THE ARTS, THE CITY AND ME: ENCOUNTERS WITH NEW YORK





- 1. Sept. 8 Intro to the readings, films, visits, & assignments; our blog The city: its geography, history and cultural riches
- Th Sept. 11 commemorations of 9/11
- Sept. 15
 Wisława Szymborska "Photograph from September 11" &
 Deborah Garrison "I Saw You Walking" The art of remembering; collective and personal memory Discussion of *Let the Great World Spin*

Sept. 15 at 6:30 pm in NAC 4/148 Monday Evening 1: Man on the Wire, dir. by James Marsh

Sept. 20 or 21 at Macaulay College: Art Media Workshop – working on videos The Night at the Museum (9/ 3 visit at the Brooklyn Museum)

- Sept. 22
 Walt Whitman "Mannahatta" &

 Nicholas Christopher "Construction Site, Windy Night" The art as a sensual experience; powers of imagination <u>On poetry and literature</u> Cont. discussion of *Let the Great World Spin* & the film *Man on the Wire*
- W Sept. 24 no classes. College open Rosh Hashanah Jewish New Year
 - Th Sept. 25 at 7:30 pm Metropolitan Opera: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart *Le nozze di Figaro* (to be confirmed)
- 4. Sept. 29
 Langston Hughes "The Weary Blues" &

 Billy Collins "Man Listening to Disc"
 On opera; the art of singing; the art of listening
 Discussion of our "night at the opera" (including architecture of Metropolitan Opera and environment of Lincoln Center) and Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*.
 Excerpts of libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte

Oct. 3-4 no classes. College open – Yom Kippur

Written assignment #1 (ind.) due October 6:

Reflection on and response to the first part of the course, i. e. one novel, one opera, one movie, at least six poems, and four class sessions. (In the form of Journal, with typed and dated entries.)



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- 5. Oct. 6
 Galway Kinnell "Room of Return" &
 Edward Hirsch "Man on Firescape" Art and craft <u>On dance</u>: the art of movement, i. e. unfolding in time & space Presentation and discussion of Written Ass. #1
 - Oct. 6 at 6:30 pm in NAC 4/148 MoME 2: Dancemaker dir. by Matthew Diamond
 - F Oct. 10 at 8 pm the City Center: Fall for Dance Lucinda Childs Dance Co., Semperoper Ballet Dresden, Company Sébastian Ramirez & Honji Wang, & Alvin Ailey Am. Dance Co. (to be confirmed)
- St. Oct. 11 Macaulay Photo Day
 - M Oct. 13 no classes. College closed Columbus Day
- Oct. 20
 William Carlos Williams "The Great Figure" &

 Denise Levertov "The Cabdriver's Smile"
 Discussion of the performances of Fall for Dance and the film Dancemaker
 On photography & cinema
 The art of showing; point of view
 Presentation of students' snapshots from 10/11, with short written comments
 - Oct. 20 at 6:30 pm in NAC 4/148 MoME 3: American Journey: In Robert Frank Footsteps, doc. film by Philippe Séclier
 - St. Oct. 25 Al-Hijra Islamic New Year

Written assignment #2 (working in small groups of 2-3 students) due Oct .27:

"Scenes from the City: Art in Public Space" – find, identify, and describe an interesting example of art in public space (monuments and portraits in bronze; commemorative markers; celebrations of civic achievements in commerce and culture; portals of churches and religious statues; art of graveyards; murals; graffiti; temporary art installations, et al). Use words and images in preparing your presentation. Explain convincingly your choice.

- 7. Oct. 27 Excerpts from writings by June Jacobs et al. <u>Art in Public Space</u>: "official" vs. subversive art; art and social responsibility Discussion of film *American Journey: In Robert Frank Footsteps* Presentation and discussion of Written Ass. #2
 - Th Oct. 30 at 7:30 pm Brooklyn Academy of Music Harvey Theatre: Luigi Pirandello, Six Characters in Search of an Author (to be confirmed)

Oct. 31 Halloween; 1- 2 Nov. All Saints & All Souls Day

Nov. 3
 Frederico Garcia Lorca "Dawn" &

 Willie Perdomo "123rd Street Rap"
 <u>On theatre</u>; the art as a communal experience
 Discussion of Pirandello's play & performance by Théâtre de la Ville

Nov. 3 at at 6:30 pm in NAC 4/148 MoME 4: The Waste Land by Lucy Walker

Th Nov. 6 at 8 pm Carnegie Hall: Orchestra of St. Luke's, cond. by Pablo Heras-Casado – music of Henry Purcell, Tchaikovsky, Dallapiccola & Mendelssohn (to be confirmed)

Baryshnikov: "I am a performer. I go on stage and make a fool of myself."



Written assignment #3 (small groups of 2 or 3 students) due Dec. 1:

"The Art of Choosing": Choose one theatrical performances (at the Theatre for the New Audience, the Flea, the Public Theatre, BAM, the New York Theatre Workshop, the Signature, CSC); b) one of major exhibitions (at MoMA, Metropolitan Museum, Frick Collection, Guggenheim, Asia Society); and c) any other visual or performing arts event. Prepare a thoughtful report – for oral and written presentation. See separate handout.

Note: due Nov. 10th a statement presenting who is working together; what do you plan to see, when and where; and explanation of your reasons for specific choices.

9.	Nov. 10	 Martín Espada "The Owl and the Lightning" &
		Thomas M. Disch "The Argument Resumed; or, Up Through Tribeca"
		On music; art and spiritual experience
		Discussion of the documentary The Waste Land & Thursday's concert.
		Presentation of small groups' plans and on-going visits

10. Nov. 17 Discussion of Patti Smith, *Just Kids* Art as individual quest; various forms of collaboration Discussion of on-going visits and of the class website

Date TBA - A visit to the artist studio (to be confirmed)

- 11. Nov. 24 poems suggested by students Cont. discussion of *Just Kids* <u>On museum experience</u> (are museums outdated? are they vital cultural institutions? for what purpose?); museum vs. art galleries Cont. discussion of on-going visits
 - Th Nov. 27 Thanksgiving Day Nov. 27-30 no classes College closed

12.	Dec. 1	 poems suggested by students Art as on-going debate Presentation and discussion of final reports "The Art of Choosing" Visitor: Daniel Kelly (musician, story-teller, cultural activist) – to be confirmed
13.	Dec. 8	 poems songs suggested by students Cont. presentation and discussion of final reports Work on the class website
14.	Dec. 15	Last day of classes: the class website and celebration