

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Comparative Literary & Cultural Studies

About Us

At CLCS, we teach literature, cinema, and media historically, comparatively, and theoretically. We house three undergraduate majors – Cinema and Cultural Studies (CCS), Humanities Interdisciplinary (HUM), and Comparative Literature (CLT), and two minors (CCS and CLT); and four graduate programs (M.A. and Ph.D. in both Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies). We are especially proud of the fit between our undergraduate and graduate programs enabling Ph.D. students to complete their professional training by assisting in the delivery of our undergraduate curriculum. Our research programs are thus fully integrated into our teaching mission.

News

Stephen Szolosi recently accepted a full-time position at Gonzaga College High School in D.C. running their campus ministry and retreat program. He will be featured in the next edition's Alumni News.

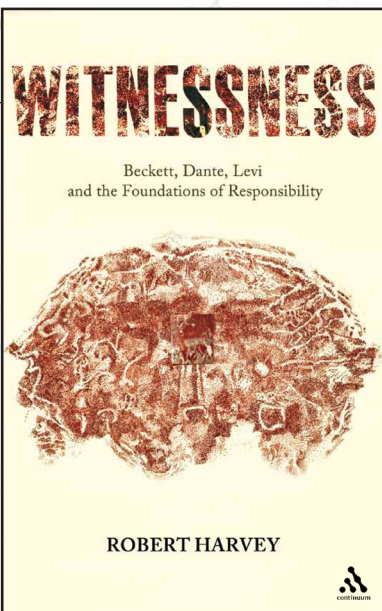
Many of you may remember **Debashree Dattaray**, who was with us in the 2007-2008 academic year on a Fulbright Fellowship. She defended her dissertation in October on the literatures of indigenous peoples in present-day southwest Canada who are published in India: "Reception Of Aboriginal Canadian Writing In India: A Cross – Cultural Study Of The Novels By Beatrice Mosionier, Lee Maracle And Jeannette Armstrong". Debashree is an assistant professor in the Department of Comparative Literature at Jadavpur University in Kolkata.

Some of you may also remember **Agnès Vannouvong** who also came to us on a Fulbright do research here in Spring 2005 as she developed a queer reading of Jean Genet's work. She returned to Paris and defended her dissertation, *Jean Genet, ou le revers du genre*, which is now a book published by Presses du Réel. She's just been named *maître de conférences* (assistant professor) at the University of Geneva which makes me personally very proud to have served on her committee.

"Tulane has amazing faculty and resources," writes **Sean Connolly**, "and the students are lively and sharp, but the true gem of the university is its location. New Orleans is quite unlike any other city I've visited in this country, and certainly unlike any other southern city, with its refreshing joie de vivre and bohemian character that contrasts sharply with the bourgeois conservatism of Long Island and the provincialism of the South I once knew. I can't help but be reminded of Europe in many ways, if not France in particular."

Julia Chrin, Humanities undergraduate, was awarded a full tuition waiver and a stipend from the Latin American Studies Center at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She began UICU's Masters Program in Library and Information Science this Fall. Her main area of research is digital preservation.

Hans Staats & Jacqueline Reich taught CCS 204, a new 3-credit undergraduate class in Summer Session II, 2010. "The Stony Brook Film Festival: Films and Contexts" required students to see all the film festival films, interact with the organizers and filmmakers, cover assigned readings, and discuss the films and the filmmaking process. There were eleven students enrolled in the course. The history of film festivals in the U.S. and around the world was part of the curriculum, as was film distribution and acquisition. Filmmakers at the Stony Brook Film Festival visited the class during lecture times (Tom Anton, director of *The Pardon*; Danny Buday, director of *Five Star Day*, and Frida Torresblanco, producer of *Pan's Labyrinth* and partner in a new production company, Braven Films, among others).



