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Remembering Yugoslavia

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One hundred years ago, in 1908, Europe almost went to war when Serbia reacted with national outrage against the Austro-Hungarian annexation of Bosnia and Hercegovina. Austria-Hungary had exercised an occupation in Bosnia and Hercegovina ever since the Congress of Berlin in 1878, such that Vienna ruled over the province, but the Ottoman sultan still retained formal sovereignty in Istanbul. Under the Habsburg occupation the Austrian government created a bureaucratic administration, implemented economic and social policies of modernization, and involved Bosnia in strategic and military calculations for a whole generation without any resolution of the "final status" of the province. In 1908 the Ottoman empire was faced with the revolution of the Young Turks against the



Larry Wolff is Professor of History at New York University and the Director of the Center for European and Mediterranean Studies.

absolute sultanate of Abdul Hamid II, leading to a period of Ottoman constitutional reform and pointing toward the emergence of modern Turkey. This revolution in 1908 also triggered a declaration of full independence in Bulgaria, and the Austrian annexation of Bosnia, thus further dramatizing the "Eastern Question" of what power arrangements and political forms would eventually displace the Ottoman

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Greece: A Jewish History

New York University: Friday, January 25
By Lyublyana Stoyanova

Professor Katherine Fleming, Alexander S. Onassis Professor of Hellenic Culture and Civilization at New York University, presented at the New York University Center for European and Mediterranean Studies a lecture on the post-World War II history of Greek Jewry. Professor Fleming drew upon her most recent book *Greece: a Jewish History* in relating the dramatic fate of the Greek Sephardic Jewish community in its search for a true homeland.

The lecture focused on the experience of Greek Jewish survivors of the German concentration camps during World War II, who returned to post-war Greece to build a life anew, only to face ostracism and discrimination. Rejected by local Greeks for not being Greek and treated with

suspicion by fellow Jews who spent Greece's German occupation in hiding, returnees struggled to reconcile themselves with the realities of war-ravaged Greece, while at the same time coming to grips with their own destitution, feelings of isolation, and confused sense of national and community belonging.

After the establishment of Israel as an independent country in 1948, the larger part of the Greek Jewish community sought refuge in the Palestinian lands. Hoping to make their permanent home in the new Israeli state, Greek Jews once again found themselves in a position of "inbetweenness"—being neither Mizrahim, nor Ashkenazim—and consequently discriminated against by Jewish immigrants from the Middle East and Europe alike.

Thus, ironically, despite trying to distance themselves from Greece by adopting the Zionist ideology and emigrating to Israel, in Israel their Greek national roots were brought to the fore as a sole means of self-identification.

Fleming concluded the lecture on a lighter note. Describing Greek Jews as an immigrant group that is small but fairly well-integrated in contemporary Israeli society, she discussed their outsize impact on contemporary Israeli popular culture, exemplified by the great popularity nowadays of typically Greek songs sung in Hebrew, as well as by the existence of the character of the Greek immigrant in Israeli cinema.

La Diplomatie Culturelle: Promoting French Culture Internationally

New York University: Thursday, January 31
By Alexandra Larschan

Speaking at the Maison Francaise, Kareen Rispal, Cultural Counselor for the French Embassy's Cultural Service, delivered a lecture on the international role of French cultural diplomacy. Examining the function of cultural diplomacy abroad, Rispal suggested that French schools and cultural centers offering language lessons are one way that international audiences learn more about France. However, she stressed that language learning is not essential to the larger project of cultural diplomacy. Rather, Rispal explained that most cultural diplomacy focuses on sharing unique aspects of French cultural

production—visual arts, theater, cinema, literature, dance or music. In the United States, Rispal's diplomatic office works to bring artists to American audiences who might not have the opportunity to travel to France. The French Cultural Service also works closely with American universities to foster cultural exchange. Rispal emphasized that partnerships with American organizations are of particular importance; and fundraising events in the U.S. are necessary to supplement their small operating budget. Although cultural diplomacy fulfills different functions internationally, the

underlying goal of these diplomatic efforts is to preserve and export what is uniquely French. Suggesting that French cultural production is often threatened by the homogenizing influence of American culture, Rispal reinforced that the diplomatic mission serves to defend and promote French culture internationally. Reflecting on the effect of EU expansion and integration on French cultural services within Europe, Rispal noted that the aspiration for a common European identity may ultimately work to diminish the space for French cultural diplomacy within Europe.

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empire in southeastern Europe. World War I might have begun at that moment in 1908, as Serbia denounced the annexation of Bosnia, Russia supported Serbia, and Germany endorsed Austria, in the same alignments that would ultimately lead to war in 1914. Instead, in 1908, Serbia was compelled to back down and accept the Austrian annexation, but Belgrade, which experienced this as a diplomatic humiliation, continued to nourish its ambitions in Bosnia and encouraged the conspiratorial group of the Black Hand that would finally bring about the assassination of the Habsburg Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo in June 1914 and the actual advent of World War I in August.

The annexation of Bosnia in 1908, anticipating the dissolution

of the Ottoman empire, confirming the fatal ambitions of the Habsburg empire, and stoking fierce Serbian resentments, pointed toward the creation of Yugoslavia ten years later in 1918.

"In 1908 the Ottoman empire was faced with the revolution of the Young Turks against the absolute sultanate of Abdul Hamid II, leading to a period of Ottoman constitutional reform and pointing toward the emergence of modern Turkey."

