

The Department of
FRENCH & ITALIAN

NEWSLETTER



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Photo captions: Elizaveta Strakhov, pg. 9; Dominique Licops at a lecture by Rodney St Eloi at Alliance Française, 3/14/15, pg. 11; New Graduate Students, pg. 14; Undergraduate Awards Ceremony, 6/5/15; Alumni reflections on life abroad, pg. 20; Fall Quarter 2015 course offerings, pg. 21



Welcome to our Spring 2015 newsletter! This has been an exceptionally busy year in French and Italian, full of excitement, change, and accomplishment. As the university prepared to renovate the home we have known for decades, Kresge Hall, we packed up our remaining Kresge offices and settled into our new permanent quarters on the second floor of the adjacent building, Crowe Hall. Our staff members, led by Claire Tuft, did a truly extraordinary job organizing and orchestrating the move, which went off without a hitch, but life in Crowe continues to be a surprise and an adventure, as walls come tumbling down, windows are boarded up, new foundations are laid, and the construction team and their equipment work just outside our windows!

Through it all, our faculty and staff fostered and maintained a vibrant departmental community and intellectual life. You will read in these pages of the many scholarly events we organized and co-hosted, including visiting scholars from around the world speaking on issues ranging from Italian futurist art to masonic plays in 18th century France, French medieval literature, and the Charlie Hebdo events. You will also read of our very successful and well-attended French graduate student conference on radicalisms, of our exceptionally talented French postdoctoral fellow, of faculty whose accomplishments earned them promotion, of graduate students who defended their dissertations, landed jobs, and won prestigious awards, of the faculty members and undergraduates who contributed their work and time to ensure the success of our newly-revived French and Italian creative journal, *Rosa la Rose*, and of students on all levels whose essays won honors and awards. You will also learn about our newest faculty member in French, the medievalist Christopher Davis (Michigan, 2011) whom we are delighted to welcome in Fall 2015.

I am also delighted that, after three years as departmental chair, I will hand the reins to my talented colleague, Nasrin Qader, a comparatist who works at the intersection of Francophone African literature, Arabic literature of the Maghreb, Islamic thought and mysticism, and contemporary literary and visual theory. Professor Qader is a former co-director of the French Interdisciplinary Group and a core faculty member in the programs of Comparative Literary Studies and African Studies. We all look forward to the energy and dynamism she will bring to the office of the chair, and are excited to begin working with her in September.

Jane Winston
Chair, Department of French and Italian
Associate Professor of French

APRIL 20, 2015

ISABELLE ALFANDARY

Université Sorbonne-Nouvelle
(Paris III)

Derrida-Lacan: In Between Psychoanalysis and Deconstruction

On April 20, 2015, Isabelle Alfandary of the Université de la Sorbonne-Nouvelle (Paris III) presented a talk entitled "Derrida-Lacan: In Between Psychoanalysis and Deconstruction," through the support of the Department of French and Italian and the French Interdisciplinary Group. The talk, which explored new intersections between Lacanian psychoanalytic theory and Derridean thought, was followed by lively discussion among graduate students and faculty, and a well-attended reception.

Isabelle Alfandary is a Professor of American Literature, and was Program Director at the prestigious College International de Philosophie in 2013. She has also served on the editorial board of journals such as *L'Atelier*, *Rue Descartes*, *Tropismes* and *Transatlantica*. A specialist of modern American poetry, she is the author of innumerable articles as well as several books, amongst them *E. E. Cummings ou la minuscule lyrique* (2002) and *Le risque de la lettre : lectures de la poésie moderniste américaine* (2012).

Professor Alfandary received her doctorate in American Literature from the Université de la Sorbonne-Nouvelle (Paris III), where she wrote her dissertation on the aesthetics of grammar in the oeuvre of E. E. Cummings. Her most recent book, *Jacques Derrida, Jacques Lacan : entre psychanalyse et déconstruction*, is forthcoming (2015).

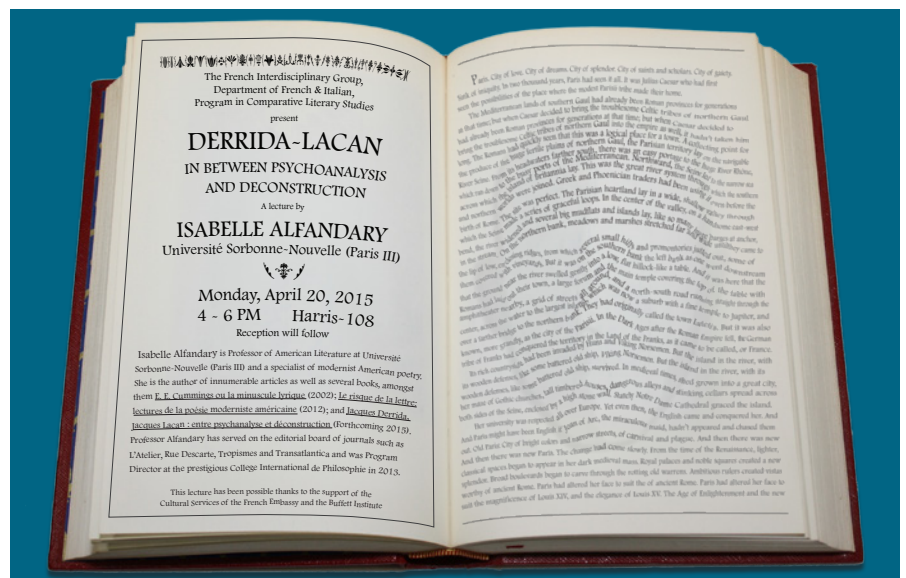
Caroline Vial

Visit our upcoming events page:

[www.frenchanditalian.northwestern.edu/
events/](http://www.frenchanditalian.northwestern.edu/events/)



Isabelle Alfandary





Pannill Camp

APRIL 27, 2015

PANNILL CAMP

Washington University in St. Louis

Irruption and Awakening: The Masonic Plays & Revolutionary Festivals of François-Félix Nogaret

Pannill Camp (Performing Arts Department, Washington University, St. Louis) gave a lecture, "Irruption and Awakening: The Masonic Plays and Revolutionary Festivals of François-Félix Nogaret" (1740-1831), which is part of his book project on the relations between theater, rituals, Freemasonry, and the French Revolution.

Focusing first on Freemasonry, he described some of its rituals of initiation and showed how these rituals became influential in shaping the Revolution's many plays and festivals, indeed in shaping the French Revolution itself. He then focused on Nogaret's works, singling out its major motifs: how major catastrophes—destruction, earthquakes, widespread losses, resulting in the death of the profane self—will lead to the formation of a new society, the rebirth of a new self, and the unlocking of essential truths and universal brotherhood. He discussed Nogaret's conversion to the Jacobin party and his works that critiqued the monarchy, such as *Hercule triomphant ou le despotisme terrassé*, performed at Versailles in 1794, whose impact went beyond the Revolution to influence the Napoleonic conquest of Egypt. There followed a lively discussion around various issues: the unique character of Nogaret's plays and their relations to other genres such as the court masque, the definitions of ritual and ceremony, the status of Freemasonry, and relations between Freemasonry, the Catholic Church, deism, and modernity.

Sylvie Romanowski

The Department of
French & Italian
Northwestern University
presents

IRRUPTION & AWAKENING:

The Masonic Plays and Revolutionary Festivals of François-Félix Nogaret

a lecture by

PANNILL CAMP

Washington University in St. Louis

Historians routinely explain the importance of Freemasonry to the French Revolution by claiming that the brotherhood served as an incubator for emerging political ideas. But Masonic lodge activity, or "craft" also provided a source of memorializing practices that were adapted to the political and cultural programs of the 1790s. This talk examines the operations of memory inscribed in a collection of short Masonic, or "adoniramite" plays by François-Félix Nogaret, who served as librarian to the Comtesse d'Artois before the Revolution and later wrote numerous Revolutionary festivals.

Pannill Camp teaches drama and performance at Washington University in Saint-Louis. He is the author of *The First Frame: A Cultural History of Enlightenment Theatre Space* (Cambridge University Press) and is currently working on a book tentatively entitled *Arts of Brotherhood: French Freemasonry in Performance*.

CROWE 2-130 APRIL 27, 2015 4 PM

Reception to follow

This event is free and open to everyone

www.frenchanditalian.northwestern.edu

View this Newsletter online:

[www.frenchanditalian.northwestern.edu/
documents/SpringQuarter2015.pdf](http://www.frenchanditalian.northwestern.edu/documents/SpringQuarter2015.pdf)

MAY 21, 2015

MICHELA MINESSO
University of Milan

**An Innovative International Ruling Class:
Industrial and Technical Elites in
Milan Between Liberalism and
Fascism**

On Thursday, May 21, 2015, Dr. Michela Minesso presented a well-attended and well-received lecture on the central role of industrial and technical élites of Milan in the Italian industrialization that occurred between the end of the 19th century and the rise to power of fascism, including the environments and the institutions in which those élites operated. This lecture presented a view of modern Italian history that is not well-known abroad: aware of economic developments abroad and of relations between Italy and the most advanced entrepreneurial and technical environments on both sides of the Atlantic, these elites were consciously engaged in a project of building a "new Italy" for the new century.

