the sciences to do summer research at Wesleyan. This has provided decades of support for hundreds of undergraduates. He continued teaching after retirement, offering his popular Gen Ed course in Human Biology. He also served on the board of the Wesleyan University Press. He is survived by his wife, Vera Schwacz, Mansfield Freeman Professor of East Asian Studies and Professor of History, and three children. Memorial contributions may be made to Young Israel of West Hartford, 2240 Albany Avenue, West Hartford CT 06117. A memorial gathering is being planned for later in the spring semester.

# **The Wesleyan Institute for Lifelong Learning Spring 2015**

In the spring semester the Wesleyan Institute for Lifelong Learning (WILL) is offering eight regular courses plus a one-day program. The offerings are listed below together with their times and dates. For more complete descriptions of the courses and the one-day event, cost, and enrollment information, please visit [www.wesleyan.edu/will](http://www.wesleyan.edu/will) or call the Wasch Center at 860/685-2273.

## **DUE PROCESS OF LAW**

*Richard Adelstein*

Five Mondays: February 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and March 2: 4:30-6pm

Wasch Center Butterfield Room: \$110

## **INVENTING AMERICA:**

### **HOW ART AND LITERATURE SHAPED AMERICAN IDENTITY**

*Richard John Friswell*

Five Thursdays: March 5, 12, 19, 26, and April 2: 5-6:30pm

Wasch Center Butterfield Room: \$110

## **THREE OPERATIC FEMMES FATALES: CARMEN, DALILA, SALOME**

*Walter Mayo, Joyce Lowrie, Peter Frenzel*

Four Tuesdays, March 10, 17, 24, 31: 4:30-6pm

Wasch Center Butterfield Room: \$90

## **JOHANN WOLFGANG VON GOETHE: FAUST, PARTS I AND II**

*Herb Arnold*

Five Mondays, March 23, 30 and April 6, 13, 20: 4:30-6pm

Wasch Center Butterfield Room: \$110

## **HAPPILY EVER AFTER**

*Vera Grant*

Five Thursdays, April 9, 16, 23, 30, and May 7 4:30-6pm

Wasch Center Butterfield Room: \$110

## **THE SEWING MACHINE AND THE TYPEWRITER: A VERY SHORT HISTORY OF WORK IN AMERICA**

*Richard Voigt*

Four Tuesdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28: 6-7:30pm

Wasch Center Butterfield Room: \$90

## **A PERFECT OMELET**

*John E. Finn*

Three Wednesdays, April 8, 15, 22: 6-7:30pm

Allbritton Room 311: \$100

## **PSYCHE AND SCIENCE: CONVERSATIONS ABOUT PARALLEL ROADS TO THE MYSTERIES OF LIFE, TIME, AND THE COSMOS**

*Bill Roberts & David Beveridge*

Three Tuesdays, May 5, 12, 19: 6:30-8pm

Wasch Center Butterfield Room: \$75



SATURDAY INSTITUTE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

## ALL ABOARD! The Romance of Trains

The Valley Railroad Company  
One Railroad Avenue, Essex, CT 06426  
Saturday May 16, 2015: \$125

This full-day program will take place entirely at the facilities of the Valley Railroad Company in Essex, and will feature an excursion by train and boat. The course will examine railroading historically--with special attention to Connecticut railroads and the railroad along the lower river valley. With this historical perspective, the impact the railroad has had on the area will be described. This will include examination of some of the railroad artifacts found along the line. Then we will cover what it takes to maintain and operate historic trains, including a tour of the Valley Railroad shops and equipment. The techniques of steam locomotive operation will be demonstrated and we will learn of the opportunities and challenges of operating a tourist railroad along the Connecticut River. The class will then take a narrated excursion on the Essex Steam Train and Riverboat including a box lunch on the Becky Thatcher Riverboat.



8:30 – 9:00am	Registration (coffee)
9:00 – 9:45am	Railroads in Connecticut: Lee Osborne
9:45 – 10:30am	Local Railroad History: Max Miller
10:45 – 11:30am	Valley Railroad Shop Tour: Dave Conrad
11:45am – 12:30pm	The Business of a Tourist Railroad: Robert Bell
12:30 – 3:15pm	Narrated Excursion Essex Steam Train and Riverboat
3:15pm	Depart

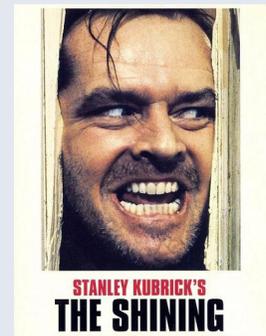
## SPRING 2015 FILM SERIES

All showings are in the Butterfield Room at 3 pm.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD, 3:00PM

**The Group**, 1966, starring Candice Bergen and Joan Hackett, directed by Sydney Lumet

Danny Lloyd, directed by Stanley Kubrick, written by Stephen King (novel), Stanley Kubrick (screenplay)



**Bill Blakemore of ABC News will be discussing "The Shining" at the Wasch Center on Wednesday, April 22**

TUESDAY, MARCH 3RD, 3:00PM

**A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum**, 1966, starring Zero Mostel, Buster Keaton, Phil Silver, Michael Crawford, and Jack Gilford, directed by Richard Lester

TUESDAY, MAY 5TH, 3:00PM

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH, 3:00PM

**The Shining**, 1980, starring Jack Nicholson, Shelley Duvall, and

**Meet Me in St Louis**, 1944, starring Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien, and Mary Astor, directed by Vincente Minnelli

# WESLEYAN'S ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

In the spring of 2011 the Wasch Center for Retired Faculty, in collaboration with the office of Special Collections and Archives, established an oral history project for Wesleyan. The objective is to develop a set of recorded and transcribed interviews with senior members of the Wesleyan community in order that these might comprise a permanent part of our history. The interviews are meant to be personal reflections of the course of entire careers at Wesleyan. Transcriptions of the interviews are to be available in the Wesleyan archives and will be accessible as well through the WESCHOLARS website.

In the first year of the program, five interviews were conducted by students who were selected and trained for this job. An additional set of seven interviews have now been done by Nancy Smith, former editor of the Wesleyan alumni

magazine, now retired, and Leith Johnson, University Archivist. All of these interviews have been transcribed and are in the process of final editing. Those interviewed include Robert Rosenbaum, Gertrude Hughes, Jerry Wensinger, Jerome Long, Bill Firshein, Richard Slotkin, Richard Ohmann, Bill Barber, Yoshiko Samuel, Joe Reed, Kit Reed, and Donald Meyer. An additional set of five interviews is planned for completion in the current academic year.

The objective of the oral history program is to collect the memories and perceptions of people with the greatest amount of lived experience at Wesleyan, and along the way to honor those members of the community who have made enduring contributions to our collegial life.

Karl E. Scheibe

Director, Wasch Center for Retired Faculty



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## Editorial Board of the Wasch Center Newsletter

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