Notes from the Academic Office...

Fall 2017 has certainly been a productive semester for us in the Academics Office. We said bon voyage to Luke Harper, who left his role to move to Hong Kong in August, and welcome Chloe Spinks who subsequently joined the Academics team. Amy Rowe returned from maternity leave, sending a thank you to Courtney Hopf who covered in her absence.

The Academics Office moved physically too, from room 308 in 6 Bedford Square to room 206 at the top of the stairs in building 5. If you have not popped by already, please do come drop in sometime. Faculty pigeonholes are now located in the Academics Office. Amy and Catherine Robson, Acting Site Director, have held 5 lunch meetings this semester, with the aim of getting to know all of NYUL’s faculty. Faculty members from varying disciplines have given brief presentations on their careers, research, and experiences teaching at NYUL, and it has been a great opportunity to facilitate and promote connections across fields. More faculty lunches will be held in the Spring semester.

Publishing Spotlight: The London Film & Media Reader 5

Phillip Drummond, British Cinema:

Towards the end of 2017 Phillip will publish The London Film & Media Reader 5: Questions of Cultural Value, an e-book comprising 30 essays from around the world based on Papers presented at FILM & MEDIA 2016: The Fifth Annual London Film & Media Conference, which he ran at Friends’ House in Summer 2016, bringing together 130 scholars from some 35 countries. The new e-book is the eighth volume overall from The London Symposium since 2013, with nearly 250 essays published so far from the 800 or so academic papers presented to date, including conferences on London Studies and Understanding Britain. The fully-edited e-book provides a series of compact and highly readable essays from around the world on significant topics in relation to debates over culture, morality, and identity in a wide variety of national contexts.

The first Part of the volume deals with questions of National Identity, bringing together Frank Scheide’s account of the Doppelgänger archetype in a number of ruritanian films from inter-war Hollywood, Lela Tshipuria’s account of literature and film from Georgia, focussing on The Other Bank, and Ana Dosen’s analysis of troubled family values in Japanese Cinema in Noriko’s Dinner Table. Part 2 continues this theme by looking at The American Dream, with essays by Andrea Rinke looking at The Wolf of Wall Street and the drug experience film and essays on ‘Indiewood’ and the idea of ‘success’ humanist cinema of Alexander Payne by Antonio Sanchez-Escalonilla and Pablo Echart. Part 3 moves from the US to look at Film & Television in India, with an essay by Mona Sinha on the wedding narrative on Indian TV, a study of the Bollywood biopic by Neerja Vyas and Sushila Shekhawat, and Durga Chakraborty’s consideration of gender stereotyping and role reversal in Ki & Ka.

Part 4, on Media Moralities, opens with Wajiha Raza Rizvi’s critical account of film censorship practices in Pakistan and continues with Pauliina Tuomi’s account...
RECENTLY PUBLISHED WORKS

Peter Cave:
Peter has added some short videos relating to his The Big Think Book: Discover Philosophy Through 99 Perplexing Puzzles. Peter’s ‘Big Think’ offers a kaleidoscope of dilemmas and problems, some relating to mind, love and medical ethics. The video extracts can be found at http://www.philosophycave.com – and look out for Farmer McDonald’s stilettos in Peter’s Humpty Dumpty and Ms Turkey.

Peter wrote a programme essay for a new play, Quiz, by James Graham, on cheating and competition. Peter makes use of Thomas Hobbes’s ‘Life is solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short’, with the quip, ‘Thomas, it could be worse; it could be solitary, poor, nasty, brutish — and long.’ In Peter’s hands, the focus is on how luck — Ms Fortuna — dominates our lives; and those who do well should show some humility at their good luck and not disparage those who fall by the wayside because of bad luck. For talks by Peter Cave, go to http://www.philosophycave.com. For a review of Quiz, click https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2017/nov/12/quiz-review-exploration-of-the-thin-line-between-courtroom-and-showbusiness

Jennifer Daley:
I am Chairman and Trustee of The Association of Dress Historians, which is an international society that supports and promotes the advancement of public knowledge and education in the history of dress and textiles. I am also Managing Editor of The Journal of Dress History, which is the academic, peer-reviewed publication of The Association of Dress Historians. I would like to announce that I have just published a new issue of The Journal of Dress History. The 143-page journal can be viewed and downloaded as a pdf (completely free of charge) on our website: https://www.dresshistorians.org/journal I am dedicated to helping others in our field, and sharing research and information freely. I hope everyone enjoys reading The Journal of Dress History.

