Eurozone Troubles: Is the Union at Risk?

November 2013

The National Committee on American Foreign Policy (NCAFP), founded by Hans Morgenthau in 1974, recently hosted a roundtable discussion regarding the Eurozone crisis. The panelists included Mr. Nicolas Véron of Bruegel, a think tank, and the Peterson Institute for International Economics, Dr. Christiane Lemke of New York University, Dr. Irene Finel-Honigman of Columbia University, and Dr. Hugo Kaufmann of the City University of New York. Their remarks and conversation centered largely on the future of the political entity that is the European Union in the wake of the crisis that has plagued the global economy for the better part of the last five years. Surprisingly, there was a great sense of optimism in the room.

Véron, a rising scholar in the world of economic policy, noted that Europe has fared better than anticipated given the gravity and number of crises it has faced. Still, he reminded the audience, “one cannot say that everything is alright” as major concerns about banking, credit, fiscal matters and economic structures abound. He offered that these issues could be resolved through the careful furtherance of political integration across the union. Véron suggested that in order to maintain a growing and mutually supportive banking and fiscal union, political unity must be accomplished first.

Lemke addressed his concern regarding political unity by focusing her remarks on the shift of governmental tone traveling across Europe. She observed that the deepening of the north-south divide will only serve to foster future issues in governance and finance. As Euroscepticism grows and Right-wing populist parties committed to nationalism achieve ground in elections, Lemke noted that a great, sometimes undermining, emphasis will be placed on informal governance to achieve results. While informality must be addressed, she argued that the true issue at hand is European solidarity. In order to ensure effective governance and recovery moving forward, projects cannot be “nationalist in nature” and must be “supportive of all.”

In a more historical approach, Finel-Honigman explored the shifting trends in European and transatlantic stability since the end of WWII. She argued that since the fall of the Berlin Wall, economics, as opposed to value systems, served as a critical unifying force. In order to get past the current period of economic crisis, she argued that there is a need to restructure Europe and re-forge institutions. However, she said that this should not be taken as a reflection of the weakness of the European Union. She pointed out that through the history of the European project there has been an “extraordinary sense of resilience” amongst policymakers. For Finel-Honigman, if Europe continues to refocus, restructure and rebuild itself and emerge stronger with each passing decade, it should have no issue pulling through the present crisis.

The final speaker, Kaufmann, placed the blame for the start of the crisis firmly on the United States. He was quick to point out, however, that while the crisis originated in the US, it served to highlight the fundamental issues of the European Monetary Union (EMU). He did not refute the need for institutional change as suggested by his peers, but he adamantly stat-
ed, “such adjustments are costly” and are initiated by politicians, not economists, who are only concerned with short-term successes. If changes are to be made and deals are to be struck, he warned against making another “Greek mistake” in order to ensure that all members of the EMU follow the rules so a crisis of this sort will not emerge again.

When the floor was opened to questions, the panelists confronted a plethora of issues ranging from corporatism and trade to sovereignty and national agency. While the issues varied, the responses all reflected the idea that while Europe needs reform, most states are unwilling to take the necessary steps to achieve it because of short-term political reasons.

At the end of the discussion, Dr. Edward Goldberg of Baruch College offered a chilling explanation for why the nations of the EU are unable to move forward with reform. He observed that, “in 1861, the US had to fight a brutal civil war to deal with the issues of sovereignty Europe is facing now.” While he recognized that the historical circumstances are quite different, one is left to wonder how the EU will address the seemingly insurmountable obstacle of national sovereignty within a supranational institutional framework in the coming years.

The Spanish Crisis, Through A Camera’s Lens

NYU: October 18, 19
By: Kavitha Surana

Drummers dance across the screen in wild revelry, crowds of protesters float balloons over the heads of riot police and children leap in joy under a parachute. The audience listens to the speeches of activists and songs by protestors, and witnesses the police violently confront demonstrators. The tumultuous scenes and sounds of Basilio Martín Patino's documentary, *Libre Te Quiero (Free I Love You)*, provide a glimpse into the personal experience of many participants of Spain’s 15M, a movement in protest of Spain’s political and economic situation, which occupied Madrid’s main square in 2011.

The presentation of the film was part of NYU’s King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center’s two-day documentary film series and round table, “Spain in Crisis: The Spanish Crash and the ‘Indignados’ Movement.” Spain is still experiencing reverberations from the recent property bubble crash, and the center hoped the series would provoke discussion on how to interpret and understand the fallout of the Spanish housing crash and the ensuing protest movement.