One hundred years later, in 2008, the independence of Kosovo, which is also being met with fierce Serbian resentment in Belgrade, marks the last stage in the dissolution of Yugoslavia. The end of Yugoslavia, furthermore, still reflects the longterm, unresolved

post-Ottoman ramifications of the "Eastern Question," that is, the disputed sovereignty over former Ottoman territory in southeastern Europe. It was still being disputed in Bosnia in the last decade of the twentieth century, in Kosovo in the first decade of the twenty-first century. Taking the same long view, one might even see twenty-first century struggles in the Middle East in the context of still unresolved post-Ottoman issues of political sovereignty.

Kosovo was an autonomous region within the multinational constitutional structure of Tito's communist Yugoslavia, which thus safeguarded the national concerns of the Albanian majority in Kosovo. After Tito's death in 1980, the national tensions of Yugoslavia led to the rise of Slobodan Milošević in Serbia. His brutal dictatorial career

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Art and Memory

New York University: Thursday, December 6
By Alexandra Larschan

In a dialogue coordinated by the Catalan Center at NYU, Francesc Torres and art critic and philosopher Arthur Danto discussed Torres's photography project that documented the unearthing of a mass grave from the Spanish Civil War. The multimedia installation at the International Center of Photography, "Dark is the room where we sleep: A project by Francesc Torres," reveals how the process of excavation and burial of remains is both politicized and highly emotional. It further demonstrates how Spain still struggles to come to terms with the Civil War—even thirty years

after Franco's death. Overcoming political obstacles, Torres worked in cooperation with the Association for the Recuperation of the Historical Memory in order to document the excavation and identification of remains from the mass grave in Villamayor de los Montos in Northern Spain. Photographing the work of archeologists, medical examiners and anthropologists, along with other volunteers, Torres produced works that not only document an historic event, but also reveal significant attention to aesthetics and an emotional immediacy. The series of photographs of family members burying their relatives

remains especially poignant. As such, they serve as a kind of war photography that explores themes of memory, loss and power. The dialogue between Torres and Danto focused on the implications of such photography as both works of art and a form of historical record. In addition, the artist discussed the artistic and ethical implications of such a project. While this photography project is a crucial part of preserving the memory of victims of the Spanish Civil war, it is clear that such an exhibit is only one step in the long process of coming to terms with the past.

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brought about the severe oppression of the Albanians in Kosovo, whose constitutional autonomy was canceled. Indeed, one of the nasty landmarks of his rise to power was the speech he delivered at the battlefield of Kosovo in 1989, six hundred years after the Serbian-Ottoman battle of Kosovo of 1389. The nationally enshrined memories of that medieval battle, together with the venerable Serbian religious sites in Kosovo, have made the region appear as a kind of Holy Land for Serbs. Belgrade was determined to retain possession of Kosovo in the 1990s, even as the other regions of Yugoslavia were lost, even as

Bosnia was engulfed by war. The Serbian minority in Kosovo received the particular support of

"Since 1999 Kosovo remains officially bound to Serbia, but actually administered by the United Nations and occupied by NATO troops; now, it will receive the 'final status' that has been deferred for the last decade."

the Belgrade government. It was the example of Serbian ethnic cleansing and mass murder in Bosnia between 1992 and 1995, taken together with an ominous pattern of analogous oppression in Kosovo, that led to the NATO war

of intervention against Belgrade in 1999. After 1999 Kosovo remained officially bound to Serbia, but was actually administered by the United Nations and occupied by NATO troops; now, with independence, it achieves the "final status" that has been deferred for the last decade.

Independence in Kosovo on February 17, 2008, reverses the balance of power in the province, inasmuch as the Albanian minority which faced oppression within Yugoslavia in the 1990s now become the 90% national majority in independent Kosovo in relation to an endangered Serbian minority. That Albanian violence against Serbs in the region is a real

Joschka Fischer: From Grassroots Activism to High Politics

New York University: Friday, February 8
By Lyublyana Stoyanova

The New York University Center for European and Mediterranean Studies hosted a talk by journalist and modern German history expert Paul Hockenos, during which he presented his latest book titled *Joschka Fischer and the Making of the Berlin Republic*. In structuring his book Hockenos used the genre of political biography in order to examine how the various social and protest movements, which sprang up in the German Federal Republic after World War II, influenced the reconstruction and development of the post-war Western German state and society.

Hockenos termed those movements "below movements" due to their grassroots character, and described their political ideology as an attempt at promoting the idea of civic

responsibility and at elevating the importance of civil society vis a vis the German state. He also mentioned the movements' role in the politicization of millions of young Germans.

According to Hockenos, the most wide-spread and controversial of the movements was the student movement of the late 1960s, which gave rise to other German social movements in the 1970s such as the Third World Movement, the Peace Movement, and the Women's Movement. The German Greens, through which Fischer himself rose into political prominence in the 1980s, were a later product of the "below movements" active in the previous two decades.

Hockenos saw Joschka Fischer's own controversial path as a public figure—from an activist in the

radical left-wing movement of the *Spontis* in Stuttgart and Frankfurt am Main in the late 1960s and a leader of the anarchist *Putzgruppe* in Frankfurt in the 1970s to his transformation into an influential politician in the 1980s and 1990s as a leader of the German Greens and Foreign Minister in Gerhard Schroeder's government—as closely related to post-war political and social activism. Hockenos depicted Fischer as one of the many representatives of the post-war German protest generation who trod the long and winding road from street protest to the highest echelons of political power, shaping Germany's contemporary political physiognomy on the way.

possibility was clearly demonstrated by the assaults of 2004, even with NATO troops as an occupying presence in Kosovo. Indeed, such troops are likely to remain in Kosovo even after independence, and United Nations special envoy, Finnish statesman Martti Ahtisaari offered a plan in 2007 for a "supervised independence" to protect the concerns of the Serbian minority. The rejection of the Ahtisaari plan by Belgrade in 2007, together with the ongoing Russian opposition to any independence for Kosovo brokered by the United Nations, meant that, in the end, independence was declared unilaterally from within Kosovo. The fall out of that declaration is likely to involve the further arousal of Serbian nationalism in both Serbia and Bosnia, and the further resentment of Russia against what Vladimir Putin will perceive as insulting international indifference to Russian concerns.

