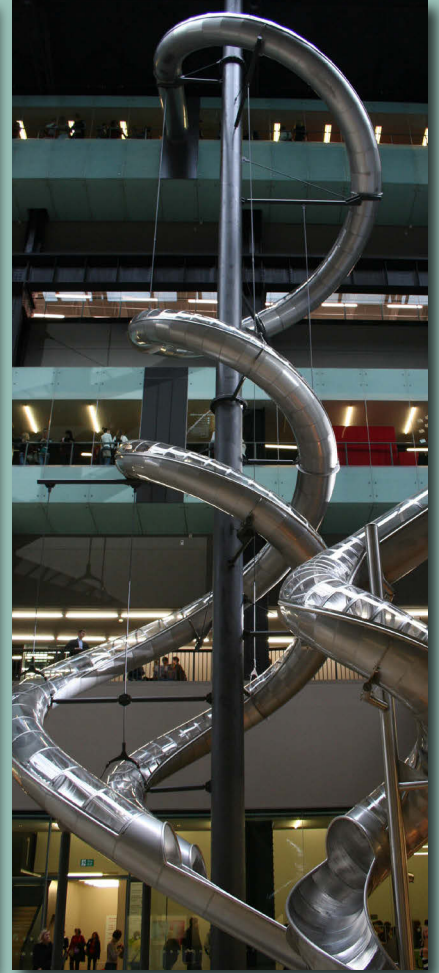
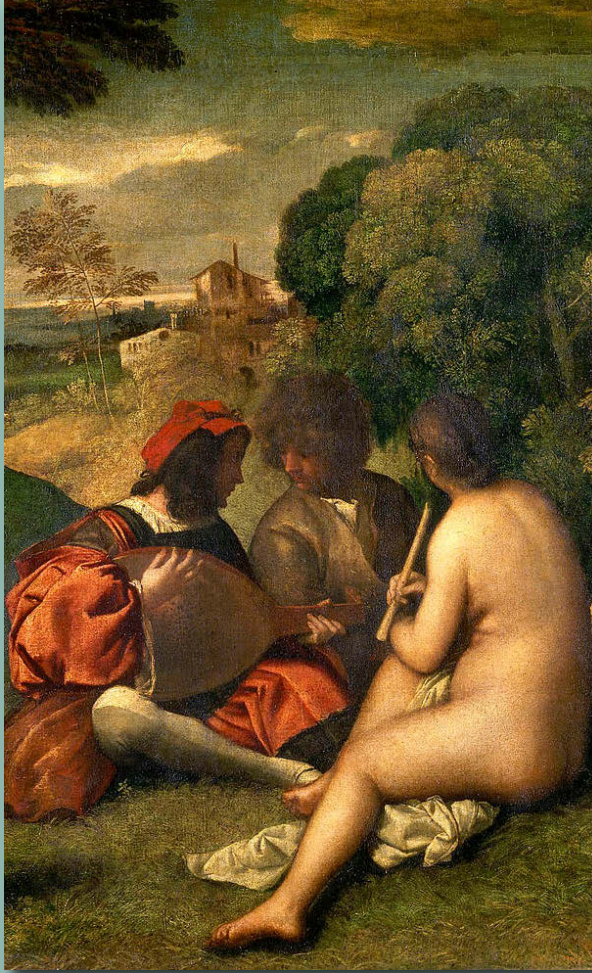
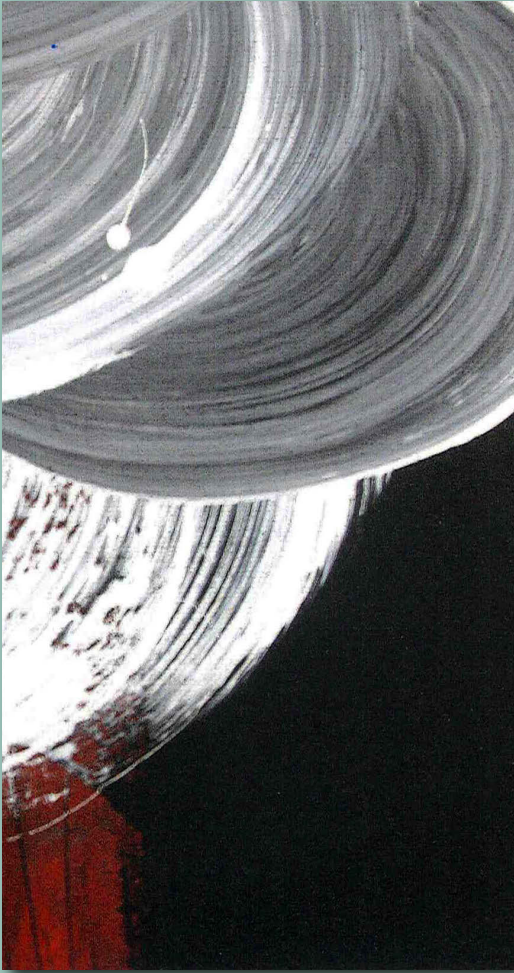


2012-2013 ANNUAL REPORT



UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
CENTER for the HUMANITIES



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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the Center,

I write to you as “Taking Flight,” the extremely eventful year-long celebration of the humanities and the arts, designated as such by President Donna E. Shalala, draws to a close. We firmly believe, however, that this is just the beginning of many years in which the humanities and the arts will be front and center at the University of Miami.