The first day of films focused on the effects of the crash on Spanish society. It juxtaposed a hard-hitting dramatic documentary by the BBC, *The Great Spanish Crash*, with a short film produced by the consulting firm Grant Thornton Spain, urging optimism and investment in Spain.

The second day turned its attention to the Spanish protest movement 15M and presented two long-form documentaries. Besides *Free I Love You*, there was the more impassioned and outspoken *15M: Excelente. Revulsivo. Importante (15M: Excellent. A Wake-Up Call. Important)* by Stéphane M. Grueso. This “collective documentary” provided an account of the director's experience of the 15M occupation. In contrast, *Free I Love You* presented simple scenes of protest events. Patino's documentary was unadorned save for a recurrent music track, leaving the viewer to shadow the director within the protest, taking measure of the movement as it unfolds.

Four short artistic films added depth to the series. They reflected on subjects such as the Spanish Civil War and how citizens register images during protests in the modern social media landscape.

*La Matança del Porc (The Killing of the Pig)* by Isaki Lacuesta, offered a distinctly Catalan response to the crisis. His film presented a conversation about democracy between a real-estate consultant and an amateur filmmaker, overlaid with Super-8 footage of a traditional pig slaughter from the 1970s. *Las Variaciones Guernica (The Guernica Variations)* by Guillermo García Peydró intertwined footage of museum-goers contemplating Picasso's *Guernica* with chilling footage of drone strikes and protest.

To continue the dialogue, Dr. Bryan Cameron, assistant professor and faculty fellow of Spanish and Portuguese at NYU, led a round table of Spanish scholars. He introduced Germán Labrador Méndez, assistant professor in Modern and Contemporary Peninsular Literature at Princeton University, Pablo La Parra Pérez, a Ph.D. candidate at NYU, and Luis Moreno-Caballud, assistant professor of Romance Languages at the University of Pennsylvania.

Their presentations explored topics like the contexts of the indignado movement, how aesthetics are being used in relation to the crisis, and the logic behind Spanish political representation and revolt. Interpretations of the Spanish crisis are still in flux and the two-day program provided an important contribution towards analyzing the recent experiences and consequences of this tumultuous chapter in Spain's history.
Death in Venice Comes to Life

New York Consortium for Inellectual and Cultural History: October 22
By: Michael Zelenko

To celebrate Philip Kitcher’s new book, *Deaths in Venice*, the New York Consortium for Intellectual and Cultural History recently hosted a panel discussion on Thomas Mann’s landmark 1912 novella, its 1973 operatic adaptation by Benjamin Britten and its 1971 cinematic adaptation by Luchino Visconti. Moderated by Tamsin Shaw, associate professor at the Center for European and Mediterranean Studies (CEMS) and Department of Philosophy at NYU, the event featured panelists Professor Philip Kitcher, tenor Ian Bostridge, and Professor Larry Wolff, director of CEMS.

Philip Kitcher, the John Dewey Professor of Philosophy at Columbia University, began the discussion by giving Mann’s novella an autobiographical context. Indeed, many of the book’s characters (the book revolves around the saga of fictional famed author Gustav von Aschenbach) and events—from the trip to Venice, to the stay at the Grand Hotel de Bains on Lido, to the protagonist’s encounter, and infatuation, with a young Polish boy—are based on a real trip Mann took with his wife and brother to Venice in 1911. Unlike Aschenbach though, Mann survived the voyage and returned to Munich. There he abandoned his previous work and set about writing *Death in Venice*, which was published in 1912, just over 100 years ago. In the century since, Kitcher said, people have been trying to come to grips with the significance of this short and seemingly simple novella.

By writing *Deaths in Venice*, Kitcher wasn’t attempting to come to a new interpretation of Mann’s work, but “simply to open up possibilities,” he said. Kitcher presented Mann as responding to philosophy’s central problem: what makes a worthwhile life? Kitcher recognized a number of themes that speak to that issue within the book, one of which was discipline. Like Mann, in *Death in Venice* Aschenbach gets up every morning to diligently work on his literature. Looming over his workspace are the impressive, oppressive portraits of his progenitors. For Aschenbach, the young Polish boy Tadzio is a means of rejuvenating his own work. Kitcher says that Mann is inviting the reader to consider whether Aschenbach’s infatuation with Tadzio is a negation of the author’s previously austere and disciplined life, or whether the episode is a largely meaningless episode in an otherwise complex existence.