Recent Publications **Kudos!**

Laine Nooney published "Screening Her Out: Computer, Gaming, History." *Paperweight: A Newspaper of Visual and Material Culture*. 1(1). Fall 2010, and "Watch Your Step: Victorian Dance Tactics" *FOLD: the reader*. February 2011. **Nooney** was also the Image Layout and Typography Designer for Patrice Nganang's journal *pulsations: the journal of new african writing*.

The current issue of the *Journal of American Folklore* is devoted entirely to an examination and assessment of **Ruth Bottigheimer's** scholarship on fairy tales. After the articles by Dan Ben-Amos (Penn), Jan Ziolkowski (Harvard), and Francisco Vaz da Silva (Lisbon), Ruth presents a kind of manifesto for a new print- and evidence-based methodology for research in brief narratives. Its title is "*Fairy Godfather, Fairy-Tale History, and Fairy-Tale Scholarship*" The issue is available through the print journal, and also in full text at Project Muse. Ruth also published "Upward and Outward: Fairy Tales and Popular, Print, and Proletarian Culture, 1550-1850." *Elore* [Joensuu, Finland] 17, no. 2 (2010).

Themis Chronopoulos published "Political Power and Passive Citizenship: The Implications of Considering African American Prisoners as Residents of Rural New York State Districts," *Afro-Americans in New York History and Life* 34 (July 2010): 7-33.

Raiford Guins published "Electrifying the Enlightenment: Interview with Peter Lunenfeld, Part II." Interview co-conducted with Elizabeth Guffey. *Design and Culture*. Volume. 2. Number 3. (November) 2010, pp. 329 – 340, and "Towards Visual Intellectuality: The Mediawork Pamphlet Series (An Interview by Elizabeth Guffey and Raiford Guins, Part 1)" *Journal of Visual Culture* 9, no. 2 (August) 2010, pp. 139 – 161.

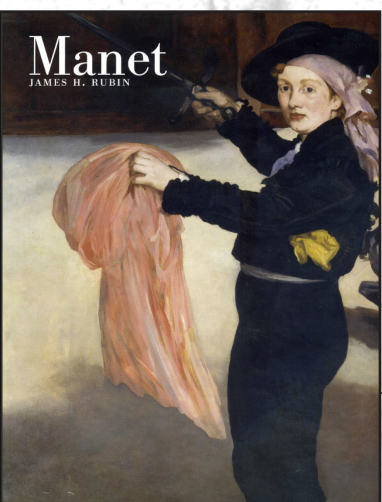
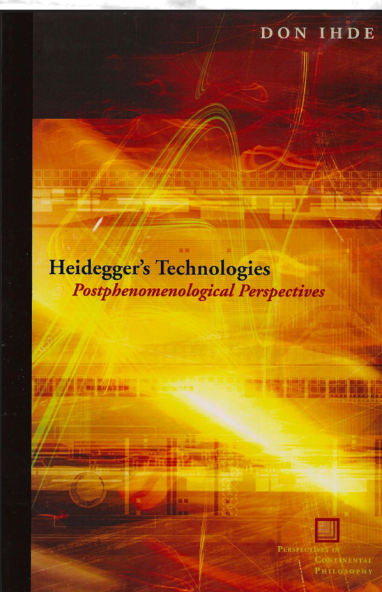
Robert Harvey published *Witnesses: Beckett, Dante, Levi and the Foundations of Responsibility*. New York and London, Continuum, 2010.

Don Ihde published *Heidegger's Technologies: Postphenomenological Perspectives* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2010), 155 pp.

Peter Manning guest-edited an issue of *Studies in Romanticism*, titled "Nostalgia, Melancholy, Anxiety: Discursive Mobility and the Circulation of Bodies," and wrote a brief introduction for it. The issue grew from a session he organized at the 2007 MLA it is 49, no. 2, Summer 2010.