This year we welcomed four Stanford Distinguished Professors: Mark Juergensmeyer, a sociologist and expert on religious violence and terrorism; Temple Grandin, a professor of animal science, who has changed our understanding of animal behavior and autism; Mary Garrard, a groundbreaking feminist art historian of Renaissance Italy; and Amitav Ghosh, an acclaimed novelist whose work shines a light on cultural relations between South Asia and the West and within South Asia.

Professor Garrard presented the keynote for “Early Modern Women: New Perspectives,” a conference held to celebrate the first issue of *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal* produced by the new editorial team at the Center. Dr. Ghosh presented the keynote lecture on writing about “polyglot worlds” for “Language and Democracy,” a conference organized by the Center in collaboration with the School of Law and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.

In February, the Center presented a series of events around the theme of “Shakespeare in Miami,” to coincide with the Ring Theatre’s production of *King Lear*: a talk by Delpha Charles on “Shakespeare in a Caribbean Accent”; two lectures on *King Lear* by Gail Kern Paster, Director Emerita of Folger Shakespeare Library; and post-performance “talk-backs” with the director, cast members, and UM’s Shakespeare faculty.

In April, the Center moved to its new offices in Otto G. Richter Library. We thank William D. Walker, Dean of Libraries, and his staff for welcoming us to our new home, and Provost Thomas J. LeBlanc for his support in enabling us to occupy our greatly improved surroundings.

Finally, I again express my thanks to the faculty board for their wise advice on matters large and small, Dean Leonidas G. Bachas for his strong, thoughtful, and constant support of the Center and of the humanities, and to President Donna E. Shalala for calling attention to the importance of the humanities on our campus and beyond. Those familiar with our programs already know that the Center’s success owes a great deal to the creativity and dedication of Associate Director Kyle Siebrecht and Administrative Assistant Zureyka Carsi, and the hard work of Student Assistants Lainey Meiri, Jennifer North, Samantha Richard, and Devin Weinstein.



Mihoko Suzuki
Director, Center for the Humanities
College of Arts & Sciences, University of Miami



Mark Juergensmeyer**Global Rebellion: Religious Challenges to the Secular State,
from Christian Militias to al Qaeda***September 20, 2013*

Mark Juergensmeyer is Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He also serves as Director of the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

An expert on religious violence, conflict resolution, and South Asian religion and politics, Dr. Juergensmeyer has published more than two hundred articles and twenty books. His widely-read *Terror in the Mind of God: The Global Rise of Religious Violence* was listed by the *Washington Post* and the *Los Angeles Times* as one of the best nonfiction books of the year. He has been a frequent commentator in the news media, including CNN, NBC, CBS, BBC, NPR, and Fox News.

As Henry King Stanford Distinguished Professor, Dr. Juergensmeyer led seminars for undergraduate Religious Studies majors and minors. He also led seminars and met with faculty and graduate students in Religious Studies, Political Science, International Studies, English, History, and Law. His public lecture, “Global Rebellion: Religious Challenges to the Secular State, from Christian Militias to Al Qaeda,” addressed the question of violence in religion; he offered insight into the conflict between secularism and religion in politics, by first providing the historical background of the conflict and then delineating contemporary developments in a global context. He aimed to dispel two of the most common misconceptions about religion and violence: that Islam is a predominantly violent religion, and that religious violence manifests itself exclusively among adherents of Islam.



Temple Grandin Different Kinds of Minds

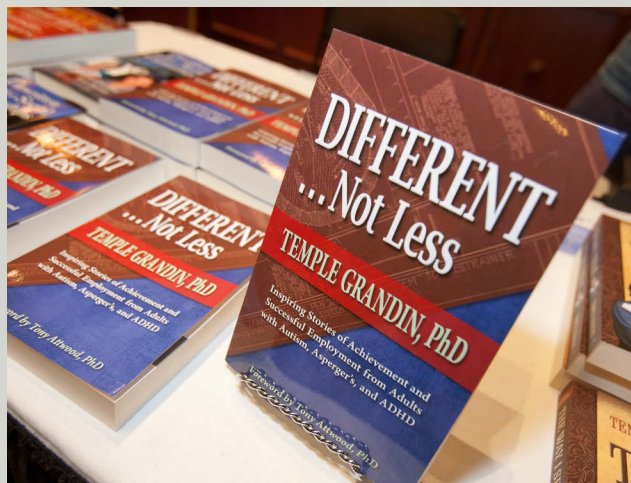
January 31, 2013

With Support from The Knight Foundation

Temple Grandin, Professor of Animal Science at Colorado State University, is one of the world's most accomplished and well-known adults with autism. In 2010, she was named one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People of the Year. She lectures to parents and teachers throughout the U.S. on her experiences with autism.

Dr. Grandin is the author of four books, including the national bestsellers *Thinking in Pictures* and *Animals in Translation*. Her most recent book is *The Way I See It: A Personal Look at Autism and Asperger's*. The 2010 HBO movie based on her life, starring Claire Danes, received seven Emmy Awards. She has appeared on 20/20, 48 Hours, CNN Larry King Live, PrimeTime Live, the Today Show, and many others. She has been featured in *The New York Times*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *Time*, *Discover*, *Forbes*, and *People*. Interviews with Dr. Grandin have been broadcast on National Public Radio. She has also authored over 300 articles in both scientific journals and livestock periodicals on animal handling, welfare, and facility design.

