
THE SIMON H. RIFKIND CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES & THE ARTS

NEWSLETTER— SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2002

The Second Annual Simon H. Rifkind Memorial Lecture in Humanities and the Law

Mary Jo White, former US Attorney for the Southern District of New York, was this year's speaker for the Simon H. Rifkind Memorial Lecture in Humanities and the Law. Her address, Monday September 30th in the Great Hall, was on the subject, "The Rule of Law after September 11th." Mary Jo White is the first and only woman to have served in her former position. Under her leadership, numerous cases of national and international significance were successfully investigated and prosecuted., including large scale white collar and complex securities and financial institution frauds, as well as corporate criminal liability, terrorism, international money laundering, and police corruption. Her office prosecuted those responsible for the bombing of the World Trade Center in 1993; the terrorists who planned to blow up the United Nations; the FBI Building in Manhattan, the Lincoln and Holland Tunnels; the terrorists who plotted to simultaneously blow up a dozen jumbo jets; those involved in the bombings of the U.S. Embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Tanzania in 1998, including Osama Bin Laden; and investigated the attacks of September 11, 2001 on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.



Special points of interest:

- *Langston Hughes Festival*
- *Art, Theatre, Music Events*



Deputy Dean of Humanities and Arts James De Jongh gives a talk at Shanghai University

CCNY Delegation Visits China and Japan

In mid-June a city college delegation which included Dr. Thomas Lee, the Director of Asian Studies and Deputy Dean Dr. James De Jongh, and the Program Coordinator of Asian Studies, Peter Waldvogel, traveled to Asia. The purpose of this trip was to increase contacts and cooperation with universities in Japan and China on a

variety of academic endeavors currently under way in the Asian Studies Program. Most importantly, the Asian Studies Program undertook this trip to spearhead efforts to increase the number of City College students studying abroad in Asia. The Program is already offering generous scholarships for study abroad and hopes to expand this scholarship program over the next few years. In addition, Dr. Lee has been working with various Asian academics to establish web-based resources for the study of Chinese historiography.

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LANGSTON HUGHES FESTIVAL
CELEBRATING THE HUGHES CENTENARY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2002, 6:30 p.m. AT AARON DAVIS HALL

Derek Walcott, the celebrated West Indian poet, playwright and essayist, will receive the 2002 Langston Hughes Medal at the Langston Hughes Festival on the occasion of the Hughes centenary. The award was established by Professor Raymond R. Patterson in 1973 to honor the luminous commitment of Langston Hughes to social change through works that reflect various cultures with roots in an African heritage. Previous recipients include James Baldwin, Alice Walker, Ralph Ellison, Chinua Achebe, George Lamming, Wole Soyinka and Toni Morrison. Participants this year will include author Caryl Phillips, who will host a conversation with Mr. Walcott, and poet Mervyn Taylor, who will speak about Caribbean poetry and drama, as a part of the celebration. Students from the CCNY Theatre Program will be featured performing in segments from Walcott's plays: *Ti-Jean and His Brothers*, *The Haitian Earth*, and *A Branch of the Blue Nile*.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES
CCNY Theater Program

**Winter's Tale by William Shakespeare, directed
by Steve Urkowitz**

Aaron Davis Hall Theatre B
Thursday, October 10 - 12:15 & 7 pm
Friday, October 11 - 7 pm
Saturday, October 12 - 7 pm

**The Making of the Black Man by Sean Lewis,
directed by Hope Lee**

Aaron Davis Hall Theatre B
Thursday, October 24 - noon & 7 pm
Friday, October 25 - 7 pm
Saturday, October 26 - 7 pm

UPCOMING EVENT:

Sergio Ramirez Mercado will be speaking on the subject of: **Historia de Batallas y Alcobas (Historia pública y privada de América Latina en el espacio de la novela)**. Mercado, who was born in Masatepe, Nicaragua, has authored over 30 books including *El pensamiento vivo de Sandino*, *Charles Atlas, también muere*, *Castigo divino*, and *Clave de sol*. He is recipient of the 2000 Latin America Prize, the 1998 International Alfaguara Prize, and the Laure Bataillon Prize for best foreign book. This program is co-sponsored by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

WHEN: Thursday, October 31, 2002 at 5 pm

**September's
Events**

**A Conversation With
DAVID GONZALEZ**

Of the New York Times

New York Times Caribbean and Central America bureau chief, David Gonzales, will talk on his various areas of expertise, including: the post-conflict era in Central America, Haiti's political and social crisis and Cuba's adjustment to the post-Soviet world.

This event is co-sponsored by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and the Publishing Certificate Program

READERS

Our in-house publications, *Promethean*, *Fiction* and *Global City Review* presented an evening of writers reading from their works, including:

Sheila Kohler, Dominique Bell, John McCaffrey, Corwin Moore, and Susan Chi. President Gregory H. Williams attended as a special guest reader.




The Rifkind-Eisner-Starkweather Awards & Fellowships

FALL 2002

Once again the Simon H. Rifkind Center for the Humanities and the Arts invites full-time faculty in the Division of the Humanities & the Arts and the Social Sciences to apply for the Rifkind Center Fellowship or the Eisner Scholar Awards.

The Rifkind Center Fellowship provides a semester's leave at full pay, while the Eisner Award offers a one course reduction in teaching load for one semester. One Rifkind Fellowship will be awarded; the number of Eisner Awards is open. In addition, there is an award available to students. The Blanche Mason Starkweather Student Award provides a stipend of \$1000 to a student (preferably an undergraduate) engaged in a significant humanistic project under the guidance of a faculty mentor.