Following the lecture Professor Minesso answered questions and hosted a small reception in the Department of French & Italian's Seminar Room.

Michela Minesso (Ph.D in European Social History, University of Venice, 1989) is an Associate Professor of Contemporary History and Women's History at the University of Milan. Her main research fields are the history of the Italian ruling class from the Unification to the end of the so-called 'First Republic' (with a specific interest for the fascist period and the characteristics of the Italian modernization process in the XXth century); and the history of social policies and welfare (from the point of view of women and youth). Professor Minesso recently founded a research group to analyse the main features of the Italian welfare system from its origins to its final development after the Second World War.

Professor Minesso is a member of sever-

al historical associations including the Italian Society for the Study of Institutional History, of which she was a founding member in 1994, the Association for the History of Science and Technology in Italy, and the Milan Committee for the History of Italian Risorgimento.

Since 1990 she has participated in and

organized several congresses in Italy and abroad. In particular, in the last years Professor Minesso organized two international congresses of study in Milan: "Welfare Systems and Childhood Social Policies: Italy and Europe XIXth-XXth Centuries," in January, 2010 and "Welfare, Women and Youth in Europe XIXth-XXth Centuries," in October, 2014.



The Department of French & Italian presents

AN INNOVATIVE INTERNATIONAL RULING CLASS

**Industrial and Technical Elites in Milan
Between Liberalism and Fascism**

a lecture by

MICHELA MINESSO

Professor of Contemporary History, University of Milan

Thursday, May 21, 2015

4PM

Crowe 2-130

This lecture presents a view of modern Italian history that is not well-known abroad. The focus will be on the central role of industrial and technical elites of Milan in the Italian industrialization occurring between the end of the 19th century and the rise to power of fascism, including the environments and the institutions in which those elites operated.

Aware of economic developments abroad and of relations between Italy and the most advanced entrepreneurial and technical environments on both sides of the Atlantic, these elites were consciously engaged in a project of building a "new Italy" for the new century.

Small reception to follow. This event is free and open to everyone.
www.frenchanditalian.northwestern.edu

MARCH 3, 2015

CHRISTOPHER ATWOOD Northwestern University

Modernity, Machines, & Motor Oil: Italian Futurist Art and Ideals

Dr. Christopher Atwood, a visiting lecturer in Italian, presented a multi-media talk on Futurist art (1909-1944). His March 3rd lecture engaged a broad audience of faculty, graduate students and undergraduates. Topics discussed included Futurists' representations of speed, the movement's relationship with Fascism, and the revolutionary *Futurist Cookbook* (1931).

Italian Futurism was a manifesto before it was a movement. In 1909, F.T. Marinetti printed "The Founding Manifesto of Futurism." In it, he announced the tenants of Futurist art – velocity, innovation, and scorn for tradition. When Marinetti inked these words, no Futurist art had yet been made. Marinetti was describing an aesthetic that did not yet exist.

"We want to destroy all the museums, libraries and academies," Marinetti wrote. "We want to free this country from its stinking gangrene: professors, archeologists, tour guides." Modernity, machines and motor oil—not Renaissance masters—inspired this generation of avant-garde writers, performers and artists.

Next autumn, Dr. Atwood will join the faculty of the Department of Foreign Languages at Kennesaw State University. Atwood received his PhD in Italian Studies from UC Berkeley in 2014.



Christopher Atwood

The Department of French & Italian presents...

MODERNITY, MACHINES AND MOTOR OIL:
Italian Futurist Art and Ideals

Italian Futurism called for a sharp break with the traditions of the past.

"We want to destroy all the museums, libraries and academies," F.T. Marinetti wrote in 1909.

"We want to free this country from its stinking gangrene."

Modernity, machines and motor oil—not Renaissance masters—inspired this generation of writers and artists.

This illustrated lecture explores the artwork created by Italian Futurists.

FEATURING **Chris Atwood, Northwestern University**

March 3, 2015 5pm Harris 108

This event is free and open to everyone

www.frenchanditalian.northwestern.edu

Fortunato Depero,
Grattacieli e tunnel (1930)

MAY 29, 2015

GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE

**Radicalisms:
Movements and Moments**

**Featuring Dr. Kevin Floyd,
Kent State University**

What does it mean to be (a) radical? This year's annual graduate student conference, "Radicalisms: Movements and Moments," opened a critical dialogue about the nature, potential, and limits of "radicalism" in academia. What are the conditions of possibility for the emergence of radical movements, and what leads to their eventual dissolution? How do radical movements transform over time, and what changes do they undergo as they circulate throughout society? What forms of elitism undermine the subversive claims of radical movements? Is true radicalism ever possible?

The conference featured a keynote address by Kent State University's Professor Kevin Floyd. In his compelling talk, entitled "Gendered Labor and Abstract Life," Professor Floyd offered a Marxist critique of gendered forms of value-producing labor in the debt-ridden global South. The afternoon panels brought together graduate students in Art History, Comparative Literature, English, and French, including our own Matthew Brauer, Joseph Derosier, and Jessica Neuschwander.

This year's conference was organized by Rachel Grimm, Brian McLoughlin, Colin Jackson, and Arachi Jung. The organizers would like to thank the Department of French and Italian, and especially the outgoing Chair of the department, Professor Jane Winston, for their continued support of graduate student research. The organizers would also like to express their deep gratitude for the tireless efforts of the department staff in helping to organize a successful conference.

Rachel Grimm



Kevin Floyd

CFP

What does it mean to be (a) radical? *Radical* has come to refer to a social and political stance considered to be an alternative, risky, or subversive way of thinking about established views and order. This conference seeks to explore the different meanings of radicalism and the forms it takes across a variety of fields of inquiry.

How do our actions and the ideas that inform them transcend the bounds of the mainstream and challenge the status quo? In what ways have the radicalisms of yesterday come to define and continue to challenge the existing state of affairs? From revolutionary political ideologies and polemical protest songs to iconoclastic avant-garde movements in the visual arts, radicalisms give rise to dissident and potentially dangerous ideas while helping to define new cultural norms.

As radical ideas circulate throughout society, they are often stripped of their subversive potency in order to make them more palatable for wider audiences. What are the conditions of possibility for the emergence of radicalisms, and what leads to their dissolution? How do they resonate after their creators disband or abandon their projects, and what transformations do they undergo over time? Are radical movements necessarily limited to self-selecting groups, or can a radical ideology or work of art maintain its radical character even as it engages with a larger populace? And what forms of elitism undermine the subversive claims of radicalism?

Is true radicalism ever possible?

Graduate Student Conference

The Department of French & Italian at Northwestern University is pleased to announce:

Radicalisms Movements & Moments

at the John Evans Center
Northwestern University

May 29, 2015

featuring keynote speaker
Dr. Kevin Floyd
(Kent State University)

We invite proposals in English and French that deal with radicalisms—in all their forms—from a wide range of fields: literature, philosophy, visual arts, music, theatre, film, politics, etc...

For proposals, please submit a short abstract (250 words) that includes institutional affiliation, academic level and contact information. Please submit your paper or panel abstracts by **Friday, March 27, 2015 to theNURadicals@gmail.com**

Topics may include but are not limited to:

- Avant-garde movements in literature, the arts, & politics
- Radical readings, performance, & the body as a site of resistance
- De-/post-colonial struggles & thought
- Biopolitics
- Positionalities of race, class, gender, ability, sexuality, & ethnicity
- Public & private spaces of resistance
- Radical space & time
- Sub-, trans-, & post-nationalism in concept & in practice
- Revolutionary movements & moments
- Implications & influences of technology
- Activist & prefigurative politics



RADICALISMS

Movements and Moments

2015 FRENCH AND ITALIAN
GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE

9:30AM - 10:00AM
BREAKFAST/REGISTRATION

10:00AM - 11:30AM
KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Dr. Kevin Floyd

11:30AM - 12:30PM
LUNCH

12:30PM - 2:00PM
JOSEPH DEROSIER
*Romancing the Unintelligible:
Queer Misinterpretation
in Roman de la Rose*

RAASHI RASTOGI
*When Oedipus Is not Oedipal:
Translating Oedipus
in Renaissance England*

SARAH WILSON
*Radical Negativity and Base
Medievalisms: Apophatic Mysticism
in Georges Bataille's Atheological
Summa*

2:00PM - 3:30PM
JESSICA NEUSHWANDER
*Tradition!: The Haunting Radical
Conservatism of Maurice Barres in
the Surrealist Self*

