



THE COGUT CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES

2010-11 Annual Report
Operations, Programs, Events

“... the humanities refer to the understanding of
human experience, with an emphasis
on diversity, difference, and
individuality ... indeed even human
incomprehensibility. We read books,
and we read people. Reading people
means being out there, in the world,
as essential a place for learning and
working humanists
as the library.”

ON THE COVER: “Starlit Tree” by Edouard Duval-Carrié
Incidental art throughout this report is taken from the works of Duval-Carrié that were on exhibit at the Cogut Center
in March and April 2011. We are grateful to Mr. Duval-Carrié for his generosity in allowing us to reproduce his work.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

All of us--students, teachers, parents--worry about the value of education. Such concern is nowhere more prominent than in the humanities, which are always under threat and always have a hard time preaching their own importance. We humanists tend to argue an anxious case for our legitimacy, citing this or that politician or business mogul who appears most sentimental about having majored in English, insisting on our service to civilization or to the teaching of values. But the necessity of self-defense combined with the luxury of self-pity risks missing some strong and clear global signals. The transformations in the global public and private spheres alike are showing us that the humanities are not only central to worldly competence but, quite frankly, hot.

The humanities work in two dimensions. They refer to core disciplines through which the 19th-century university modernized the medieval liberal arts curriculum: philosophy, history, literature; to 19th-century novelties such as art history and musicology; to 20th-century innovations often driven by technology (film studies) and politics (race, gender, and sexuality studies); to the current 21st century frontier, again often driven by technology (digital humanities). These priorities have determined one practice shared by most humanists: reading-- careful, critical reading.

Just as importantly, the humanities refer to the understanding of human experience, with an emphasis on diversity, difference, and individuality (as distinct from the aggregates that form the basis of the social sciences) and indeed even human incomprehensibility. We read books, and we read people. Reading people means being out there, in the world, as essential a place for learning and working humanists as the library.

Brown University and the Cogut Center for the Humanities have been leaders of innovation and internationalization in the humanities. In December 2010 we were honored to receive our third grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for a program of international partnerships involving curriculum development as well as student, postdoctoral, and faculty exchanges. We have embarked on pioneering programs with IE University Madrid (involving the new joint Brown-IE executive MBA program as well as an IE-funded postdoctoral fellowship in the humanities), the University of Cape Town (of which a 2010-2011 highlight was the visit of the UCT Opera School), and the Daniel Barenboim Foundation and West-Eastern Divan Institute in Berlin. At home, we have supported the Warren Alpert Medical School's elective concentration in Medical Humanities as well as a joint initiative in the Humanities and the Arts to coincide with the opening of the Granoff Center for the Creative Arts. And, perhaps most significantly, our course offerings (Humanities, or HMAN, seminars at both the undergraduate and graduate levels) continue to grow.

Exciting focal points for 2011-2012 include multidisciplinary attention to the new Middle East. Three symposia on the role of music in the building of civil society are planned for Providence, Nazareth, and Berlin. In Spring 2012 we will welcome Elizabeth Kassab as the first Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Visiting Professor of Humanities as well as Distinguished Visiting Fellow Jacqueline Rose, whose contributions will include a dialogue with composer Mohammed Fairouz. We will also welcome Professor Nathaniel Berman as our first full-time faculty member. His seminar, co-taught with Thomas Lewis of Religious Studies, on Religion and International Law will lead a sequence of events on religion in the world today. Please watch our webpages for details and updates and join us for our many public events on these and other themes.

MICHAEL P. STEINBERG
Director, Cogut Center for the Humanities
Barnaby Conrad and Mary Critchfield Keeney Professor of History
Professor of Music

FACULTY FELLOWS



SHEILA BONDE

Archaeology, and History of Art and Architecture
Seminar Title: *Ethics and the Humanities*



JAY BARUCH

Bio-Med/Emergency Medicine
Seminar Title: *Humanities as a Medical Instrument*

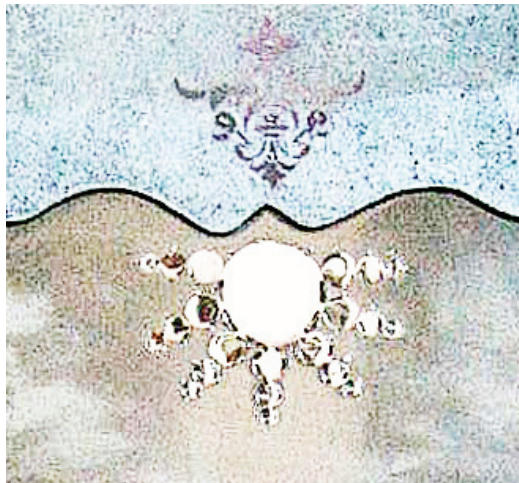
VISITING PROFESSOR IN THE HUMANITIES



GERTRUD KOCH

Seminar Title: *Cinema's Mass*

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW



GREGG E. GARDNER

Seminar Title:
The Origins of the Jewish Concept of Charity

“I felt privileged to have the opportunity to learn from,
and engage with, this **remarkable** and
diverse group of people. My brain was stretched
and twisted into **thrilling** and
uncomfortable positions, and for that I am
grateful. The spirit of **SERIOUS** interdisciplinary
discourse with **open~minded** and
passionate people advanced my work
in medical humanities.”

