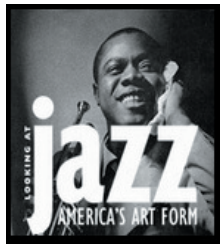


FOOTNOTES¹

News from Libraries and Media Services

Vol. 16, No. 3 January 2007



Looking at: Jazz, America's Art Form

You are invited to a six-part film discussion series being offered this spring. "Looking At: Jazz" explores the cultural and social history of jazz as it developed as an art form in the U.S. The series will open with

a guest lecture on Thursday, February 1, presented by Dr. Jeanne Houck, the series curator, and Dr. Krin Gabbard, a consultant to the series and professor at Stony Brook University. The full schedule extends across three campuses:

Thursday, February 1, 7 p.m.
Opening Lecture
Kent Campus, University Auditorium

Wednesday, February 7, 7 p.m.
New Orleans and the Origins of Jazz
Stark Campus, Main Hall Auditorium

Wednesday, February 21, 7 p.m.
The Jazz Age and Harlem as a Center for Jazz
Trumbull Campus, 117 Technology Building

Wednesday, March 7, 7 p.m.
The Jazz Vocalists
Kent Campus, University Auditorium

Wednesday, March 21, 7 p.m.
The Swing Era
Stark Campus, Main Hall Auditorium

Wednesday, April 4, 7 p.m.
Jazz Innovators: Bebop, Hard Bop, Cool and More
Trumbull Campus, 117 Technology Building

Wednesday, April 18, 7 p.m.
Latin Jazz and Jazz as an International Music
Kent Campus, University Auditorium

This film discussion series will highlight strengths that exist across the entire University system. Through the discussion of music, and specifically jazz, as a social, cultural and historical phenomenon, audiences will have the opportunity to look closely at a wide array of everyday issues through an art form that often embodies deep personal significance. Discussions will be led by members of Kent State's faculty in Music, History, Journalism and Mass Communication and guests with expertise in American Studies, Comparative Literature and Political Science.

LMS is one of 50 institutions nationwide serving as a pilot site for this film discussion series. The project is supported by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). For more information, go to <http://www.library.kent.edu/lookingatzjazz> or contact Daniel Boomhower, Librarian for the Performing Arts (dboomhow@kent.edu).



Library Live: An Information and Resources Conference

Libraries and Media Services invites you to a one-day conference for faculty and graduate assistants on Friday, February 16, to discover the library resources and services available to assist with your teaching and research.

Learn about electronic books, databases, alerting services, audio reserves, "do-it-yourself" video, and survey tools available through the library to save you time in the classroom and in your own research. Get the library's take on the tools your students use like Google and Wikipedia.

When: Friday, February 16, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Where: Main Library, Kent Campus

Who should attend: Faculty and graduate assistants

Why attend: To learn about library resources and services that can save you time, support your research, and help improve your teaching.

What: Hands-on workshops, demonstrations, and Q&A sessions on such topics as:

- Delivering online journals to your desktop
- Detecting plagiarism
- Creating do-it-yourself video
- Using iTunes in the classroom
- Working with Wikipedia

What else: Refreshments, lunch, giveaways, and door prizes.

For a full schedule and online registration, see the conference Web site: <http://www.library.kent.edu/librarylive>. Conference is limited to the first 125 registrants.

For questions or additional information, contact Mary Lee Jensen, Head of Instructional Services (mjensen@kent.edu), Julie Gedeon, Coordinator of Assessment (jgedeon@kent.edu) or phone the Reference & Instruction office at 330-672-3045.

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¹ Published for Libraries and Media Services by Information Services Department

<http://www.library.kent.edu/footnotes/>

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E-Book Highlights



Annual Reviews

<http://www.annualreview.org>

The Annual Reviews collection contains authoritative, analytic reviews of significant primary literature in the areas of biology, biomedicine, chemistry, physics, sociology, and related disciplines. This is the online, full-text version of the printed *Annual Review of...* series. Coverage of the 32 reviews is from 1998 to the present.

Electronic Reference Books (ABC-CLIO)

<http://rave.ohiolink.edu/ebooks/reference/home>

Electronic Reference Books (ABC-CLIO) is a collection of reference books – encyclopedias, handbooks, biographical collections, guides – on many specialized topics, primarily in the humanities and social sciences. Books are published by ABC-CLIO, an educational reference publisher. The total number of e-books in this collection now is 501.