Above all, *Deaths in Venice* attempts to promote a form of criticism in which art forms are permeable—that literature, film, and music can, and should, be in dialogue, working together philosophically. To that point, the next speaker on the panel was Ian Bostridge, a culture historian and world-renowned tenor who spoke about Benjamin Britten’s 1973 operatic adaptation of the novella. Bostridge was first approached to play the character of Aschenbach when he was 38 or 39 years old, but he did not feel ready to take the role until he was 42. “*Death in Venice* requires careful handling,” Bostridge added.

Britten wrote *Death in Venice* at the end of his life and in some ways, Bostridge said, the story was as autobiographical to Britten as it was to Mann. Britten’s work was moving away from the passion that had defined it in his early years toward a concentration on simplicity, beauty and form—making him less popular in the bohemian era of the 60s and 70s. Bostridge found Britten’s *Death in Venice* reflected Mann’s: both stories revolve around a central loss of dignity. Bostridge went on to say that both the cinematic and operatic adaptations of the film “are dense programs of work [even] without the novella. Both have a mysterious poetry about them.”

Finally, Professor Larry Wolff spoke to *Death in Venice*’s context within European history. Central to Wolff’s thesis was that the novella’s dynamic—an educated, authoritative German narrator gazing toward a non-speaking, elusive and enticing young Polish boy—“replicates a colonial relationship” that existed at the time between Western and Eastern Europe and points to an obsession with Polish 19th-century romanticism.

For Wolff, *Death in Venice* is in part the story of how Eastern and Western Europe engaged—and didn’t—with each other during the early 20th century. Mann’s novella, Wolff said, was “one literary piece of that larger historical and geopolitical encounter.”

Belarus: Civil Society Under Attack

Columbia: October 29
By: Stephen Whittaker

Last month Columbia’s Harriman Institute hosted a panel discussion on the persistent abuses of human rights in Belarus, where co-sponsors Human Rights Watch and the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) brought together a number of prominent Belarusian activists with Miklós Haraszti, writer, scholar, and UN Special Rapporteur on Belarus. The panel sought to heighten awareness of Belarus’ severe violations of international conventions on human rights in light of the Special Rapporteur’s first official report to the UN General Assembly.

Following a short film showcasing the detention of Belarusian political protesters, Haraszti proclaimed that
Politics, Feminism, and the Female Ideal in Central and Eastern Europe

NYU: October 18
By: Michael Zelenko

In the latest meeting of the Gender and Transformation in Europe Workshop series, Nadia Kaneva, associate professor at the Department of Media, Film, and Journalism Studies at the University of Denver and a visiting scholar at NYU, gave a presentation at CEMS entitled “Pin-Ups, Strippers, and Centerfolds: Gendered Mediation and Post-Socialist Political Culture in Central and Eastern Europe.”

Kaneva kicked off her presentation with an intriguing image from 1961: the much-photographed and fabulously dressed First Lady Jackie Kennedy standing with Nina Khrushchev, her rarely seen—and plainly dressed—Soviet counterpart. For Kaneva, the image illustrated two major issues: First, that the way women look and dress is a direct byproduct of a complex system of cultural and political situations; and secondly, that the Soviet model of femininity was a central tenant of the politics of Russia and its satellites. The ideal Soviet woman was, above all, three things: a worker, a political activist and a mother. Sexuality was never discussed—except in cases of biological and patriotic matters such as birthrates.

In light of a contemporary shift towards a hyper-sexualized vision of women in Central and Eastern Europe, Kaneva explored what happened to these ingrained ideals of womanhood. Though the West often saw Soviet portrayals of women as oppressive, these very same ideals also led women to be engaged in public life, gain education and establish equal participation in the workforce (though admittedly some professions remained gender-specific). Why were these feminist values so quickly abandoned after the fall of the Berlin Wall?

Kaneva identified three trends—all tied to the fall of Soviet power—that may explain the transition. The first is a loss of employment opportunities for women. In the 1990s, women, like men, lost good, full-time jobs with benefits. Many moved to part-time employment, informal employment or long-term unemployment. But unlike men, women were encouraged to remain at home and fulfill Western images of domesticity even after economies began rebounding. Political discourse returned to patriarchal values, focusing on the dangers of feminism and the importance of healthy birthrates.

