In this newsletter you will find information about the Leslie Center and about our exciting spring term program. We are delighted to be cooperating with various departments, programs, and other centers in the staging of four conferences: Black Theatricality (p. 3); From ‘LEED’ to Living Buildings and Beyond (p. 4); Italian Cultural Studies (p. 4); and Digital Humanities (p. 5).

The first, Black Theatricality is the 2010 Bildner Symposium (April 9–10). Organized by Soyica Colbert, Michael Chaney, and Sam Vásquez, the conference tackles black literature and culture through the critical lenses of performance theory. Involving students, faculty, and a truly outstanding slate of visitors, and featuring keynote addresses by Hortense Spillers and Brent Hayes Edwards, the conference promises to help shape the future of a field. The conference also celebrates the 40th anniversary of African and African American Studies at Dartmouth and will coincide with the presence on campus of Montgomery Fellow Bill T. Jones; during his residency, the Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane Dance Company will perform Fondly Do We Hope... Fervently We Do Pray at the Hopkins Center (April 6, 7, 8).

The spring will bring dynamic and transformative speakers to campus: scholars Anne McClintock and William Egginton, poet Joan Margarit, and cartoonist Mo Willems. Susan Buck-Morss will deliver the ninth Zantop Memorial Lecture, Haiti and Universal History. Beyond these public events, a range of seminars and study groups, including our Humanities Forum Lunchtime Discussions (p. 2), offer ample opportunities to discuss work and ideas in more intimate settings.

Please consult our website for more, and up-to-date information.
Humanities Forum Lunchtime Discussions

Over the last year, the Leslie Center has convened lunchtime discussions for faculty at which colleagues can share ideas about various dimensions of academic life in an informal setting. These conversations are meant to be opportunities to spark exchanges between scholars across and between disciplines. The discussions have proved to be an exciting way to promote non-instrumental, yet valuable, thinking about particular research areas, developments in the humanities, and ideas about education. The discussions are not formal presentations. Rather, they aim at producing a culture of open intellectual exchange.

During the winter term, the Leslie Center hosted four fascinating lunchtime discussions with Adia Benton (Dickey Center Fellow) on “Science and Subjectivity,” Mark Williams (Film & Media Studies) on “Time, History, and Visual Culture,” Bill Bhang Boyer (Leslie Fellow) on “Sound Studies,” and Rich Kremer (History), “On Louis Menand’s ‘The Ph.D. Problem.’”

In the spring term, we have two more lunches scheduled, one on Tuesday, April 13 led by Shalini Ayyagari (Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Music and AMES), entitled “Performing the Profane and Gendering the Sacred,” and another led by Adina Roskies (Philosophy).

We will be sending out information about these seminars early in the spring term.

The Dartmouth-L’Aquila Project

As a gesture of solidarity with the students and scholars at the University of L’Aquila whose lives have been disrupted by the recent earthquake, the Leslie Center, with the support of the Dickey Center, the Provost’s Office and the Department of French and Italian, is hosting three fellows during the 2009–2010 academic year.

Enrico Botta, whose work focuses on American literature, was a Leslie Fellow from September to December 2009. This January, we were joined by two new Leslie Fellows: Christian Orsini (who will leave in March) works on the poet John Clare; and Valentina Martemuccci (who will stay until June) studies contemporary Italian literature.

This program, spearheaded by Grazziella Parati and Monika Otter, was described in a recent article in The Dartmouth.
Hortense Spillers

THE PLAY OF THE EAR
The Audience and the Auditory

Spillers is a leading cultural and literary critic who works at the intersection of psychoanalysis and black feminist criticism. She is the author of *Black, White, and in Color: Essays on American Literature and Culture* (Chicago, 2003).

Brent Hayes Edwards

LONG TONGUES
“Loft Jazz” the Politics of Adaptation


In related programming,
The Montgomery Foundation Presents

Bill T. Jones

Saturday, April 10, 8pm
Moore Auditorium, Hopkins Center

Black Theatricality

Race and Representation in Black Literature and Culture
The 2010 Bildner Symposium
April 9–10, 2010

This two-day symposium, organized by Professors Soyica Diggs Colbert, Michael Chaney, and Sam Vásquez, will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the African and African American Studies at Dartmouth College. Papers by both distinguished and emerging scholars will explore the past, present, and future(s) of black studies. "Black Theatricality" is a useful theme with which to frame discussions about the status and future of black studies. The relationship of blackness to theatricality is essential to the project of dismantling racial hierarchies and the grounds upon which blackness has been staged. Representations of black people in the United States and abroad, from the auction block and minstrelsy to the athlete, politician, mother, diva and hip hop artist, comprise an intensely visual, acoustic, and discursive legacy.

