2013 JANUARY

LLI Bard College Lifetime Learning Institute INTERSESSION

"SWEET VIOLETS": A DOCUMENTARY FILM ABOUT RHINEBECK

Wednesday, January 9

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

"Sweet Violets" is the surprising story of the Violet Capital of the World, Rhinebeck. In the Gilded Age and beyond, high fashion decreed that violets were the flower of choice for Valentine's Day, Easter and a becoming corsage. Before World War I, growers shipped millions of these flowers to New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and farther; nearly 400 violet houses dotted the town and its surroundings. Twenty-five percent of the national crop was produced in Rhinebeck.

Presenter: Tobe Carey is a long-time documentary producer and director. His films include topics such as nuclear power, health issues and the arts. Recent local history documentaries include "Deep Water: Building the Catskill Water System" and "The Catskill Mountain House." His films have won awards at many film festivals and have been shown world-wide.

GERSHWIN'S "RHAPSODY IN BLUE" AND THE SOUND of MODERN AMERICA

Wednesday, January 9

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

George Gershwin premiered his "Rhapsody in Blue" in 1924. We will look closely at the piece, its reception and the emergence of the "sound" of modern America. We'll talk about Gershwin's use of the blues alongside the musical strains of Tin Pan Alley and European classical music. We'll explore the interrelations among African Americans, immigrants and white Americans in the production of American music. What we'll find is a soundscape of modern urban America in all its diversity: a "melting pot" as well as a contest of disparate voices.

Presenter: Peter Antelyes, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the English department at Vassar College, where he also teaches in the Jewish Studies program. He has written on the literature of the West (*Adventurous Enterprise: Washington Irving and the Poetics of Western Expansion*), Jewish and African-American singers, Jewish women in vaudeville, Irish-American popular song, and Jewish Indians, among other topics.

OF STONES AND SLABS – BUILDING A PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE: JOHN AND JULIAN BURROUGHS' HOMES ON THE HUDSON

Wednesday, January 16

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

John Burroughs expressed his sense of what a "home" should be in his essays as well as the houses he built. In doing so, he presented his evolving vision of how to live – at home, in society and on the land. Though lesser known, his son Julian built numerous buildings and published articles as well. Julian both embodied and refined his father's philosophy. We can form – and appreciate – the most complete vision of this theory by considering their work across generations.

Presenter: Chris Pryslopski is the program director at the Hudson River Valley Institute and associate editor of *The Hudson River Valley Review*. A specialist in regional

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studies with an interest in architecture, he has lectured and published on Staatsburgh State Historic Site, Paul Rudolph's Orange County Government Center, and "The Point," L. M. Hoyt's house at Staatsburg.

QUIRK AND CLASH: THE DRAMA OF IDIOSYNCRATIC RELATIONSHIPS

Wednesday, January 16

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Personality quirks can grow from accidents of birth, unresolved pain, wayward passions. As we evolve, we rub against, clash with and sometimes miraculously come close to others as we move toward relationships. We will see three short plays, "Organic Turkey," "Tug" and "The Cloak and the Sheet." Each play occurs at pivotal points in the lives of its characters as the selves they've become grapple with "the other." The actors are Nancy Rothman and Eddie Allen, of Chatham, NY.

Presenter: Marcia Slatkin is a cellist, photographer, fiction writer, dramatist and poet. Her most recent book, *Not Yet: A Healing Journey Through Alzheimer's Care-Giving,* was published in July 2012 by SFA Press at Texas A&M. Fairly new to the Hudson Valley, she was a longtime teacher/farmer on Long Island's North Shore. Please see www.marciaslatkin.com.