Eve Grubin:

Eve published essay on writing “slant” (6 July 2017) in The Lehrhaus.

Eve’s poem “Allay” recently appeared in The American Poetry Review

Two of her poems, “A Definition” and “Unfinished,” were published in PN Review.

“Mother and Child” appeared in Jewish Journal (Feb 2017)

Eve’s essay, “The Poetics of Sanity,” on Jane Cooper’s poetry was published in the The American Poetry Review.


Continued on Page 6

Co-Curricular Trip: Bristol and the Slave Trade

Philip Woods, Britain and Slavery: Every autumn I take students on the Britain and Slavery course on a Saturday fieldtrip to Bristol, one of the leading slave-trading ports in the early eighteenth century. We do a slavery walking trail which was set up in the late 1990s by Dr Madge Dresser of the University of the West of England and others. Unfortunately, the theme of the trail is that, despite there being many sites connected to the slave trade, Bristol has been pretty reluctant to acknowledge properly its historic role in it. Pressures from a sizeable Africa-Caribbean heritage community in Bristol have led to more recent moves to publicly acknowledge, apologise, and take practical steps to bring into question some of the memorials to Bristolians, such as Edward Colston, who were involved in slave-trading.

The highlight of our tour is the visit to a seventeenth-century public house known as the Seven Stars. It is rather tucked away in back streets and has few tourists visiting these days. However, as a magnificent plaque outside the pub shows, this hostelry played an important part in the campaign to abolish the slave trade. It was here in the late-1780s that Thomas Clarkson, the most active abolitionist, found a publican by the name Thompson who was willing to help him in gathering evidence that showed that the slave trade, far from boosting Britain’s merchant fleet and navy, was contributing to very high death rates amongst the sailors who participated in it. These men were often inveigled or forced into what was a very dangerous and unpopular maritime employment.
Meet Our New Faculty...

Clare Bayley, Advanced Playwriting (TISCH) and Modern Drama & Performance in London
Clare Bayley is a playwright whose plays have been staged in London (National Theatre, Young Vic and Hampstead Theatre), Edinburgh, Cardiff and internationally (Baltimore, Toronto, Melbourne, Rome and Mexico). She is the co-author of Playwriting: An Artists’ and Writers’ Companion (Bloomsbury) and her plays are published by Nick Hern Books. Her next production will be On The March, a site-specific, promenade production to celebrate the women’s movement and mark the centenary of women’s partial enfranchisement in Britain. It will be performed by Oxford Playhouse’s young people’s theatre in March 2018. Other plays she has written include The Container about people trafficking; Blue Sky about the CIA’s rendition and torture programme and The Enchantment, an English version of the 19th century Swedish play by Victoria Benedictsson. Before starting to write for the theatre, Clare was a theatre critic and arts journalist for The Independent newspaper and other London publications. She teaches Creative Writing at London South Bank University and mentors MA students in playwriting at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. For Tisch/NYU London she teaches Advanced Playwriting, and Modern Drama in Performance for NYU London.

Rajesh Bhargave, Introduction to Marketing
Dr. Rajesh Bhargave is Assistant Professor of Marketing, at Imperial College Business School. His research on consumer behaviour has focused on the role of social context and technology in consumers’ evaluations, preferences, and decision-making processes. In his research and teaching, Dr. Bhargave has collaborated with numerous business organisations, including Fortune 500 companies, family businesses, and start-ups. His publications have appeared in the top marketing, management, and psychology journals. He holds a PhD in marketing from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and a B.B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin (his hometown).

