

Arts and Letters 2005-06

Updates from the College of Humanities and Fine Arts
July/August 2005

Comments from Dean Sarah Blackstone

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As I sit to write this message, the horrifying situation in Louisiana and Mississippi is just becoming clear. I offer my assistance and sympathy to any faculty, staff, or students who are worried about relatives and friends in the area, and I encourage faculty to engage students in discussions of this tragedy as a part of our educational process. Many people are struggling to understand what has happened, and looking for ways to help. Sharing our concerns and ideas with one another is an effective way to combat both stress and depression.

At Chico State our budget has stabilized, and we have begun to invest again in the future. I welcome our new faculty members—Amy Bloch, Art History; Dan Schindler, Theatre; Lynn Houston, English; Char Prieto, Spanish; and Zanja Yudell, Philosophy. Please give our new colleagues a warm welcome, and offer your assistance as they learn about the Chico State campus and culture. I'm sure you've all perused your copies of *Kaleidoscope* and bought your tickets for at least some of the exciting events the college is hosting this year. If you are in the position to do so, please encourage students to attend these, too.

I will be holding several open question-and-answer sessions for the college this year. If you have issues you would like to discuss or a burning question that needs an answer, please plan to attend one or more of these sessions. Please watch your email for details on dates and locations.

I wish everyone a successful fall semester. If I can assist you in any way, please feel free to talk with me.

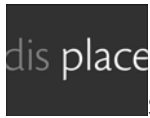
ART AND ART HISTORY

The Faculty

In May Jim McManus spoke at a symposium on art, science, and technology between 1900 and 1920, sponsored by the Center for Post Graduate Studies, at McGill University. The topic was Marcel Duchamp and photography. In July the George Pompidou Centre in Paris published his "Trucage photographique et déplacement de l'objet: À propos d'une photographie de Marcel Duchamp pris devant un miroir à charnières (1917)" in *Les Cahiers du Musée national d'art moderne*.

McManus is currently working on two exhibitions that involve Marcel Duchamp. In July he met with the curator at London's Tate Modern Gallery with whom he is collaborating on an exhibition (scheduled for January 2008) that addresses Duchamp's working relationships with Man Ray and Francis Picabia. The second exhibition, originated by the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, DC (scheduled for October 2008) will feature portraits of Duchamp. For this exhibition he is external curator, working with one of the Gallery's curators.

In August McManus presented a paper about Marcel Duchamp at the International Humanities Conference held at Cambridge University in England. That was followed by a talk about Barbara Kruger's work at the opening of her exhibition "The Twelve" at the Gallery of Modern Art in Glasgow, Scotland. This fall McManus will present a paper on Duchamp and Alchemy at the annual meeting of the Society for Literature, Science and Art. The conference, in Chicago, is co-sponsored by the University of Chicago and the Chicago Art Institute. Later in the fall he will speak at the Duchamp and Eroticism colloquium at the University of Orleans in France. He is one of 22 Duchamp scholars from around the world invited to speak at this colloquium.



Sheri Simons exhibited *dis place*—"a wooden structure that ties into the gallery's alter ego as a walk-through space"—at the Humanities Center Gallery last year.

The Students

At the HFA Symposium this past spring, faculty **Yoshio Kusaba** sponsored papers by **Brandelyn Andres**, **Sylvie Baroux**, and **Cynthia Sexton**; faculty **James McManus** and **Eileen Macdonald** sponsored work by **Jennifer Tancreto**.

BA student **Sabrina Abbott** publishes a regular cartoon column, *Life of Lucas*, in the *Siskiyou Daily News*.

MFA student **Blake Britton** received a scholarship to attend the blacksmithing workshop at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in Maine last summer.

MFA student **Marta Klepinski** was accepted to her first juried exhibition in Germany and was approved by Graduate and International Studies here to extend her exchange at Johannes Gutenberg University.