For a listing of books by subject category, go to <http://olc9.ohiolink.edu/ABC-CLIO/subject-list.html>. To search the entire collection, go to <http://rave.ohiolink.edu/ebooks/reference/home>. The search feature now includes a “bookbag” which allows you to save selected books in a temporary space. You can then do a search on that specific set. You can also e-mail, display, or save bibliographic information for your selected books.

Recent additions to this collection include:

- *The Crusades: An Encyclopedia*
- *Genetic Engineering: A Reference Handbook (2d ed.)*
- *Industrial Revolution in America: Automobiles*
- *Pop Culture Germany!: Media, Arts, and Lifestyle*
- *World Fascism: A Historical Encyclopedia*



Safari Tech Books Online

<http://proquest.safaribooksonline.com/?uicode=ohiolink>

Safari Books Online offers electronic reference libraries for programming, IT, and business professionals. Over 4,000 technical books are available and completely searchable. This makes it possible to search the entire collection and quickly pinpoint specific information.

Safari includes all tables, graphics and diagrams in line with text, just as they appear in the printed books. In order to view the full content of any book, you must first place it on My Bookshelf. Most Safari titles are formatted to optimize presentation in a Web browser. For “graphically rich” books, a representation of the printed page is displayed. However, all search capabilities are available for these types of books as well.

Oxford Scholarship Online

<http://www.oxfordscholarship.com/>

Oxford Scholarship Online is a cross-searchable library containing the full text of over 1,200 Oxford books in the areas of economics and finance, philosophy, political science, and religion. Over 60 new titles will be added early in 2007. It site offers the following:

- Full search capability, including full-text
- Extensive reference linking from bibliographies and footnotes
- Capability for creating direct links to individual chapters for online course packs and reading lists
- Printer-friendly format
- Automatic export feature for citations into RefWorks, Endnote, Reference Manager, and ProCite

Oxford Reference Online

<http://www.oxfordreference.com>

Oxford Reference Online contains entries from over 100 major discipline-related dictionaries and other publications from Oxford University Press. Coverage includes the sciences, foreign languages, art and architecture, politics, business, literature and more. Three new titles have been added:

Dictionary of American Family Names: “...contains more than 70,000 of the most commonly occurring surnames in the United States, giving their comparative frequencies, linguistic and historical explanations, selected associated forenames, and occasional genealogical notes.”

Encyclopedia of Rhetoric: “...the most wide-ranging reference work of its kind, combining theory, history, and practice, with a special emphasis on public speaking, performance, and communication.”

Oxford Encyclopedia of Mesoamerican Cultures: “...the first comprehensive reference source to chronicle Pre-Hispanic, colonial, and modern Mesoamerica, defined as the lands stretching from Mexico to the southern tip of Central America.”

KentLINK: A Key Tool for Accessing Electronic Resources

The Libraries strive to make it possible to identify and connect to electronic resources through KentLINK. Recently added to KentLINK were nearly 1,800 records for the *English Poetry* collection and 1,200 records for the *ACLS History E-book* collection.

Library Updates

Overflow Crowds at the SMS

During the last weeks of fall semester more than 500 students per week came to use the facilities and support services of the Student Multimedia Studio. But many others left because there were no available workstations. We want to be able to help every student who walks through our front door, and faculty can help in three ways:

1. Advise your students to visit the SMS between 9 a.m. and noon. Mornings, even during the last few weeks of the semester, are still relatively slow. After noon it may be hard, if not impossible, for your students to find an open workstation in the lab or to receive one-on-one help.
2. Think about moving project deadlines. With almost every major project deadline falling during the last week of the semester, the lab is overwhelmed with procrastinating students. If projects can be completed and turned in earlier in the semester, that would be great. If not, see #1 above.

Many other projects are due the fourth week of the semester. If just a few faculty could move their due dates to the 3rd, 7th and 11th weeks, that would be a great help. If not, see #1 above.