—JAY BARUCH, MD
Faculty Fellow

COGUT CENTER
FOR THE HUMANITIES



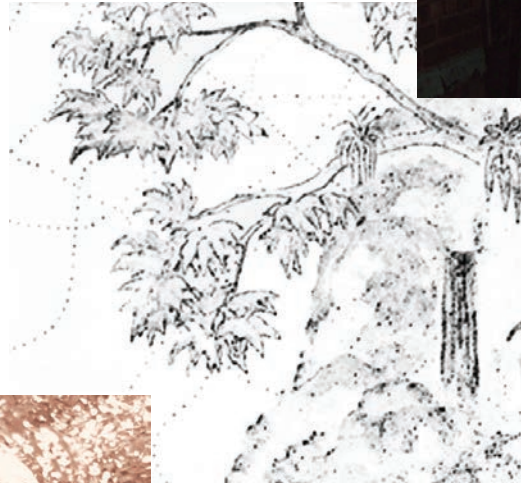
MELLON POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS

CATHERINE BLISS

2009-11 Mellon Fellow

Seminar Title:

The Politics of Inclusion in the Post-Genomic Era



STEPHEN GROENING

2009-11 Mellon Fellow

Seminar Title: *Global Airspace*

MAUD KOZODOY

2010-12 Mellon Fellow

Seminar Title: *Science, Polemics,
and Conversos in Fifteenth-Century Iberia*



KATHERINE SMITH

2010-12 Mellon Fellow

Seminar Title: *The Atis Rezistans and
the Art of Making Do in Haiti*



IPEK TÜRELI

2008-10 Mellon Fellow

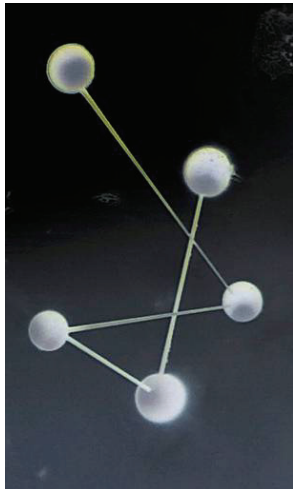
Seminar Title: *Improvisations on “Old Istanbul”*

DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW



EDOUARD DUVAL-CARRIÉ

Lecture title: *Art in the Time of Quake & Cholera*





“Paysage Argente” by Edouard Duval-Carrié

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS IN INTERNATIONAL HUMANITIES



SHIVA BALAGHI

Cogut Center for the Humanities

Seminar title: *Women of Allah, Men of God:
Art and Revolution in Iran*



BETSEY BIGGS

Music/MEME

Seminar title: *Foreign Exchange*



IPEK CELIK

Comparative Literature

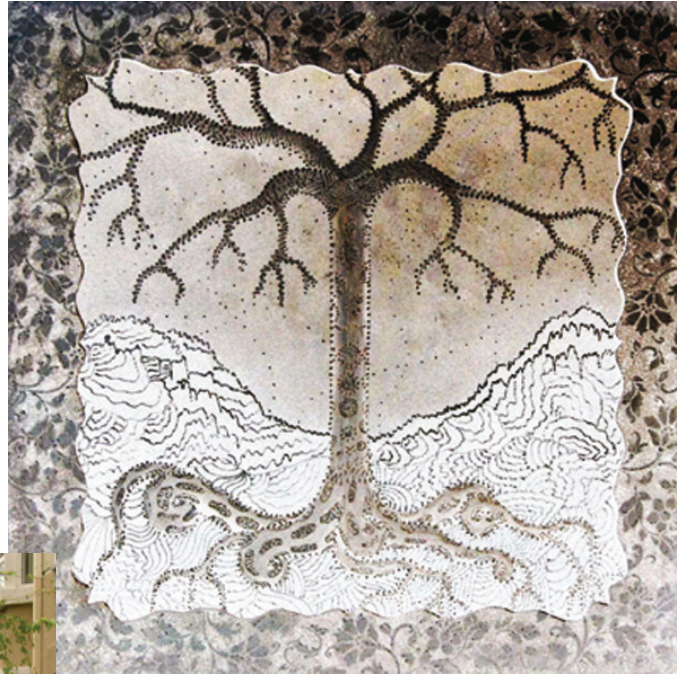
Seminar title: *Violence as Commodity:
Representation and Minorities in Europe*



BIANCA DAHL

Anthropology/Population Studies

Seminar title: *Too Fat to Be an Orphan:
Embodiment and the Cultural Politics
of Food Aid in Botswana*



ADRIÁN LÓPEZ DENIS

Cogut Center for the Humanities

Seminar title: *Medicine and Politics in Cuba,
1790-2010: Communities of Immunity*

GRADUATE FELLOWS



THOMAS DEVANEY

History

Seminar title: *Knights, Magi, and Muslims:
Miguel Lucas de Iranzo and the People of Jaén*



JONATHAN GENTRY

History

Seminar title: *The Nietzschean Politics
of Musical Modernism*



PAULINE DE THOLOZANY

French Studies

Seminar title: *Clumsy and Clumsier: la
maladresse from Rousseau to Jean-Jacques*



MALGORZATA RYMSZA-PAWLOWSKA

American Civilization

Seminar title: *Logics of Preservation and
Reenactment: Historicity in the 1970s*

UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWS



BENJAMIN HYMAN
Comparative Literature/International Relations



DYLAN NELSON
Music/MEME



ISABEL PARKES
German Studies/Hispanic Studies



JANET ZONG
English/International Relations



“Being a part of this seminar was
inspiring. Reading and engaging with
such . . . **candid ideas** from such a
wide range of fields was
enriching to say the least . . . I think the
opportunity to watch others
articulate their writing and their **thought**
processes is very special.”