MFA student **Edie Overturf** has won the Sara Frisbie Hamilton and Janet Turner Memorial Printmaking Scholarships; the purchase prize from the Janet Turner Print Museum Student Exhibition, and second place in the Juried Student Print Exhibition at the University Art Gallery. With faculty **Michael Bishop's** help, Overturf went on student exchange in Mainz, Germany, to study sculpture. This past summer she helped faculty **Eileen Macdonald** coordinate the Janet Turner Summer Art camp.

The Alums

John Baca (BFA, 2005), this past year's Outstanding Undergraduate Student in Art, received a full scholarship to attend the MFA in sculpture program at Rhode Island School of Design.

Lara Duren (BFA, 2004) was accepted to the MFA program at Hunter College in New York.

Regina Palm (BA, Art History, 2003) after finishing an MA at San Jose State is working on her PhD in the history of art at the University of London.

Olá pra todos!
Summer E-mail from Cristina Rosa
(BFA, honors, drawing and printmaking, 2000)

Dear friends and professors,

I just want give big *mahalos* and thank you's to all of you, who have, one way or another, helped me and advised me and support me in my decision to go back to school and finish my degree. *MUITO OBRIGADA!!!* All your kind support and responses have been so important to me. I hope one day I can return the same positive energy!

I am going to start my PhD program at the WAC Department at UCLA this fall quarter. I have also accepted a TA position at the Spanish and Portuguese Department for the first quarter. WAC is a small interdisciplinary department and the program offers so many unique classes and seminars, I could not be happier. The ability to combine theory, practice (performance), and production (field research techniques and documentary) I am sure will make the program worthwhile. I am especially glad that Capoeira is being offered in the department, as it has been a very strong part of my life in the last year. I was also happy to find out that my advisor at the Portuguese program is Professor Randal Johnson (Brazilian culture and cinema), who I met previously while at UW-Madison. It will be a massive effort, and I hope I come out the other end alive.

I am moving to California at the end of August. I'll be in Chico (visiting family) for a while in September, and in Madison, WI, in January (for the show). Hope to see some of you then.

Abraços.



ENGLISH

The Faculty

Rob Davidson had his short story "First Position" published in *RE:AL, The Journal of Liberal Arts* (June 2005).

Robert O'Brien is one of twenty faculty members selected nationwide for the University of Pittsburgh's semester-at-sea this fall.

Aiping Zhang gave the keynote address and an American literature convention in Beijing this summer.

The Students

Of the eight students selected from the University as Graduate Equity Fellows, three are from English, and four are working with our faculty: **Erin Doane** with **Matt Brown**, **Kendall Leon** and **Sarah Paper** with **Jill Swiencicki**, and **Jamel Shakir** with **Lynn Elliott**.

The Alums

Graduate students from 2005 admitted to PhD programs: **Gordon Batchelor** to Rochester and UC Santa Barbara; **Beau Baca** to Vanderbilt; and **Kendall Leon** to University of Arizona and Michigan State.

Graduate students from 2004 admitted to PhD programs: **Brian Johnson** to UMass-Amherst; **Ken Brown** to UC Santa Barbara; **David Willis** to Southern Mississippi; **Dianna Winslow** to Syracuse; **Burcu Alkan** to Indiana-Bloomington and University of Manchester-UK; and **Erik Hillskemper** to Claremont and University of Aberdeen-Scotland.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

The Faculty

Pilar Alvarez-Rubio was asked by UC Berkeley's Department of Spanish and Portuguese and Bancroft Library to write the "scope notes" for the recently acquired manuscripts of Antonio Cornejo-Polar, one of the 20th Century's most outstanding figures in Latin American literature, theory, and criticism.



Christine Goulding signed a contract with Prentice Hall and two co-authors to produce an intermediate German textbook.

The Students

At the HFA Symposium this past spring, faculty **Pilar Alvarez-Rubio** sponsored papers by **Marissa Beach**, **Avery Brown**, **Antonio Isern** (mentored by faculty **Donald Miller**), and **Shawna Routh** (along with faculty **Sara Cooper**).

German major **Lucas Ogden** was awarded a full-support Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship to study in Germany this academic year.