It was Russia supporting Serbia a hundred years ago, in 1908, at the time of the annexation crisis. It was Russia supporting Serbia a hundred years earlier, in 1808, when the first Serbian uprising against Ottoman rule coincided with a Russian-Ottoman war. Russia saw itself, and was even acknowledged by treaty, as the special protector of the Orthodox Christian subjects of the Ottoman empire. Go back another century to 1708, and you will find Peter the Great contemplating war against the Ottomans as a means toward Russia's imperial expansion and rise to international power. Now, in 2008, Russia will once again measure its international prestige as a function of the regard or disregard for Russian concerns in

southeastern Europe, and will view Western encouragement and recognition of Kosovo's independence as the cause for serious diplomatic resentment. This is not just a matter of Putin's personal vanity or political ego, for, strangely, the issue of Kosovo has come to matter to many Russians as a measure of Russia's international stature. Meanwhile, in Serbia the presidential elections of 2008 have already turned on the issue of Kosovo: the radical nationalist candidate Tomislav Nikolic staked out a position of extreme outrage over Kosovo, running against the more moderate candidate, Boris Tadic, an advocate of Serbian membership in the

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European Union. Tadic, who won the runoff election on Sunday February 3, seeks an agreement with the European Union, that has been already denounced by his political enemies in Serbia as involving some degree of de facto acceptance of Kosovo's independence. The path to eventual European Union membership for Serbia probably will require such acceptance, and also Serbian cooperation in the arrest of alleged war criminals still at large from the Bosnian war of the early 1990s.

Kosovo's independence marks the very final stage in the disintegration of Yugoslavia as a

multinational state. This largely occurred in the 1990s, with the independence of Croatia, Slovenia, and Macedonia in 1991, followed by the terrible war in Bosnia. Yet, the name of Yugoslavia lingered on until 2003, and by the beginning of 2008 the Albanian population in Kosovo remained the largest national minority still subject to Belgrade. It makes little political sense for that bond to be preserved when multinational Yugoslavia has ceased to exist.

Yugoslavia's independence in 1918 was a diplomatic triumph, emerging conveniently from the collapse of the Habsburg and Ottoman empires in World War I, and ratified by the peace conference in Paris as a political application of Woodrow Wilson's principle of national self-determination. That same principle, ironically, would serve to vindicate the dismantling of Yugoslavia in the 1990s, and is also being invoked to justify Kosovo's independence in 2008.

In the year of Yugoslavia's creation, in 1918, the end of World War I was accompanied by the worldwide Spanish flu epidemic which caused the death of more than twenty million people. Among those who died of Spanish flu in 1918 were two Serbian immigrants from in Montana, Spiro and Sofia Vucinich, with their infant youngest child. They left behind a family of three orphaned children, under the age of five, who were put on a boat in New York and sent back to their extended Serbian family in the mountains of Hercegovina. The oldest of those three children, Vojislav Vucinich, spent his childhood in Hercegovina, in the newly created country of Yugoslavia, and was then sent back to the United States

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where, as Wayne Vucinich, he eventually became one of America's most distinguished professors of the history of Eastern Europe, and of Yugoslavia in particular. He taught at Stanford for forty years, and he was my Ph.D. adviser there in the 1980s. Like all his graduate students at Stanford I called him Uncle Wayne, a familial custom that derived from his own childhood in Hercegovina in the extended Serbian family, the *zadruga*, where he had no father or mother, but many uncles and aunts. In the 1990s, after a long life lived between two countries, America and Yugoslavia, he watched with horror as Yugoslavia—and especially his own family province of Bosnia and Hercegovina—was torn apart by warfare, massacre, and ethnic cleansing. When Wayne Vucinich died in 2005, the very name of Yugoslavia had already been abolished, and the country in which he had grown up, which he had studied and written about for his whole scholarly life, had ceased to exist. After his death, I edited his posthumous memoirs, which were published in 2007 as *Memoirs of my Childhood in Yugoslavia*, the memoirs of a completely defunct geopolitical organism which now belongs entirely to us, the historians. The formal independence of Kosovo from Belgrade in 2008 will again confirm the abolition of Yugoslavia as a multinational state.

For most of the nationalities of the former Yugoslavia the extinction of the country has been seen as a desirable, or even inevitable, political development. For some observers, however—and Wayne Vucinich was probably one such—there was something tragic

not just in the violence of Yugoslavia's dissolution but also in the demolition of the whole ideal of multinational political coexistence in southeastern Europe. The memoirs reveal some of the awkward tensions of brand new Yugoslavia in the 1920s: traditional patriarchal Serbian national ideas within the family but modern civic Yugoslav patriotism in the schools; venerable religious and national customs preserved in a world that was already penetrated by newspapers from Sarajevo and Belgrade; summers of transhumance when a boy would take the goats up to the mountain pastures elevated far above the little towns that were already witnessing the arrival of a few automobiles; traditional songs of valorous exploits against the Ottoman Turks but daily conversation in a Serbian language

"The formal independence of Kosovo from Belgrade in 2008 will again confirm the abolition of Yugoslavia as a multinational state."

deeply inflected by Turkish and Arabic words after centuries of Ottoman rule. Wayne Vucinich, together with his younger siblings Alexander and Desanka, lived in the region of Bileca Rudine and went to school in the town of Bileæa. Their schooldays in the 1920s were so close to the founding of Yugoslavia that one of the teachers in the school had actually been a participant in the conspiracy to assassinate the Habsburg Archduke Franz Ferdinand in 1914.