Speakers include Stephanie Batiste, Jennifer Devere Brody, Daphne Brooks, Glenda Carpio, Soyica Diggs Colbert, Margo Natalie Crawford, Ann DuCille, Harry Elam, J. Martin Favor, Nicole Fleetwood, E. Patrick Johnson, Tavia Nyong’o, Robert J. Patterson, Russell Rickford, Faith Smith, Valerie Smith, Maurice Wallace, and Harvey Young.

*Black Theatricality* was recently featured in an issue of *Dartmouth Life*.

The conference and related events are sponsored by the Bildner Endowment and the Leslie Humanities Center, with additional support from the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Dean of the Faculty, English, African and African American Studies, and Voices: The Dartmouth Theater Visiting Artist Program.
Italian Cultural Studies

An International Conference at Dartmouth
May 6–9, 2010

Registration May 6, 9–10am
Kreindler Auditorium
Haldeman 041

With Keynote Addresses by
Michele Cometa, Alessandro Dal Lago, David Forgacs, Elena Pulcini, Barbara Spackman, Gabriella Turnaturi, and Paola Zaccaria

Organized by Graziella Parati (Dartmouth) and Patrizia Calefato (University of Bari)

In collaboration with The Paul D. Paganucci Chair, the Dickey Center, and the Provost's Office

For more information
www.dartmouth.edu/~frandit/italianculturalstudies.html

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spring term events

Anne McClintock
University of Wisconsin-Madison
PARANOID EMPIRE
SPECTERS BEYOND THE WAR ON TERROR
Wednesday, April 14, 4:00pm
Kreindler Auditorium, Haldeman 041. Simone de Beauvoir Professor of English and Women’s and Gender Studies, McClintock is one of the foremost cultural critics whose work examines the intersection between colonialism, imperialism, and nationalism in their interaction with gender. She is the author of the landmark study Imperial Leather: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest. In collaboration with Comparative Literature Master’s Program.

From ‘LEED’ to Living Buildings and Beyond
A sustainable design conference
Friday, April 16 and Saturday, April 17
The symposium will focus on innovation in sustainability and the built environment. Hosted by the Dartmouth College Sustainability Project and New Hampshire Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (NH AIA). In collaboration with the Morgan Family Foundation, the Neukom Institute for Computational Sciences and the Ethics Institute.

Rebecca Newberger Goldstein
Philosopher and novelist
Tuesday, April 27, 4:30pm
Filene Auditorium, Moore Hall
Speaking about her new book
36 ARGUMENTS
FOR THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

Mo Willems
Writer, Animator, and Children’s Books Illustrator
Thursday, April 29, 4:30pm
spring term events, continued

Joan Margarit
Catalan poet and architect
Tuesday, May 4, 4:30pm
Kreindler Auditorium, Haldeman 041. Until recently a professor of Structural Calculations at Barcelona’s Technical School of Architecture in the Politechnic University of Catalonia, Margarit is also known as one of the foremost modern poets writing in Catalan. It is about his poetry that Margarit will speak. In collaboration with Spanish and Portuguese and with additional support from The Johan Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding, The Office of the Provost, The Dean of Faculty, The Comparative Literature Program and The Institut Ram Llull (Barcelona).

Susan Buck-Morss
Cornell University
HAITI & UNIVERSAL HISTORY
The 2010 Zantop Lecture
Monday, May 10, 5:30pm
Kreindler Auditorium, Haldeman 041. Professor of Political Philosophy and Social Theory, Buck-Morss’s work transcends disciplinary boundaries. She is renowned for her careful readings of Walter Benjamin and the Frankfurt School. Author of The Dialectics of Seeing, The Origin of Negative Dialectics, Dreamworld and Catastrophe, Thinking Past Terror, and, most recently, Hegel, Haiti and Universal History. In collaboration with the Comparative Literature Program. With additional support from African and African American Studies and Geography.

William Egginton
Johns Hopkins University
A RIGOR OF ANGELS: BORGES AND EVERYDAY FUNDAMENTALISM
Thursday, May 13, 4:00pm

Symposium on the Digital Humanities
AT DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
Friday, May 14, 8:30am-5:30pm
Kreindler Auditorium, Haldeman 041. In collaboration with The Sherman Fairchild Professorship in Digital Humanities, the Neukom Institute, Research Computing, Dartmouth College Library.

Leslie Center Grants & Fellowships
May 1: application deadline for second round of 2010–2011 Faculty Research Grants
www.dartmouth.edu/~lhc