Secondly, women lost ground in political participation. Kaneva demonstrated an interesting table illustrating that women lost a wealth of seats in parliament after regional elections in 1989.
While they’ve regained some in the 20 years since, the average is still below what it was two decades ago. Finally, Kaneva said that much of the shift in women’s representation is a result of the commercialization of the media sphere as a whole. Media systems introduced after the fall of socialism were based on Western models and promoted highly sexualized images of women and Western ideals of beauty.

To give participants a sense of how female politicians were faring in this political context, Kaneva offered examples from four Central and Eastern European countries. From Poland, Kaneva showed a local election campaign ad of a young female candidate posing in a bikini on the beach. The slogan above her head, “Beautiful, Independent, Confident.” Though the candidate lost the election, Kaneva said “it caused a stir.” Another young candidate of Poland’s SLD party ran for parliament and decided to put together an unusual election video in which she performed a striptease. Before she removed her shirt, a message read, “If you want to see more, vote SLD—only we can do more.” Though she only won 500 votes, the candidate was unrepentant about her approach, saying that she “wanted to appeal to the youth vote.”

Kaneva’s next example was the Czech Republic, where in the 2011 elections, a minority party managed to get a substantial number of female candidates into parliament. To celebrate, the politicians put together a pin-up calendar of themselves in various stages of undress, entitled “Choose Beauty.” In response to negative media attention, the politicians insisted that they only wanted to celebrate their femininity and insisted that Czechs were good humored enough not to take the calendar seriously. Kaneva added that the pictures were “quite heavily airbrushed.”

In Romania, Elena Udrea, once the minister of tourism, is considered one of the country's most powerful female political figures. Kaneva showed the cover of an issue of Tabu, a Romanian fashion magazine, which featured a provocative image of the former politician on the cover. The special issue celebrated powerful women in the world, and featured a series of photos with Udrea dressed up as powerful women throughout history. “It’s a deliberate conflation of physical beauty and power in the history of Western civilization,” Kaneva said. “The implication is that beauty is women’s power, and that translates into politics as well.”

To wrap up, Kaneva displayed the cover of the February 2009 issue of Estonian Playboy, featuring Anna-Maria Galojan, a former Estonian political leader who was convicted of embezzlement. Galojan hoped that the Playboy feature would prove that “she had nothing to hide.” Kaneva suggested that the politician’s choice of medium spoke loudly for women’s roles in Estonian society.

Following the presentation, Kaneva opened the rest of the session up to a dynamic conversation. Nanette Funk, professor emerita of Philosophy at Brooklyn College, CUNY, asked whether the post-Soviet transition away from feminism was a political attempt to distance parties from the Soviet model. Kaneva agreed, saying that feminism has not been embraced by these populations because it is considered to be part and parcel of a Communist tradition. But, she added, “What’s interesting to me is that the women who have actually done this have come from both sides of the political spectrum—the right and the left.”

To close the session, Mara Lazda, assistant professor of History at Bronx Community College, CUNY, thanked Nadia Kaneva. In her final remarks, Lazda mentioned New York City’s newly revealed “I’m Beautiful the Way I Am” ad campaign meant to bolster girls’ self-esteem, suggesting that the sexist dynamic discussed by Kaneva is unfortunately well-rooted in the U.S. The ads, Lazda said, “further an obsession with beauty. Not strength—or anything else.”
Columbia: October 24
By: Kavitha Surana

The recent economic crisis in Europe triggered a wave of spending cuts and policy changes on both EU and national levels. The effects of this upheaval on European politics and society are a constant topic for study and analysis, and Columbia University's Blinken European Institute invited Daniel Vaughan-Whitehead to present his examination of the crisis’ effects on the welfare state and not only use grand slogans in foreign relations, but actually take a proactive approach in explaining—though not imposing—the EU’s goals.

The problem with these foreign relations goals, he said, is a lack of viable security institutions, particularly those that foster association with Eastern Europe. As a former defense minister and ambassador to NATO, he is very concerned with post-Soviet Eastern relations. He emphasized the case of Ukraine as a “litmus test” towards expanding the EU’s range. While he wishes to expand partnerships with nations such as Ukraine, continued problems with democratic governance must be sorted out on a national level first.

Linas Linkevičius, Foreign Minister, Lithuania

He closed his remarks by noting that the European Project is a “fundamentally geopolitical process” that can only be strengthened by expansion. In the world of the “post-9/11 value shift,” he said, changing conceptions of security and international relations mean that, moving forward, “furthering integration is good for all.”