—ISABEL PARKES
Undergraduate Fellow

2010-11 HMAN COURSES

MEDICAL HUMANITIES: CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON ILLNESS, HEALING AND CULTURE

Bianca Dahl, Postdoctoral Fellow in International Humanities

ETHICS AND THE HUMANITIES

Sheila Bonde, Faculty Fellow

MEDICINE AND COLONIALISM IN THE ATLANTIC WORLD: A VIEW FROM THE SOUTH

Adrián López Denis, Postdoctoral Fellow in International Humanities

AND WHAT ABOUT THE HUMAN?

Anthony Bagues, Faculty Fellow

PRAGMATIC MEDICAL HUMANITIES

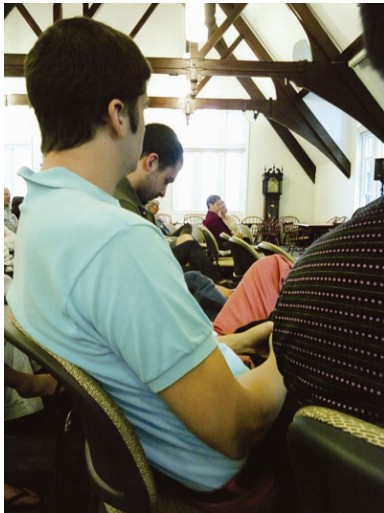
Jay Baruch, MD, Faculty Fellow

CONCEPTS OF SPACE AND TIME IN MEDIA DISCOURSE

Gertrud Koch, Visiting Faculty in the Humanities

“This course elaborated
and deepened my understanding
of why I love both art and
science ...intimidating at first
but then so much fun!”

— student feedback from
an HMAN course evaluation



2011-12 RELATED COURSES

These courses were taught for other departments by Cogut Center Postdoctoral Fellows.

Gender, Empire and the Nation in the Middle East · Senior Seminar in Science and Society
 From Worlds in Miniature to Miniature Worlds: Theming and Virtuality
 The New Science of Race: Racial Biomedicine in the 21st Century · Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
 Simulation Speed Implosion: Theories of Media Technology · Chamber Music/Video
 God and the Search for Knowledge in Medieval Cairo: Maimonides and His World · Sonic Psychogeography
 Contemporary Art of Africa and the Diaspora · Global Media/Global War
 Collective Struggles and Cultural Politics in the Global South · The Architecture and Urbanism of Modern Istanbul
 Astrology, Magic and Science · Visual Cultures of the Afro-Americas



FELLOWS' SEMINARS

SEPTEMBER 14 A discussion on the essays "Ends of Man" by Jacques Derrida, and "Africa, the West and the Analogy of Culture: The Cinematic Text After Man" by Sylvia Wynter. **Michael P. Steinberg**, Director, Cogut Center for the Humanities and **Anthony Bogues**, 2009-10 Faculty Fellow, Africana Studies

SEPTEMBER 21 "Medicine and Politics in Cuba, 1790-2010: Communities of Immunity," **Adrián López Denis**, Postdoctoral Fellow in International Humanities, Hispanic Studies

SEPTEMBER 28 "Too Fat to Be an Orphan: Embodiment and the Cultural Politics of Food Aid in Botswana," **Bianca Dahl**, Postdoctoral Fellow in International Humanities, Anthropology

OCTOBER 5 "Ethics and the Humanities," **Sheila Bonde**, Faculty Fellow, Archaeology, and History of Art and Architecture

OCTOBER 19 "Clumsy and Clumsier: *la maladresse* from Rousseau to Jean-Jacques," **Pauline de Tholozany**, Graduate Fellow, French Studies

NOVEMBER 2 "Global Airspace," **Stephen Groening**, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Modern Culture and Media

NOVEMBER 9 "Knights, Magi, and Muslims: Miguel Lucas de Iranzo and the People of Jaén," **Thomas Devaney**, Graduate Fellow, History

NOVEMBER 30 "Logics of Preservation and Reenactment: Historicity in the 1970s," **Malgorzata Rymasz-Pawlowska**, Graduate Fellow, American Civilization

FEBRUARY 1 "The Origins of the Jewish Concept of Charity," **Gregg Gardner**, ACLS Postdoctoral Fellow, Cogut Center for the Humanities



FEBRUARY 8 "Foreign Exchange," **Betsey Biggs**, Postdoctoral Fellow in International Humanities, Music

FEBRUARY 15 "The Politics of Inclusion in the Post-Genomic Era," **Rina Bliss**, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Africana Studies/Science and Technology Studies

MARCH 1 "Women of Allah, Men of God: Art and Revolution in Iran," **Shiva Balaghi**, Postdoctoral Fellow in International Humanities, Cogut Center for the Humanities