Varsha Panjwani, Shakespeare & the Elizabethan Stage
Dr. Varsha Panjwani was a lecturer at the department of Theatre, Film, and Television at the University of York from 2009-13. She currently teaches at Boston University (London), Fordham University (London), and NYU (London) and is an honorary Research Associate at the University of York. Varsha’s research focuses on the way in which Shakespeare is deployed in the service of diversity theatre and films. As well as publishing widely in leading international journals such as Shakespeare Survey and in prestigious collections such as Shakespeare and Indian Cinema and The Diverse Bard, she has co-edited special issues of Multicultural Shakespeare. She has also won prestigious research grants from the Society of Theatre Research and Folger Shakespeare Library. In addition to her individual research, she was the principal investigator of the multi-grant-winning project ‘Indian Shakespeares on Screen’ (2016). Varsha is also an academic consultant for a number of theatre and film companies and is a regular reviewer for specialised journals and blogs.

Michal Chmiel, Organizational Communication & its Social Context
Michal is Course Leader of BA (Hons) Public Relations and a Senior Lecturer on the Communications and Media Programme at London College of Communication, University of the Arts London. Michal received his PhD in social psychology from the Jagiellonian University in Krakow in 2012; analysing consumer decision-making processes as influenced by messages differing in linguistic content and form.
In his line of applied research, Michal compares advertising and public relations messages to identify how both types of communication work in unison to influence buying behaviour and produce the most favourable attitudes. Michal analyses the societal impact of advertising and public relations communication, with particular emphasis on the influence of gender portrayals on consumers’ perception of sex roles. He is also interested in celebrity public image and ways in which it can be repaired using crisis management techniques. Previously, Michal was Lecturer in Social Psychology at the University of Kent, (where he was also responsible for applied psychology courses on public relations, media relations and public speaking) and Research Fellow at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. The latter position included responsibilities of a Programme Director in Marketing and Public Relations Communication for a Psychology course.
As a public relations practitioner, Michal has more than 13 years of experience in successfully incorporating social psychological evidence into public relations and communications projects for multinational companies and public figures. After being involved in several political campaigns, including at presidential level as an MSc student, he started his professional career in London working for Hurlstons Consulting Lobbying and Media, a consultancy dedicated to providing senior advisory to major British financial companies. Michal joined Procter & Gamble as an Associate Public Relations Manager, where he was responsible for the company’s feminine products portfolio as well as the Polish hub’s Corporate Social Responsibility Policy (CSR). Michal’s experience also includes a spell as a Managing Director of a communication agency and a strategy consultant role in the music and entertainment industry, which broadened his expertise with music video production and artists’ careers management.

Clare Bayley, Rajesh Bhargave, Varsha Panjwani

Meet Our New Faculty...
Faculty Spotlight: Emily Gee

Report from the 2017 University of Virginia Symposium: 
Universities, Slavery, Public Memory & the Built Landscape

In October, I attended a symposium at the University of Virginia on “Universities, Slavery, Public Memory, & the Built Landscape”. The University has been coming to terms with its own history of enslaved labourers, and undertaking extensive research on this history of the enslaved and free Blacks in the early years of the university, largely as labourers building the grounds and serving the students and professors. Together with Thomas Jefferson’s house at Monticello, these two sites form a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which is the only architectural UNESCO site in North America. The white supremacist rallies and killing in Charlottesville in August at the two main Confederate statues in town set a particularly poignant context for the symposium, and gave an added sense of urgency and weight to the proceedings.

I gave a paper on the work of Historic England, majoring on our 2007 project to newly list and amend the listing of sites associated with slavery and abolition in England, it also set the English context for our more recent work on contested heritage (focusing on Rhodes and Colston sites), and brought the story up to date with mention of Historic England’s current project, Another England, mapping 100 years of Black and Asian History in England. I was particularly pleased to be able to tell people about a tomb in LB Haringey that we listed in 2007, commemorating the Virginians Hannah Long (wife of George Long, an Englishman who was one of Jefferson’s first professors) and Jacob Walker (the slave of the Longs in Pavilion V at the University, who travelled with them to England, where he was their servant). Hannah and Jacob died a few months apart in 1841, in Highgate, and George gave his wife and former slave a shared tomb inscription, acknowledging the different legal status of Jacob in the two countries in that period. It is remarkable to stand in the working grounds of Pavilion V at the University of Virginia and imagine those past lives, now buried 3000 miles away in England. This tomb, protected in London, and its poignant inscription is a remarkable document of the institution of slavery, the endurance of people and the importance of place.