James Rubin published "Rouen's Industrial Sublime: Monet, Pissarro and Modernity," in Rouen, *une ville pour l'impressionnisme*, exh. cat., Musée des Beaux-Arts de Rouen, June-September 2010, 96-123, (separate English and French editions), "The Impressionist Cityscape as Emblem of Modernity," in *Bilder einer Metropole: Die Impressionisten in Paris*, exh. cat. Folkwang Museum, Essen, October-January, 2010-2011, 69-82. German and English versions, and *Manet: Initial M, Hand and Eye*, (English version), Paris, Flammarion, 2010, 413 pages, illustrated.

E.K. Tan published "Hong Kong Cinema and Its Portrayal of the Nanyang Chinese in the 1950s and 1960s." *Journal of Chinese Cinemas* 4.2 (2010): 155-68.



Events **Kudos!**

The National Research Council's long-awaited rankings of U.S. doctoral programs came out in October. CLCS placed higher than in the previous NRC a few years ago. According to one pretty reliable way of crunching their numbers, they have us ranked at 24th out of 46 programs and 9th out of 29 public institutions – including Binghamton, UCLA, Santa Cruz, UNC Chapel Hill, U Mass Amherst, and CUNY Graduate Center.

CLCS doctoral candidates **Sean Springer** and **Sarah Paruolo** organized the department's inaugural graduate student conference, "Recycling," a two-day event held in September 2010. "Recycling" was extremely well attended and some really innovative work was heard and discussed.

Organized by the Dept. of CLCS, the Long Table is a bi-annual event where members of the SBU community participate in a discussion on a recent article, book, or debate pertinent to the Humanities. The Long Table experiments with participation and public engagement by combining dinner table atmosphere as a public forum and encouraging informal conversation on serious topics. On October 6th, faculty and graduate students from humanities-related disciplines debated points raised in an article from The Chronicle of Higher Education, "Can the Humanities Survive the 21st Century?" by Prof. Frank Donoghue.

Upcoming Events

CLCS is co-sponsoring the following upcoming events:

"Redemption," Philosophy and the Arts Conference, Stony Brook Manhattan, 1-2 April 2011, organized by Adam Israel & Megan Craig.

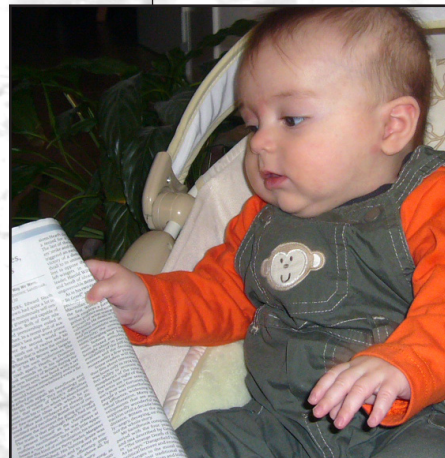
"Complicity," the English graduate student's 2011 conference, organized by Burcu Kuheylan and Matthew Kremer.

"The Histories of Modernity Project," English lecture and colloquia series organized by Assistant Professor Douglas Pfeiffer and Alix Hopper.

Alumni News **Kathryn Klepas**

"After defending my dissertation, written under the direction of Sandy Petrey, in 2001, I fought the impulse for the duration of several fixed-term lectureships around the US and finally embraced my inner global nomad. In 2005 I moved to Kuwait to assume a position at the brand-new American University of Kuwait. This has been a marvelous experience in many ways, both professionally and personally. I have served as the program lead of English for much of the time I've been here and that has been one of the most rewarding aspects of the experience. Helping to build a literature program in such a global context has been an intellectual and professional challenge. I have also benefited from the experience by collaborating with a gifted colleague on a collected edition of essays entitled 'The American-Style University and Globalization: Transplants, Outposts, and Global U' which will be coming out with Rowman and Littlefield early 2011. Outside of work, I travel whenever I can, most regularly to India to participate in yoga and meditation retreats."

Leo Razumova



Alma Töke Nichols



New Friends! **Alma & Leo**