MARCH 8 "Cinema's Mass," **Gertrud Koch**, Visiting Professor in the Humanities, Cogut Center for the Humanities

MARCH 15 "The Nietzschean Politics of Musical Modernism," **Jon Gentry**, Graduate Fellow, History

MARCH 22 "The Atis Rezistans and the Art of Making Do in Haiti," **Katherine Smith**, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, History of Art and Architecture/Africana Studies

APRIL 5 "Science, Polemics, and Conversos in Fifteenth-Century Iberia," **Maud Kozodoy**, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Judaic Studies

APRIL 12 "Violence as Commodity: Representation and Minorities in Europe," **Ipek Celik**, Postdoctoral Fellow in International Humanities, Comparative Literature

APRIL 19 "Improvisations on 'Old Istanbul'," **Ipek Tureli**, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, History of Art and Architecture

APRIL 26 "Humanities as a Medical Instrument," **Jay Baruch, MD**, Faculty Fellow, Department of Emergency Medicine

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

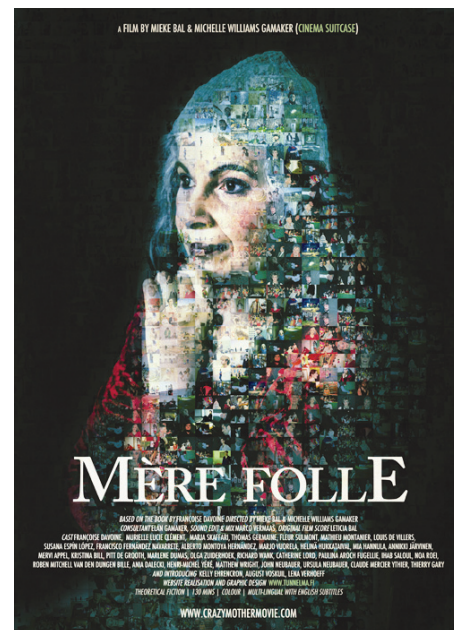
INVITATIONAL LECTURE IN THE HUMANITIES



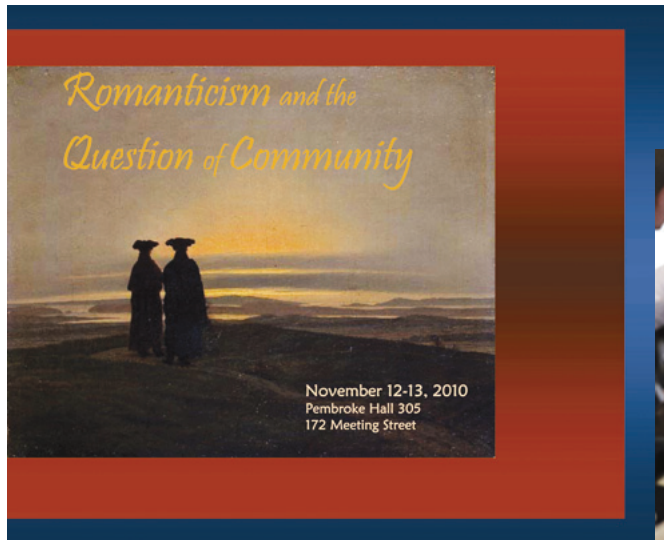
OCTOBER 7: “Black Culture Matters: Black Cultural Debates in a Color Blind Nation,”
Tricia Rose, Africana Studies, Brown University

“MÈRE FOLLE”

NOVEMBER 1 (Film screening and panel discussion)
“Mère Folle” (*Crazy Mother*, 2010, 120 mins.),
filmmakers **Mieke Bal** and **Michelle Williams Gamaker**,
with psychiatrist **Christine Montross** (Butler Hospital)



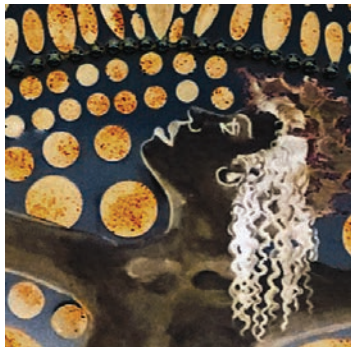
ROMANTICISM AND THE QUESTION OF COMMUNITY



NOVEMBER 12-13 (Colloquium) "Romanticism and the Question of Community"

