

HELPFUL LINKS

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Where Curiosity Never Retires

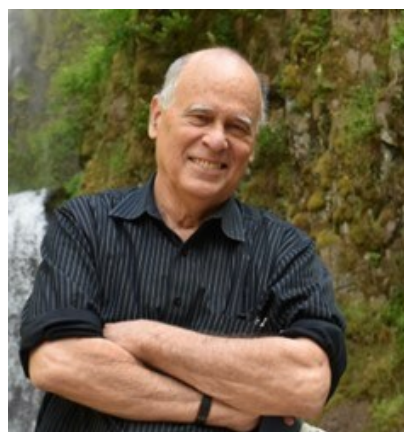


OLLI NEWS — March 31, 2023

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Today's Lecture: Online



Richard Walker, *The Living New Deal*

March 31

1:30-2:30 PM

[Zoom Link](#)

How can the New Deal, which seems like a vague memory from history books, be living? UC Berkeley Emeritus Professor Richard Walker will enlighten us about The Living New Deal, an organization that is uncovering the immense riches of New Deal public works and documenting and publicizing that massive legacy as well as preserving it.

Richard Walker is Professor Emeritus of Geography at UC Berkeley, where he taught from 1975 to 2012. He is author of scores of articles and six books, including classics in economic geography and the development of California. His latest book is *Pictures of a Gone City: Tech and the Dark Side of Prosperity in the San Francisco Bay Area* (2018). Walker's awards include Fulbright and Guggenheim Fellowships. He is currently Executive Director of the Living New Deal project.

This lecture will also be recorded for those who cannot attend live. Access [lecture recordings](#) (online lectures only) on the OLLI website under "Lectures/Events" and then "Lectures." Lecture recordings are uploaded on Mondays.

Next Week's Lecture: In-Person

Next week's lecture, as well as the remaining spring lectures, will be held in-person. **In-person lectures take place in Room A on the first floor at OLLI: 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW. Registration is required to attend in-person lectures.** Registration opens at 10:00 AM on the Friday prior to each lecture and is via an event on the [OLLI website events calendar](#) or the **direct link below.**



Mark Schneider, *The Threat of Growing Authoritarianism South of Our Border*

April 7

1:30-2:30 PM

In-person at OLLI

[Register](#)

What has happened to democracy in much of Central America, and what threats does it pose to the United States? These issues will be addressed by one of the United States' leading advocates for democracy and human rights in Latin America.

Mark L. Schneider is a Senior Adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in the Americas program and Human Rights Initiative, as well as at the Pan American Development Foundation. He also is an adjunct professor at American University. His public service career spans government, international organizations, civil society, and academia.

Schneider served as Director of the Peace Corps from 1999-2001 and as the Assistant Administrator

for Latin America and the Caribbean of the U.S. Agency for International Development from 1993-1999, during which time he oversaw for USAID the post conflict reconstruction programs in Central America and constitutional restoration in Haiti, among other responsibilities. Previously, Schneider served as the Principal Deputy Asst. Sec. of State in the Department's Office of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs from 1977-1979. He also served as a foreign policy advisor and speechwriter for Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

After retiring from government, Schneider served as Senior VP of the International Crisis Group from 2001 until March 2017, working on conflict prevention and responsibility to protect issues globally. Schneider was a Peace Corps Volunteer in El Salvador, has lectured in various universities, published numerous articles, appeared on major networks, testified frequently before Congress, and served on the American University Board of Trustees for 10 years. He has a BA from the University of California, Berkeley, and an MA from San Jose University.

Serendipity! Talk

Claire de Caumont-Luisi, *A Fascination with WWI Trench Art*

Wednesday, April 5

3:30-4:30 PM

In the midst of the First World War (1914-1918) a humble form of art emerged that was created by Allied soldiers who, gathering the debris of war from the battlefields around them, began to create artifacts of beauty, imagination and often of great artistry.

Trench art, as it became known from this period of trench warfare, stretches back to the Napoleonic Wars and doubtless far back into earlier historic conflicts. Examples of this battlefield art can be found in its various forms in many museums in the US and in Europe.

In WWI with the constant shooting over the trenches, countless numbers of empty artillery shell casings could be gathered. Many were very large brass casings which the soldier could form into different shapes and decorate. Using whatever tools were at hand, the artist could then puncture and etch elaborate patterns into the brass or twist the shell into fanciful forms.

Claire's collection contains 217 large brass sculptures and vases made from shell casings, each of which has its own story. She invites you to study the Allies' involvement in the war from the point of view of art, creativity, and commemoration.