There was lots of discussion about re-naming buildings, particularly at universities. One panel I attended focused on Clemson University, in South Carolina, which is built on the site of the site of the Calhoun plantation. Calhoun was a C19 vice president and proponent of the ‘positive good’ of slavery. Yale had addressed a similar issue last summer resulting in the Yale guidelines on renaming: http://president.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/CEPR_FINAL_12-2-16.pdf Clemson is now grappling with issues surrounding buildings names to honour Confederate and segregationist leaders while there is little public memory associated with the plantation and African American history. A small group of progressive students and faculty are leading the charge, but it is highly controversial subject. I offered to share Historic England’s forthcoming consultation on guidance to deal with contested heritage.

On the first night I participated in a deeply interesting programme run by the Slave Dwelling Project, which involved a group sleep-over on Jefferson’s campus. Slave Dwelling Project organizes events sleeping in extant slave quarters. It was a moving, communal event; not a re-enactment by any means, but a way of drawing attention to the historic buildings and places that would have housed the enslaved, and providing a poignant means of considering this on the very grounds. Many of the participants slept on the cold grass in one of the gardens behind the pavilions, framed by Jefferson’s brick serpentine walls. These were the working yards of the enslaved service community in the early – mid 19th century, behind the pavilions in Jefferson’s Academical Village, and now are ornamental gardens. I slept in the only known surviving slave quarter at the university. It has been gently modernized as a guest cottage but I slept directly on the brick floor in a sleeping bag, alongside two other participants, humbly contemplating the tiny two-roomed cottage as the place where African-American slaves would have lived two hundred years ago. The connection between history and place was strong and redolent here, and reinforced the importance of protecting the fabric and significance of modest buildings.

The closing reception on the third day featured a presentation of the design team of the proposed Memorial to Enslaved Labourers for which the university is currently fundraising. It is a powerful monument that will unite ‘town and gown’ through its location, symbolic design, and planned events at the memorial: http://www.virginia.edu/slaverymemorial/ It could provide an example of a fitting counterpoint to difficult monuments and memorials. At the time of writing, the two main Confederate statues in Charlottesville remain shrouded under tarpaulins. These are regularly taken down by pro-Confederacy protesters, and then re-tarped; the city has erected signs in a circle around the statues that are illegal to cross to try and prevent this. The 4th Street crossing of the downtown mall where Heather Heyer was killed has re-opened but the walls remain chalked with memorial messages.

Emily Gee teaches Seeing London’s Architecture at NYUL, and is London Planning Director at Historic England.
Co-Curricular Trip: Freud’s House

**Eve Grubin, Writing I:** In October I took my students to Freud’s House. This visit prepares students for Unit 2 of the semester where students will write their “contrary” essays. I call them contrary essays because they are asked to be contrarians and write an essay in support of an unpopular theory or activity. This exercise introduces students to a number of writing strategies such as 1) making a convincing argument in a series of clearly structured paragraphs 2) anticipating the reader’s response and preempting it by stating the counter argument, thereby disarming the reader 3) employing humor 4) including details and images 5) developing a distinctive voice. When the students learn about Freud’s life and work they appreciate the courage and skill involved when presenting unpopular theories to the public in writing. They also appreciate how Freud’s very thinking was "contrary thinking" -- the latent truth beneath the surface of a dream or behavior is often the opposite of what one would expect. With this in mind we read contrary essays that the students use as models such as "Against Nature" by Joyce Carol Oates, "Against Joie de Vivre" by Philip Lopate, and "Going for a Walk" by Max Beerbohm where the 19th century humorist argues against the banal and absurd English pastime of going for a walk. Students wrote essays such as being against the beach, manicures, solitude, and journal writing. They were inspired by the movie at Freud’s house which ends with the BBC recording of the father of psychoanalysis saying, I discovered some new and important facts about the unconscious in psychic life, the role of instinctual urges and so on. Out of these findings grew a new science, Psycho-analysis, a part of psychology and a new method of treatment of the neuroses. I had to pay heavily for this bit of good luck. People did not believe my facts and thought my theories unsavoury. Resistance was strong and unrelenting. In the end I succeeded in acquiring pupils and building up an international Psycho-Analytic Association. But the struggle is not yet over.