At the Center for the Humanities' largest event to date, the Henry King Stanford Distinguished Professor spoke about her experiences as a high-functioning adult with autism. In her lecture, titled "Different Kinds of Minds," Dr. Grandin captivated an audience of more than 4,000 people, some of whom were on the autism spectrum themselves. "When Grandin took the stage, the stadium erupted in a standing ovation," noted the *Miami Herald*. She discussed the width of the autism spectrum, explained the process of how she learned to live with her autism, and urged that no matter where a child is on the spectrum, he or she can learn to interact with and function in society. The *Miami Hurricane* called her talk "intellectually stimulating" and "a source of inspiration."



Mary D. Garrard

Art versus Nature: A Renaissance Competition in the Key of Gender

February 21, 2013

Mary D. Garrard, Professor Emerita of Art History at American University, is best known for her groundbreaking feminist scholarship that has illuminated art of the Italian Renaissance–Baroque period. Her publications include two books and other writings on Artemisia Gentileschi, work that pioneered modern scholarship on a major 17th-century Italian artist. With Norma Broude, she co-edited four books on feminism and art history that have become basic texts in American universities. Dr. Garrard has lectured extensively on Renaissance art and feminist issues in universities, colleges and museums across the country.

In her provocative book, *Brunelleschi's Egg: Nature, Art and Gender in Renaissance Italy*, Professor Garrard brings an art historical perspective to the transition that was underway during the Renaissance in the idea of nature — the physical universe and its operations — from an organism imbued with a mind or a soul to a “scientific” conception of the world as a machine that lacks intelligence. This transition was accompanied and assisted by the metaphorical equation of nature with the female, lending rational support to the objectification and exploitation of nature. Taking her examples from the works of the major artists of Florence, Rome, and Venice, such as Botticelli, Leonardo, Michelangelo, and Titian, Garrard shows that the elevation of male-dominated visual arts and the idea of art and culture as masculine spheres depended upon the representation of nature as a female Other to be overcome.

As a Center for the Humanities Stanford Distinguished Professor, Dr. Garrard met with faculty in Art and Art History and was the keynote speaker for the twentieth biennial Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque Symposium on “Early Modern Women: New Perspectives.” The symposium celebrated the first issue of *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal* published at the Center. Her lecture, “Art versus Nature: A Renaissance Competition in the Key of Gender,” expertly blended art, history, and gender studies to craft a new perspective on all three disciplines.



Amitav Ghosh

March 19-21, 2013

Amitav Ghosh is one of India's best-known writers. Born in Calcutta, he studied in Delhi, Alexandria, and Oxford, where he earned a doctorate in Anthropology. His many books include *The Circle of Reason*, *The Shadow Lines*, *In An Antique Land*, *Dancing in Cambodia*, *The Calcutta Chromosome*, *The Glass Palace*, *Incendiary Circumstances*, *The Hungry Tide*, as well as *Sea of Poppies* and *The River of Smoke*, the first two volumes of the *Ibis* trilogy. Dr. Ghosh's work has been translated into more than twenty languages; and his essays have been published in *The New Yorker*, *The New Republic* and *The New York Times*. He has taught in many universities in India and the USA, including Delhi University, Columbia, Harvard, and Queens College.

In addition to many awards from India, he has been honored with UK's Arthur C. Clarke Award, France's Prix Médicis, as well as the International e-Book Award at the Frankfurt Book Fair. *Sea of Poppies* was shortlisted for the 2008 Man Booker Prize and was awarded the Crossword Book Prize and the IndiaPlaza Golden Quill Award. In January 2007 he was awarded the Padma Shri, one of India's highest honors, by the President of India. He was the recipient of a Dan David Prize for 2010, which recognizes achievements that shape and enrich society today.

As the Center for the Humanities Stanford Distinguished Professor, Dr. Ghosh led a seminar for Creative Writing MFA students and faculty; met with faculty and graduate students in Classics, English, History, Modern Languages and Literatures and Philosophy; and presented two public lectures. The first, titled "China and the Making of Modern India," explored the heretofore largely unacknowledged importance of China and Chinese culture for India. His second lecture, "Speaking of Babel: The Risks and Rewards of Writing about Polyglot Worlds," drew from his experience writing about cultures in which languages intersect, overlap, conflict, and combine with each other.



LANGUAGE & DEMOCRACY

March 21-22, 2013

This symposium, presented in partnership with the School of Law and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, provided a forum for discussion about the vexing yet promising relationship between multilingualism and the lived experience of democracy. The organizing committee consisted of **Kunal Parker** and **David Abraham** (Law), **Tracy Devine-Guzmán** (MLL), and **Frank Palmeri** (English). The participants examined the challenges of linguistic complexity in both new and established democracies while highlighting each nation's unique response to linguistic pluralism.

The symposium opened Thursday, March 21, with the keynote lecture by Stanford Distinguished Professor **Amitav Ghosh** on "Speaking of Babel: the Risks and Rewards of Writing About Polyglot Worlds," which addressed his own complex linguistic background in the context of language diversity in India and the ways in which he incorporates multiple languages into his novels.