Art collector and connoisseur of Trench Art, Claire Camont-Luisi, of French origin, has been living in Bethesda for the past 30 years in a house overflowing with dazzling items from her collection. Her passion for history has led her to be a Docent at the Library of Congress and at the George C. Marshall International Center, Dodona Manor, in Leesburg, VA. She is an avid collector of WWI Trench Art. She also restores highly-decorated Sicilian pony carts, each one an artistic treasure representing a unique area of Sicily, when she is not trying to practice Tai Chi. www.trenchartcollection.com

No registration is required. The Zoom link will be e-mailed to all those subscribed to the OLLI newsletter the morning of the talk.

President Lincoln's Cottage Tour

Saturday, May 6

In-Person Tour

1:00-3:00 PM

Registration Required; Tickets \$15/person

[View more information and register.](#)

Join us for a fascinating tour of “President Lincoln’s Cottage” and, if the weather cooperates, the Soldiers’ and Airmen’s Home National Cemetery, one of the country’s oldest national cemeteries. The Cottage is located on the beautiful grounds of the Armed Forces Retirement Home in the Brookland neighborhood of the District.

Registration is limited to the first 20 people that sign up. Ticket price is \$15/person for this event. This event will occur regardless of rainy weather.

Member Appreciation Week Fun



Thanks to all our members who participated in last week’s **Member Appreciation Week** and to OLLI at AU’s amazing Social Committee Chair, Jeff Porter, for making it happen! We had a wonderful time in the social space on the 5th floor enjoying treats and games with prizes each day. We culminated our week of thanks on Friday with sandwich wraps and a drawing for more prizes. It was such a pleasure to see everyone together in the social space enjoying each other’s company. We encourage all members to use this space to gather while enjoying complementary tea and coffee each day.

AU Events

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM

Spring Schedule

February 4-May 21

Friday-Sunday

11:00 AM-4:00 PM

Reservations are not required for your visit. Admission is always free. Regarding groups and any questions about your visit, email museum@american.edu or visit their [website](#).

Flipping the Narrative: Historical Collections as Sites of Cultural Diplomacy

Friday, March 31

1:00-3:00 PM

At The Phillips Collection

[Register](#)

The world's museums feature extensive collections of cultural material made by Indigenous Australians, collected over extended periods in the context of programs of disciplinary inquiry. The disciplines, their methods, and museums themselves today face a kind of public reckoning that not only questions the historical processes involved in the making of these collections, but also poses the question of what it means to maintain such collections and institutions. Underlying these questions is often the presumption that institutions operated and continue to operate without Indigenous agency, power, or control.

This lecture seeks to explore a different presumption: it considers museum collections as containing forms of historic cultural diplomacy enacted by Indigenous people themselves – as expressive of their desire to extend and deepen knowledges of culture and experience across cultural worlds. If we are prepared to recognize this as a legitimate form of agency, we can re-frame the world's museums, from sites of ongoing colonization and dispossession to sites of cultural strength with the potential to shape and inform stronger, intercultural futures.

Yolnu Ceremonial Performance

Friday, March 31

6:00 PM

Katzen Arts Center

[Register](#)

Yolŋu artists and leaders will provide a ceremonial performance with a procession, *yidaki* (didjeridu) and *bilma* (clapping sticks) to culturally and spiritually open the exhibition.

Matha Nupanmi: A Summit of Yolnu Art and Ideas

Saturday, April 1

9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Katzen Arts Center

[Register](#)

This day of conversations and short films will feature Yolŋu artists and leaders, curators, art historians and anthropologists exploring Yolŋu art and culture from a rich variety of perspectives.

Do The Loop

Saturday, April 22

11:00 AM-4:00 PM

Washington, DC: American University Museum at the Katzen Art Center, The Kreeger Museum, Dumbarton Oaks, Jackson Art Center, Addison/Ripley Fine Art, and Klagsbrun Studios collaborate for Do The Loop, a free day of indoor and outdoor art programming complete with shuttle service provided between locations. [View more information.](#)

Gail Rebhan: *About Time*

Presented by the Alper Initiative for Washington Art

February 4-May 21

[Register](#)

For better and worse, nothing stays still. DC artist Gail Rebhan (b. 1953) knows that well and this, her first museum retrospective, explores her many different ways over four decades of using and reconfiguring the time-slicing medium of photography to reflect on macro-and-micro-dynamics of interactions inside families—her own and that of other immigrants—on the centuries of change in diverse areas of the nation’s capital, and on the marks of time revealed on her body (along with periodic attempts to fight it) from young adult, to mother of two sons, then caregiver of an aging father, to the present as she continues making art and living while facing the start of her seventh decade. OLLI is excited to be a co-sponsor for this exhibit. There are several Gallery Talks for which you can register.