"When we settled in Bileæa with Uncle Djoko, Alex and I were enrolled in elementary school. The school's

purpose was not only to teach us reading, writing, and arithmetic, but also to imbue us with patriotism, that is, Yugoslavism. We youngsters were excited to learn that there was no difference between the Serbs, Croats, Slovenes, and Muslims, and that all were branches of one South Slav nation. The Bileæa district, however, was inhabited mostly by Serbs, with a minority of Muslims and a few Croats. The pupils in the Bileca elementary school came from all three religious communities, as did the teaching staff, and while debates continued to rage in the Belgrade parliament and in the press over the country's constitutional system, harmony seemed to prevail in our school and our town..."

"Founded under Austro-Hungarian rule, the school was originally supposed to instill in the pupils loyalty and allegiance to the Habsburg crown. Under the Yugoslav government, after World War I, the school retained more or less the same program but now the school stressed Yugoslav patriotism. As young as I was, I vividly recall and appreciate the efforts of teachers to instill in their pupils the virtues of education and the values of South Slav unity. It was, however, no easy task for a teacher to follow a consistent line, because much of what was taught in the classroom was undone at home. In our family we were educated as Serbs, but in our school we were educated as Yugoslavs. . .

"I remember that the peasant students from surrounding conservative villages, where tradition was deeply rooted, would divide into opposing Serb and Muslim bands on the way home from school, and fight wars with rocks. They were inspired by real or imaginary heroes of the past, Christian and Muslim. In my youth, however, these sentiments

seemed to be growing weaker. By the time I left for America in 1929, manifestations of religious hatred had subsided, at least for a time. In Bileca, Muslims and Serbs exchanged visits with one another on holidays and celebrations, and worked together in the town, as did my Uncle Djoko with his Muslim partner in the grocery store."

In the 1920s it was possible to believe that religious and national antagonisms were waning in the context of independent multinational Yugoslavia. In retrospect, that vision appears naïve: from the beginning of the twentieth century, those who believed in Yugoslavia certainly failed to prophesy the future, failed to foresee the end of the century. The little town of Bileca, in the 1990s, was ethnically cleansed of its Muslim population, and Bileca today is entirely Serbian, within the Bosnian Serbian enclave—Republika Srpska—acknowledged by the Dayton

Agreement in 1995 as part of the settlement of the Bosnian war. The oldest residents of the town in the 1990s might have gone to school in the old Austro-Hungarian schoolhouse with Wayne Vucinich in the 1920s. In the 1990s the three mosques of Bileca were destroyed.

Wayne Vucinich was a graduate student at Berkeley in the 1930s and wrote his doctoral dissertation about Serbia in the first decade of the twentieth century, later published as the book, *Serbia between East and West: The Events of 1903-1908*. These were precisely the events that led up to the Bosnian annexation crisis of 1908, five years before Wayne Vucinich himself was born in Montana in 1913, and ten years before Yugoslavia was constituted in 1918. He finished his dissertation and received his Ph.D. in 1941, the year that Hitler invaded and destroyed the

interwar Yugoslav kingdom. Serbia between East and West was published in 1954, when Yugoslavia had been reconstituted as a communist federation of national republics under Tito. The lifetime of Wayne Vucinich, from 1913 to 2005, encompassed the whole history of Yugoslavia, which did not yet exist when he was born and had ceased to exist when he died. Yugoslavia belongs to the history of the twentieth century, and will be accordingly studied by us, the historians. In 2008, as Kosovo achieves its "final status," which also constitutes the final banishing of the last lingering manifestation of Yugoslavia, it would be well for us to think about what we have learned, and may still have to learn, about the complex dynamics and fraught relations of multinational politics and national independence in Europe.

NYU in Barcelona: New Summer Study Abroad Program

New York University: Friday, February 22

By Alexandra Larschan

The Center for European and Mediterranean Studies and The Catalan Center announced the launch of a new summer study abroad program based in Barcelona. New York University is establishing a partnership with the Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, one of Spain's top-ranking universities, offering students the opportunity to enroll in graduate classes on Barcelona and the politics of the European Union during summer 2008. In addition, the program provides the opportunity for further study on the European Union, including a visit to the European Parliament in Brussels.

Mary Ann Newman, director of the summer study abroad program and of the Catalan Center at NYU, noted that there are very few programs that enable graduate students to take summer courses abroad; this one further provides a unique opportunity to explore Barcelona through site visits and other cultural activities.

Graduate students who have had spent time in Barcelona attended the event to share their experiences researching and interning abroad. They all reinforced the importance of such time abroad as part of graduate study—whether conducting

research projects on Catalan identity, exploring Sephardic Jewish Identity through oral histories or interning at a thinktank. This program was developed to facilitate such study abroad opportunities at the graduate level, and will be open to students at NYU and other universities. Ultimately, the summer study abroad program will provide a chance to initiate an important connection between New York University and the Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona.

EURODIGEST: *Europe in January and February*

Jan. 15: In a major strategic shift, France announced plans to set up its first permanent naval base in the Gulf across from Iraq in Abu Dhabi.

Jan. 17: A French court ruled Wednesday that the oil company Total was partly liable for the 1999 tanker spill that blackened the Brittany coast with fuel oil even though the company did not own the ship, fining Total \$298 million in damages.