The Alums

Neil Landers received French Department and All-University Graduate Fellowships to attend UC Berkeley this academic year. This past year with a Rotary Ambassadorial Fellowship, he studied in Liège.

HISTORY

The Faculty

Michelle Shover: Iowa Roots in Butte County
(from *The Buzz*, 4.28.05)

The North State is blessed with several periodicals devoted to local history, among them the Butte County Historical Society's *Diggin's*, a quarterly edited by James Lenhoff. The fall 2004 issue is devoted to a single long article by Michele Shover, emeritus professor of history.

According to an editor's note, the article, "The Sutherland Boys Excellent Adventure in Butte County of the 1850s and After," was "inspired when Shover

learned that relatives were buried in the cemetery of her adopted city (Chico)...Raised in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Shover was hired to teach at Chico State in 1968. In 1976, she purchased and restored the picturesque Little Chapman Mansion, which is currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places." Shover and her husband Don Lillibridge, emeritus from Political Science, have lived there for many years. "Built by Augustus Chapman, the Chapmantown district of Chico is named for this illustrious pioneer," notes the editor.

Shover herself is illustrious among local historians. She's written and published dozens of articles illuminating the 19th- and 20th-Century struggles in the Butte County area of Maidu and other Native American tribes, Chinese immigrants, African Americans, and women. "The Murders at Lemm Ranch: The Chico Anti-Chinese Crisis of 1877" was published in 1998 by the Chico-based Association for Northern California Records and Research; "The Round Valley Indian Removal of 1863: A Reconsideration" was published in 2003 in the *California Territorial Quarterly*.

Shover writes in *Diggin's*, "For close to 25 years I have pored over the early records of northern Butte County's 19th-century history, seeking to understand and explain that time. As an Iowa native, I could add no family record of my own to my work. In fact, I have always considered it an advantage to be an outsider in reconstructing the past. However, 19 years after I began teaching here, I learned that members of my family were among the earliest residents in the very county I have been researching and writing about."

At the memorial service for her father, Shover met Judith Sutherland Pahnke, who "explained...that we were both descended from John and Margaret Sutherland, our great-great-great-grandparents. Further, Pahnke said, "four sons of Joan and Margaret had participated in the California Gold Rush....Judith told me that two of young men, Roderick and Daniel, who had stayed on in Butte County, are buried at Chico."

This would whet the appetite of any historian, so Shover began research in 2003, linking "family histories with Butte County data." Though the specific family details are of most interest to relatives, Shover's carefully annotated account paints a broader picture that is useful to anyone interested in local history.

—Dan Barnett

The Students

At the HFA Symposium this past spring, faculty Lisa Emmerich sponsored a paper by Sandeep Batra; faculty Clifford Minor sponsored papers by Robert Brunelle, Jennifer LaFleur, and Joel Tolson; faculty Kate Transchel sponsored Misha Griffith, who also gave her paper at the International Film and History conference in Texas; faculty Laird Easton sponsored Molly Meyer; faculty Robert Tinkler sponsored Fawzi Morrar; and faculty Stephen Lewis sponsored Patrick O'Connor.

MUSIC

The Students

Molly Mahoney's family—both parents and two brothers—are all musical performers. Mahoney currently sings with her parents' group, the Skyliners, a

nineteen-piece dance band specializing in '40s music, swing, and Latin. She has performed with the Chico State Choir, Chamber Singers, A Cappella Choir, Jazz X-Press, Wind Ensemble, and Midnight Six. She has been awarded the Music Faculty and Choral Music Scholarships over the past three years.