Publishing Spotlight: The London Film & Media Reader 5

**Continued from Front Page**

of a research project on moral and social values in Finnish television. This chapter concludes with Chioma Deborah Ekhaemheme debating the cultural impact of reality TV on the youth audience in Nigeria in relation to Big Brother Africa. In Part 5, Masculinities, Nandabalan Paneerselvam sees the legendary British TV comic Tony Hancock as a character embodying the post-imperial crisis in British masculinity in the 1960s, while Saravanan Mani explores the ambiguous fusions of the US ‘rogue cop’ series The Shield. For Carlos and Francisco Rabasso, Mariana Rondon’s Venezuelan childhood drama Pelo Mala (Bad Hair) is a fable of transgender roles under patriarchy. Part 6, Femininities, opens with Angela Tumini’s and Malin Isaksson’s exploration of the figure of Lisbeth Salander in Stieg Larsson’s Millennium trilogy against the background of the female action hero, while Emily Oghale God’s presence looks into African cultural values and female representation in the Nollywood time-travel drama Iyare. The section concludes with Phillip Drummond’s study of gender, knowledge and identity in WWI in the case of the legendary female spy, Mata Hari.

The volume then turns its attention to questions of genre. In Part 7 the changing value systems of The Audiovisual Fairytale provide an initial focus in the case of essays by Indre Jakucione on the contemporary fairy tales of Disney, and by Tamara Barreiro Neira on the Chicano social fable Quinceañera. Fairytales are perpetuated, suggests Marina Gabelica, in the new generic form of the videogame. Part 8, Generic Paradigms, ranges more widely, encompassing the post-WWII German newsreel, in an essay by Sigurun Lehnert, the aesthetics of the fashion film, in an analysis by Mariana Medeiros Seixas and Frédéric Gimello Mesplomb, and interactive music videos, seen as a complex form of negotiation between authors, audiences, and producers, by Raffaele Pavoni.

The final sections of the volume look at the more expansive dimensions of media texts and experiences. Part 9, Media Ontologies are thus under the microscope in Gillian McIver’s study of the exchange of value between cinema and painting, in Stuart Richards’ account of transmedia narrative and the videogame The Simpsons Tapped Out, and in Kristina Kraour’s analysis of the cancelled series as ‘incomplete’ text, which takes Twin Peaks as its focus. Part 10 concludes the volume with Engaging the Audience, comprising Alison Wilde’s account of classroom research on cinematic representations of disablement, Jani Wilson’s account of the Māori audience’s resistance to the historical drama The Seekers, and Ruchika Gurung’s argument for the role of participatory media in the context of Media Education and cultural violence.

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The London Film & Media Reader 5: Questions of Cultural Value, e-book, London: The London Symposium, December 2017, 350pp approx., ISBN 978-0-9573631-7-5, £5.99. For the availability of the volume, please contact Phillip on pd68@nyu.edu or phillip@academicconferenceslondon.com
RECENTLY PUBLISHED WORKS
Continued from Page 2

Brendan Hogan:
Brendan participated in an event celebrating the release of *Thinking the Plural: Richard J. Bernstein’s Expansion of American Philosophy* held in New York City. The book, released in 2017, contained the piece "Any Democracy Worth Its Name" co-authored with fellow Liberal Studies faculty member, Lawrence Marcelle. They will also have two articles in the *Graduate Faculty Philosophy Journal* special issue focusing on the late philosopher Hilary Putnam: "Putnam, pragmatism, and the problem of economic rationality" and "Consequences of Liberal Naturalism".

Denis Judd:
My biography of *Palmerston* and my first book *Balfour and the British Empire* have recently appeared in new paperback editions.
An article on King George VI during the Second World War is in the current edition of the *History of Royals*.