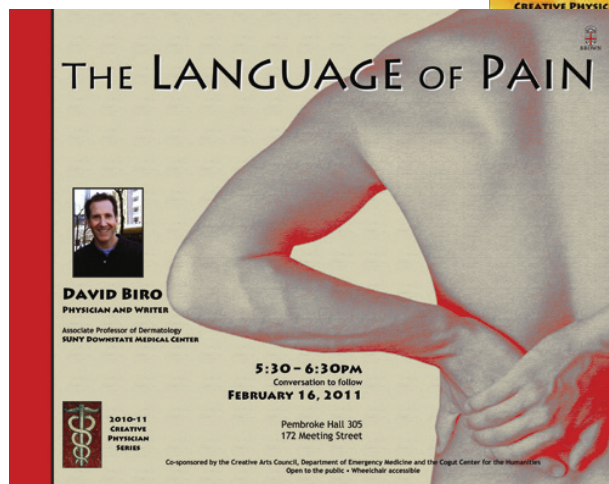
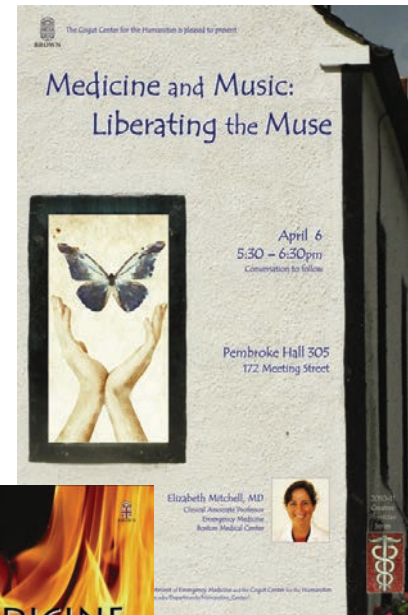
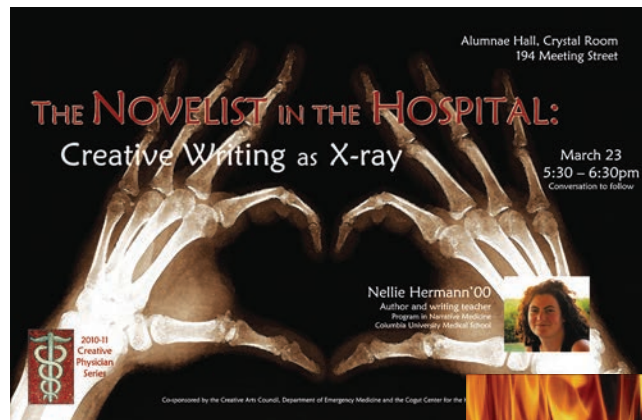
Invited speakers: **Robert Kaufman**, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, University of California, Berkeley; **Thomas Pfau**, Eads Family Professor of English and Professor of German and Germanic Languages & Literature, Duke University; **Tilottama Rajan**, Canada Research Chair in English, University of Western Ontario; **Orrin N.C. Wang**, Associate Professor of English, University of Maryland, College Park; **Deborah Elise White**, Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Emory University; **Nancy Yousef**, Associate Professor of English, Baruch College and Graduate Center, City University of New York.

Brown University lecturers/moderators: **William Keach**, English; **Jacques Khalip**, English and Modern Culture and Media; **Marc Redfield**, English and Comparative Literature; **Kevin McLaughlin**, English, Comparative Literature, and German Studies; **Susan Bernstein**, Comparative Literature and German Studies; **Zachary Sng**, German Studies.



NOVEMBER 18-19 (Conversation and student meeting) "Conversations about Culture and Education in Israel and Palestine," **Nabeel Abboud Ashkar**, member of the West Eastern Divan Orchestra and the Director of two extraordinary music schools in Nazareth and Ramallah, and **Lilian Daniel**, environmental scientist in Nazareth

CREATIVE PHYSICIANS LECTURE SERIES



NOVEMBER 30 (Poetry reading and conversation) “Passion, Poetry and Medicine,” **Jack Coulehan, MD**, physician and poet.

FEBRUARY 16 (Reading and talk) “The Language of Pain,” **David Biro, MD**, physician and author.

MARCH 23 (Reading and talk) “The Novelist in the Hospital: Creative Writing as X-ray,” **Nellie Hermann '00**, author and creative writing instructor, Columbia University Medical School.

APRIL 6 (Reading, performance and conversation) “Medicine and Music: Liberating the Muse,” **Elizabeth Mitchell, MD**, Clinical Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine, Boston Medical Center.

BARBER/SHOSTAKOVICH CONCERT

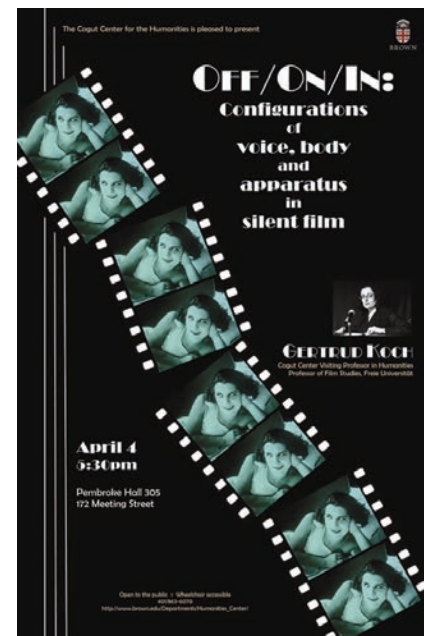
DECEMBER 12 (Performance) Samuel Barber's String Quartet, Op. 1, **Providence String Quartet**; and Dmitri Shostakovich's String Quartet, No. 9, **Community MusicWorks Fellows Quartet**



OFF/ON/IN: CONFIGURATIONS OF VOICE, BODY AND APPARATUS IN SILENT FILM

APRIL 4 (Lecture with film clips) “Off/On/In: Configurations of Voice, Body and Apparatus in Silent Film,” **Gertrud Koch**, Cogut Center Visiting Professor in Humanities and a Professor of Film Studies at Freie Universität, Berlin