The symposium continued on Friday, March 22. In the panel on "Language and Expediency," **Philippe Van Parijs** (Louvain) analyzed the implications of linguistic dualism for Belgian democracy; **Renato Ortiz** (Campinas) considered the quest for a *lingua franca* in international academic forums; and **Sumathi Ramaswamy** (Duke) explored the use of English by India's Dalit class as an avenue for political and social opportunities. In "Language and Affect," **Shaden Tageldin** (Minnesota-Twin Cities) explored the use of the vernacular in revolutionary Egypt; Luis Cárcamo-Huechante (Texas-Austin) examined the preservation of the language and culture of the Mapuche people of Chile through radio; and **Pieter Moulton Judson** (Swarthmore) discussed language policy in the Habsburg Empire. In "Language and Equity," **Andrew Simpson** (USC) discussed the political implications of national and official languages in post-colonial Asia; and **Ron Schmidt** (California State-Long Beach) evaluated the role of language rights in the two dominant conceptualizations of democracy: liberal and participatory democracy.

The conference closed with a lively discussion, especially on the issues of whether language was merely instrumental or contained cultural significance and a worldview; and whether it is necessary to privilege democracy at the expense of linguistic pluralism.



EARLY MODERN WOMEN: NEW PERSPECTIVES

February 21-22, 2013

The Twentieth Biennial Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque Symposium on “Early Modern Women: New Perspectives,” was held to celebrate the first issue of *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal* produced by the new editorial team at the University of Miami Center for the Humanities. The conference was hosted by the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures; and cosponsored by the Center for the Humanities, the Departments of Art History, English, and History, the Joseph Carter Memorial Fund, and the Lowe Art Museum.

The Thursday evening keynote was delivered by Stanford Distinguished Professor **Mary D. Garrard**, Professor Emerita of Art History, American University, on “Art versus Nature: A Renaissance Competition in the Key of Gender.”

On Friday and Saturday, the participants who travelled to Miami from all over the US, and from Canada, UK, and Japan, presented over thirty papers in eleven sessions. The topics of the sessions ranged from “Letters and Identities,” “Gendered Identities,” “Visual Cultures,” “Politics and the Law,” to “Transmissions and Receptions.” The Friday sessions concluded with a reception at the Lowe Art Museum.

Closing the conference on Saturday, Professor Garrard gave a second lecture, “New Models for Scholarship on Early Modern Women.” After tracing trends in the history of feminist scholarship in art history, Garrard highlighted the works of prominent female artists of the early modern period, questioning the techniques traditionally used to examine these works as being inadequate to appreciate their unique value. She also analyzed the changing depictions of masculinity and femininity in the public sculptures of male artists during the period. The lecture was followed by a lively question-and-answer session that included a debate about the pros and cons of using the period designations “Renaissance” and “early modern.”



A Caribbean Accent to Shakespeare's Voice*February 7, 2013***Delpha Charles**

Professor of English Emerita, Miami Dade College
 (Cosponsored by the Department of English, Caribbean Literary Studies and Creative Writing Programs)

A native of Montserrat, Delpha Charles holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Miami. In her lecture, Dr. Charles discussed her book of quotations, stories, and “translations” of many of Shakespeare’s famous themes — from love and friendship to the supernatural — into the Caribbean context in which she first read Shakespeare.

Looking at Lear: Images from the Folger Picture Archive*February 13, 2013***Air and Passion in *King Lear* and *Macbeth****February 14, 2013***Gail Kern Paster**

Director Emerita, Folger Shakespeare Library
 (Cosponsored by the Departments of English and Theatre Arts, and the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program)

Gail Kern Paster was Director of the Folger Shakespeare Library, which houses the world’s largest collection of Shakespeare materials, from 2002 to 2011. She has served as president of the Shakespeare Association of America and editor of *Shakespeare Quarterly*. In her first lecture, “Looking at Lear,” Dr. Paster discussed how examples from the 10,000 digitized Shakespeare images of the Folger picture archive provide an illustrated history of the interpretation and reception of *King Lear*. In her second lecture, “Air and Passion in *King Lear* and *Macbeth*,” Paster illustrated how Shakespeare capitalizes on the fear and wonder associated with violent weather at key moments in the plays to emphasize an analogy between the meteorological macrocosm and the psychological microcosm.



SHAKESPEARE IN MIAMI

King Lear

February 20- March 2, 2013

Jerry Herman Ring Theatre Alvin Sherman Family Stage

(Directed by Lee Soroko)

The Ring production of *King Lear* — while remaining true to the original’s powerful, poetic language and dynamic theatricalism — placed the setting in a contemporary society where corporate and military leaders make rash and reckless decisions that eventually bring ruin to the country and the tragic disintegration of two families. Featuring **Dennis Krausnick**, founder of the renowned Shakespeare & Company in Lenox, Massachusetts, in the role of Lear and **Bruce Miller**, a UM Professor of Acting, in the role of Gloucester, the production included a cast of 19 student actors. Two of the performances were followed by “talk-backs” with the director, actors, and Shakespeare professors **Anthony Barthelemy** (Associate Professor of English), **Eugene Clasby** (Professor of English and Director, Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program), **Pamela Hammons** (Professor of English) and **Mihoko Suzuki** (Professor of English and Director, Center for the Humanities).