ALYSSA BRALOWER
*The Guise of Eccentricity:
Subterfuge and the Avant-Garde
in Claude Cahun and Marcel
Moore's Resistance Tracts*

KRITISH RAJBHANDARI
*Silence, Secrecy and the Subaltern:
Betrayal in Ngugi wa Thiong'o's A
Grain of Wheat*

3:30PM - 5:00PM
MATTHEW BRAUER
*Entangled Histories Radical and
Conservative in Asia Djebbar's
L'Amour, La Fantasia*

MICHAEL MONTESANO
*Violence and Necessity in Helon
Habla's Oil on Water:
Fanonian Theory and the Niger
Delta Resistance*

CHAD INFANTE
*Violence as Language in Leslie
Marmon Silko's Tony's Story*

MAY 19, 2015

ELIZAVETA STRAKHOV

Northwestern University

The Silence of the Lambs: The French Pastourelle and Critiques of the Hundred Years War

Elizaveta Strakhov received her A.B. magna cum laude in History and Literature from Harvard University in 2007, and her M.A. (2009) and Ph.D (2014) in Comparative Literature and Literary Theory from the University of Pennsylvania. After completing a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in Medieval French at Northwestern University, she will be joining Marquette University as Assistant Professor of English in the fall of 2015.

Her research problematizes the notion of Anglo-French cultural exchange in the late medieval period by offering “cross-Channel” and the “Francophone” as alternative categories that allows us to decenter Paris and London as the sole loci of cultural and political power in this period and direct our attention to the under-explored geopolitical differences between French speakers in different parts of Francophone Europe (Paris and London, but also the Low Countries, Northern England, Switzerland, etc). Her current project,

Politics in Translation: Lyric Form and the Francophone Self in Late Medieval Europe, investigates the use of a specific lyric genre, the formes fixes, by a group of Francophone poets (including Guillaume de Machaut, Jean Froissart, Eustache Deschamps, Geoffrey Chaucer, and John Gower) to negotiate tensions placed on cross-European Francophone communities by the rise of protonationalism and regionalist faction during the Hundred Years War in the mid-late fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries. In bringing in a formalist methodology to bear on questions surrounding transnationalism and transregionalism, Strakhov is also invested in the history of the material text. Thus, her work also heavily considers the circulation of formes fixes poetry in the late medieval period, wherein she also argues for the early fifteenth-century emergence of a cross-Channel anthologizing impulse, in which the sophisticated arrangement of lyric content became a form of trenchant political commentary. Her second book project, as yet in its early planning stages, will extend her interests into cross-Channel literary exchange during the Hundred Years War by looking at the use of animal imagery and allegory in literature of this period, through which she aims to complicate and reorient concerns

central to modern-day animal studies. Strakhov's research has been supported by an American Association for University Women Dissertation Completion Fellowship and the Schallek Award from the Medieval Academy of America/Richard III Society, as well as several grants from the University of Pennsylvania and, most recently, the Mellon Rare Book School Fellowship in Critical Bibliography. She has published on Chaucer's reception of antiquity in Chaucer and Fame, ed. Catherine Nall and Isabel Davis for Boydell & Brewer and has forthcoming book chapters on Machaut, Chaucer and late medieval law (*Machaut's Legacy: The Judgment Poetry Tradition and Late Medieval Literature*, ed. Burt Kimmelman and R. Barton Palmer for University Press of Florida); on a formes fixes anthology known as the Pennsylvania Manuscript (*Taxonomies of Knowledge*, ed. Lynn Ransom and Emily Steiner for University of Pennsylvania Press); and on the literary history of Burgundy (*Europe: A Literary History, 1348-1418*, ed. David Wallace for Oxford University Press). She also has two translations from French into English of fourteenth century poetry forthcoming in a casebook on an important Hundred Years War battle, edited by Michael Livingston and Kelly DeVries for Liverpool University Press.

May 19, 2015

4:30 PM

Harris -108

The Department of French & Italian presents

THE SILENCE OF THE LAMBS:

The French Pastourelle and Critiques of the Hundred Years War

A lecture by

ELIZAVETA STRAKHOV

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in French Medieval Literature,
Northwestern University



Elizaveta Strakhov

APRIL 23, 2015

MARC CRÉPON
ENS rue d'Ulm (Paris)

Contrer la violence:
réflexions après les événements du 7 au 9 janvier à Paris

Le 23 avril, le Department of French and Italian et le FIG ont offert une « causerie » avec Marc Crépon, de l'ENS rue d'Ulm (Paris), sur le thème : “Contrer la violence: réflexions après les événements du 7 au 9 janvier à Paris”. Marc Crépon a proposé un ensemble de réflexions préliminaires pour penser à la violence, aussi bien domestique que politique. De la violence comme fait relationnel, concept moral et mécanisme social, à la violence comme arme politique dans le fonctionnement de la terreur, les logiques de la violence doivent être abordées selon leurs effets et non selon les raisons qu’elles affichent. C’est la thèse que Marc Crépon a défendue, arguant que toute condamnation de la violence demeure inefficace si elle ne commence par rejeter les innombrables et retorses justifications que la violence se donne. Des questions passionnantes ont animé le débat qui a succédé : comment définir le concept de violence lui-même, qui recouvre tant de phénomènes différents, de la violence conjugale à la torture légale ? Et si le point commun à tous ces phénomènes est d’être envisagé par leurs effets, comment alors aborder les causes de la violence ? Des questions auxquelles nous espérons que Marc Crépon aura loisir de répondre dans son livre en préparation sur le sujet.

Émilie Cappella

The Department of
FRENCH & ITALIAN
Northwestern University

SPECIAL
EVENT!

French Interdisciplinary Group
FIG
Northwestern University

Contrer la violence

réflexions après les événements du 7 au 9 janvier à Paris

A causerie featuring
Marc Crépon
Director, Department
of Philosophy
ENS rue d'Ulm (Paris)

Thursday
April 23
1-2pm

Crowe 2-130

This event is
free and open
to everyone

Light lunch
will be served

Made possible with
the support of the
Cultural Services of
the French Embassy

www.frenchanditalian.northwestern.edu
<http://buffett.northwestern.edu/programs/fig.html>



In addition to the Isabelle Alfandary lecture and Marc Crépon causerie, the French Interdisciplinary Group's Spring visiting faculty program also explored the topics of language and politics in French and Islamic thought.

On Tuesday, April 28, 2015, Crépon also gave a well-received talk entitled “The Trial of Hatred” in commemoration of the centennial year of the outbreak of World War I. He recalled the resistance offered by literary figures such as Romain Rolland and Stefan Zweig against the war, and the hatred which it provoked, and discussed their language and actions of resistance, which effectively “place hatred on trial.” Marc Crépon is a Professor of Philosophy and the Chair of the Philosophy department at the École Normale Supérieure (Paris), where he directs the dual Ph.D. program between Northwestern and the École Normale Supérieure. He is the author of thirteen books on the philosophy of identity, otherness, vi-

olence, and grievability. *The Thought of Death and The Memory of War* appeared in English in October, 2013.

On Friday, May 8, 2015, The Department of French and Italian and the French Interdisciplinary Group hosted a round table discussion entitled “Charlie Hebdo and Beyond: Language, Power, Perspective” in the Rip-ton Room (Scott Hall 201). The participating speakers included Makram Abbès, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Islamic Thought at the École Normale Supérieure (Lyon), Marc Crépon, Professor of Philosophy at the École Normale Supérieure (Paris), as well as Northwestern's own Elizabeth Shakman Hurd, Associate Professor of Political Science, Michel Loriaux, Professor of Political Science, Nasrin Qader, Associate Professor of French, and Émilie Cappella, a Ph.D. candidate in the French department. The event was generously supported by the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, the Buffett Institute for Global Studies, and the Cultural Services of the French Embassy.

Caroline Vial

The Department of French & Italian and The French Interdisciplinary Group
present...

Maximes, poésies et récits:

rhétorique et politique dans les textes arabes
des Miroirs des princes

a lecture by
Makram Abbès
École Normale Supérieure-Lyon

Monday, May 11
4 o'clock
Crowe Hall, 2-130

This event is free
and open to everyone

event made possible by the generous
support of the Cultural Services of the
French Embassy, the Buffett Institute, and
Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences
www.frenchanditalian.northwestern.edu
http://buffett.northwestern.edu/programs/fig.html

Makram Abbès is Professor of Islamic Thought
and Philosophy at École Normale Supérieure,
Lyon and member of Triangle Action, Discours,
Pensée Politique et Économique. His areas of
research include Islamic political and juridical
thought; political and moral thought in Islam, in
particular the works of Al-Farabi, Averroes and
Averroes. He is the author of numerous
articles and essays. His latest work is entitled
AL-HAMAD, *De l'éthique du Prince et du
gouvernement de l'État*, which he translated and
edited, preceded by *Essai sur les arts de
gouverner en Islam* (2015).