Varsha Panjwani:
A special issue of *Multicultural Shakespeare* co-edited by Dr Varsha Panjwani was published in Oct 2017. It includes an article on British-Asian (Braisian Shakespeare) by her and several other amazing essays on a Spaghetti Western *Hamlet*, Kronborg castle in Denmark, a performance of *Merchant of Venice* with multiple Shylocks and more. *Multicultural Shakespeare* is a peer-reviewed journal on diversifying Shakespeare, and is free to access online: [https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/mstap.2017.15.issue-1](https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/mstap.2017.15.issue-1.xml)

Emma Sweeney and Emily Midorikawa:
Please see here ([https://www.amazon.co.uk/SecretSisterhood-Literary-Friendships-Charlotte/dp/054488373X](https://www.amazon.co.uk/SecretSisterhood-Literary-Friendships-Charlotte/dp/054488373X)) for the press release of *A Secret Sisterhood: The literary friendships of Austen, Bronte, Eliot and Woolf*, written by colleagues Emma Claire Sweeney and Emily Midorikawa. It came out in the USA on 17th October of this year, and was recently named by (US) *Publishers Weekly* as one of The Most Anticipated Books of Fall 2017. "In digging up the forgotten friendships chronicled in *A Secret Sisterhood*, Emily Midorikawa and Emma Claire Sweeney have done much service to literary history" – Margaret Atwood (from her Foreword to *A Secret Sisterhood*)
"*A Secret Sisterhood* offers a clever new perspective on established literary figures" - Tracy Chevalier, author of *Girl with a Pearl Earring*
"Midorikawa and Sweeney have committed an exceptional act of literary espionage. English literature owes them a great debt" - *Financial Times*
"Glorious insights into female rivalry and female solidarity and the delicate balancing act required to ensure one doesn't override the other" - *The Herald*
"These forgotten friendships, from illicit and scandalous to radical and inspiring, are revelations" - *Kirkus*

Richard Williams:
It might be of interest to note that my book, *Directing for the Stage*, is in preparation and will be published early next year by The Crowood Press. It’s a step by step guide to directing drawing on my career as both an award-winning freelance stage director and artistic director of four varied theatre companies. Richard teaches The Arts in London course for Tisch students in London.

**Co-Curricular Trip: Wimbledon and Putney Commons**

**Sarah Clement, Environmental Studies:** Freshman NYUL students visited Wimbledon and Putney Commons as part of their Environmental Studies course in October. Peter Haldane, Conservation and Engagement Officer for the commons, provided a guided tour for the students, focusing on the environmental challenges and management practices in the common and the social and ecological values they are trying to maintain. As the largest area of heathland in the London area, students were able to see not only a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), but also learn more about the history of the common and its governance, which is an excellent way to demonstrate how English history is intertwined with present day environmental conservation. Unfortunately, no wombles were spotted.
Editorial and Other Professional Updates

Clive Bloom: I have just been commissioned by Palgrave/MacMillan as the editor of a new three volume work on Gothic Literature and Culture. The volumes cover the genre's earliest beginnings to its latest forms from the written word to fashion, the Internet and steam punk. The books are intended as a showcase for the latest scholarly work on all aspects of the subject. The project extends over the next four years.

Peter Cave: How could a contradiction in mathematics have consequences? A bridge may fall down because we misunderstand the laws of nature; it may fall down because we erred in our calculations. It may fall down because we have not made the foundations sturdy enough — but could it fall down because the foundations of mathematics were not sufficiently sturdy? Peter is a member of the British Wittgenstein Society; these questions were raised by Professor Ray Monk in his lecture on Alan Turing and Wittgenstein at Cambridge. For the lecture and Peter's report, please see http://www.britishwittgensteinsoociety.org/event/eighteenth-bws-lecture-professor-ray-monk-turing-wittgenstein-logic-mathematics