Jan. 20: European Union officials will propose a major overhaul of the bloc's carbon emissions trading system, aiming to reduce corporate influence and make polluting more expensive.

Jan. 24: Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi resigned after losing a Senate confidence motion that forced him to end his 20-month-old government.

Jan. 25: French bank Société Générale announced that it had lost \$7.2 billion after trader Jérôme Kerviel made bad bets on stocks and then exacerbated his losses in an effort to cover up the fraud which appeared to be the largest in history by a rogue trader.

Jan. 25: A Top EU justice official proposed replicating U.S. border security measures in Europe with plans to fingerprint and electronically record the entry and exit of all visitors. The measures would aim to prevent visitors from illegally entering Europe, or overstaying the three-month stay given to tourists and EU visa holders.

Jan. 31: Inflation in the Euro zone increased at the fastest pace on record in January, signaling a difficult task ahead for the European Central Bank as it seeks to enforce price stability in the midst of slowing economic growth.

Feb. 2: NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer pressured Germany to deploy more troops to Afghanistan after Chancellor Angela Merkel rejected similar requests from the United States Secretary of Defense.

Feb. 5: President Sarkozy announced that France was ready to launch a military operation against rebels in Chad if necessary.

Feb. 13: The United States urged NATO to begin membership negotiations with Ukraine and Georgia despite threats from Russia and opposition from Germany.

Feb. 17: Kosovo's ethnic Albanian leadership declared independence from Serbia; the declaration was met with protests from thousands of Serbs in the north.

Feb. 19: Two paintings stolen from a Zurich art museum on February 10th were found in good condition in an unlocked car parked outside a nearby psychiatric hospital; two other paintings are still missing.

Feb. 24: Demetris Christofias was elected the first communist president of Cyprus on promises to resume reunification talks between the Greek Cypriot south and the Turkish Cypriot north.

Designing Democratic Capitals

New York University: Thursday, February 21
By Alexandra Larschan

Michael Minkenberg's lecture "New Capitals in New Nations" explored the connection between architecture and manifestations of political power in democratic states. While such analysis of state architecture is frequently the domain of art historians, Minkenberg instead proposed a comparative political analysis of post-colonial capital cities. Focusing on Washington DC, Ottawa, Brasilia and Canberra as case studies, he sought to examine the different ways these new (post-18th century) democratic capitals represent themselves architecturally.

In a presentation featuring photographs of capitals and plans of the cities, Minkenberg examined geography, city layout and

architectural design of the capital buildings themselves in order to frame his comparisons. Examining the relationship between political regime and architecture, then, Minkenberg reflected on the ways individual nations sought to reflect a democratic style that served both individual and collective needs. Approaching the architectural language as a unique manifestation of democratic government, Minkenberg noted distinctions between capitals (such as those intended to be presidential or parliamentary democracies) unique aspects of city design (such as the mall in Washington DC). Focusing on public accessibility as part of the design of capitals, Minkenberg suggested the significance of the individual

connections to the capital in democratic nations. Following the lecture, questions focused on comparisons between cities, including a discussion of the geographical location of these cities, and the decision to locate capitals in areas of the country that were fairly isolated at its inception. In addition, discussion centered on the question of the location of capitals in relation to the larger federal system of government, and questions of electoral representations for citizens in capital cities. Minkenberg's lecture was the first in the Max Weber Lecture series "Power and Architecture: The Construction of Capitals" that will continue through the spring 2008 semester.

The European Welfare System in Crisis: Coping with the Consequences of Increased Life Expectancy

CUNY: Thursday, February 14
By Lyublyana Stoyanova

A lecture titled "Living Longer, Working Shorter? Toward the Limits of Sustainable Welfare" was presented by Professor Bernd Marin, Executive Director of the European Centre for Social Welfare, Policy and Research. He focused on the challenges before the European welfare system due to increasing life expectancy in Western European democracies, and on the necessity for prompt changes in European retirement and pension policies aimed at redressing the existing imbalance between the strength of the labor force and the number of Europeans in retirement.

In the beginning of his presentation Marin talked about the current tendency of "life years gain," calculating that children born in 2008 are likely to live well into their eighties. At the same time, despite the fact that young Europeans are expected to live longer than their parents, many EU countries continue to reduce their retirement thresholds. Marin characterized that practice as particularly problematic for the European welfare system, especially at a time when the aging post World War II baby boomers will result in a sharp drop in the number of tax payers.

Therefore, Marin argued in favor of an overall increase in the retirement age in the EU as a possible solution to the looming crisis of the European welfare system. He also mentioned the import of labor force through immigration from non-EU countries as another way of addressing the problem.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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Thursday, March 6 at 6:00 p.m.
 Friday, March 7 at 11:00 a.m.
 Symposium: A Mind for the Ages:
 Ramon Llull, Doctor Illuminatus
 Organized by the Catalan Center,
 NYU; co-sponsored by The King Juan
 Carlos I of Spain Center, the
 Department of Spanish and
 Portuguese and the Center for
 European and Mediterranean
 Studies.
 The King Juan Carlos I of Spain
 Center
 53 Washington Square South, 1st
 floor

Monday, March 10, 11:00 a.m.-12:30
 p.m.
 European History workshop: 'Each
 and every one of you must become a
 chef.' Toward a social politics of
 working-class childhood on the
 extreme right in 1930s France.
 With Laura Lee Downs, Directrice
 d'études, EHESS (Ecole des Hautes
 Etudes en Sciences Sociales)