APRIL 13-15 and APRIL 20-22 (Interactive media installation)
“Iberia :: A Memory of Light and Sound,” Cogut Center
Undergraduate Fellow **Dylan Nelson's**(’11) honors thesis



SARAH CUTTS FRERICHS LECTURE IN VICTORIAN STUDIES



APRIL 11 (Sarah Cutts Frerichs Lecture in Victorian Studies) “William Morris’s The Woodpecker Tapestry: Evolution and Utopia,” **Caroline Arscott**, Professor of Nineteenth-Century British Art and Head of Research, The Courtauld Institute of Art, London

APRIL 12 (Master Seminar) “Edward Burne-Jones’s King Cophetua and the Beggar Maid (1884): Cryptography, a Pit and the Swing of the Pendulum,” Caroline Arscott (see above).



REFRAMING HAITI: ART, HISTORY AND PERFORMATIVITY



MARCH 21 - APRIL 20 (Art exhibition) “Reframing Haiti: Art, History and Performativity.” The Cogut Center exhibit at Pembroke Hall included the works of **Edouard Duval-Carrié** as well as works centered around the history and politics of Haiti. This exhibition was a collaboration of Brown University with RISD and Waterloo Gallery in Waterloo, Iowa.

APRIL 13 (Lecture) “Art in the Time of Quake & Cholera,” foremost Haitian artist and Cogut Center Distinguished Visiting Fellow Edouard Duval-Carrié.

MAY 2-13 (Interactive multi-media installation) “Foreign Exchange: Machines for Making Nothing,” composer-media artist Samson Young, Hong Kong. Part of a two-part, two-continent foreign exchange project by Cogut Center Postdoctoral Fellow in International Humanities **Betsey Biggs** and **Samson Young**.

“LE NOZZE DI FIGARO”

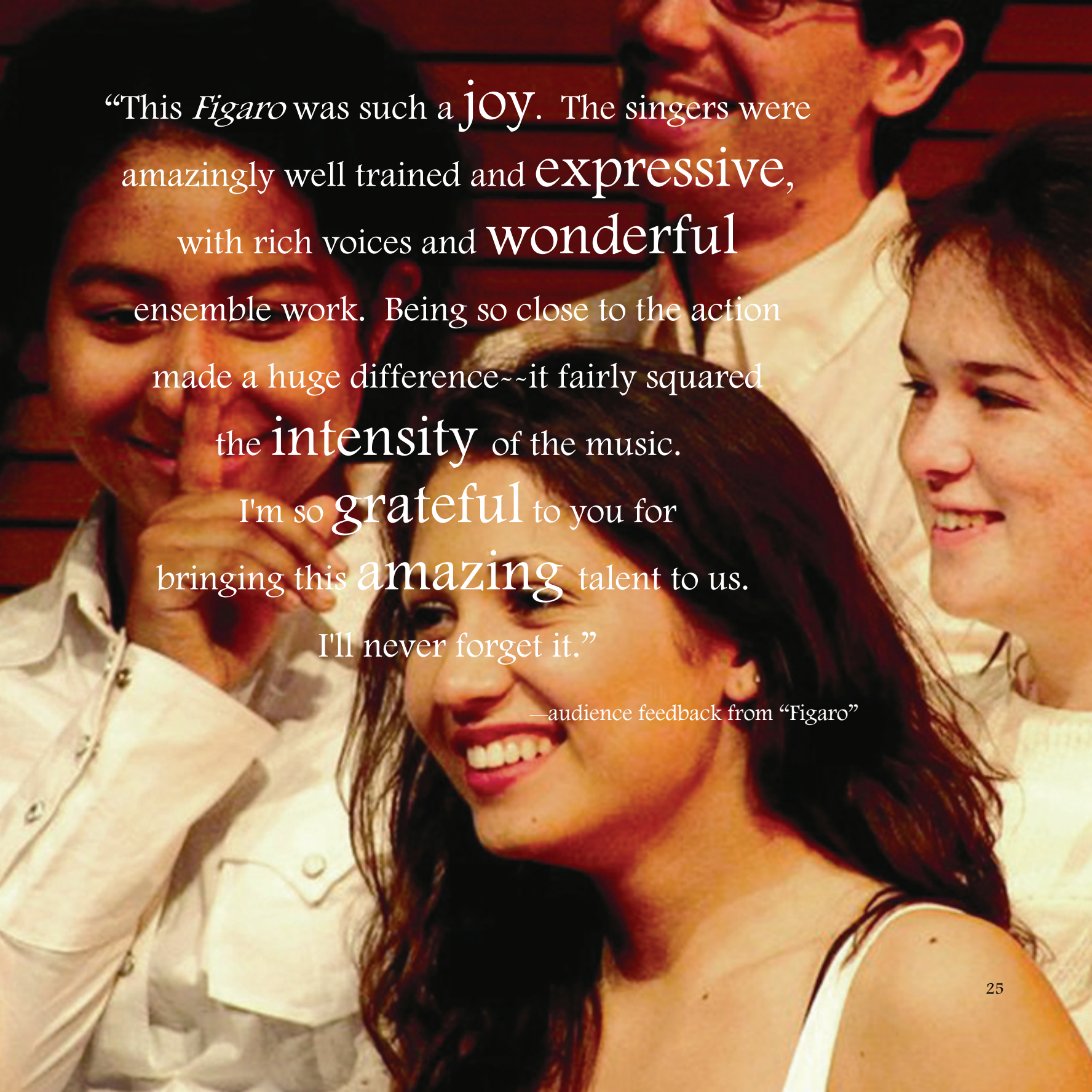
JUNE 8 and 10 (Performance, master classes, discussions) “Le Nozze di Figaro” (The Marriage of Figaro), University of Cape Town Opera School, with the participation of the Brown Opera Program and Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI)