When asked to address the lack of viable security structures in Europe, Linkevičius bluntly stated that the “EU will never replace NATO.” However, he believes that defense budgets should stop shrinking across Europe in order to reduce the burden on the US. Also, he said that additional funds would help to address problems of migration and the entrapment of immigrants within the nation of the first EU border they cross.

With the subject of borders in mind, Dr. Hugo Kaufmann of CUNY asked a question that several others carefully danced around: What about Russia’s President Vladimir Putin? As a veteran diplomat, Linkevičius fielded the question by responding with a neutral response. He pinned an “odd stability” in the East on the presence of Russia, but neglected to take a stance on how Europe should address its Eastern neighbor. He simply reiterated the need for stronger Eastern Partnerships and left the shadow of Putin looming in the air.

Is Europe Losing its Soul in Economic Crisis?
'Yes,' Says Economist Daniel Vaughan-Whitehead

Columbia: October 24
By: Kavitha Surana

The recent economic crisis in Europe triggered a wave of spending cuts and policy changes on both EU and national levels. The effects of this upheaval on European politics and society are a constant topic for study and analysis, and Columbia University’s Blinken European Institute invited Daniel Vaughan-Whitehead to present his examination of the crisis’ effects on the welfare state with a presentation titled “Europe Losing its Soul: The European Social Model.”

Vaughan-Whitehead is an economist at the International Labor Organization (ILO), a professor at Sciences Po in Paris and the founder and co-chair of the Fair Wages Network. He has written extensively on issues related to labor, industrial relations and social policies in Europe and recently published Public Sector Shock: The Impact of Policy Retrenchment in Europe with the ILO.

Though what Vaughan-Whitehead called the “European Social Model” (ESM) has no official definition at the EU level, he said that certain principles (including solidarity, equal opportunities, social cohesion, and social dialogue) forge the soul of the EU and separate its member states from non-European countries. Vaughan-Whitehead added that the ESM is different than a safety net because it constitutes a universal social system.

The crux of Vaughan-Whitehead’s argument is that the ESM has
been systematically—and perhaps irreversibly—weakened during the past two and a half years of crisis. According to Vaughan-Whitehead, this happened in part because the Euro Crisis became linked to national deficits, which were then linked to cutting social expenditure—even though social expenditure did not cause the crisis or the deficits. In fact, Vaughan-Whitehead argued that the national deficits are mainly due to the EU’s decision to refund struggling national banks after the 2008 meltdown. The agendas of institutions and groups such as the European Central Bank (ECB) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) figured largely in his discussion. “The crisis may have been used to remove elements of the ESM that could never have been removed in a normal period,” said Vaughan-Whitehead. “And the fact that the European Central Bank was so keen to remove those is because it really wanted to attack all labor markets and collective bargaining institutions that were supporting wage fixing mechanisms in Europe. In a way the crisis was a very good excuse for them.”

In his presentation, Vaughan-Whitehead argued that dismantling the ESM has been detrimental to recovery. His findings showed that those countries with a stronger ESM, like Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg, stabilized more quickly because social institutions managed to limit or contain layoffs through institutional arrangements, like short-term work schemes, and social dialogue. On the other end of the spectrum are countries with less ESM, including Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia, where the crisis led to immediate and massive layoffs and higher wage cuts.

The pain was not shared evenly, according to Vaughan-Whitehead. “In almost all countries, those workers at the bottom of the wage scale have lost much more than those at the top as a result of removal of ESM,” he said. “You wouldn’t have had this outcome if you had maintained a certain level of the ESM.” Meanwhile, consumption went down because of economic instability. Labor productivity also decreased as a result of strikes and layoffs snowballing into a negative spiral. Vaughan-Whitehead held up the IMF’s consistently wrong predictions for recovery through social spending cuts as proof that austerity prescriptions did not work.

Going forward, Vaughan-Whitehead outlined policy prospects he hopes to advance. These include: continuing to provide empirical evidence on the short and long-term effects of dismantling the ESM, distinguishing between policy changes that are required because of sustainability and those imposed by budgetary conditions and proposing a more balance mix of policies that will allow more flexibility on the economic side while avoiding further removal of social policies. He urged that, whenever possible, policies and institutions like minimum wages, social dialogues and collective bargaining should be re-introduced.