AMERICAN UNIVERISTY ARTS

Once, Directed by Colleen Sullivan

March 30-31: 8:00 PM

April 1: 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM

April 2: 2:00 PM

Harold and Sylvia Greenberg Theatre, 4200 Wisconsin Ave. NW

[Tickets](#)

Dublin, mid 2000s. An Irish busker meets a young Czech woman and in five days they discover the healing power of music together. In this soft-spoken story of romance, and cultural and musical chemistry, the cast sing and play their own instruments for all the songs, including the Oscar-winning *Falling Slowly* from the indie film *Once*.

American University Symphonic Band, *Notes on Hope*

April 15

3:00 PM

Abramson Family Recital Hall, Katzen Arts Center, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW

[Tickets](#)

AU Symphonic Band presents a variety of works ranging from the quirky to the profound, and from classical band canon to a work barely finished in time (by Matthew Brown, conductor). The program begins with "Early Light" by Carolyn Bremer, which incorporates thematic motives from the US National Anthem, and ends with "In Memoriam: Maidan" by Matthew Brown, which commemorates

the 2014 Maidan Revolution in Ukraine and incorporates thematic motives from Ukraine's National Anthem. The program is rounded out by profoundly hopeful works by Edward Elgar and Morten Lauridsen, and lighter offerings by Frank Erickson and John Mackey.

American University Chamber Singers, *Bach & Handel - Early Music Brilliance*

April 15: 7:30 PM

April 16: 3:00 PM

Abramson Family Recital Hall, Katzen Arts Center, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW

[Tickets](#)

Join the AU Chamber Singers for a memorable program of an exulted Bach Mass to Handel's brilliant and descriptive account of the biblical plagues set upon ancient Egypt. The 30-member Chamber Singers and student soloists are joined by period-instrument performers for what will be both exciting music making and an inspirational educational listening experience.

American University Jazz Ensemble, *Some Spring Swing*

April 21

7:00 PM

Katzen Arts Center Sculpture Garden, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW

[Tickets](#)

Swing into the season with the AU Jazz Ensemble playing Big Band swing, funk, and straight-ahead Jazz from a variety of composers.

American University Chorus, *On a Canvas of Silence*

April 22: 7:30 PM

April 23: 3:00 PM

Abramson Family Recital Hall, Katzen Arts Center, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW

[Tickets](#)

Conductor Leopold Stokowski once said, "A painter paints his pictures on canvas. But musicians paint their pictures on silence." Join the American University Chorus as they explore the nature of sound and silence, including a powerful performance of Jake Runestad's "A Silence Haunts Me."

DANCEWORKS 2023, Artistic Direction by Ama Law

April 21-22

7:30 PM

Harold and Sylvia Greenberg Theatre, 4200 Wisconsin Ave. NW

[Tickets](#)

DANCEWORKS 2023 features the stunning American University Dance Company performing choreographed works by guest artists, faculty, and students. The company has worked tirelessly to bring you a production that is not only captivating and compelling but filled with compassion. On stage expect to see themes of legacy, liberation and a bit of vocalization. Join us for a night that will showcase how we are continuing our mission to develop forward thinkers and creative doers in a moving world.

American University Symphony Orchestra, *Annexing Tchaikovsky*

April 29: 7:30 PM

April 30: 2:00 PM

Abramson Family Recital Hall, Katzen Arts Center, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW

[Tickets](#)

The AU Symphony Orchestra performs Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 2 ("Ukrainian"), Verdi's La Forza del Destino Overture, "Melody for Orchestra" by Ukrainian composer Myroslav Skoryk, Rachmaninov Piano Concerto no. 3 (1st movement), and other works. The student winner of the 2023 Concerto and Aria Competition, Bailey Hobbs, will appear as soloist.

AU CENTER FOR ISRAEL STUDIES

My Arabic is Mute: An Arab-Jewish Poet Reflects on Language and Identity

Monday, April 17

1:00-2:00 PM

[RSVP for Zoom Link](#)

Professor Lauren Strauss of AU's Jewish Studies Program and the Center for Israel Studies will interview poet Almog Behar about his writing and his "language" activism, and how Israel's current realities figure into his art and identity.

Almog Behar is an Israeli poet, fiction writer and essayist, and has also been called a "political language activist." He writes mostly in Hebrew, but also aims to restore the Arabic tongue to its place in Jewish culture. In Israel, Behar was awarded the prestigious Prime Minister's Prize for his body of work. He teaches at Tel Aviv University.

This program is hosted by the Center for Israel Studies and co-sponsored by the Department of Literature and Jewish Studies Program.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY MISSION

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University is an association of, by, and for the people in the Washington, DC area who wish to continue to study and learn.

OLLI at AU is dedicated to the proposition that learning is a lifelong process and that *curiosity never retires*.

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