Thursday, March 13, 6:00 p.m.- 8:00
 p.m.
 Max Weber Lecture Series: "Power,
 Architecture, and the Construction
 of Capitals"
 Lecture: "Images of Power: The
 European Union and its
 Architecture"
 With Jurgen Neyer, Viadrina
 University, Frankfurt (Oder)
 42 Washington Mews, Deutsches
 Haus

Friday, March 28, 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
 Gender in Transition workshop:
 "Gender Equality Legislation in the

CEE and CIS. Enforcement
 mechanisms and strategies: Do they
 really work?"
 With Anna Wilkowska, Human
 Rights lawyer

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 place at the Maison unless otherwise
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<http://www.nyu.edu/maisonfrancaise>

Sunday, March 2 at 3:30 p.m.
 Film Screening: Her Name is Sabine /
 Elle s'appelle Sabine
 By Sandrine Bonnaire
 In French with English subtitles
 IFC Center, 323 Avenue of the
 Americas (at West 3rd Street)

Monday, March 3 at 7:00 p.m.
 French Literature in the Making
 Linda Lê, a writer and literary
 historian, in conversation with
 Olivier Barrot, journalist
 Presented with the support of
 Directours, l'Avion, the Cultural
 Services of the French Embassy, and
 CulturesFrance.
 In French. Simultaneous translation
 available.

Tuesday, March 4 at 9:30 p.m.
 Ain't Scared / Regarde-moi
 By Audrey Estrougo
 In French with English subtitles
 IFC Center, 323 Avenue of the
 Americas (at West 3rd Street)

Monday, March 10 at 10:00 a.m.
 Exhibition opening: Duende: Visages
 et Voix du Flamenco
 Photographs by Ariane
 Delacampagne

The exhibition will be on view until
 April 8.
 Center for French Civilization and
 Culture, NYU
 13 University Place

Monday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m.
 Lecture: Le Paradoxe du désir selon
 Alfred Jarry
 With Paul Audi, philosopher and
 writer
 A lecture in honor of philosopher
 and writer Christian Delacampagne
 (1949-2007)

Tuesday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m.
 Lecture: Romancing the Stone:
 Montaigne's Erotics of Experience
 With Lawrence D. Kritzman,
 Professor of French and
 Comparative Literature, Dartmouth
 College
 A lecture in honor of philosopher
 and writer Christian Delacampagne
 (1949-2007)

Wednesday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m.
 Lecture: Now You See It, Now You
 Don't: The Disappearing Avant-
 Garde
 With Tom Bishop, Florence Lacaze
 Gould Professor of French
 Literature, NYU
 A lecture in honor of philosopher
 and writer Christian Delacampagne
 (1949-2007)

Tuesday, March 25 at 7:00 p.m.
 Lecture: Architecture and Authority
 in the Roman d'Alexandre (MS
 Bodley 264)
 With Mark Cruse, Assistant
 Professor, School of International
 Letters and Cultures, Arizona State
 University

Thursday, March 27 at 6:00 p.m.
 Book Launch: Continental Shifts: The
 Art of Edouard Duval Carrié
 Artist Edouard Duval Carrié in
 conversation with Edward J.
 Sullivan, Dean of Humanities, NYU,
 Michael Dash, Professor of French,
 NYU, and Sarah Lewis, Art
 historian, Yale University

INSTITUTE OF FRENCH STUDIES

15 Washington Mews. Tel.
212.998.8740. Email:
french.studies@nyu.edu.
[http://www.nyu.edu/fas/program/
frenchstudies](http://www.nyu.edu/fas/program/frenchstudies)

Wednesday, March 5 at 6 :30 p.m.
Colloquium: Queer Lives: Men's
Autobiographies from 19th-Century
France

Reading and discussion with
authors William A. Peniston and
Nancy Erber
16 Washington Mews

Wednesday, March 26 at 6:30 p.m.
Colloquium: The Rising Significance
of Race in France

With Eric Fassin, sociologist, Ecole
Normale Supérieure, Paris; visiting
professor, NYU
16 Washington Mews

**KING JUAN CARLOS I OF SPAIN
CENTER**

53 Washington Square South. All
events take place on the first floor
unless otherwise noted. Tel.:
212.998.3650
<http://www.nyu.edu/pages/kjc>

Tuesday, March 4 at 7:15 p.m.
Film: Sud Express (2006)
Directed by Chema de la Pena and
Gabriel Velasquez
Original in Spanish, French,
Portuguese, Arabic and Basque with
subtitles in English.

Thursday, March 6 at 6:00 p.m.
Friday, March 7 at 11:00 a.m.
Symposium: A Mind for the Ages:
Ramon Llull, Doctor Illuminatus
Organized by the Catalan Center,
NYU; co-sponsored by The King
Juan Carlos I of Spain Center, the
Department of Spanish and
Portuguese and the Center for
European and Mediterranean
Studies.

The King Juan Carlos I of Spain
Center
53 Washington Square South, 1st
floor

Monday, March 10 at 6:15 p.m.
Lecture Series: Images/Imaging
With Professor Nuria Valverde,
History Institute, Centre for Human
and Social Sciences, CSIC, Spain
Co-sponsored by NYU Department
of Spanish & Portuguese.

Tuesday, March 11 at 7:15 p.m.
Film: El Taxista Ful (The Taxi Thief)
(2006)
Directed by Jo Sol
In Spanish with English subtitles.

Thursday, March 13 at 4:00 p.m.
Spanish Series: Creative Writing in
Spanish Series: "Escribir en/desde
Nueva York."
Co-Sponsored by NYU's Department
of Spanish and Portuguese.
13-19 University Place, Room 222

Tuesday, March 25 at 7:15 p.m.
Film: Septiembre (Septembers)
(2007)
Directed by Carles Bosch
In Spanish with English subtitles.