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**Journalist Cathal Mac Coille and Irish Emigration**

NYU: October 31
By: Michael Zelenko

On the night of Halloween—a holiday that has its roots in the Celtic celebration Samhain—Irish broadcaster and journalist Cathal Mac Coille visited the Glucksman Ireland House at NYU where he spoke at length about the state of Ireland as well as the challenges and rewards of hosting “Morning Ireland,” the top-rated radio program in the country. Over a quarter-century old, the show is broadcast to an estimated half a million people every day in both English and Irish.

Mac Coille, who previously worked as a journalist in television and print, started his presentation by offering a short rundown of the events his show has covered in the last few years: national politics, the housing bubble bust, industrial collapse and fiscal challenges. Mac Coille said that his country faced a myriad of trials. “Ireland is facing four crises at once: the bank collapse, the fiscal collapse, the housing boom and bust, and the funding collapse.” Added to those four challenges, Mac Coille identified a fifth, less obvious crisis: a deficit of national morale.

Between 1995 and 2008, during Ireland’s Celtic Tiger era, the country experienced unprecedented economic expansion. In the second half of the 90s, the country’s economy grew at an average rate of 9.4 percent. Those advances were fueled by a low corporate tax rate, an increase in productivity and corporate subsidies offered by the government. But in fall 2008, the Irish economy collapsed, exposing an over-inflated housing market and largely unregulated banks.

Five years later, Mac Coille said the situation remains "very bad" and has been exacerbated by years of severe austerity budgets. The country’s dire economy has sparked a trend of emigration not dissimilar to earlier diasporas in the country’s history. In August 2013, Ireland’s Central Statistics Office published a report indicating that in the half decade since 2008, over 200,000 individuals had left Ireland, with most going to either the UK or Australia.

The exodus has had a pernicious effect on Ireland, Mac Coille said. “There’s a general gloom over the country...we’re becoming more of a scattering.” Though Mac Collie recognized that lingering economic difficulties will impede Irish citizens from coming back en masse, he hopes the country can one day reemerge as a viable option for residence. “We just want the country where we came from to be a place where you might seriously consider moving back to,” he said in somber voice, closing his talk.
FRIDAY, November 1 - Fri December 6


FRIDAY, November 1 at 4:30 PM

**Workshop:** "New Eugenics and Neoliberalism: Rethinking Self-Determination in the Age of Technologized Reproduction.' An Examination of German Disability Rights Feminism," by Kristen Loveland (Harvard).

FRIDAY, November 1 at 6:00 PM

**Discussion:** "Bachmann’s Borders: A Commemorative Symposium," with Robert Pichl (University of Vienna), Karl Ivan Solibakke (Syracuse) and Sara Lennox (University of Massachusetts, Amherst).

FRIDAY, November 8 at 6:30 PM

**Lecture:** "Racism in Soccer: A Discussion with Lilian Thuram," with Grant Wahl (Sports Illustrated) and Jeffrey Sammons (NYU). This event is held at NYU School of Law, 40 Washington Square South Tishman Auditorium, Vanderbilt Hall, first floor.

WEDNESDAY, November 13 at 7:00 PM

**Lecture:** "Rhétorique ancienne; rhéto-rique post-moderne," by Marc Fumaroli (l’Académie Française). This event is in French.

MONDAY, November 18 at 7:00 PM

**Lecture and Film:** "Proust  et  l’imbécilité," by Charles Dantzig (Author). This event is in French.

FRIDAY, November 8 at 6:30 PM

**Film:** "Coming Out," 1989. GDR. Directed by Heiner Carow. This screening is part of the 20@20 DEFA Film Library Anniversary Tour FRIDAY, November 8 at 6:30 PM

MONDAY, November 11 at 6:30 PM

**Reading:** "Podium: Crossings & Passages," with Austrian authors Marianne Gruber, Judith Nika Pfeifer, Vladimir Vertlib and Philipp Weiss, along with Gabrielle Petricek (Author) and Margarete Lamb-Faffelberger (Lafayette College). This event will take place at the Austrian Cultural Forum of New York.

TUESDAY, November 19 at 6:30 PM

**Lecture and Film:** "Eva Meyer: Lecture and Film Screening," showing Events So Far and She Might Belong to You.

MONDAY, November 25 at 6:30 PM

**Book Presentation:** "The Dionysian Vision Of The World by Friedrich Nietzsche," with Friedrich Ulfers (NYU) and Ira J. Allen (Nietzsche Translator).