Christopher Bush gave talks this spring at the American Comparative Literature conference in Seattle, the “Global Asias” conference at Penn State, the Critical Asian Humanities conference at Duke, and a talk at Princeton for their speaker series on new scholarship on the avant-garde.

Doris L. Garraway took part in the following events: “The Color of Haitian Kingship: Power, Performance, and the Sacred in the Coronation of Henry Christophe.” Invited paper presented at a conference on “Color in the Early Modern Atlantic World,” University of Chicago, May 2. “Black Athena in Haiti: Universal History, Civilization, and the Pre-History of Negritude in the Kingdom of Henry Christophe.” Invited paper at the conference “Enlightenment World Appropriations” at the University of Halle, Germany, June 13-14. On April 3, she participated in a roundtable discussion at Columbia University on “Historicizing the Francophone,” which was part of a day-long workshop entitled “The Future of Francophone Studies: The Francophone in Question.”

Dominique Licops was invited to participate in the Francophone Book Fair on March 14th 2015, an event that was part of the month-long Festival de la Francophonie 2015, to be in conversation with Haitian-born poet, Rodney Saint-Eloi, editor of *Mémoire d'écriture*,

a Quebec publishing house dedicated to the *auteurs de la diversité*.

In Fall 2014, **Paola Morgavi** received the Premio Dante Award from the American Association of Teachers of Italian (AATI)- Midwest Chapter, for her service to the Italian language teaching community at the local level and nationwide.

Cynthia Nazarian presented her paper, “Torture and Martyrdom: Discourses of Truth in Agrippa d’Aubigné” in March, 2015 at the American Comparative Literature Association’s annual conference in Seattle, WA. She recently completed her book manuscript, *Love’s Wounds: Violence, Counter-sovereignty and the Politics of Poetry in Early Modern Europe* and is currently writing an article titled “On Violence” for *The Oxford Handbook of Montaigne*.

Aude Raymond was selected to participate in a training session for French for the Medical Professions, sponsored by the French Embassy in Washington, DC. The session was held from May 25 to May 29 at Michigan Technological University, and was conducted by the Pedagogical Director of the French Language Center of the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Twenty-two participants from various universities across the country received practical training in curriculum and preparation

to teach French for medical applications.

Christiane Rey received a Course Enhancement Grant to take her Advanced Composition class (FR302) to a performance of *Waiting for Godot* at the Court Theatre at the University of Chicago on February 6. The class had read the original French version by Samuel Beckett and students subsequently wrote a review of the play. She also attended the 2014 Symposium on Second Language Writing at Arizona State, Tempe, AZ on November 13-15, 2014.

In fall and winter **Tom Simpson** performed readings of *Rumore di acque* in Valli del Pasubio and in Genoa, spoke on the play at the University of Modena, and in Naples gave a grad student workshop on writing in English and a joint conference with author Ermanno Rea about Rea’s book *Mystery in Naples*. Since March he has been keeping a blog in English about the disease devastating the ancient olive trees of southern Puglia: <http://xylellacodiro.blogspot.com/>

Katia Viot-Southard’s article “Esquisse de révolte: Libre! de Jeanne Herter-Eymond au Théâtre Féministe en 1898” was published in the 2014 WIF Studies Special Issue, *Women’s Voices: Critical Essays on Francophone Women’s Theater*.

Welcome Our Newest Faculty Member: CHRISTOPHER DAVIS

Christopher Davis holds a BA in Classics from McGill University and a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of Michigan. His research focuses on medieval French, Occitan and Classical literatures, particularly lyric poetry, medieval theories of poetry and language, medieval textual culture and the circulation of medieval Francophone literature in a Mediterranean context. His current book project, *Poetry and Power: Literary Language in the High Middle Ages* examines the competition between French and Occitan as languages of vernacular literary authority during the twelfth and thir-



Christopher Davis

teenth centuries. This project argues for the importance of vernacular lyric anthologies in conceptualizing new models of literary and linguistic authority distinct from Latin. It also contends that anthologies in French and Occitan serve not only as literary and linguistic exemplars, but as cultural handbooks, which stage debates about the changing political and cultural roles of the vernacular as a literary language. *Poetry and Power* thus situates the competition for prestige among languages and genres within historical and political frameworks, including the expansion of medieval empires and trade routes throughout the Mediterranean, the emergence of national languages and the increasingly broad circulation of vernacular literary texts.

Before coming to Northwestern, he was

CONGRATULATIONS! FACULTY PROMOTIONS:

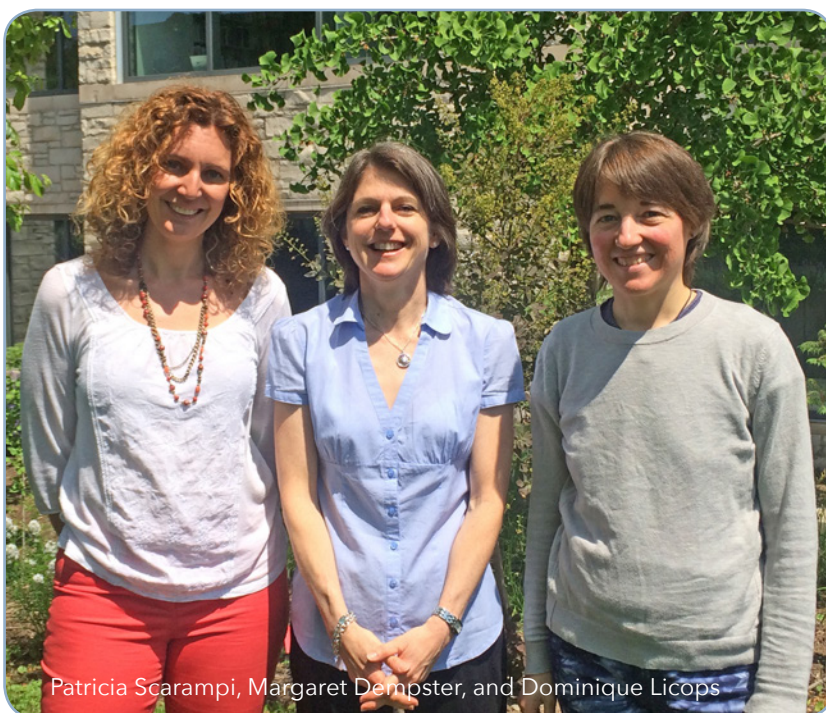
We are proud to announce that **Margaret Dempster** was promoted from Assistant Professor of Instruction in French to Associate Professor of Instruction in French. She continues to encourage students to study abroad, and values her role as Study Abroad Adviser for French and as a member of the University Study Abroad Committee (USAC). As a fellow at ISRC since 2004, Margaret enjoys hosting the weekly *table française* with her colleague, Aude Raymond. Margaret also continues to serve on several committees within the Council on Language Instruction (CLI). In April of this year, she completed her fourth Boston marathon - but this time ran it with a friend from Paris! Margaret looks forward to another year in the French and Italian Department - despite the Kresge construction!

Dominique Licops was promoted to Associate Professor of Instruction. She's balanced teaching with advising and administrative responsibilities, strengthening the coherence of the French Language program at a time of transition due to several retirements and new hires. She thanks all her wonderful colleagues who have served as guides and mentors in the process, as well as the teaching-track faculty and graduate instructors whose collegiality and competence have facilitated her work as the Director of the French Language program. She has thoroughly enjoyed teaching a range of courses, and in particular, having the opportunity to specialize in 200-level introduction to literature and culture courses, where she aims to bring French-speaking literatures and cultures alive in the classroom, encouraging connections across and beyond campus. For instance, this fall, her French 211 class visited the Hélène Berr traveling exhibit (from the Memorial de la Shoah) at the Highland Park library and attended *Ionesco Suite* at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. In this spring's French 273 (Introducing French Poetry), students were inspired by three guest lecturers: Stella Radulescu, our former colleague and internationally recognized poet who spoke about her writing and read from her work; Toby Altman, poet and graduate student from the English Department who led students in a workshop on OULIPO approaches to poetry and presented OULIPO influences on contemporary American poets; and Susan Harris, editorial director of the website "Words without borders," that "promotes cultural understanding through the translation, publication, and promotion of the finest contemporary international literature." Dominique looks forward to collaborating with and supporting new and ongoing projects that will further strengthen and diversify our French Language Program, as well as campus-wide initiatives that promote the study of foreign languages and cultures as an essential component of a "global" education.