Sarah Clement: A major EU nature-based solutions (NBS) project, Urban GreenUP, is investigating how innovative interventions, using or inspired by nature, can address urban sustainability challenges. The project has 3 leading cities - Liverpool (UK), Valladolid (Spain), and Izmir (Turkey) - and Dr Sarah Clement is principal investigator for the Liverpool aspect of the project. Dr Clement teaches Environmental Studies at NYU in London and is a faculty member in the Department of Geography and Planning at the University of Liverpool. UrbanGreenUP is funded by the European Commission's Horizon2020 programme, and has received €4 million over 5 years to develop and test a range of NBS interventions in the three leading cities before replicating the approach in five global cities. The solutions will address 10 key sustainability issues, such as climate change, water management, human health and well being, economic development, and participatory governance. There will be opportunities for students to engage in the project, both through course content and through independent projects for interested students. If you are interested in learning more, contact Sarah or visit urbangreenup.eu.

Phillip Drummond: Phillip has become the founder convenor of the Special Interest Group on British Cinema and Television of the British Association of Film, TV and Screen Studies, the largest of the new BAFTSS SIGs. In 2016-2017 he has spoken on film adaptations of Shakespeare's The Tempest, cinematic representations of the Scottish islands, Christopher Nolan's Following, Amma Asante's Belle, race and identity in Sixties British Cinema, and representations of Sicily in the cinema, at conferences held in London, Bristol, Gdansk/Krakow, Paris, Palermo, and Rome, organised by BAFTSS, Goldsmiths, York/East Anglia, Gdansk/Jagiellonian, the Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies, MSA (the Mediterranean Studies Association), and SERCIA (the Société d’études et de recherches sur le cinéma anglophone).

Next year he plans to speak on cinema, race and identity at the BAFTSS Annual Conference at the University of Kent, on 'The British in Italy: Questions of Gender, Landscape, and Habitation in the Cinematic Villa Narrative' at the MSA Annual Congress in Sorrento, and on representations of post-industrial Yorkshire at St Etienne.

Brendan Hogan: Brendan delivered the paper "Is Dewey Radical? Does it Matter?" at the conference "John Dewey's Critical Thought for Critical Political times" held at University College Dublin. The conference sponsors included the University College Dublin Department of Philosophy and the MIND Association.

Events Spotlight: “Discussing Diversity” Series

This fall Brendan Hogan worked with the student diversity group to organize a series of events, "Discussing Diversity" that had its inaugural session "A Gendered Canon" in November. Two more sessions will take place this semester, including the session "Political Correctness or Correctional Politics" on December 5 at 5:30 pm. In addition, students attended the conference, "Black Art, Black Power: responses to Soul of a Nation" at the Tate Modern.
Faculty Spotlight: Benedict O’Looney

Benedict O’Looney, who teaches ‘Recycling Architecture’, has come second out of 24 bids in a competition organized by Lewisham Council to revive the disused and partially ruined Grade II Listed Ladywell Baths in South East London.

The Ladywell Baths is one of the earliest and most impressive of the Victorian Baths complexes in London which were built after a government act in 1846 enabled parish councils to build baths and wash houses to improve public health. The Ladywell Baths were designed in an elaborate Lombardic Gothic style by the noteworthy architect Thomas Aldwinckle and were completed in 1878. Aldwinckle also designed the Kentish Town Baths that have been wonderfully restored by Camden Council in recent years.

After a fire and later use as a gym the Ladywell Baths fell into disuse and are now in a parlous condition. Benedict O’Looney architects have teamed with the people that run the Bussey Building and Copeland Park in Peckham. The Bussey Building is a former cricket bat factory near Peckham Rye Station, and is now home to theatres, studios, offices and bars, one of the leading examples of the creative re-use of historic industrial buildings in the capital. The project for the baths was to restore the Victorian First Class swimming pool and re-use it as a theatre and concert hall and create a new community buildings, workshops, and flats to help co-fund the restoration of this Victorian landmark for Lewisham. Life would be brought back to this site with cultural and creative uses throughout the day.

The competition winner was the cinema operators Curzon with the developers Guildmore. In the event that they cannot obtain planning permission, Benedict O'Looney Architects / Copeland Park scheme are the reserve team selected by Lewisham Council. Other news from Benedict is that his new Women’s and Children’s Wing for the Croydon Mosque was shortlisted for the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors Awards, 2017.