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**FRIDAY, November 1 - Fri December 6**


**SATURDAY, November 2 at 7:00 PM**

**Reading & Lecture:** “La Langue et le sentiment,” with Marcel Bozonnet (Actor).

**FRIDAY, November 8 at 6:30 PM**

**Lecture:** "Rhétorique ancienne; rhéto-rique post-moderne," by Marc Fumaroli (l’Académie Française). This event is in French.

**MONDAY, November 11 at 6:30 PM**

**Lecture:** "The Art of Freedom: 7 Un- easy Positions," curated by Julia Lammer and Tatiana Leon. Opening reception on Tuesday, November 5, 6:30-8:30 PM.

**FRIDAY, November 8 at 6:30 PM**

**Film:** "Coming Out," 1989. GDR. Directed by Heiner Carow. This screening is part of the 20@20 DEFA Film Library Anniversary Tour FRIDAY, November 8 at 6:30 PM

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**TUESDAY, November 19 at 6:30 PM**

**Lecture and Film:** "Eva Meyer: Lecture and Film Screening," showing Events So Far and She Might Belong to You.

**FRIDAY, SATURDAY, November 22 and November 23**

**Conference:** “The State We’re In: The Films of the Berliner Schule," with Reinhold Vorschneider (Cinematographer), Katja Nicodemus (Die Zeit), Marco Abel (University of Nebraska) and Fatima Naqvi (Rutgers), along with filmmakers Thomas Arslan, Benjamin Heisenberg, Christoph Hochhäuser, Ulrich Köhler, Christian Petzold, and Angela Schanelec.

**MONDAY, November 25 at 6:30 PM**

**Book Presentation:** "The Dionysian Vision Of The World by Friedrich Nietzsche," with Friedrich Ulfers (NYU) and Ira J. Allen (Nietzsche Translator).
FRIDAY, November 1 at 6:00 PM
**Presentation:** "Competitiveness and International Integration of Italian Firms: an Assessment after the Great Recession," with Lelio Laprade (University of L’Aquila), Paolo Guerrieri (University La Sapienza), Gian Luca Clementi (NYU), Giuseppe Ricotta (Lazard).

WEDNESDAY, November 6 - Fri December 13
**Exhibition:** "Capogrossi, "Curated by Guglielmo Capogrossi and Laura d’Angelo. Curated On-Site by Isabella Del Frate Rayburn. Coordinated On-Site by Elsa de Giovanni.

FRIDAY, November 8 at 6:00 PM
**Film:** "41 PARALLELO Screenings: New Cinema from Naples (Day 1)." In collaboration with Napoli Film Festival. All films are in Italian with English subtitles.

MONDAY, November 11 at 6:00 PM
**Book Presentation:** *The Reach of Rome* A Journey Through the Lands of the Ancient Empire, Following a Coin," by Alberto Angela.

THURSDAY, November 14 at 7:00 PM
**Lecture:** "The Irish Volunteers and the Decade of Commemoration," with Joe Lee (NYU).

FRIDAY, November 15 at 8:00 PM
**Concert:** The Blarney Star Concert Series: Matt and Shannon Heaton.

TUESDAY, November 19 at 7:30 PM
**Reading:** "Peter Quinn reads 'Dry Bones,'" at The Irish Arts Center, 553 West 51st Street.

THURSDAY, November 21 at 7:00 PM
**Lecture:** "The Tom Quinlan Lecture in Poetry: Sarah Jackson."

SATURDAY, November 23 at 7:00 PM
**Concert:** "Sean Nós Concert with Domnic Mac Giolla Bhride," with Pádraig Ó Cearrúll (NYU). The concert will be preceded by a free workshop at 1pm.

—COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY—

**THE BLINKEN EUROPEAN INSTITUTE**

SUNDAY, November 3, all-day event
**Workshop:** "Euro Integration and Contemporary Politics and Policy-Making," at Central European University.

**THE HARRIMAN INSTITUTE**

MONDAY, November 4 at 12:00 PM
**Discussion:** "Bringing the Dark Past to Light: The Reception of the Holocaust in Postcommunist Europe," with Joanna Michlic (Brandeis) and John-Paul Himka (University of Alberta).
WEDNESDAY, November 6 - Fri December 20
Exhibition: "The Dancers: A Photo Exhibition by Nina Alovert." Exhibit opening on Thursday, November 7th at 6:00 PM. At the Harriman Atrium, 12th floor IAB, 420 West 118th Street.