Over the last two years, **Patricia Scarampi** created a new syllabus for French Phonetics and designed a new course, Foreign Language Teaching: Theory and Practice, that she taught for the first time this quarter. In addition to her regular instruction, she supervises our teaching assistants, organizes the French Writing Center and advises students for their senior theses and research through independent studies. This year Patricia worked with one of our seniors, advising him on linguistics and terminology. Next year she will be advising another student on a thesis in pedagogy and phonetics. In the short term she will be working on different research projects such as an article on the challenges of translating humor, a hybrid course for our second-year French language instruction that she is starting to develop with two of her colleagues, and also a pedagogical project about French accents that will enhance the French Phonetics class and will also be a useful resource for all our students. As she puts it, "I am thrilled to be promoted to the rank of Assistant Professor of Instruction after four years of fulfilling and rewarding experience in our department."

a Mellon postdoctoral fellow in Classics at Kalamazoo College, the ACLS/ Mellon New Faculty Fellow in French and Comparative Literature at U-C, Berkeley and a Visiting Lecturer in French and Italian at Princeton, where he taught courses on medieval travel narratives, Arthurian romance and troubadour lyric, among many others.

He looks forward to continuing the strong tradition of interdisciplinary medieval studies at Northwestern, particularly in Occitan. When not teaching or writing, he is an avid long-distance runner and tennis player (he needs a new partner!). Originally from Boston, he has a life-long devotion to the Red Sox, though he looks forward to watching the Cubs win the World Series later this year.



Patricia Scarampi, Margaret Dempster, and Dominique Licops

Genevieve Amaral published “leur anachronisme devient flagrant”: Georges Bataille, aristocracy, and writing in the interwar period” in the January 2015 issue of *Neohelicon*. She also presented “The Ruins of Tragedy in Proust” at the conference of the International Society for the Study of Narrative in March.

Matthew Brauer gave a talk entitled “The Imperial Future of Ruins: French travelers in Morocco before the Protectorate” as part of the NU Program in Middle East and North African Studies’ “MENA Monday” series. He discussed how ruins were interpreted by French travelers to pre-colonial Morocco as sites for imperial intervention and how post-independence Moroccan writers have re-imagined the meaning of these traces of the past in the country’s landscape. He has also received a fellowship to attend the Paris Program in Critical Theory for the 2015-16 academic year.

Brett Brehm successfully defended his dissertation, entitled “Kaleidophonic Modernity: Sound, City, Technology,” with a committee of Michal Ginsburg (director), Christopher Bush, and Alexander Weheliye. He also presented a paper entitled “19th Century Wiretapping: Arresting the Flight of Time in Charles Cros’s ‘Le Journal de l’avenir’” at the 40th annual 19th Century French Studies Colloquium in San Juan, Puerto Rico. In March, he presented a paper entitled “Wall Street Containment: Bartleby’s Contagious Language,” at the American Comparative Literature Association’s (ACLA) annual conference in Seattle, Washington.

Émilie Cappella attended “Culture/Identity/Politics: Eloge de la Créolité. Twenty-five years on, a Winthrop King Institute International Conference” at Florida State University in Tallahassee.

There, she presented a paper entitled “Parole commune et discours indirect: créoliser la scène d’énonciation”. Émilie also attended The International Conference on Narrative at The University of Chicago. There, she served as the chair for the session Language, Speech, Transformation, and presented a paper entitled “The representation of speech in Créolité novels in light of skaz narrative.” Émilie’s article “Loin de Médine. Donner lieu de parler” will be published in the upcoming Spring 2015 issue of *Expressions Maghrébines*.

Joseph Derosier presented “Genealogies and Fantasies: Arthurian and Christic miracles in the Perlesvaus” at the 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies in May. This paper examines how Perlesvaus deploys genealogy and typology to link Arthurian Britain to the origins of Christendom, with Christic relics and miracles abundant in Arthur’s realm as Perlesvaus, Gauvain, and Lancelot seek not only the Grail, but also to Christianize the British Isles; Perlesvaus’s genealogies link the Arthurian realm to Christendom’s origins with relics, while its miraculous performances set the Arthurian realm as a new site of holy encounter, a new Holy Land.

Rachel Mihuta Grimm attended “Les Chemins de la Tradition: Myths, Mythemes, and the Rewriting of Origins,” at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. There, she presented a paper entitled “‘Tel un noyau près de germer sous d’autres cieux’: The Potential Worlds of Kateb Yacine’s Nedjma.” In her paper, she argues that the experience of time in Kateb’s novel works to destabilize the unifying myth of Algerian nationalism.

Abigail Stahl successfully defend-

ed her dissertation titled “The Passions in Theory and Practice in the Works of Anne-Louise Germaine de Staël.” She was offered and has accepted an appointment as a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Digital Humanities at the Sandi Port Errant Language and Culture Learning Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Eliana Văgălău successfully defended her dissertation titled “Nomadic Memory in the Contemporary Caribbean Novel” at the end of Winter Quarter. She has also written an article titled “Jean-Claude Charles: Challenging the Notion of Global Literature or the Absent Man Who Walks”, which is to appear in *Contemporary French & Francophone Studies: Sites* 19.3.

Caroline Vial attended the following conferences: “From Zola to Cinema – Negotiating an Aesthetic Politics of Narrative Forms” at The International Conference on Narrative, The University of Chicago, March 8, 2015. “From Thermodynamics to Critical Theory: The Politics of Émile Zola’s Entropic Aesthetics” at the Graduate Conference on Critical Theory, “Impression and Object,” City University of New York, March 28, 2014. “Zola et la Politique des Corps” at the Annual AIZEN Conference, University of New Orleans, March 6, 2014. Additionally, she received a grant from the French Department to organize a workshop series in 2015-2016 on Researching and Teaching Foreign-Language Subjects Through the Digital Humanities. Graduate students from all programs with an interest in Digital Humanities research and teaching will be able to receive certified training. If you are interested in attending, please email her at c-vial@u.northwestern.edu.



New Graduate Student: Hasheem Hakeem

I grew up in Vancouver, Canada where I completed my Honours BA in French and minor in Mathematics. I then went on to finish my MA in French literature at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada. My Master's thesis looked to redefine the postcolonial notion of cultural hybridity through an analysis of three of Azouz Begag's novels. This project was funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, part of which granted me the opportunity to spend a research semester in Paris at the University of Paris 3: Sorbonne Nouvelle under the supervision of Dr. Bruno Blanckeman. I also had the privilege of teaching intermediate French language courses at the University of British Columbia where I began to further develop an interest in second language acquisition and methods of effective French language teaching. My current research interests revolve more broadly around the intersections between literature, society and religion, especially with respect to identity construction among marginalized and minority communities.

I was initially drawn to Northwestern due to its interdisciplinary nature and thus far the experience has been wonderful both intellectually and socially. I have made some great friends and, having grown up in a suburb myself, I am very much enjoying the small-town vibe of Evanston where I live. The close proximity to all that Chicago has to offer (especially food and amazing lake views) makes Northwestern a fantastic place to be. Although I was initially worried about the frigid winters, I look forward to my next few years at Northwestern and as the weather warms up, I am beginning to enjoy Chicago more and more!



New Graduate Student: Tamara Tasevska

I come from a small country in Southern Europe, Macedonia, where I grew up in the capital city, Skopje. I started my undergraduate studies at the University of Skopje and then I moved to Nice, in the south of France to finish my degree of French Studies and Audiovisual Communication at the University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis. While I was studying, I was also volunteering in an NGO called Solidarités Jeunesses which organized youth work camps across Europe in order to restore and preserve sites that are considered as cultural heritage.

I always wanted to study and do research in American universities. First I did my MA of French Literature and Film at Miami University of Ohio, and now I am very excited to do my PhD here at Northwestern. I love the interdisciplinary approach of my program and I have been really enjoying the diverse environment in Evanston, both in class and outside. I have been living in Chicago for almost six months now and I love the little antique shops and Ethiopian restaurants that are just around the corner from my building. I am also glad that I live in a city where I can use the public transportation and easily explore its culturally rich neighborhoods. Chicago has a variety of things to offer and, as a scholar who is interested in exploring visual and literary cultures, I am very excited that I can enjoy the numerous film festivals, poetry readings, book events and exhibitions.



ENS Student: Béline Liliame Paola Clementine Missiroli

Like past exchange students from the École normale supérieure in Paris, I am here to teach French (I21-25) for one year. I earned an M.A. in History from the Université Paris 7-Diderot. My thesis analyzed the history of contemporary art collections, which gave me the opportunity to meet many artists, politicians, and curators. My scholarly interests have recently shifted to architecture, which is one reason why I decided to come to the Chicago area. I also wanted to gain experience in teaching. I'm particularly happy and grateful towards Northwestern: staff, faculty, students who have been so kind and welcoming! Thank you for everything!

When I'm not teaching, grading papers and doing research (or cooking and playing the banjo), I bicycle throughout the city and I try to explore each neighborhood the best I can. I haven't had enough time to miss Grenoble's mountains yet, but I'm sure that the combination of the lake and the skyscrapers will continue to be more than enough to captivate me for a long time!