Members of the Cape Town Opera School were also offered master classes with:

- Ariel Bybee and Greer Gimsley (New England Conservatory)
- Brian Zeger (Julliard and Lindemann Young Artists Program, Metropolitan Opera)
- Maria Spacagna (soprano)





“This *Figaro* was such a joy. The singers were amazingly well trained and expressive, with rich voices and wonderful ensemble work. Being so close to the action made a huge difference--it fairly squared the intensity of the music.

I'm so grateful to you for bringing this amazing talent to us.

I'll never forget it.”

—audience feedback from “Figaro”

CO-SPONSORED EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 17 (Symposium) “The Theatre of Tadeusz Kantor,” **Ludmilla Ryba**, member of Kantor’s theater company, and **Michal Kobialka**, Department of Theatre Arts and Dance, University of Minnesota

SEPTEMBER 23 (Lecture) “Buried Alive: The Concept of Race in the Biological Sciences and Clinical Medicine - with some Social and Political Consequences of its Surprising, even Vigorous Revitalization,” **Troy Duster**, Sociology and the Institute for the History of the Production of Knowledge, New York University and the University of California-Berkeley

OCTOBER 1 (Film screening and discussion with filmmaker) “The Salt March,” **Lalit Vachani**, filmmaker

OCTOBER 5 (Panel discussion) “Translating *The Second Sex*,” authors **Constance Borde** and **Sheila Malovany-Chevallier** discuss their new translation of Simone de Beauvoir's classic work *La Deuxième Sex* (1949)

OCTOBER 7 (Lecture) “Sexual Latitudes: The Erotic Life of Globalization,” **Ara Wilson**, professor of Women's Studies and Cultural Anthropology, Duke University

OCTOBER 15-16 (Graduate Student Symposium) “The Human Scale: Bodies, Space, Perception and Interaction,” keynote speaker **Beatriz Colomina**, Professor of Architecture, Princeton University



OCTOBER 21 (Panel Discussion) “Race and Genomics: Scientists, Publics, and the Politics of Knowledge,” **Alondra Nelson**, Sociology and the Institute for Research on Women and Gender, Columbia University; and Brown faculty: **Corey Walker**, Africana Studies and the Committee on Science and Technology Studies (STS); **Lundy Braun**, Africana Studies and the Committee on STS; Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow **Catherine Bliss**, Africana Studies and the Committee on STS; and **Geri Augusto**, Public Policy and the Committee on STS

OCTOBER 28 (Colver Lecture) “Historical and Literary Approaches to the 'Final Solution': Saul Friedländer and Jonathan Littell,” **Dominick LaCapra**, Bryce and Edith M. Bowmar Professor in Humanistic Studies, Cornell University

OCTOBER 29-30 (Graduate student conference) “Monstruos y monstruosidades,” keynote speaker **Mary Malcolm Gaylord**, Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard University

NOVEMBER 4 (Lecture) “Calling the French President's Wife a 'Prostitute': The Global Politics of Protecting Iranian Women,” **Arzoo Osanloo**, Anthropology in the Law, Societies and Justice Program, University of Washington

NOVEMBER 18 (Lecture) “Not Everybody Knows that I’m Actually Black: The Effects of DNA Ancestry Testing on Racial and Ethnic Boundaries,” **Wendy Roth**, Sociology, University of British Columbia

FEBRUARY 11 (Conference) “The Aesthetics of Transport,” **Marian Aguiar**, Carnegie Mellon; **Miranda Burgess**, University of British Columbia; **Lindsey Green-Simms**, College of Charleston; and **Caren Kaplan**, University of California, Davis

FEBRUARY 17 (Lecture) “Race, Class, and Vital Capacity Measurements: Historical Considerations,” **Lundy Braun**, Royce Family Professor in Teaching Excellence and Professor of Medical Science and Africana Studies, Brown University

FEBRUARY 24 (Lecture) “Torture and Modernity,” **JM Bernstein**, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, New School for Social Research

FEBRUARY 25 (Symposium) “Improvisation as a Way of Life: A Symposium,” keynote speaker Fitt Artist in Residence, **George Lewis**

MARCH 13 (Theatrical production) “Neighbors,” with members of the **Galilee Multicultural Theater**.