MONDAY, November 11 at 7:30 PM

TUESDAY, November 12 at 6:00 PM

THURSDAY, November 14 at 12:00 PM

FRIDAY, November 15 at 7:00 PM

TUESDAY, November 19 at 12:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, November 20 at 12:00 PM

MONDAY, November 25 at 12:00 PM

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, November 15 and November 16
Conference: "The Ends of the Eighteenth Century," organized by Joanna Stalnaker (Columbia), Oliver Simons (Columbia) & Anders Engberg-Pedersen (University of Southern Denmark).

THURSDAY, November 21 at 6:00 PM

THURSDAY, November 21 at 8:00 PM

FRIDAY, November 22 at 5:00 PM
Panel: "Does Reputation Matter?" with Gloria Origgi (CNRS), Barbara Carnevali (EHESS), Ariel Colonosmo (CNRS-CERI Sciences Po & Columbia), Jon Elster (Columbia) and Philippe Rochat (Emory) at East Gallery, Buell Hall.

THE ITALIAN ACADEMY FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN AMERICA
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WEDNESDAY, November 27 at 6:00 PM

LA MAISON FRANÇAISE
Broadway at West 116th Street, Buell Hall, 2nd Floor. All events take place at Buell Hall unless otherwise noted.
212.854.4482
maisoncoordinator@columbia.edu

FRIDAY, November 22 at 7:00 PM
Film: "Short Film Series: Les Lutins du Court-Métrage (Part II)." On the second floor.

WEDNESDAY, November 27 at 6:00 PM
Discussion: "La Classe de rhéto, Un été avec Montaigne, Une question de discipline," with Antoine Compagnon (Columbia) and Pierre Force (Columbia) at the East Gallery, Buell Hall.

TUESDAY, November 12 at 6:00 PM
**In the News: Europe in October**

**October 2:** Italian Prime Minister Enrico Letta's coalition government comfortably survived a vote of no confidence after former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi backtracked from his threat to topple the government. Berlusconi's change of heart came as internal divisions within his party threatened his influence.

**October 3:** At least 110 African migrants died when a boat caught fire off the southern-most Italian island of Lampedusa, setting off an EU-wide discussion on immigration reform.

**October 3:** As part of France's broader regulation of book pricing and efforts to protect independent booksellers from steep discounting by companies like Amazon, French lawmakers passed a law that bars online booksellers from offering free delivery to customers in addition to a maximum 5 percent discount on books.

**October 7:** France's far-right National Front party won a clear victory in first-round local elections in southern France, threatening the left's future in municipal and European elections next year.

**October 11:** Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi requested to serve his sentence for tax fraud with community service instead of house arrest.

**October 12:** In Russia, 67 were arrested in a protest against a law banning 'homosexual propaganda' directed at children.

**October 13:** In the wake of a rise in immigrant boat disasters, Italy announced it will triple its air and sea presence in the Mediterranean.

**October 14:** Moscow police arrested more than 1,000 migrant workers at a vegetable warehouse in a pre-emptive raid. A day earlier, Russian rioters staged a violent nationalist demonstration in response to the murder of an ethnic Russian by a migrant worker.

**October 16:** Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny was freed from a 5-year prison sentence but the court upheld his conviction for embezzlement, jeopardizing his political career.

**October 17:** French schoolchildren protested after a 15-year-old Kosovan girl was detained during a school trip and deported from the country with her family.

**October 19:** In Greece, two in a Roma camp faced charges after a DNA test proved that a blonde-haired four-year-old in their care was not their child. The case stoked suspicion of Roma involvement in child trafficking and worries about ethnic profiling.

**October 20:** Girls' rights advocate Malala Yousafzai, a 16-year-old Pakistani who rose to international fame after being shot by Taliban militants for her advocacy, met Britain's Queen Elizabeth II.

**October 21:** The EU announced it will reopen membership talks with Turkey in an effort to pressure the country to make democratic reforms.

**October 23:** The Vatican entered the earthly realm of sports by forming St. Peter's Cricket Club. The club hoped to challenge the Church of England's team.

**October 24:** Ukrainian boxer Vitali Klitschko, otherwise known as "Dr. Ironfist," announced that he'll be running in his country's 2015 presidential campaign.

**October 29:** Despite recent passage of restrictive laws targeting homosexuals, Russia's President Putin announced that, "We are doing everything, both the organizers and our athletes and fans, so that participants and guests feel comfortable in Sochi [host of the 2014 Winter Olympics], regardless of nationality, race or sexual orientation."
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