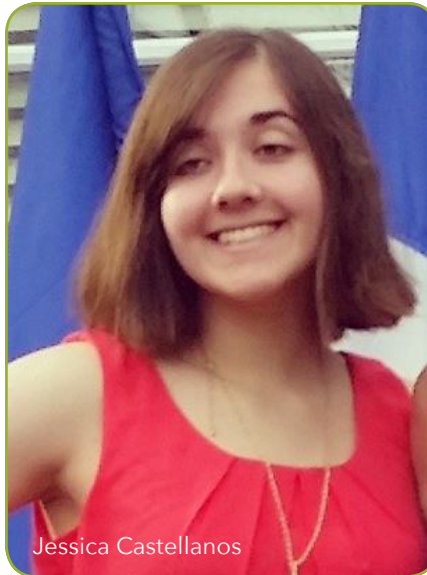
My Summer in France

By Jessica Castellanos

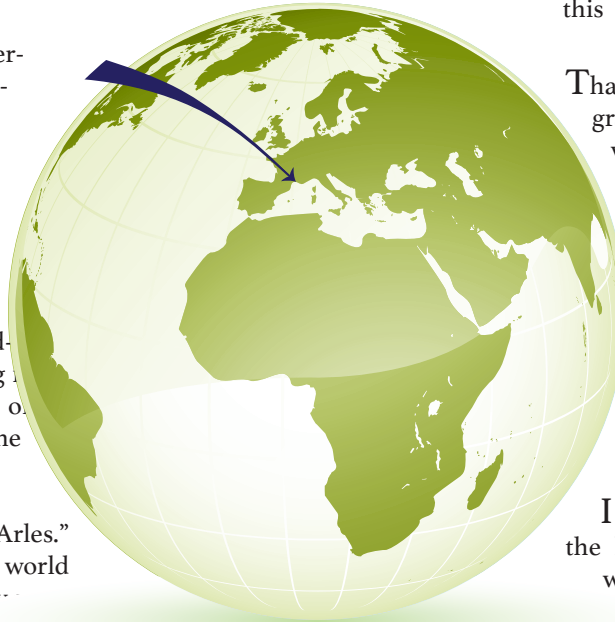
I am so excited to study abroad in Arles, France this summer! I have loved the French language since 8th grade when I accidentally started listening to French radio and it inspired me to try to teach myself how to speak French with instruction books from the library. My French has gotten better since then, but it's not quite where I'd like it to be. I can read and understand pretty well, but I want to get to a level of speaking fluency where I don't have to pause every few seconds to conjugate a verb or remember a word. For that reason, I am really excited to immerse myself in the language this summer.

I hope to eventually go into international law with a focus on climate justice and human rights. My French will help me work with laws implemented by the European Union or the United Nations. Going abroad will also help me prepare to work with French-speakers by exposing me to French culture. In addition to the classes I'll be taking in French, I'll get the chance to go on a bunch of cultural excursions. The one I'm the most excited for is a trip to the photography exhibit "Les Rencontres d'Arles." Photographers from all over the world come to show off their work every summer, and this year I get to be there.

I've never been out of the country before, which is probably weird for an International Studies major. I'm hoping that my lack of experience will actually be an asset to me, as I am ready to seize every opportunity that is afforded to me while abroad. I'm very lucky to get to study abroad so early in my Northwestern career. Hopefully, it will shape the rest of my college experience.



Jessica Castellanos



My summer in France

By Alexandra Jean Marshall

When I matriculated to Northwestern, I had many goals about what I would accomplish in four years. I planned to major in anthropology or biology while still taking classes in history or English, join the NU club tennis team, and make a close group of friends. One additional goal included minoring in French with the hope of living at least one semester in France to develop language fluency. To achieve this goal, I knew that I needed to study abroad, where I could completely immerse myself in the French culture and language. However, with my other academic goals and financial constraints, the hope to study abroad this summer appeared unrealistic.

Thankfully, I applied for the Undergraduate Language Grant. After working with the Office of Undergraduate Research, I was awarded \$5000 to study abroad this summer as a part of the IES Arles Summer program. Through this program, I will take classes in various subjects such as sociology, theater, and photography, where all of my coursework will be taught in French.

I am especially excited to explore the local city culture and traditions, which is an integral part of the program's six-week educational design. Not only will I explore the city of Arles as a part of my curriculum, I will live with a local family as part of the immersion process. Living with a family has to be what I'm most excited about because I know this opportunity to regularly speak and hear French with my family will allow me to develop language proficiency far greater than if I were living with fellow English-speaking students. This travel abroad opportunity is a dream come true. I am very excited about how much my French language skills and cultural knowledge I will develop. In addition to the academic benefits, I'm looking forward to making many new friends and having irreplaceable experiences.



Alexandra Jean Marshall

For Study Abroad information
go to:

www.frenchanditalian.northwestern.edu/abroad/

Paris est une fête

By Vanessa Shuang Gao

L'automne dernier je me suis installée à Paris à cause du programme IFE (« Internships in Francophone Europe »), qui comprenait cinq semaines de cours préparatoires et puis dix semaines de stage. Chaque étudiant avait des stages différents, dans les domaines de leurs spécialités ou leurs intérêts. En tant qu'étudiante d'histoire de l'art, j'avais de la chance d'être stagiaire au musée national des arts asiatiques – Guimet, ainsi qu'au musée d'Orsay. Au musée Guimet, j'ai aidé le département de marketing, en m'occupant de la conservation de l'exposition « Splendeurs des Han », qui commémorait le cinquantenaire de l'établissement des relations diplomatiques France-Chine. Après mes six semaines au Guimet, j'ai travaillé au département de documentation au Orsay, où j'ai aidé avec le dépouillement des documents concernant les œuvres du musée.

Pendant mes cinq mois à Paris pour le programme IFE, j'ai trouvé la vérité dans les mots de Hemingway, « Paris est une fête. » Amatrice des arts et de la gastronomie, je suis tombée amoureuse de tout ce que cette ville magnifique m'a offert : mes stages au Guimet et au Orsay m'ont permis de me balader parmi des milliers chefs-d'œuvre simplement pendant ma pause déjeuner ; toute une variété de marchés en plein air apparaissaient partout le dimanche, pleins de fromages, de fruits de mer, et d'huile d'olive du Sud de la France.

C'était facile de découvrir la beauté à Paris, car pour moi elle était omniprésente. Quand j'étais stagiaire au Orsay, je faisais la navette chaque matin, mais la route ne m'a jamais ennuyée. En sortant du métro, je traversais le jardin des Tuileries, et puis la Seine. En plein cœur de la ville, la tour Eiffel, la cathédrale de Notre Dame, et le Louvre étaient tous en vue. Chaque matin c'était comme un trajet à travers l'histoire de la ville. Et c'est simplement un exemple ; de tels incidents abondaient. Ce sentiment de coexistence entre l'histoire et la modernité m'a fasciné sans cesse, et je n'ai jamais éprouvé un tel sentiment ailleurs dans le monde.



Vanessa Gao

Café Francophone

By Kristen Campbell, Matthew Guzman,
Paul Salamanca, and Natalie Stern

Le dernier café francophone a eu lieu à la fin du deuxième trimestre. Le Cercle Francophone organise ces cafés une ou deux fois par trimestre—ce sont des occasions pour les étudiants de Northwestern de se parler français, manger de la pâtisserie, et rencontrer des autres étudiants qui s'intéressent à la langue française et la culture francophone. Particulièrement pour les étudiants de première et deuxième année, ils peuvent apprendre plus sur les classes de français à Northwestern et les programmes pour étudier à l'étranger. Pour ce café, le Cercle Francophone a apporté des pâtisseries (des croissants et des macarons) qui venaient de Pâtisserie Coralie, un magasin très populaire dans le centre-ville de Evanston. Il semblait que les étudiants les aient bien appréciées; il n'y en avait plus après le café!

The most recent Café Francophone was put on at the end of Winter Quarter by the Cercle Francophone. The Cercle normally holds one or two cafés per quarter, where Northwestern students can gather to practice their French with one another, enjoy pastries or other snacks, and most importantly meet other students who share a love for the French language and the francophone world. These cafés provide a great opportunity for younger students to learn about all of the great opportunities within the French Department, both in terms of classes and studying abroad, in a casual setting. For this last café, the Cercle Francophone provided pastries from Pâtisserie Coralie in Evanston, which everyone seemed to really enjoy as they disappeared long before the end of the café!



Kristen Campbell

Study Abroad in Bologna, Italy by Michael Perugini

There's a popular expression in Italian: to do something "*con calma*," which literally means with calm. While studying abroad in Bologna this past fall, I got used to hearing these words multiple times per day in a wide variety of contexts. Whether they're preparing breakfast in the morning, or preparing to go out clubbing at night, the vast majority of Italians I encountered preferred to do things *con calma*.