Applications for all three awards should be submitted to the Humanities and & Arts Office, NAC 5/225, no later than March 14, 2002 at 4:00 pm. in the spring semester and November 1, at 4:00 pm in the fall semester. For more information, contact Rifkind Center Associate Director David Willinger, or the Center Coordinator, Nicola Blake (x. 7367).



Kathleen Dalton, Cecil F.P. Bancroft Instructor of History and Social Science at Phillips Academy, Andover, and Associate Fellow at the Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History at Harvard University, will speak on the subject: "Theodore Roosevelt and the Biographer's Art" Kathleen Dalton is author of this year's publication by Knopf, *Theodore Roosevelt: A Strenuous Life*.

WHEN: Thursday, October 31st, 12:30 pm **WHERE:** NAC 6/141

This event is co-sponsored by The History Department.



Art Department Exhibits

Compton-Goethals Gallery

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|------------------------|---|
| September 10-October 4 | Undergraduate Painting, Drawing, & Foundation |
| October 7-November 1 | Photography Students |
| November 11-27 | Brandeis Fellowship: Sung Kwan Ma |
| December 3-6 | MFA Thesis: Pei-Chuan Tsai |
| December 9-13 | MFA Thesis: Sheau-Ming Song |
| December 17-23 | MFA Thesis: Mynghee Kim |
| January 27-31 | MFA Thesis: Masatomo Uehara |

Music Department Concerts

September

Thursday, 19th, 12:30

Faculty Jazz Ensemble
Dan Carillo, Mike Holober, John Pattitucci, Scott Reeves

October

Wednesday, 2nd, 2-4

Introduction to Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* by Prof. David Bushler

Friday, 11th, 11-1

Master Class by John Stowell

Tuesday, 17th, 12:30

M.A. Recital: Robert Gingery, jazz bass

Thursday, 22nd, 3

Faculty Chamber Music Recital

Featuring: Janet Steele and Alison Deane

Thursday, 24th, 12:30

Friends of Music Club: Music Majors' Fall Concert

Tuesday, 29th, 3

Piano Recital by students of Alison Deane

Thurs., 31st, 11-2

Musicians' Accord Readings of Student Compositions by students of
Distinguished Professor David Del Tredici

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION HUMANITIES FELLOWSHIP RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Language and Diaspora Culture

Language and Diaspora Culture, the Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Fellows Residency Program (2001-2003) at City College, is a project of the CUNY Institute for Research on the African Diaspora (IRADAC), in conjunction with The Simon H. Rifkind Center and the Colin Powell Center for Policy Studies (CPCPS). The Residency Program seeks to foster research into how language both affects and is affected by the cultural conditions of diaspora, and how under these conditions linguistic differences and affiliations interact with other categories of identity, whether of geography, race, religion, gender, or class.

Language and Diaspora Culture invites applications from scholars at CUNY, as well as from across the nation, in a broad range of disciplines including history, literary studies, linguistics, sociology, psychology, anthropology, and philosophy. We are open to an examination of any and all languages and diaspora cultures. It is our hope that as the linguistic, ethnic, and racial map of the United States becomes increasingly heterogeneous, the work emerging from this project will inform public debate and public policy, particularly in the field of education.

For more information: 212.650.8951 or
<http://iradac.admin.cuny.edu>

October 31, 2002:

“Black and White Strangers: Miscegenation in the Works of Charles Waddell Chesnutt and William Faulkner”

Dr. Carlyle V. Thompson, Medgar Evers, CUNY

November 21, 2002:

“Educational Access in the Diaspora”

Dr. Janis Massa, Professor, English, Lehman College

December 5, 2002:

“Parent-Child Discourse: A Look at African American and African Caribbean Parents use of Temporal Language with their Preschool Children”

Dr. Roseanne Flores, Hunter College, CUNY

December 12, 2002:

“New Developments in Caribbean Philosophical Thought”

Dr. Holger Henge, Independent Scholar

LOCATION

The Rifkind Center is located in NAC 5/225, the office of the Dean of the Humanities and the Arts.

The Rifkind Room is located in NAC 6/316. A range of scholarly journals, coffee and tea service, and a Macintosh computer (with internet hook up) are available for the use and enjoyment of all faculty members in the Division. To reserve this room for special lectures or events, or inquire about its use, please call Nicola Blake at x7367.



Judge Simon H. Rifkind CCNY '22

ABOUT SIMON H. RIFKIND

The Simon H. Rifkind Center for the Humanities and the Arts was established in 1986 through a grant from the Norman and Rosita Winston Foundation, “in recognition of a revered son of City College, Class of 1922, a man of wit, learning, and humane wisdom, and dedicated to the perpetual renewal of the life of the mind.”

The Honorable Simon H. Rifkind was born in Russia, emigrated to the U.S. at the age of nine, and was educated in New York City public schools, at City College (B.A.), and at Columbia University (J.D.). A distinguished Federal Judge and a senior partner of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, one of New York’s major law firms, Rifkind was a renowned trial lawyer. He argued landmark cases on behalf of notable private citizens, including the defense of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis against paparazzi; offered counsel to political figures such as New York Mayor Robert F. Wagner and Governor Hugh L. Carey; and was selected by the U.S. Supreme Court to settle disputes by several Western states over water rights to the Colorado River. The breadth of his legal expertise was extraordinary; so, too, was his dedication to public service. An early champion of Holocaust survivors, Judge Rifkind served on numerous governmental panels and agencies, and on the boards of medical, religious, and philanthropic institutions—as well as on the New York City Board of Higher Education from 1954-1966. His many awards include the Medal of Freedom, presented to him by President Harry S. Truman.