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Bowling Green State University

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BGSU Monitor

OCTOBER 25, 2010

B O W L I N G G R E E N S T A T E U N I V E R S I T Y

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Berg fills need for French cinema textbook

A new book by Dr. R.-J. Berg, *French*, is destined to be a welcome and indispensable guide to French cinema and to the study of film itself for French-speaking teachers and students of film.

Published in July by Yale University Press, *À la rencontre du cinéma français* is written in French primarily for French audiences. It will be marketed in North America and in Europe. Though in the United States there are several excellent textbooks on cinematic style and technique, there is an inexplicable dearth of them in France, Berg said—especially unexpected in a country that has been at the forefront of innovation in filmmaking.

The book has received an enthusiastic endorsement from none other than Michel Mourlet, a well-known writer and film critic in France (as well as a comrade-in-arms with Berg in the fight against the invasion of “franglais” into the French language). Mourlet writes, “I have known few works on cinema that have given me such an impression of competence and wisdom.”

“I’m very fortunate and honored to have found Michel Mourlet as the foreword writer,” Berg said appreciatively. Berg is also the author of three widely used textbooks on French literature and business French.

À la rencontre does not assume any previous knowledge of French cinema or background in film studies, though, as Berg writes in the preface, “It will help to like movies, and to have seen quite a few.”

It can serve as the core textbook for upper-level undergraduate and graduate French classes. Through a well-thought-out presentation of information, Berg’s goal was maximum flexibility. The book concentrates on stylistic analysis, or “close viewing,” but it can also be used in courses based on content, theme or issues, on a particular genre or movement, on the adaptation of narrative into film, or a number of other areas of study.

However, the book stands out in that Berg is adamant that film must be studied primarily as film—apart from any “issues” or “content.” Berg writes, “In a very real sense, the form is the film, and we, as students of film, need to study it.”

To that end, he takes as the basis of study two popular, influential and widely available movies, “A bout de souffle (Breathless)” Jean-Luc Godard’s 1960 masterpiece, and the more recent “Le fabuleux destin d’Amélie Poulain (Amélie),” both of which contain ample examples of film technique for a thorough examination of how directorial choices shape the work. Straightforward diagrams and definitions of terms are provided as background, and students engaged in a close study can directly see how it all applies to the films.

Berg also includes a section for classes engaged in making a film, with step-by-step instructions and even a prize for the best short film each year.

An accompanying website contains resources such as sample tests and quizzes, Web-based research projects and a forum page through which students may query Berg.

À la rencontre du cinéma français is so thorough that Mourlet compares it to the foremost other two “Roberts” —the “little Robert” and “big Robert” dictionaries of the French language. “Here is the ‘Robert Berg’ of the French cinema,” Mourlet writes.

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IN BRIEF

Award-winning teacher speaks at BGSU

LouAnne Johnson, author of *My Posse Don't Do Homework* and *Teaching Outside the Box*, will speak at 7 p.m. Thursday (Oct. 28) in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater. Johnson, whose *My Posse* book was made into the 1995 film "Dangerous Minds" starring Michelle Pfeiffer, is a nationally acclaimed teacher who previously was an award-winning U.S. Navy journalist and Marine Corps officer.

Her talk, based on her book *Muchacho*, is part of the Centennial Speakers Series sponsored by the School of Teaching and Learning in the College of Education and Human Development. The program is free and open to educators and the public. She is also offering a presentation for students at 10 a.m. Friday (Oct. 29) in 101A Olscamp Hall on "Teaching Outside the Box."

In 1989, Johnson began teaching reading and writing to non-English speakers as an intern at a California high school. Two years later she was appointed department chair of a special program for at-risk teens, which earned accolades for improving self-esteem, student retention and academic achievement of its students.

Johnson, who is an assistant professor of teacher education at Santa Fe Community College, received a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in teaching English. Additional books she has written include *The Girls in the Back of the Class*; *School Is Not a Four-Letter Word*; *Two Parts Textbook, One Part Love*; *Queen of Education* and *Muchacho*. Some of her books will be available at her evening presentation. In addition to her numerous speaking engagements, she has appeared on CNN, "Oprah," CBS "Eye to Eye," "NBC Weekend Today," "Maury Povich" and "Tom Snyder."

For more information about her presentation at BGSU, contact the School of Teaching and Learning, 2-7320, stl@bgsu.edu or debrown@bgsu.edu.

CALENDAR

Monday, Oct. 25

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "Writing and Higher-Order Thinking in Larger Classes Using Calibrated Peer Review," 9-10 a.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at <http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page56598.html>.

ARTalks 100@100 Alumni Lecture, "Wild Animals, Heroic Men and Beautiful Women/Power and Play in Malian Masquerade," with Mary Jo Arnoldi, art historian and curator, 6 p.m., 1101 Fine Arts Center.