Thursday, March 27 at 7:15 p.m.
Film: La generacion olvidada (The
Forgotten Generation)
Directed by Ainhoa Montoya
Arteabaro
In Spanish with English subtitles.

Friday, March 28 at 6:15 p.m.
Poetry Series: Reading of Spanish
Poets Jorge de Arco and Jose Maria
Antolin
In Spanish

DEUTSCHES HAUS AT NYU

42 Washington Mews. All events
take place at the Deutsches Haus
unless otherwise noted. Tel.:
212.998.8660
<http://www.nyu.edu/deutscheshaus>

Tuesday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m.
Lecture: Vom Vorteil des Nachteils,
daß Medien geistlos sind. Wissen
und Nichtwissen in "2001: A Space
Odyssey" With Bernhard Dotzler,
University of Regensburg
In German
In collaboration with the
Department of German at NYU.

Thursday, March 6 - Saturday,
March 8
Conference: Postcolonialism and the
Hit of the Real
In collaboration with the
Department of English at NYU.

Saturday, March 8, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00
p.m.
Exhibition Opening: Masquerade
Nicola Mueller, artist, Berlin
The exhibition will be on view until
April 5.

Tuesday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m.
Lecture: "Reading Assassins.
Critique of Paranoiac Reason"
With Manfred Schneider, Ruhr-
Universität Bochum
In collaboration with the
Department of German at NYU.

Thursday, March 13, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Max Weber Lecture Series: "Power,
Architecture, and the Construction
of Capitals"
Lecture: "Images of Power: The
European Union and its
Architecture"
With Jurgen Neyer, Viadrina
University, Frankfurt (Oder)

Friday, March 14 at 6:30 p.m.
 Film: Beyond Silence (1998)
 Directed by Caroline Link
 In German with English subtitles

Tuesday, March 25 at 7:00 p.m.
 Lecture: "Overcoming the Tradition:
 Schmitt, Arendt, Foucault."
 With Frederick M. Dolan, University
 of California at Berkeley

CASA ITALIANA AT NYU

24 West 12th Street.
 Telephone: 212.998.8730. E-mail:
casa.italiana@nyu.edu
[http://www.nyu.edu/pages/casaitaliana/
 index_flash.html](http://www.nyu.edu/pages/casaitaliana/index_flash.html)

Monday, March 10 at 6:00 p.m.
 Book presentation: "Mi sono
 innamorato di una statua." Oltre la
 sindrome di Stendhal ("I've fallen in
 love with a statue." Beyond the
 Stendhal Syndrome.)
 With author Graziella Magherini

Tuesday, March 11 at 6:00 p.m.
 Performance: Made in Italy (Lost
 and Found in New York)
 A monologue by Carol Crespo and
 Mica Bagnasco

Friday, March 14 at 6:00 p.m.
 Discussion: Caterina De' Medici:
 Queen of France and Patron of the
 Arts
 With Leonard Barkan, Princeton
 University, Henri Zerner, Harvard
 University, and Flaminio Gualdoni,
 FMR Foundation
 Presented in cooperation with FMR
 Foundation
 RSVP to Sally Fischer Public
 Relations
 Tel: 212-246-2977 or email
costanza@sallyfischerpr.com

GLUCKSMAN IRELAND HOUSE

1 Washington Mews. All events take
 place at the house unless otherwise
 noted. Tel.: 212.998.3950
<http://www.irelandhouse.fas.nyu.edu>

Saturday, March 1, 1:00 p.m.-6 p.m.
 Workshop: Gaelic Song and
 Traditional Singing Techniques
 With Pádraig Ó Cearúill and Ashley
 Davis
 RSVP to 212.998.3950 or email
ireland.house@nyu.edu

Thursday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m.
 Reading with poet Micheal
 O'Siadhail
 RSVP to 212.998.3950 or email
ireland.house@nyu.edu

Thursday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m.
 Book presentation: The Pope's
 Children: The Irish Economic
 Triumph and the Rise of Ireland's
 New Elite
 With author David McWilliams
 RSVP to 212.998.3950 or email
ireland.house@nyu.edu

Friday, March 14 at 1:00 p.m.
 Irish-Language Mass at St. Patrick's
 Old Cathedral
 Presented by St. Patrick's Old
 Cathedral in association with the
 New York Irish History Roundtable
 and Glucksman Ireland House NYU
 Mott Street between Prince and
 Houston streets

Thursday, March 20 at 7:00 p.m.
 Discussion: Shoveling out the
 Paupers: The Poor Law and
 Emigration from Irish Workhouses
 in the Nineteenth Century»
 With Gerard Moran
 RSVP to 212.998.3950 or email
ireland.house@nyu.edu

Monday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m.
 Presentation: Songs, Storytelling,
 and Shenanigans
 With Mick Moloney, Daniel Cassidy
 and Peter Quinn
 Presented by the Lower Eastside
 Tenement Museum in association
 with Glucksman Ireland House NYU
 and the Irish Arts Center
 Lolita Bar, 266 Broome Street at
 Grand Street

Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m.
 Lecture: Jack Lynch and Northern
 Ireland in the late 1960s and early
 1970s
 With Dermot Keogh
 RSVP to 212.998.3950 or email
ireland.house@nyu.edu

Friday, March 28 at 9:00 p.m.
 Blarney Star Concert Series
 Flute player Kevin Crawford,
 uilleann piper Cillian Vallely and
 guitarist Dónal Clancy

--COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY--

THE HARRIMAN INSTITUTE
 420 West 118th Street, International
 Affairs Building (IAB), room 1219.
 Tel.: 212.854.4623
[http://www.columbia.edu/cu/sipa/
 REGIONAL/HI/](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/sipa/REGIONAL/HI/)

Monday, March 3, 12:00 p.m.-1:30
 p.m.
 Lecture: A Comparison of European
 and US Strategies in Southeastern
 Europe
 By Dr. Yannis Papantoniou, Former
 Minister of National Economy and
 Finance, Former Minister of National
 Defense, Greece
 Co-sponsored by the Alexander S.
 Onassis Public Benefit Foundation
 USA

Thursday, March 6, 4:00 p.m.-5:30
 p.m.
 Lecture: US Foreign Policy from the
 Danube to the Yalu
 By Christopher Hill, Assistant
 Secretary, Bureau of East Asia and
 Pacific Affairs
 Co-sponsored with the Weatherhead
 East Asian Institute
 Please register by Friday, Feb. 29 to
bortonmosely_weai@hotmail.com
 Lerner Hall, Room 555

Wednesday, March 12, 12:00 p.m.-
 1:30 p.m.
 Lecture: NATO and Albania: Do They
 Need Each Other?
 By David L. Phillips, Visiting
 Scholar, Center for the Study of
 Human Rights, Columbia University
 Co-sponsored by the National
 Committee
 1512 IAB

Thursday, March 27, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Lecture: The Christian Hajji: Balkan Pilgrims to Jerusalem in the Ottoman Period
By Valentina Izmirlieva, Slavic Department, Columbia University
Please RSVP to russia-islam@harrimaninstitute.org

LA MAISON FRANCAISE AT COLUMBIA

Broadway at 116th Street, Buell Hall, 2nd Floor. Tel.: 212.854.4482
<http://www.maisonfrancaise.org>

Thursday, March 13, 12:00-2 p.m.
Talk: Teaching Literature in the Age of Cognitive Capitalism
By Yves Citton
Buell Hall, East Gallery

Thursday, March 13, 7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Film: Violence des échanges en milieu tempéré (Work Hard, Play Hard) (2004)
By Jean-Marc Moutout
Buell Hall, East Gallery

Thursday, March 27, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Talk: Manufacturing inequalities. What do we learn from the study of artistic labor markets?
By Pierre-Michel Menger
Buell Hall, East Gallery

Thursday, March 27, 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Film: Samia (2001)
By Philippe Faucon
Buell Hall, East Gallery

DEUTSCHES HAUS AT COLUMBIA

420 West 116th Street
212-854-1858

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/german/dhaus/>

Sunday, March 2 at 8:00 p.m.
Musical Program: Binyumen Schaechter and the Schaechter Daughters
Binyumen Schaechter, a preeminent New York Jewish musician and Yiddish activist, along with his two daughters present an hour-long musical program.

Monday, March 3, 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
The Fourth Multilingual Columbia University Kalevala Marathon
For reservations and further information, e-mail af15@columbia.edu or call (212)854-7859.

Tuesday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m.
Film Screening: Sigrid and Isaac
Authored and directed by Anders Wahlgren
In Swedish with English subtitles.

Thursday, March 6 at 8:00 p.m.
Lecture: On Space and the Spatiality of Aesthetic Experience in Georg Simmel
By Professor Jutta Müller-Tamm, Freie Universität Berlin

Friday, March 7-Saturday, March 8
Graduate Student Conference: Traveling in War Zones
A keynote panel features Professor Leonard Smith of Oberlin College and Patrick Graham, a journalist who has covered the Iraq War for several major publications.

EAST CENTRAL EUROPEAN CENTER

420 W. 118th Street

Phone: 212.854.4008; E-mail: ece@columbia.edu

<http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/REGIONAL/ECE/>

Tuesday, March 4, 12:00-1:30 p.m.
Lecture: Post-War Perspectives of Youth across the Former-Yugoslavia
By Colette Daiute, Professor of Psychology, The Graduate Center, CUNY
Co-sponsored by the East Central European Center and the Harriman Institute

THE ITALIAN ACADEMY FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN AMERICA

1161 Amsterdam Avenue

Tel: 212.854.2306; email: itacademy@columbia.edu

Wednesday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m.
Concert: Argento Chamber Ensemble
Music by Lachenmann, Sannicandro and Scelsi

Wednesday, March 12, 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Exhibition opening: Paintings by Floriano Vecchi
RSVP to wb2149@columbia.edu

Tuesday, March 25, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Art and Neuroscience Symposium: Vision, Attention, and Emotion
RSVP to wb2149@columbia.edu

Monday, March 31 at 5:30 p.m.
Book presentation: Plunder: When the Rule of Law is illegal
By Laura Nader and Ugo Mattei
RSVP to wb2149@columbia.edu

--THE GRADUATE CENTER, CUNY--

THE EUROPEAN UNION STUDIES CENTER

365 Fifth Avenue. Tel: 212-817-2051;
email: eusc@gc.cuny.edu <http://euromatters.org>

Thursday, March 6 at 5:30 p.m.
Lecture: Regional Security in Southeastern Europe
By Dr. Yannis Papantoniou, Former Minister of National Economy and Finance, Former Minister of National Defense, Greece
RSVP by March 5; Tel: 212 817 2051/53; E-mail: eusc@gc.cuny.edu

Tuesday, March 25 at 5:30 p.m.
Lecture: Challenges of Trade with Medical Devices
By Christa Altenstetter, Professor of Political Science, The Graduate Center and Queens College, CUNY
RSVP by March 24; Tel: 212 817 2051/53; E-mail: eusc@gc.cuny.edu

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