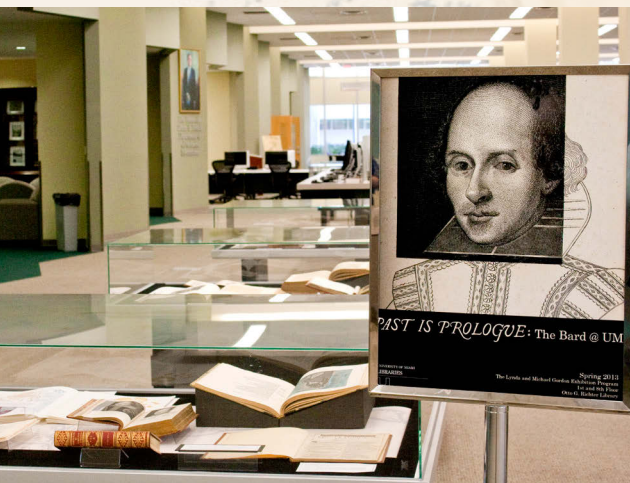
“Past is Prologue”: The Bard at UM

February 26 – August 31, 2013

The Lynda and Michael Gordon Exhibition Program

(Curated by Athena Jackson and Miranda Maraccini)

“Past is Prologue”: *The Bard @ UM* featured items from Otto G. Richter Library’s rare book and archival collection that represent three facets of William Shakespeare’s legacy: the University’s finest and most interesting copies of Shakespeare’s plays and sonnets; titles which shaped and influenced his body of work; and illustrative examples of Shakespeare’s enduring legacy.





LECTURES

Art Basel Miami Beach and the Culture of the Art Fair

November 29, 2012

Laura Knott

Curatorial Associate, MIT Museum

Art Basel Miami Beach powerfully represents the phenomenal expansion of contemporary art fairs since they began in 1967. While the first of the modern fairs was a small, cooperative venture, today's international art fairs profoundly influence cultural tourism and the business of buying and selling contemporary art. Laura Knott discussed the artists and the galleries as they have been, as they are at this year's ABMB, and as they are likely to be in the future.

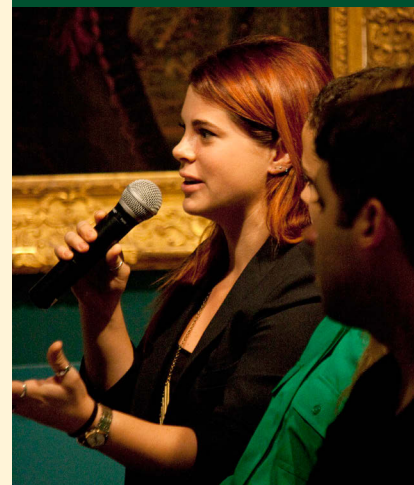
“Bathing in Reeking Wounds”: The Liberal Arts and the Arts of War

February 28, 2013

Catharine R. Stimpson

University Professor and Dean Emerita of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New York University

Focusing on *Macbeth*, Professor Stimpson discussed how the humanities are crucial in arriving at complex understandings of war in its multifarious manifestations. Wars inspire documentation, invention, and creativity; and historical and literary analysis helps us in healing the wounds of war. With new tools of research and communication, we can better explore, describe, and explain war, enabling us to arrive at a deeper awareness of history and self-recognition.



FELLOWS' SYMPOSIUM

Annual Fellows' Symposium

October 19, 2012

The 2011-2012 fellows presented from the work accomplished during their Center fellowships in two morning and two afternoon sessions.

Session 1

1. "Chinese-Japanese Economic Relations," **June Teufel Dreyer** (Political Science)
2. "Before the Holocaust: Anti-Semitic Violence during the Nazi Seizure of Power and the Reaction of German Elites," **Hermann Beck** (History)

Session 2

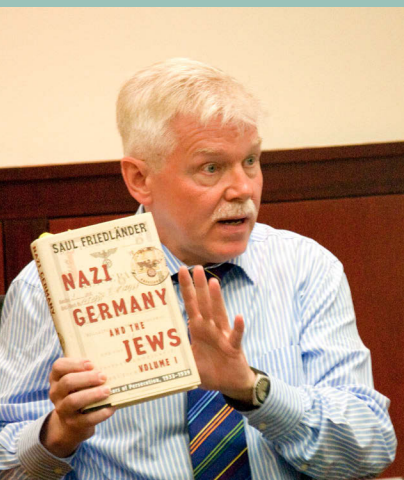
1. "Afro-Caribbean Religion and Electrical Modernity in Eighteenth-Century Saint-Dominique and Jamaica," **Kate Ramsey** (History)
2. "The State with Two Centers: The French Monarchy, the Dukes of Pfalz-Zweibrücken, and the 'State' in Early Modern Alsace, 1648-1789," **Stephen Lazer** (History)

Session 3

1. "The Ontology of the Readymade" **Simon Evnine** (Philosophy)
2. "The *sermo* of Roman Satire," **Jennifer Ferriss-Hill** (Classics)

Session 4

1. "The Boy-Soldier in Contemporary Nigerian Writing: Masculinities in Crisis," **Brenna Munro** (English)
2. "Sites that Speak: Miami through its Spanish-Speaking Performing Spaces (1960-1980)," **Lillian Manzor** (Modern Languages and Literatures)



RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

2012-2013 Faculty Fellows

- **Edmund Abaka**, Associate Professor of History
Africa in Cuba/Cuba in Africa: A Trans-Atlantic Relationship in the Crucible of Slavery, Revolution, and Decolonization
- **Jane Alison**, Associate Professor of English
Stories of Sexual Metamorphosis from Ovid
- **Suzanne Braswell**, Assistant Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures
Kinopoetics: Dance, French Modernity, and the Poetics of Lyric Mobility: Balzac, Mallarmé, Valéry
- **Maria Galli Stampino**, Associate Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures
Between Commedia dell'arte and Theater of the Enlightenment: The Querelle between Carlo Gozzi and Carlo Goldoni
- **Stephen Halsey**, Assistant Professor of History
The Quest for Power: European Imperialism and the Evolution of Chinese Statecraft, 1850-1911
- **Peter Lewis**, Professor of Philosophy
Realism in Quantum Mechanics
- **Wilson Shearin**, Assistant Professor of Classics
Thick-Witted Minerva: Stupidity in the Philosophical Culture of the Ancient Roman World