3. Take advantage of our in-class demonstrations and workshops. We've noticed that fewer students need support after these sessions than students from classes that didn't have them. Just contact us to schedule a workshop in your lab or classroom or in the library during your regular class meeting times.

New tutorials and free software: The SMS has posted a number of new tutorials on its Website. Faculty are encouraged to preview them and then refer those that are appropriate for their assigned projects to their students. Be sure to look at the Audio Essays and Digital Stories Tutorials (<http://www.library.kent.edu/page/10025>).

Included with these tutorials are links to free software needed for these projects that students can download and install on their personal computers, as well as links to free music, sound effects, and graphics.

For more information about the SMS contact Gary Mote, SMS Manager (gmote@kent.edu) or go to <http://www.library.kent.edu/sms>.

Phone Relay Service Available at the Library

The Main Library Information Commons now offers hearing impaired users access to a phone relay service. To use, a user requests the remote control for the system from the Circulation Desk, where it has been placed on reserve. A camera enables the user to sign information to the offsite operator who then speaks (or signs) to the third party.



Medical Images Now Available

Through shared funding with OhioLINK access is now available to *images.MD* (<http://www.images.md>), the online encyclopedia of medical images.

images.MD features more than 48,000 high-quality medical images, each one accompanied by authoritative text from 2,000 of the world's leading medical experts. More than 90 subject collections can be found on the site ranging from allergies to cardiology, from neurology to urology, making this a useful resource for many in the health sciences.

Statistical Software Updates

New versions of SPSS and AMOS are now available from Audio Visual Services on the 3rd floor of the Main Library. SPSS 15.0 includes enhanced graphics using the Chart Builder interface and additional output capabilities. AMOS 7.0 has expanded statistical options based on Bayesian estimation.

NOTE: SPSS 13.0 and 14.0 are currently still supported. There is no absolute need for users to upgrade to 15.0 at this time if their needs are met by their current copies of SPSS. This is also true of AMOS 6.0. Current plans call for public computer labs to be upgraded to 15.0 following end of classes, Spring 2007.

For more information, contact Jan Winchell, Statistical Software Consultant, Libraries & Media Services (winchell@kent.edu or 330-672-8548). Additional information on statistical software can be found at <http://www.library.kent.edu/statsoftware>.

Changes at the Electronic Journal Center

The OhioLINK Electronic Journal Center has a new interface that promises to offer better performance and more functionality. New features include:

- My Articles – This function of My EJC allows you to save articles for easy reference later.
- One-click can now yield similar articles in the EJC.
- Collapsible/expandable panels allow for faster browsing of titles with extensive numbers of issues or long back files.
- Quick links to the complete article from both the issue and article level page gets you to the full-text article more quickly.

Other favorite functions are still available, including:

- Journal alerts – Get new issue alerts via RSS feed or go to My EJC and create an account to identify a list of favorite journals and set up e-mail notifications.
- My Searches – Save searches and set times for the system to automatically execute them and e-mail the results. [You can migrate your saved searches from the old system to the new one -- instructions are at <http://olc7.ohiolink.edu/whatsnew/archives/000177.html>].

More News



Archiving Our Digital Heritage

<http://www.archive.org/>

The **Internet Archive** is a non-profit organization founded in 1996 “with the purpose of offering permanent access for researchers, historians, and scholars to historical collections that exist in digital format.” The site offers archives of content in a variety of formats, including:

- **Moving Images:** “This collection contains thousands of videos which range from classic full-length movies, to daily alternative news broadcasts, to user-uploaded videos of every genre.”
- **Live Music:** “etree.org is a community committed to providing the highest quality live concerts in a lossless, downloadable format. The Internet Archive has teamed up with etree.org to preserve and archive as many live concerts as possible for current and future generations to enjoy. All music in this Collection is from trade-friendly artists and is strictly noncommercial, both for access here and for any further distribution. Artists’ commercial releases are off-limits.”
- **Audio:** “This collection ranges from alternative news programming, to Grateful Dead concerts, to Old Time Radio shows, to book and poetry recordings, to original music contributed by users.”
- **Texts:** “This collection is open to the community for the contribution of any type of text, many licensed using Creative Commons licenses (<http://creativecommons.org/>).”