Faculty **Joe Alexander** facilitates about 30 internships annually for Music Industry students. The past year includes these highlights:

- **Sara Clerk**, two summers at Aspen Music Festival and three years with Miami's New World Symphony

- **Jason Holderness** and **Brendon Harry**, audio/technical crew on Ernie Ball Corporation's Mobile Stage for the 2005 WARPED Tour of North America, along with alums **Quincy Kowolik**, **Jon Ballard**, and **Ryan McLain**

- **Taylor Hackbarth**, event production crew, 15 weeks with Janus Jazz Aspen

- **Masielle Vega**, urban promotions department for Capitol Records, Hollywood

- **Tera Uhlinger**, Netzwerk Producer Management, Beverly Hills

- **Ellen Manley** and **Tim Grant**, ASCAP, Los Angeles

PHILOSOPHY

The Faculty

Troy Jollimore's manuscript "Tom Thomson in Purgatory" won first prize (\$2,500 plus publication, royalties, and 100 author copies) in the 2nd Annual Robert E. Lee and Ruth I. Wilson Poetry Book Award contest.



Poet Laureate **Billy Collins** (2001-2003) was the judge who selected Jollimore's work.

The Students

Susanna Flavia Boxall, majoring in both Philosophy and Religious Studies, presented her honors thesis as a paper at the HFA Symposium in the spring. Her faculty directors are **Becky White**, **Ed Pluth**, and **Bruce Grelle** (Religious Studies).

The Alums

Bobby Dupree began the MFA program in photography at Parsons School of Art in New York.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

The Faculty

Bruce Grelle was appointed to the international advisory board for the *British Journal of Religious Education* (spring 2005). He was an invited guest on Wisconsin Public Radio's one-hour talk show *Crossing Paths* for a segment of "The Intersection of Religion with Business, Education, Science, and Politics" in May.

Daniel Veidlinger's manuscript, "Spreading the Dhamma," will be published by University of Hawaii Press.

The Students

At the spring HFA Symposium, Fawn Lafferty, majoring in both Religious Studies and Humanities, presented her honors thesis as a paper under the direction of faculty Sarah Pike.

Neil Plummer gave a paper at the HFA Symposium under the direction of faculty Loren Lybarger. Before going to graduate school, Plummer will attend the Middlebury School for Arabic, the American University of Beirut, and the Defense Language Institute in Monterey.

HUMANITIES CENTER

Summary of 2004-05

Director. Laird Easton (History)

Board. Jeanne Clark (English), Sara Cooper (Foreign Languages and Literatures), Marcel Daguerre (Philosophy), Troy Jollimore (Philosophy), James Kuiper (Art and Art History), John Milbauer (Music), Robert O'Brien (English), Sarah Pike (Religious Studies), J. Fitz Smith (English), Robert Tinkler (History), Sue Whitmore (Art and Art History)

Ex-officio. Sarah Blackstone (dean), Donald Heinz (Religious Studies), Thomasin Saxe (director of special projects), Brooks Thorlaksson (associate dean)

Guests. James McPherson (President's Visiting Scholar, Joanna Dunlap Cowden Memorial Lecture), Pulitzer Prize winner, professor of history at Princeton; James Sterba (President's Visiting Scholar, 1st Annual Peace Institute), professor of philosophy at Notre Dame, member of Joan B. Kroc International Peace Institute; Jean Bethke Elshtain, professor of social and political ethics at the University of Chicago; Christoff Wolff (Third Annual Bach Festival), professor of music at Harvard; Wolfgang Schivelbusch, German social historian; John C. Hampsey, professor of English, Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo

Gallery Exhibitions. *Visions of Northern California* (Anthony Dunn); *What's Plumb, What's True, What's Square* (Robert Herhusky); *Moving Targets: The Art of Resistance* (in conjunction with University Art Gallery); *German Days* (curator Christine Goulding); *Please Accept This Cup I Have Made as a Gift* (Ehren Tool); *Day of the Dead* (community celebration); *Spitting Image* (Marilyn Moore); *Public Culture / Personal Space: Photographs from the Street* (Jason Tannen); *Small Colored Squares* (Electronic Arts Program students); *ebaybies: Genuine & Lasting Friends* (Nanette Wylde); *The City & Other Suites* (Tom Patton and Nancy Scott Patton)