I think this idea captures one of the fundamental differences between the American and Italian (or, perhaps more aptly, Mediterranean) lifestyles. In the U.S. – and particularly at Northwestern – life is fast-paced, rigorously scheduled and quite stressful. In Italy,

I often found the opposite to be true.

A myriad of examples come to mind, some more striking than others. I remember noticing rather early on that people seemed to walk much more slowly on average in Bologna than in, say, Chicago or New York. Even the largest Italian cities, Rome and Milan, seemed to lack what might be a uniquely American sense of perpetual urgency. Appointments, particularly social ones, were more flexible. If I planned to meet friends for dinner at 8, I came to expect them to trickle in between 8:30 and 9:30.

To a certain extent, even the structure of the classes I took at the University of Bologna reflected the Italian approach to life. Unlike in the U.S., I had no regular assignments or assessments, no papers or quizzes; instead, there was one final exam per class, which consti-

tuted a 30-minute oral interview with the professor. As students, we were expected to manage our time and keep up with our work totally independently. Certainly many of my Italian classmates studied very hard, but few ever seemed as overworked and stressed as Northwestern students during finals week. Of course, there's also less pressure on students to finish their degrees quickly, given that university fees are comparatively low. As a result, many Italians spend more than the standard three years (sometimes much more) to obtain their bachelor's equivalent.

Many have argued that the attitude I'm describing here has contributed in large part to Italy's economic woes. That argument probably has some merit, but it also fails to tell the whole story. Comparing the U.S. to Italy is, in a certain sense, like comparing Starbucks to the ubiquitous Italian "*bar*." Starbucks is a large and highly organized franchise, and that confers certain benefits: customers shuffle in and out as employees prepare beverages with conveyor belt-like efficiency. But Starbucks also lacks the personality and charm of the small, independently owned coffee shops where Italians regularly congregate and socialize.

Ultimately, there is good to be found in both models. Living with five different Italian students, I eventually became immersed in the Italian way of life, and it was really good for me. By the end of my stay, I had transitioned to Italian time – in other words, I was no longer always the first one to arrive – and was the least stressed I've been in years, even with the pressure of summer internship recruiting on the horizon. Now, of course, I'm back at Northwestern and have largely reverted back to my old habits, but I've tried to hold on to a few things, such as taking the time to make myself an espresso in the morning with my stovetop moka pot. It makes a difference. At the risk of sounding clichéd and pseudo-enlightened, I would say to my fellow Northwestern students, and to Americans in general, that it's important to step back from time to time – to try and live a little bit more as Italians do. We could all benefit tremendously from a little more calm in our lives.



We are very excited to announce the return of ROSA LA ROSE,
the French and Italian literary magazine!

It is very important to record the creative work of our students as they try to find a voice in a new language, and enunciate their points of view and concerns about the world in which they live.

In [our magazine](#), we present the photographs, drawings, paintings, poems and short essays from our students and faculty. With the passage of each academic year, we strive to preserve and celebrate creativity!

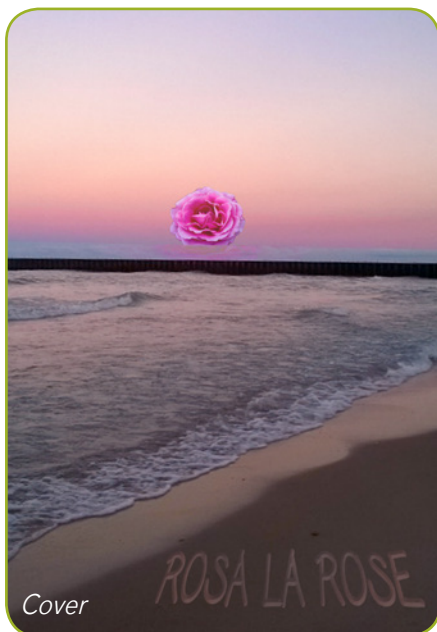
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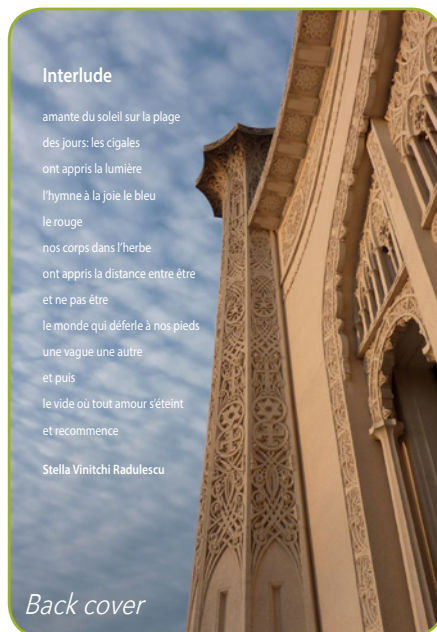
art by Jerry Joo



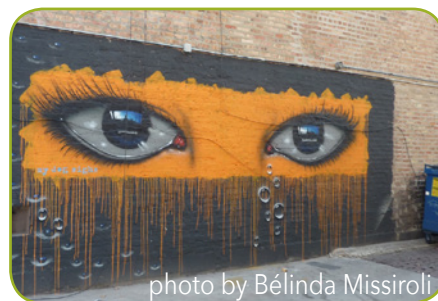
Vanessa Gao



Cover



Back cover



SPRING

by Stella Vinitchi Radulescu

there are small tender leaves
at the end of the branch
a luminous twig
eyes piping hot in the grass
the snail looks happy—
it's Spring
a song cuts the silence
in two

there are dark-blue hills
in deep meditation the
burden
of a new joy—
the swan floats in the air
a template of an old
god
never seen in the sky
nor on earth

the poem ends the brain
wakes up
to gather the crumbs



Andy Donaldson



photo by Alina Carrel



photo by Erica Yoshimura

La mia vita codognina

Michael Psitos
(WCAS '14)

“Di dove sei tu?”

“Eh, sono americano--vengo da Philadelphia”

“Da Philadelphia? A Codogno? E che ci fai qua?”

Queste sono, senza dubbio, le testuali parole che sento ogni volta che conosco una nuova persona qui a Codogno (di solito accompagnate da una faccia di incredulità). Vogliono sapere, anzi capire, il motivo per cui un americano sceglierebbe di venire a Codogno a lavorare ed a vivere. La loro domanda effettivamente ha senso, mica sono un americano a Firenze o alle Cinque Terre...ma a Codogno! “Guarda.” mi disse un ragazzo in palestra quando gli spiegai che mi piaceva stare in Italia. “Hai ragione. Tutta l'Italia è bella. Ma Codogno, no.” Se non avete ancora capito, io trovo utile paragonarla con l'Ohio. Vivo nell' Ohio dell' Italia.



Torniamo indietro di otto mesi, a settembre 2014 quando vidi Codogno per la prima volta. Scesi dal treno dove mi stava aspettando la mia tutor--la professoressa organizzatrice del mio lavoro dentro il liceo. Mi aspettavo di provare un sentimento misto fra agitazione e ottimismo, ma invece mi trovai sul binario con un nervoso incredibile. Avevo paura di questo nuovo inizio.

La tutor mi vide. Le stesi una mano e lei si illuminò con un sorriso enorme. “Hello! I'm Francal!” mi disse. Cominciai a calmarmi. Era simpaticissima. Con un respiro, la seguii alla macchina.

Era una giornata caldissima e il cielo era coperto di nuvole. La mia tutor notò la particolare bellezza della giornata con la seguente spiegazione “The weather here is awful. It is very humid all the time, horribly cold in the winter, painfully hot in the summer, and it's always foggy.” Che introduzione. Avrebbe dovuto studiare marketing.



C'ho messo un po' di tempo ad abituarci al paesino. Mi ricordo la prima volta che presi un caffè al bar vicino alla scuola. La barista mi diede il caffè e io le feci una domanda, giusto per cominciare un po' di conversazione. Mi guardò come per dire “che cavolo vuoi?” Le spiegai che ero appena arrivato in città che ero nuovo del posto e che lavoravo al liceo. “Ah” mi rispose con una specie di grugnito.

Dopo tutto questo shock iniziale, però, notai che quasi ogni codognino che conoscevo non avrebbe mai scelto di vivere da nessun'altra parte (neanche a Casalpusterlengo due passi da qua, figuriamoci in un altro paese lontano migliaia di chilometri). E allora che cos'è che riesce a far stare così bene la gente qui?



Torniamo alla questione del bar, dove qualche settimana dopo il mio primo incontro, il mio amico Andrea mi raccontò che, dopo nove anni che ci va ogni giorno, lo chiamano ancora Luca. Sono famosi in città per essere scorbutici. E' una parte del fascino di Codogno. E' una parte della loro comunità.