Tuesday, Oct. 26

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "Service-Learning in Leisure Service for Older Adults," 9:30-10:30 a.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at <http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html>.

EcoBreak Seminar, with Katie Klotz, 11:30 a.m., 332 Life Sciences Building. Hosted by

the Department of Biological Sciences.

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "Active Learning and Problem-based Learning Strategies," 1-2 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at <http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html>.

Tuesdays at the Gish Film Series, "D.O.A." (U.S. 1950), 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Concert, featuring Student Jazz Combos, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Wednesday, October 27

Latino Issues Conference, "Latino Image," with keynote speaker Enrique Morones of Border Angels; faculty-led discussion sessions and Latino-themed luncheon. 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., 202A Union. The 11:30 a.m. luncheon is \$10. Hosted by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

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Brown Bag Series, "On the Move: The Lives of Migrant Women," presented by Jen Bartimole and Conor Harmon, MACIE students, noon-1 p.m., Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "CLA in the Classroom: Developing Critical Thinking and Analytical Writing Skill Using Performance Tasks," 1-2 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at <http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page69735.html>.

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "Using e-Portfolios to Foster Intentional Learning," 2:30-3:30 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at <http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html>.

Biology Seminar, "Large-Scale Analysis of Yeast Filamentous Growth ... And Other Potentially Fun Things," with Dr. Anuj Kumar, University of Michigan Life Sciences Institute, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Life Sciences Building.

Faculty Scholar Series, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Thursday, Oct. 28

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "Effective Public Speaking in Academic Settings," 9-10:30 a.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at <http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html>.

Fire Safety at BGSU, with John Curlis, 10-11 a.m., 1003 Cedar Point Center, BGSU Firelands. Register online at <http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page22440.html>.

Women's Soccer vs. Miami, 3 p.m., Cochrane Field.

Centennial Speaker Series, featuring LouAnne Johnson, author of *My Posse Don't Do Homework* and subject of the film "Dangerous Minds," 7 p.m., 206 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Hosted by the School of Teaching and Learning, College of Education and Human Development.

International Film Series, "Anonyma-Eine Frau in Berlin (A Woman in Berlin)," Spain 2002, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

MFA Reading, featuring Jade Ramsey (poetry), and Allison Balaskovits (fiction), 7:30 p.m., Prout Chapel.

Concert, featuring the Trombone Choir and Trumpet Ensemble, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Friday, Oct. 29

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "Principles for Good Practice," 10-11 a.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at <http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page68950.html>.

Volleyball vs. Buffalo, Parents Night, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Concert, featuring New Voices, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Saturday, Oct. 30

Women's Swimming vs. Akron, 1 p.m., Cooper Pool.

Concert, featuring New Voices, 3 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Volleyball vs. Akron, Senior Day, 3 p.m., Anderson Arena

Sunday, Oct. 31

Concert, featuring New Voices, 3 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Sunday Matinee, "The Mark of Zorro" (U.S. 1940), 3 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Monday, Nov. 1

ARTalks 100@100 Alumni Lecutre, "With Space in Mind," with Erwin Redl, 7 p.m., 1101 Fine Arts Center.

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "Deep Learning: Can You Make It Happen?" 3-4 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at <http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page75113.html>.

Concert, featuring guest artist Yehonatan Berick, violin, and Laura Melton, piano, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Continuing Events

Oct. 26 through Dec. 5

Art Exhibition, featuring the work of Erwin Redl, Willard Wankelman Gallery, Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 6-9 p.m. Thursdays, and 1-4 p.m. Sundays.

Through Nov. 6

Planetarium Show, "Cowboy Astronomer." Shows at 7:30 p.m. Sundays; 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, and 2 p.m. Saturdays. \$1 donation suggested.

Through Nov. 12

Art Exhibit, "The BGSU Gallery of Centennial Facts." Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.

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JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

Human Movement, Sport and Leisure Studies. Assistant Professor. Call Lisa Bowe, 2-7234. Deadline: Dec. 15.

Labor Postings

<http://international.bgsu.edu/index.php?x=facinfohires>

Contact the Office of Human Resources at 419-372-8421 for information regarding classified and administrative positions. Position vacancy announcements may be viewed by visiting the HR website at <http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/>.

Employees wishing to apply for these positions must sign a "Request for Transfer" form and attach an updated resume or data sheet. This information must be turned in to Human Resources by the job deadline.

CLASSIFIED

On-campus classified:

http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/BGSU_only/page11151.html

Off-campus classified:

http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/cl_staff/page11145.html

ADMINISTRATIVE

http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/page11137.html

OBITUARY

There were no obituaries this week.