The **Wayback Machine** is another Internet Archive feature that began in 1996 with the goal of archiving the entire World Wide Web. A snapshot is taken of the Web every 2 months and archived at the site, making it possible for you to search for any Web address and view its changes overtime. The Wayback Machine now has 85 billion archived Web pages and reports getting 300 requests per second. The database contains over 1.5 petabytes of data (or 1.5 million gigabytes).

This effort to preserve our cultural Web heritage includes special archives. The listing of these very special collections can be found at <http://www.archive.org/web/web.php> and includes:

- **Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Web Archive** (covered Sept.4-Nov.8, 2005, 25 million unique documents)
- **September 11, 2001 Archive** (cooperative effort with Library of Congress and others to collect over 30,000 selected Web sites covering September 11, 2001 through December 1, 2001)
- **Election 2000 Archive** (includes candidate and party Web sites, news coverage)

OhioLINK Guidelines for Ohio Scholars

After years of negotiating electronic access for Ohio institutions, OhioLINK has learned more of what can be done to ensure long-term access to the research of Ohio scholars. The consortium recently released recommendations for scholarly authors and institutions to retain the rights to disseminate their works electronically. The recommendation document, including a sample author publication agreement, is available for downloading at <http://www.ohiolink.edu/journalcrisis>.

The recommendations to Ohio institutions, faculty and other researchers include:

- Publish in journals that have responsible rights policies whenever possible.
- Retain the non-exclusive right to make works openly accessible and usable for the author’s own non-commercial educational and research purposes.
- Deposit works in a campus repository or the Ohio Digital Resource Commons so that those works are available to scholars in Ohio and beyond.

Move to Open Access

Nature Publishing Group (NPG) has announced that its academic and society journals will open access to all online content published before January 2003. [Note: this does not include the various *Nature* journals]. The decision to open the journal archives as made jointly by NPG and the societies for which it publishes. The move is intended to encourage wider usage of the older content and help address the issue of perpetual access to archives of society-owned journals that can transfer between publishers. The publications listing can be found at: <http://www.nature.com/siteindex/index.html>.

More Consolidation Likely in Scholarly Publishing

In November 2006 John Wiley & Sons announced an agreement to acquire Blackwell Publishing Ltd. Both firms are major publishers in the areas of science, technology, and medicine. Their merged production will include approximately 1,250 scholarly, peer-reviewed journals and an extensive collection of books.

The Information Access Alliance has asked the U.S. Department of Justice to review the proposed merger. Blackwell is presently a privately held company and has maintained a relatively modest price structure. A recent study showed Wiley, on the other hand, had the highest average cost per article among the six largest commercial publishers. There is concern that if this merger takes place that prices will increase significantly.



A Note from the Dean

Mark Weber, Dean of Libraries and Media Services
mwweber@kent.edu

Eating in a Chinese Restaurant

“Education’s purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one.”
- - Chinese Proverb - - (found inside a fortune cookie)

I.

While having lunch in a Chinese restaurant in Kent, I opened the customary fortune cookie to find the above quote. Is it an ancient Chinese proverb? I have no idea. However, whatever its origins, it contains some wisdom. Why? Well, because it indicates that the opposite of an empty mind is not a full mind; but rather an open mind. This quotation made me think of the late Allan Bloom (1930-1992). Probably not remembered much these days, Bloom studied under Leo Strauss at the University of Chicago and was probably Strauss’ most celebrated intellectual successor. Probably few persons outside of the academy would have ever heard of Bloom were it not for his friendship with celebrated novelist Saul Bellow. In the mid-1980’s, Bellow encouraged Bloom to put down on paper his thoughts on the state of higher education, culture, philosophy, and society. The result was the *Closing of the American Mind*, which was published by Simon and Schuster in 1987. Saul Bellow provided the introduction. Most observers felt that this book, monumental though it was, would sell a few thousand copies to libraries and then disappear from the intellectual landscape.

II.