2012-2013 Dissertation Fellows

- **Marta Fernandez Campa**, English
Contrapuntal Poetics: Mourning and Critical Engagement in Caribbean Artistic Expression
- **Megan Hatfield**, History
Plantation Economies, Gender Politics, and the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic: The World of Eliza Pinckney
- **Stephanie Selvick**, English
Interrogating Violence and Sexuality in South African Literature and Culture



DAVID JOHN RUGGIERO AWARD

The annual award for the best dissertation in the humanities was established with the generous support of **Guido Ruggiero**, Professor of History, in memory of his brother, David John Ruggiero.

Ryan Lake's dissertation, *No Fate But What We Make—A Defense of the Compatibility of Freedom and Causal Determinism*, is a significant contribution to one of the most contested issues in the history of philosophy. In lucid and jargon-free prose, Lake develops a novel account of the compatibility of freedom and determinism and defends it against the recent resurgence of incompatibilist views. His position is built on an innovative account of moral responsibility in terms of practical reason and susceptibility to reactive moral emotions. He uses this account, together with carefully crafted examples, to combat a wide variety of recent arguments that causal determinism eliminates moral responsibility. He develops an insightful and nuanced account of the significance of moral emotions in human lives and loving relationships, arguing that only a compatibilist viewpoint can do justice to the complex interplay of cause and emotion in moral evaluation. Overall, the dissertation exhibits an impressive synthesis of careful analytic argumentation and broad humanistic relevance.

HONORABLE MENTION

Silvia Mitchell's dissertation, *Mariana of Austria and Imperial Spain: Court, Dynastic, and International Politics in Seventeenth-Century Europe*, is the first in-depth study of a crucial period in Spanish and indeed European history, unjustly neglected as it hinged upon the polarizing figure of a female regent for the Spanish Habsburgs, Mariana of Austria (1634-96). Rich in archival documents and elegantly written, Mitchell's dissertation expands our understanding of the legal and political workings of the court and generates novel insights on the politics of motherhood and regency, gender-specific categories that are usually relegated to a status of lesser importance. Mitchell engages multiple facets of her topic, involving politics, diplomacy, gender and family studies, in a pan-European view that is both necessary and largely ignored. She builds on recent scholarship and originally contributes to the theoretical underpinnings of early modern scholarship, for example through her analysis of the unique prerogatives of motherhood. By utilizing Mariana of Austria as an exceptional example within Spanish and European history as well as a productive instance of what the culture and legal system in Spain allowed, Mitchell provides a fruitful entry point to expand our understanding of early modern courts, politics, diplomacy, and gender.



EARLY MODERN WOMEN

The first issue of *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal* produced by the new editorial team at the Center for the Humanities, **Anne J. Cruz** (Spanish), **Mary Lindemann** (History), and **Mihoko Suzuki** (English), was published in October 2012. Ph.D. candidate in English **Sarah Ritcheson** served as editorial assistant; **Zureyka M. Carsi** was graphic designer. The issue presents a series of articles that cross disciplines and cultures: one cluster of topics addresses visual culture in several different media, including painting, sculpture, monuments, and collage; and the languages in which the authors work range from Spanish, English, French, Italian to Dutch.

A forum on “Transculturalisms / Transnationalisms” revisited **Merry Wiesner-Hanks’** influential article, “A Renaissance Woman (Still) Adrift in the World,” in the inaugural volume of *EMWJ* (2006), to bring a transcultural and global perspective to scholarship on early modern women. Accordingly, a number of the contributions go beyond a European perspective to take up topics concerning Islam, India, China, and Japan.

In addition to twenty-six book reviews, the volume also includes three exhibition reviews – on “Shakespeare’s Sisters” at the Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C.; on Artemesia Gentileschi at Palazzo Reale, Milan; and on Gou, a Japanese Princess during the Warring States Period at the Edo-Tokyo Museum.

EMWJ awarded its first annual best article prize to **Lyndan Warner**, Associate Professor of History, Saint Mary’s University, for “Remembering the Mother, Presenting the Stepmother: Portraits of the Early Modern Family in Northern Europe.”

In October, the coeditors met with the editorial board at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in Cincinnati. In February, to celebrate the publication of this volume, the Center organized a conference, “Early Modern Women: New Perspectives,” with keynote speaker **Mary D. Garrard**, Stanford Distinguished Professor and Professor Emerita of Art History, American University.

EMWJ has been invited to join JSTOR, a digital library of academic journals in which more than 8,000 member libraries and other institutions in more than 160 countries participate. *EMWJ* is now a member of the Council of Editors of Learned Journals.