Dopo un anno qua, posso assicurare che la parte più bella di Codogno è proprio questa comunità. Dentro la nostra scuola c'è un senso di familiarità profonda. I professori si aiutano, i ragazzi si aiutano, e tutti lavorano per portare avanti i comuni scopi. I legami fra le persone sono radicati da tanto tempo, sono profondi, e perciò anche nel mondo d'oggi i codognini non hanno ancora perso quel senso di importanza nei rapporti umani. I ragazzi interrompono lo studio per andare alla macchinetta del caffè per fare due chiacchiere. I professori arrivano cinque minuti in ritardo perché finiscono di raccontarsi le cose fra di loro. Questa spesso-citata lentezza nel mondo del lavoro è, in realtà, un senso di comunità e umanità che continua a dare all' Italia una magia unica per noi stranieri.



Dalla mia tutor che mi ha fatto sentire a casa più di quello che potevo mai immaginare, al nonno del mio amico Davide che quando mi vede, mi dice “Ma vieni qui a casa quando vuoi, ne’!”, tante persone mi hanno dimostrato quest'anno i motivi per cui una comunità così può' svilupparsi.

Ora che devo salutare Codogno mi rendo conto che mi mancheranno persino gli sguardi vigili degli anziani dalle loro finestre che all'inizio dell'anno mi impaurivano. Ora mi fanno tenerezza.

Experiencing the Multicultural Side of Italy

by Iman Childs
(School of Comm. '14)

As I prepare to return home to the United States in a month, I can scarcely believe I have lived in Rome for the past 8 months. Though I am excited at the prospect of returning home, my time in Italy has, unquestionably, been a truly once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Following my graduation from Northwestern last year, I received the incredible news that I was selected for a Fulbright grant to create a documentary in Rome, Italy. When people heard that I was moving to Rome, many imagined I would wander down cobblestone streets every day, delicious gelato in hand, getting lost and stumbling upon a priceless work of art. Or that my apartment would be a centuries old palazzo in the historic center of the city, with the sounds of my neighbors singing in Italian filling the air as the sun sets. Like any visitor to Rome, I enjoy gazing upon landmarks such as the Colosseum and the Roman Forum, as well as strolling through the cobblestone pathways of Trastevere, one of the city's most picturesque neighborhoods, while sampling some delicious new flavor of gelato; however, moments like these do not comprise all of my time in Rome. Nonetheless, they are welcome reminders of

why Romans refer to their city as the *Caput Mundi*, or the Capital of the World.

After months of living in Rome, I feel a strange mix of being a visitor, with my ever expanding list of must-see museums and ruins, and feeling like a local resident. I have formed a routine, navigating the bus and metro with relative ease, while working on the reason I'm here: to make a film concerning the lives of African immigrants in Italy. The project was inspired by my time studying abroad in Florence during the winter and spring quarters of my junior year. While learning about Renaissance art, I was struck by the number of African immigrants I saw working as street vendors. These were the images of the Italy that I had never seen in Hollywood depictions of the Eternal City. Being on the ground in Italy has shown me the topic of migration is at the forefront of Italian government, news, and film. Through my interviews with first and second generation immigrants (i.e. the children of immigrants) of African descent, I have had the unique opportunity to hear firsthand about their backgrounds, identity, and their paths to Italy. This has led to the formation of friendships with my interviewees, all of whom were happy to showcase their slice of Roma. From attending a birthday party at a Moroccan restaurant in Centocelle, an area on the outskirts of Rome with a large Muslim population, to witnessing another interviewee defend his

thesis (which was on the topic of migration in the Arab world) and receive his Bachelors degree, I am immensely grateful for having the chance to experience the city's multiculturalism, an aspect many visitors do not get to see.

On a personal level, I have also grown immensely. Living abroad post-college is certainly different from a study abroad experience. I was responsible for navigating the visa and permit-of-stay application process, as well as finding an apartment upon my arrival in Rome. Learning and a mutual cultural exchange, a hallmark of the Fulbright Program, often happened when I least expected. Living with two Italian roommates, I found myself having conversations about everything from music to race relations in our respective countries, all spurred by whichever TV show we were watching. I have also immensely improved my Italian language skills and learned more about Rome and Italian culture than I could have ever imagined. My year in Italy has not been without its challenges of course; the country still has a ways to go in terms of accepting and appreciating the benefits of diversity. Nonetheless, I have been enjoying learning not only about Italian culture, but the cultures of people from all over the world. Whether it be visiting Rome's Grand mosque or eating Eritrean cuisine, this year abroad has allowed me to discover small pockets of Rome that make the city so great.



Iman Childs visiting Rome's Grand Mosque, the largest mosque in Europe

FALL QUARTER 2015 French & Italian COURSES

For more detailed information please visit
www.frenchanditalian.northwestern.edu/courses

The Department of French & Italian

FRENCH LANGUAGE COURSES

French 111-1:
Elementary French

French 115-1:
Intensive Elementary
French

French 121-1:
Intermediate French

French 125-2:
Intensive
Intermediate
French



Fall Quarter 2015

The Department of French & Italian

ITALIAN LANGUAGE COURSES

Italian 101-1:
Elementary Italian

Italian 102-1:
Intermediate Italian

Italian 133-1/134-1:
Intensive Italian



Fall Quarter 2015

Taught in FRENCH

MWF 12:00-12:50P
(Staff)

The Department of French & Italian

FR210-0

**READING
LITERATURES
IN FRENCH**



Fall Quarter 2015

taught in FRENCH

MWF 2:00-2:50P
Dominique Licops

The Department of French & Italian

FR211-0

**READING
CULTURES
IN FRENCH:
Changing
France**



Fall Quarter 2015


taught in FRENCH

MWF 1:00-1:50P
Eliana Vagalau

The Department of French & Italian

FR271-0

**INTRODUCING
THE NOVEL:
Genre and
Form**



Fall Quarter 2015

taught in FRENCH

TuTh 3:30-4:50P
Doris Garraway

The Department of French & Italian

FR364-0

**CARIBBEAN
LITERATURES
& CULTURES:
Literature &
Trauma in the
Francophone
Caribbean**



Fall Quarter 2015


taught in FRENCH

MWF 1:00-1:50P
Scott Durham

The Department of French & Italian

FR396-0

**CONTEMPORARY
THOUGHT IN THE
FRENCH SPEAKING
WORLD: From
Sartre to
Foucault:
Subjects,
Politics,
and Power**



Fall Quarter 2015


taught in ENGLISH

Th 3:30-5:50P
Christopher Davis

The Department of French & Italian

FR410-0

**STUDIES IN
MEDIÉVAL
LITERATURE:
The Troubadours
& the Occitan
Tradition: Lyrics
in a Manuscript
Context**



Fall Quarter 2015

Taught in FRENCH

MWF 12-12:50P (Pent)
1-1:50P (Scarampi)
2-2:50P (Scarampi)
3-3:50P (Staff)

The Department of French & Italian

FR201-0

INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH STUDIES



Fall Quarter 2015


Taught in FRENCH

MWF 11-11:50A (Scarampi)
1-1:50P (Viot-Southard)

The Department of French & Italian

FR202-0

WRITING WORKSHOP



Fall Quarter 2015

Taught in FRENCH

MWF 1-1:50P (Pent)
3-3:50P (Staff)

The Department of French & Italian

FR203-0

ORAL WORKSHOP



Fall Quarter 2015


taught in ENGLISH

MW Lecture 10-10:50A (Durham)
F Discussion 10-10:50A (Durham)
F Discussion 9-9:50A (Jackson)
F Discussion 3-3:50P (McLaughlin)

The Department of French & Italian

FR277-0

THE LITERATURE OF EXISTENTIALISM



Fall Quarter 2015


taught in FRENCH

MWF 11:00-11:50A
Aude Raymond

The Department of French & Italian

FR301-0

ADVANCED GRAMMAR



Fall Quarter 2015


taught in FRENCH

TuTh 2:00-3:20P
Sylvie Romanowski

The Department of French & Italian

FR335-0

17TH CENTURY LITERATURE



Fall Quarter 2015

taught in FRENCH

W 5:30-7:50P
Doris Garraway

The Department of French & Italian

FR470-0

COMPARATIVE STUDIES IN A FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE CONTEXT: Revolutions in Haitian Literature



Fall Quarter 2015


taught in ITALIAN

MW 11:00-12:20P
Paola Morgavi

The Department of French & Italian

IT207-0

CONVERSATION IN ITALIAN



Fall Quarter 2015

taught in ENGLISH

TuTh 11:00-12:20P
Domietta Torlasco

The Department of French & Italian

IT351-0

ITALIAN FILM AND TRANSNATIONAL CINEMA: Rossellini/ Godard



Fall Quarter 2015

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

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