Symposia/Tertulias. Andrew Flescher (Religious Studies); Ken Rose (History); Candace Slater (Humanities, Humanities Center, UC Berkeley); Ron Hirschbein (Philosophy); Sara Cooper (Foreign Languages and Literatures); Robert Tinkler (History); Troy Jollimore (Philosophy); J. Fitz Smith (English); Sarah Blackstone (dean, HFA); Kathleen McPartland (Public Affairs and Publications); Sharon May (MFA, English, CSU Chico); Chris Fosen (English); David Martins (English); Michael Bishop (Art); Laird Easton (History)



University Film Series. *The Street* (Karl Grune); *The Best Years of Our Lives* (William Wyler); *Asphalt* (Joe May); *Chavez Ravine* (Don Normark); *Out of the Past* (Jacques Tourneur); *Full Metal Jacket* (Stanley Kubrick); Olaf Palme documentary (Kelly Candaele); *Fog of War: Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara* (Errol Morris); *Touch of Evil* (Orson Welles); *I tinerant Cinemascope* (curator Marijke Jorritsma); *This Is the Sound* (Bill Deblonk); *Senorita Extraviata* (Lourdes Portillo); *When the Spirits Dance Mambo* (producer/director of photography Robert Shepard); *The Murder of Emmett Till* (director of photography Robert Shepard); *Re-Imagining Her* (curator Gretchen Hogue); *Brave New Worlds* (Greta Snider, Jacqueline Goss, Ann McGuire, Jennifer Montgomery, Morgan Currie); *The Experimentalists* (curator Ariella J. Ben-Dov); *Remembrance of Things to Come* (Yannick Bellon, Chris Marker); *From the East* (Chantal Akerman); *Laputa: Castle in the Sky* (Hayao Miyazaki); *2nd International Video and Animation Shorts* (curated by Nanette Wylde's advanced electronic art students)

JANET TURNER PRINT MUSEUM

If you would like to donate to the Janet Turner Print Museum, which will eventually move to downtown Chico, please send the following information to the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; CSU, Chico; Chico, CA 95929-0800. Or give us a call at 530-898-5351. Thank you.

Name:
Address:
Telephone:
Email:

NORTH STATE SYMPHONY

Centennial Gala

Saturday, September 24 at 5:30pm and Saturday, September 24 at 9:30pm
Bell Memorial Union Ballroom

Happy birthday, North State Symphony! Kick off the 100th season and many years of glorious music with a Centennial Gala before and after the opening concert. The 5:30pm pre-concert event includes hors d'oeuvres, a buffet, and live musical entertainment. The 9:30pm post-concert celebration includes dessert buffet and birthday cake, champagne, and dancing to CSU, Chico's Jazz X-Press. Tickets for each separate event cost \$55 per person; for both events the cost is \$100 per person. Tickets are limited and available at the University Box Office, 530-898-6333.



SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Creative Juices

(from *Chico News and Review*, 3.3.05)

It sounds like someone is hitting a metal street sign with a pipe. It's not the first sound you'd expect to hear walking into the Performing Arts Center. Somehow, it blends in with the piano fills spilling from the rehearsal rooms upstairs and a far-off sustained note from a mysterious opera singer. All are part of the nearly constant creative preparation that goes on in the building.

This is one of the fun corners of the university, where students in the Theatre and Music Departments rehearse for performances, most of them to be given eventually in this same building. A sign hanging outside the theatre in which the metal racket is echoing outlines a schedule of some of this work: Saturday/first tech; Monday/first dress; and finally, Wednesday/open. As scene builders bang the last metal parts into place, the next performance presented by the School of the Arts, a five-night run of Ray Bradbury's *Something Wicked This Way Comes*, is gearing up to open its doors to the public. It's just one event out of dozens that happen every semester.

The North State Symphony, five different choral ensembles, a black-box theatre, full-scale musicals, jazz bands, the Wind Ensemble, the Brass Ensemble, chamber music, summer stock theatre, opera, dance theatre, and art galleries—through the School of the Arts, the Theatre, Music, and Art Departments provide a constant supply of student- and faculty-produced art, and about 23,000 people purchase tickets to these events each year.