Early Modern Women
AN INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL



EMW

Fall 2012, Volume 7

BOOKTALKS

Casey Klofstad, Associate Professor of Political Science

Civic Talk: Peers, Politics, and the Future of Democracy

Temple University Press

Joel Nickels, Assistant Professor of English

The Poetry of the Possible: Spontaneity, Modernism, and the Multitude

University of Minnesota Press

Michael Miller, Professor of History

Europe and the Maritime World: A Twentieth-Century History

Cambridge University Press

*Winner of the Hagley Prize, The Hagley Museum and Library
and the Business History Conference

Brenna Munro, Associate Professor of English

*South Africa and the Dream of Love to Come: Queer Sexuality
and the Struggle for Freedom*

University of Minnesota Press



AMERICAN ACADEMY COMMISSION ON HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

On September 14, 2012, Presidents **Donna E. Shalala** and **Eduardo Padrón** (Miami Dade College), who are members of the American Academy Commission on the Humanities and Social Sciences, hosted a forum on Humanities and Civil Society at the MDC's Wolfson Campus.

Answering a bipartisan call from members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, the American Academy created the Commission on the Humanities and Social Sciences to respond to the following question: "What are the top ten actions that Congress, state governments, universities, foundations, educators, individual benefactors, and others should take now to maintain national excellence in humanities and social sciences scholarship and education, and to achieve long-term national goals for our intellectual and economic well-being; for a stronger, more vibrant civil society; and for the success of cultural diplomacy in the 21st century?"

At the event, Presidents Shalala and Padrón heard testimony from 11 panelists, including UM alumna **Gloria Estefan**, **Mitchell Kaplan** of Books & Books, **Faith Mesnekoff** of HistoryMiami, **Arva Moore Parks** of Coral Gables Museum, **Michael Spring** of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, and **Mihoko Suzuki**, director of UM's Center for the Humanities.

Estefan stressed the importance of the various teachers who supported her after she emigrated to the US from Cuba. Kaplan called for collaborations and partnerships in the community to promote the humanities.

Suzuki called attention to the Center's active collaboration with Books & Books, the Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Council, and the Florida Humanities Council. She urged Congress to reverse the 60% decline in federal funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities over the past 30 years. In heeding the call of the Commission for specific proposals, she recommended the national support of "Teachers as Scholars," a program in which university faculty would lead seminars for K-12 teachers, who are responsible for transmitting the importance of humanities texts and approaches to the next generation of citizens.

The Commission published its report, *The Heart of the Matter: the Humanities and Social Sciences*, on June 19, 2013.



IN OTHER NEWS

The Center received two substantial gifts: an unrestricted gift from the **A.C. Fundación Jumex**, and an endowment to support a speaker series, in honor of UM graduate **Edith Bleich**, funded by her nephew, **Stuart Blumin**, Professor Emeritus of History, Cornell University. The lectures will address topics in history taken broadly: including history of science, art history, and literature, religion, political thought and other humanities topics in their historical context.

Amie Thomasson, Professor of Philosophy, and **Ashli White**, Associate Professor of History, have been awarded National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships for 2013-14. Thomasson was a Center faculty fellow during 2010-11 and White is one of the co-conveners of the Atlantic Studies Research Group at the Center. **Michael Bernath**, Assistant Professor of History, a 2010-11 Center fellow, was awarded a 2013 NEH summer stipend and a Mellon Foundation Fellowship from the Huntington Library.

June Teufel Dreyer, Professor of Political Science and 2011-12 Center fellow, was appointed Cooper Fellow in the College of Arts and Sciences; she was also appointed to the Advisory Board of the Japan – U.S. Discussion Forum at the National Bureau of Asian Research.

Joel Nickels, Assistant Professor of English, published *The Poetry of the Possible: Spontaneity, Modernism, and the Multitude* (Minnesota, 2012), which he completed during his 2009-10 tenure as a Center fellow. **Mark Rowlands**, Professor of Philosophy and 2010-11 Center fellow, published *Can Animals Be Moral?* (Oxford, 2012). **Brenna Munro**, Associate Professor of English, 2011-12 Center fellow, and co-convener of the Queer Studies Research Group, published *South Africa and the Dream of Love to Come: Queer Sexuality and the Struggle for Freedom* (Minnesota, 2012), a portion of which she presented at the Trans Global/Global Trans symposium held in April 2010. **Hugh Thomas**, Professor of History and 2009-10 Center fellow, published “Shame, Masculinity, and the Death of Thomas Beckett” in *Speculum*, the leading journal in medieval studies. **Hermann Beck**, Professor of History and 2010-11 Center fellow, published a major article, “Konflikte zwischen Deutschnationalen und Nationalsozialisten während der Machtergreifungszeit” in *Historische Zeitschrift*.

Center dissertation fellows **Silvia Mitchell** (2010-11) was appointed tenure-track Assistant Professor of History at Purdue University, and **Stephanie Selvick** (2012-13) tenure-track Assistant Professor of English at Utica College. **Brian Mondy** (2009-10) is Lecturer at the Center for Learning Innovation at the University of Minnesota-Rochester, and **Nick Wiltsher** (2011-12) is Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Leeds (UK).

The Center Faculty Board elected as Center Affiliates **Jeffrey Brosco** and **Ken Goodman**, Professors of Medicine and Codirectors of the Ethics and Medical Humanities Pathway at the Miller School of Medicine; **Deborah Schwartz-Kates**, Professor and Chair of Musicology; and **William D. Walker**, Dean of Libraries and University Librarian.