When the book, out of nowhere, became a bestseller, it created a storm of controversy. Bloom was hailed by some and damned by others. However, among those who took notice, it was clear that Bloom had produced the best-known and most widely-read Straussian text in the United States. This was not always welcome news since many academics and political journalists considered Strauss to be the “father” of neoconservatism, and an “enemy” of liberal democracy. An excellent example of this mindset is *Leo Strauss and the American Right* (St. Martin’s Press, 1997) written by Shadia Drury. Several years ago, at the Friends of the Library Dinner, our speaker was Pamela Jensen, Professor of Political Science at Kenyon College and a graduate of Kent State in the late 1960’s. In my introduction, I mentioned that Professor Jensen was influenced by Leo Strauss. Several weeks later, an attendee at the dinner cornered me in the local bank and frostily informed me that today we can see the ideas of Strauss secretly at work on the Supreme Court in the opinions of conservative Justice Clarence Thomas. Hmmmmmm...

III.

The central thesis of the *Closing of the American Mind* is that we have become so indiscriminate and lacking

in any genuine moral standards that truth is seen as relative and as something that varies from person to person and from culture to culture. Writing in the book’s introduction, Professor Bloom observes that “there is one thing a professor can be absolutely sure of: almost every student entering the university believes, or says that he believes, that truth is relative (p.25).” This is the bedrock upon which our view of other cultures, both contemporary and ancient, is based. The equivalency argument is that all cultures of the world are more or less equal. We have no right to criticize other cultures, so the argument goes, because all truth is relative. This condition of cultural relativism has reached such an advanced stage that now textbook companies have their own “anti-bias” committees, the members of which carefully vacuum the language of each textbook so that words or sentences are either removed or rewritten in order that no offense will be given to any group or community. This sad process produces texts that are dull, uninteresting, and scarcely worth their exorbitant cost. For more on this, please see Diane Ravitch’s fine book, *The Language Police* (New York: Knopf, 2003). This outrageous condition also includes the rewriting, in textbooks, of excerpts of age-appropriate classics so that no offense of any kind could possibly be given to any person or group.

IV.

As he introduces readers to his book, Professor Bloom asks the following question: given the current state of cultural relativism in the academy and among the opinion-making elite of this country, consider the quandary faced by a fictional British administrator in India in, say, 1890. Does he permit the continuance of the practice of the suttee (the burning of the widow of a deceased man) because he considers it to be inhuman; or does he permit it to continue because it is an “integral” part of indigenous culture and because to ban it would be just another case of Western cultural imperialism? What if a survey of college first-year students showed that many felt that Adolph Hitler should not come in for any special criticism because he was simply a “man of his time?” Perhaps this is where our current devotion to cultural relativism will lead: to a denial that there are natural rights that stand outside the context of any particular culture and to a denial that there are any absolute truths. All truths and values, we are told, depend on culture, time, and place. I’m glad I dusted off my old copy of the *Closing of the American Mind* by Allan Bloom, and I am glad I bit into that fortune cookie. My hope for 2007 is that it is not too late to preserve the open minds of our students.

FRIENDS'

CORNER



Black History Month Lecture

Please plan to join us for this year's Black History Month lecture which will be Thursday, February 8, at 4 p.m. in Room 319, Kent Student Center.

This year's speaker will be Lee H. Walker, president of The New Coalition for Economic and Social Change and a senior fellow of The Heartland Institute. Mr. Walker graduated from Fordham University, majoring in economics with additional studies at the University of Chicago, New York University, Brooklyn College, and Alabama State University.

He says that a quotation from Booker T. Washington has guided his life: "I have learned that success is to be measured, not so much by the position one has reached in life, as by the obstacles which have been overcome while trying to succeed." Mr. Walker will speak on "What is Conservative Multiculturalism?"

Honors College Thesis Fellowships Sponsored by Libraries and Media Services

Hy Kritzer Memorial Thesis Fellowship

Beth Watson is from Bulger, Pennsylvania, and a psychology major with a minor in human sexuality. Beth is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta (the freshman honorary) and Psi Chi (the psychology honorary) and has studied Italian intensively in a summer program in Italy. She hopes to present her thesis research at the Midwestern Psychological Association conference and to pursue a Ph.D. in clinical psychology.

Tyler Gaston Memorial Thesis Fellowship

Nicole Steward from Bedford, Ohio, will graduate in May with University Honors. She is a sociology major with minors in women's studies, human sexuality, and lesbian, gay, and transgender studies. Last summer Nicole presented the results of her summer research at the Southern Demography Association conference. She plans to pursue graduate study.



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