MARCH 16 (Reading, in Spanish) “Gotas de lo vario pinto,” writer **Lorenzo Garcia Vega**



MARCH 17 (Lecture) “What is the Environment in Gene-Environment Interaction?” **Sara Shostak**, Sociology, Brandeis University

MARCH 17 (Lecture) “The Violence in Victimhood: Thomas Bernhard’s Experimental Prose,” **Fatima Naqvi**, German and East European Languages and Literatures, Rutgers University

APRIL 6 – 29 (Lecture series) “Circulations of Gender in Global Politics.” “Racializations and Biologizations of Queers: Sodomy Law and the Police in New Delhi,” **Jyoti Puri**, speaker; “Spectacle and Sexual Minority Rights in Uganda and Kenya,” **Keguro Macharia**, speaker; “Outsourcing Patriarchy: National Anxieties, Transnational Mediations,” **Inderpal Grewal**, speaker

APRIL 7 and **APRIL 9** (Workshop) “Critical Humanities and the Contemporary State of American Politics,” **Donald Pease**, English, Dartmouth College; **Ronald Judy**, English, University of Pittsburgh; and **Hortense Spillers**, English, Vanderbilt University

APRIL 14 - 16 (Symposium and related events) “Mediating the Risorgimento/Risorgimento Mediato”

APRIL 22 - 23 (Conference) “(Re)Making Myths: The Creation, Use, and Abuse of Myths in German Literature, History, and Culture,” keynote speaker **Peter Uwe Hohendahl**, Cornell University

NEW INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS

BROWN IN BERLIN

MARCH 27 – APRIL 2 (Partnership Program)

During Spring Break 2011 Cogut Director **Michael Steinberg** accompanied a group of Brown students to Berlin to participate in a pilot program with the West-Eastern Divan Institute.

The program brought together Brown students with students from the Barenboim-Said Conservatories in Nazareth and Ramallah, as well as members of the Staatskapelle Berlin and Maestro **Daniel Barenboim**. The program centered around the theme of hospitality, specifically as it relates to Richard Wagner's opera *Die Walküre*, to the educational opportunities and obstacles facing young musicians and citizens of Nazareth, and to the culture and politics of state sponsorship of the arts.



“It was an **incredible gift** to see what we saw
and to do what we did... The chamber music rehearsals
were a most moving picture of **humanity** and
communication... there was such respect and such
dedication to the **creation** of something shared.
I marveled when I heard the musicians and their teachers
trying to find a shared tongue. It was **eye-opening**
to have such concrete evidence that music is in fact a
universal language. These young artists thought and
spoke their words in three or four different languages but...
they spoke **together** in the strings.”

— SISA MATEO '13
Brown in Berlin, 2011

BROWN-IE EXECUTIVE MBA PROGRAM

JUNE 2011 (Inaugural Cohort) Brown University and Instituto Empresa (IE), a top-ranked European business school, launched a joint initiative for research and training in commerce, entrepreneurship, and organizational management in 2011. Utilizing the strengths of the IE Business School in management and Brown's excellence in the humanities, social, biological, and physical sciences, both institutions seek to foster a platform of interdisciplinary research and teaching.

The humanities curriculum for this program, which included attendance at a rehearsal of the Polyphony Youth Ensemble (*see facing page*), was developed with the participation of Michael Steinberg and the Cogut Center. The inaugural cohort attended courses taught by:

Sherine Hamdy, Anthropology
Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow 2006-08

"Health, Ethics, and Society" examined the commodification of the human body and its parts and questioned whether appeals to universal human rights and human dignity require regulations.

Michael Steinberg, Cogut Center Director
"Culture, Politics and the Arts" discussed the fate and future of the arts in a global economy through the case of the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra.

Bernard Reginster, Philosophy
Faculty Fellow 2006-07
"Work, Meaning, Identity" examined various conceptions of the meaning of work, with particular emphasis on the relations between self-making and the making of things.



"[Polyphony director **Nabeel] Abboud Ashkar** smiled nervously as he addressed our class ... he walked us through some fundamentals of music theory and what specifically to listen to while his group rehearsed. While conducting, however, any signs of timidity disappeared with the raising of his hand, bringing the musicians ready to perform. Our questions for the performers danced around the unlikely arrangement, Palestinians and Israelis performing together, and ... focused on what it was like to be a touring musician in such an orchestra."

— feedback from an MBA participant

VISIT OF POLYPHONY YOUTH ENSEMBLE



JUNE 27 (Performance)

On the occasion of the 375th anniversary of the founding of the City of Providence, a special lighting of Waterfire was kicked off by a concert by the Polyphony Youth Ensemble at the First Baptist Church in America. The ensemble, on its first US tour, was founded on the principle that education in and through music, humanities and the arts is necessary for helping to create tolerant, just societies and stimulating dialogue between conflicting communities.



Photo credit (I and R): David Amadio

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2011-12

FALL SEMESTER

Cóilín Parsons — “The Scale of Modernity: JM Synge and the Everyday”

Creative Physicians Lecture Series:

Ana Blohm, MD — “Blurring the Focus as a Physician Photographer”

Katie Watson, JD — “Serious Play: How Improvisational Theater Can Improve the Practice of Medicine”

“Music and Civil Society” conference with Community MusicWorks

Community MusicWorks Players — chamber concert

SPRING SEMESTER

“Constellations of a Contemporary Romanticism” — colloquium

Debra Salem Smith — Creative Physicians Lecture Series

James Chandler — Sarah Cutts Frerichs Lectureship in Victorian Studies

Visiting Scholars and Artists

Elizabeth Kassab, Mellon Visiting Professor in the Humanities

William Connolly (February)

Mohammed Fairouz and Jacqueline Rose (February)

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