COSPONSORED EVENTS

August 17, 2012 - October 22, 2012

Absurd Celebration: The First International Festival of Virgilio Piñera's Theatre
(Modern Languages and Literatures)

September 24, 2012

Yair Mintzker, Assistant Professor of History, Princeton University, *The Multiple Deaths of Jew Suss: February 4, 1738* (Judaic Studies)

October 11- 13, 2012

Imagined Nations, 50 Years Later: Reflections on Independence and Federation in the Caribbean, 31st West Indian Literature Conference (Caribbean Literary Studies; English)

November 15, 2012

Christine Leigh Heyrman, Robert W. and Shirley P. Grimble Professor of American History, University of Delaware, *"Turning Turk": An American Muslim and an Evangelical Missionary in the Early Nineteenth-Century Levant* (History)

March 7, 2013

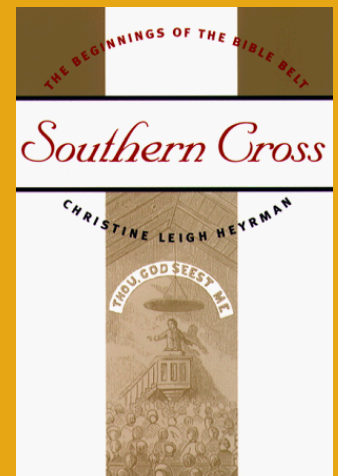
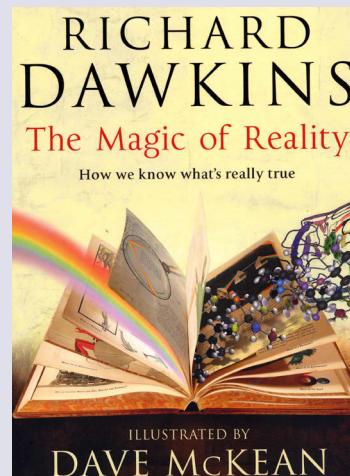
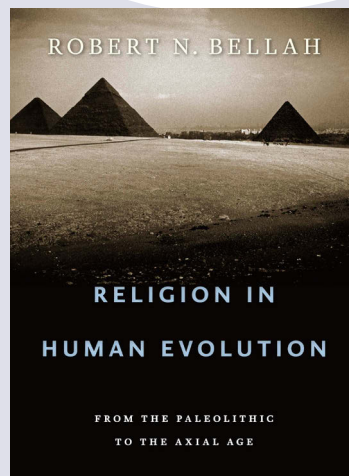
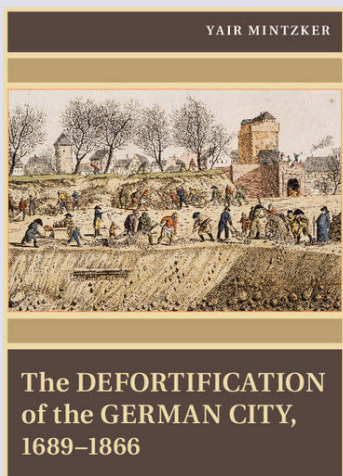
Richard Dawkins, Emeritus Fellow of New College, Oxford, *The Science of Beauty and the Beauty of Science* (College of Arts and Sciences)

April 17, 2013

Robert Bellah, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, University of California, Berkeley, *The Modern Project in the Light of Human Evolution* (College of Arts and Sciences)

April 18, 2013

Foundation Fundraising: Opportunities, Resources, and Strategies, Joanna de Velasco, Senior Development Director (University Advancement)



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Joyce Craig	Alan Lipson	Jacqueline Shapiro
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A. R. González de Castro	Frank Palmeri	

Comments from those attending “Different Kinds of Minds,” Temple Grandin, Stanford Distinguished Professor in the Humanities

Great job! Great speaker! Thank you Center for the Humanities!!

The lecture content was impressive. Dr. Grandin is an amazing and brave human being who is a true role model for all of us. Very grateful for her words of wisdom, in a room full of positive energy with parents, teachers, students, and people willing to make a difference.

I'm very impressed with UM's support of this lecture series and the high quality of speakers/subject matter. Thank you.

Kudos for choosing such a talented, learned, significant educator as Temple Grandin as one of your program's featured speakers. This is a voice that needs to be heard.

This was probably my most enjoyable event that I have ever attended--from any venue. I have personal experience with someone with autism--this meant much to me. The presentation was perfect in every way. I hope that a video may possibly be available, so that I can re-visit the experience. A very proud alumnus!

This was an amazing lecture. I attended with my co-workers. We all are physical therapists, speech therapists, and occupational therapists who work with children with special needs. Among those are children with autism. Listening and seeing the perspective of an adult living with autism allows us to approach our treatments in a new way. Thank you for hosting such a wonderful lecture!

A very moving lecture, it was certainly a draw for the entire community. Dr. Grandin is an exceptional speaker... Despite the impressively large audience... the organization was extremely well planned. Kudos to the Center for the Humanities!

BOARD AND STAFF

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Perri Lee Roberts (Art and Art History)

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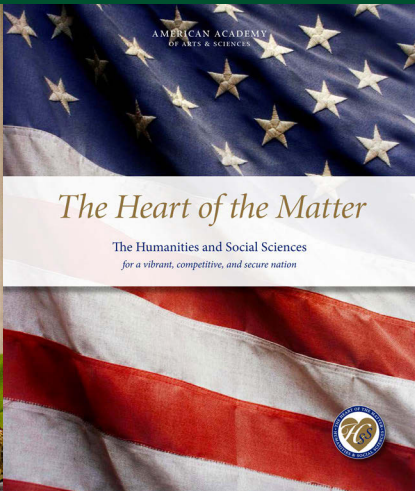


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UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

CENTER for the HUMANITIES



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