NYC'S COUNTERCULTURE SCENE AT MAX'S KANSAS CITY

Wednesday, January 23

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

This will be a presentation of the Max's Kansas City documentary trailer, followed by a discussion about the creative forces that collided and fused there: Andy Warhol, Patti Smith, Abbie Hoffman, Betsey Johnson, Lauren Hutton, Alan Ginsberg to name a few. Max's gave birth to a new scene that made NY the cultural capital of the world. It became the HOTTEST venue in NYC for unsigned bands. Aerosmith signed to their record deal at Max's, and Bruce Springsteen did a double bill with Bob Marley and the Wailers when they debuted in NY. There will be a few guest speakers.

Presenter: Yvonne Sewall is a published author, film producer/director, philanthropist of the arts, and president and founder of the Max's Kansas City Project, a not-for-profit organization serving the arts and youth communities. Her oral history, *High On Rebellion: Inside the Underground at Max's Kansas City*, was published in 1998 by Thunder's Mouth Press. Ms. Sewall is currently in production on the film.

A VISITATION OF PROVIDENCE: THE GREAT HUNGER AND THE SAGA OF THE IRISH PEOPLE

Wednesday, January 23

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

This presentation will be based on *The Graves are Walking,* a new book on the Irish famine by John Kelly. He will draw an impressionistic picture of what one of the worst disasters of the 19th century looked and felt like. He'll then examine how Britain ruled 19th century Ireland using the famine to implement a program of what today would be called nation building, and why that led to charges of British genocide. Finally, he'll explain why the Irish famine was the birthplace of our modern arguments over taxation and immigration.

Presenter: John Kelly is also the author of *The Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death, the Most Devastating Plague of All Time*, which was a 2005 bestseller. He has begun work on *The Year of No Summer: The British Decision Not to Surrender in 1940*.

THE FUTURE OF NEWSPAPERS– YES, THERE IS A FUTURE

Wednesday, January 30

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Ira Fusfeld will provide an inside look at the daily newspaper business, with an emphasis on its transition from print to digital publishing. According to Mr. Fusfeld, reports of the death of newspapers are premature.

Presenter: Ira Fusfeld is publisher emeritus of Kingston's *Daily Freeman*. He was the publisher from 1987 to 2012, rising through the ranks in a 42-year career with the newspaper. Mr. Fusfeld was named Publisher of the Year by the Journal Register Company. He is a panelist on WAMC Northeast Public Radio's "The Media Project." A New York City native, he is a 1970 graduate of the State University of New York at New Paltz.

POSITIVE FEELINGS RULE!

Wednesday, January 30

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

In this interactive workshop, you will learn ways to acknowledge and celebrate the positive elements in your life, and then use them to create the kind of life you want, a life that is completely possible to achieve. Nick Oddo's popular "Positive Feelings Rule!" seminar teaches the tools you already have available inside of you to create the happy, healthy and wealthy "story" you want to write for yourself.

Presenter: Nick Oddo is a positive life health coach, motivational speaker, energy therapist and marriage officiant. He is certified and fully accredited as a health coach through The Institute for Integrative Nutrition® and Teacher's College, Columbia University.

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Lifetime Learning Institute

Intersession at a Glance

LLI members and presenters may bring guests and are welcome at every presentation. The Bard community of faculty, staff and students are also welcome. The café is generally open during the lunch hour. **There are no classes Wednesday, January 2.**

Registration is **not** required.

In case of inclement weather, presentations are canceled and will not be rescheduled. We will use the Red Hook School System for closings; call their information line at 845.758.2241 or contact LLI at 845.758.7314 or lli@bard.edu.

Presentations	Room	Date	Time
"Sweet Violets"	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 9	11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue"	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 9	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
John and Julian Burroughs' Homes on the Hudson	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 16	11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Quirk and Clash: The Drama of Idiosyncratic Relationships	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 16	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
NYC's Counterculture Scene at Max's Kansas City	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 23	11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
The Great Hunger and the Saga of the Irish People	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 23	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
The Future of Newspapers– Yes, There Is a Future	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 30	11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Positive Feelings Rule!	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 30	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Intersession Committee
Jay Hochstadt, Chair
David Bloom

Intersession Catalogue
Margaret Shuhala
Janeth Thoron
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