"We don't want to be an ivory tower on a hill and separate from our community," said Sarah Blackstone, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and overseer of the School of the Arts. Growing up in Laramie, Wyoming, as "an artist child with no outlet," Blackstone turned to the local university for influence, and she's acutely aware of the role a university can play in bringing the arts to a small community. "Our students go out into the arts community, and they crew, and they're in a Blue Room show, and they help hang a show at the 1078 Gallery," Blackstone said. "If arts students, say, actors or vocalists, never have performed before a live audience or only have performed for students and faculty, they are not getting the best education."

Not only are there many opportunities to work in the community, the education offered at Chico State is a total one. From box office to backstage, the program functions just as any professional production company would. Students are getting time on the boards and under the lights, doing the set designing and sound work, installing exhibits, choreographing, and getting out the publicity.

—Jason Cassidy



TRAVEL PROGRAMS

Historic Mexico January 11 through 20, 2006

The tour will include five nights in Mexico City, two in Jalapa, and two in Papantla. The faculty-in-residence is Department of History professor **Stephen E. Lewis**, whose specialties include Chiapas, the Mexican revolution, post-revolutionary state and nation building, and official Indian policy in Mexico. He is passionate about Mexico past and present and conveys his enthusiasm in his scholarly work and in his classes on the history of Mexico, colonial and modern Latin America, and social revolution. (1-3 units in History or Latin American Studies are available with Dr. Lewis.) The \$2119 package includes round-trip airfare from San Francisco, airport fees, transfers, first-class hotels, buffet breakfast daily, and six dinners; and also entry fees to the National Palace, Colegio de San Idefonso, Castillo de Chapultepec, Anthropology Museums in Mexico City and Jalapa, Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Cholula Pyramids, Museo Hacienda El Lencero, Voladores de Papantla, El Tajin, and Teotihuacan; plus local guides and the full-time services of a professional tour director. A tax-deductible portion of the cost goes to college scholarships and programs. Limited space remains. Last day to sign up: October 11, 2005.

Habsburg Empire May 30 through June 9, 2006

The tour will include three nights in Budapest, three in Vienna, and three in Prague (with an optional three-night extension in Salzburg). The faculty-in-residence is Department of History professor **Laird M. Easton**, who is passionately interested in modern Central European cultural and intellectual history. Easton was named Outstanding Professor at CSU, Chico for 2003-04 and led the HFA/CSU, Chico tour to Paris and Normandy on the 60th anniversary of the Normandy landings (1-3 units in history are available with Dr. Easton.) The \$2874 package includes round-trip airfare from San Francisco, airport fees, transfers, first-class hotels, buffet breakfast daily, and three dinners; entry fees to Parliament in Budapest, Matthias Church, Schonbrunn, St. Vitus Cathedral, and Hradcany Castle; plus local guides in Budapest, Vienna, and Prague, and the full-time services of professional tour director Patrick Long. A tax-deductible portion of the cost goes to college scholarships and programs. Limited space remains. Last day to sign up unless the tour fills earlier: February 28, 2006.

▼ What's ahead in years to come: Scotland with Paul Zingg, President (golf emphasis, August 2006); Spain with Steve Lewis, History (January 2006); England with Jeanne Lawrence, History/Humanities (garden emphasis, May 2007); Germany with David Rothe, Music (June 2007); Tuscany with Brunella Windsor, Foreign Languages and Literatures (May 2008).

For information, contact Thomasin Saxe at 530-898-4642 or e-mail her at

tsaxe@csuchico.edu, or check out our Website: <http://www.csuchico.edu/hfa/travel/> ▼

Arts and Letters 2004-05 is on the Web:

<http://www.csuchico.edu/hfa/artsletters>. If you have news to share or know of people who would enjoy receiving this HFA bimonthly update by email, please contact Thomasin Saxe, director of special projects, tsaxe@csuchico.edu or 530.898-4642. Please use the following reply form if you like:

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Choose which apply: faculty— staff— alum— student— donor— interested community member—