

wellesleyweek



wellesley holds premiere of chamber music theatre work

On Thursday, Sept. 14 at 7 pm in Jewett Auditorium, the Davis Museum and Cultural Center will present the world premiere performance of *Angel of Memory*, a chamber music theatre work with text by Wellesley Professor of Spanish Marjorie Agosin. The work is stage directed by Akin Babatunde and performed and produced by the award-winning Core Ensemble. A reception with the artists will follow.

Angel of Memory tells a story of exile and return through the eyes of three Jewish women from three generations. They flee to Chile from Vienna before the Holocaust, are driven to the United States with the fall of Allende and return to a democratic Chile after the brutal reign of Pinochet.

Fascinating characters enter the lives of the women on their journey, including the widow of renowned Chilean folk singer Victor Jara (who was executed by Pinochet), the Madres of the Plaza del Mayo from Argentina and the immortal poet Pablo Neruda. A single actress portrays each of the three women.

The narrative unfolds through prose and poetry; the music plays an integral part in the drama, creating a sense of time, place and emotional atmosphere. Musical selections include works of Viennese composers such as Brahms and Schubert, Latin American popular music by Astor Piazzolla, songs by Violetta Parra and Victor Jara and new concert music by Boston composers Martin Brody, music, and Marti Epstein.

Writer Agosin is a leading poet and human rights activist. She is the author of nearly 40 books of poetry, fiction and literary criticism. She has been recognized by the United Nations for her leadership in human rights including her work with Hadassah. Winner of several distinguished prizes, she is a fellow of the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard University.

For more information, call x2034.



wellesley students share katrina relief reactions

This summer six Wellesley College students traveled to New Orleans to intern with the New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity. The goal was to support the mission of rebuilding the homes and communities affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The intern team included Christina Alvarez '08, Mimi An '08, Sejal Babaria '09, Danielle Briggs '09, Ana Phakhin '06 and Kristin Smith '07.

Alvarez interned with the St. Bernard Recovery Project, An in development and fundraising, Babaria in construction administration, Briggs in real estate, Phakhin with Family Services and Smith in the volunteer office. Here are some of their reflections:

"The opportunity to hear the stories of those affected by Hurricane Katrina has been an eye-opening experience," said Alvarez.

An noted, "As a student interested in working for nonprofits, I never realized the amount of work and collaboration needed in order to ensure that the organization is run as efficiently as possible."

Babaria found a sense of renewal there, saying, "New Orleans Habitat for Humanity has restored a bit of faith and hope that is slowly slipping away."

"It never fails to amaze me the sheer determination and courage that has been exhibited here, from families who have sacrificed everything to come back home to the equally heroic volunteers," noted Phakhin, while Smith said, "The people and organizations that are still here, remain here because they love this city and are dedicated to the people and unique culture." For more go to http://legallee.typepad.com/noahhod/2006/08/wellesley_colle.html



series on leadership

This fall Wellesley, Babson and Olin colleges will collaborate on a series of seminars titled "Issues in Leadership and Ethics." President Diana Chapman Walsh will begin the series with a lecture, "Trustworthy Leadership," Tuesday, Sept. 12. Each of the five seminars will take place in the Olin Center Auditorium from 4:30-5:30 pm and are free and open to the public.

The speakers will offer perspectives based on their research and experience in exercising leadership, often in difficult situations fraught with challenging ethical dilemmas. On Oct. 3, the series continues with Col. Thomas A. Kolditz of U.S. Military Academy at West Point, who will present "The In-Extremis Leader." Others are scheduled for Oct. 31, Nov. 7 and Nov. 14. For more information, contact Joseph Hunter at 781-292-2255.

WellesleyWeek is published each Monday during the academic year by the Office for Public Information. All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. For directions, go to www.wellesley.edu/CampusMaps/. Phone numbers are dialed 781 283-xxxx. Campus-sponsored event listings are welcome via an online form at www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/Forms/wellswkform.html or e-mail to wellesleyweekcalendar@wellesley.edu. Submissions can be mailed to WellesleyWeek, Office for Public Information, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley, MA 02481. Deadline for calendar submissions is noon on the Monday prior to publication. For paid subscriptions, call 781 283 2373. View **WellesleyWeek** online at www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/wellesleyweek.html. For more events, go to <https://calendar.wellesley.edu/wv3> for the online campus calendar.

news

new book details medieval religious transformation

Valerie Ramseyer, history, has published a new book, *The Transformation of a Religious Landscape: Medieval Southern Italy, 850-1150* (Cornell University Press, 2006). She paints a detailed picture of the variety of early medieval Christian practice and organization, as well as the diverse models of church reform.



From the archives of the abbey of the Holy Trinity in Cava, she reconstructed the complex religious history of southern Italy. She notes that no single religious or political figure claimed authority in the region before the 11th century; pastoral care was provided by small religious houses. The lines between secular and clergy, and between eastern and western religious practices,

silver takes a look at philanthropic partnerships

Ira Silver, sociology, has published *Unequal Partnerships: Beyond the Rhetoric of Philanthropic Collaboration* (Routledge, 2006), which examines the hierarchical relationship between philanthropic foundations and the organizations they fund. It investigates community-based organizations' attempts to assert influence over foundation funding priorities.

The book draws on research about community initiatives undertaken by foundations in U.S. cities that aimed to give community-based organizations unprecedented access to foundations' purse strings. A dilemma arose regarding these collaborations since founda-

tions maintained a vested interest in neighborhood revitalization reforms that the community organizations received grants to undertake.

“Ironically, it is precisely because these purported ‘partnerships’ required sponsors to cede some of their funding power that the initiatives enabled foundations to retain control over the kinds of antipoverty programs community-based organizations pursued,” said Silver, who now is researching the charitable response to Hurricane Katrina and how sudden natural disasters elicit much higher levels of giving than everyday human disasters.

“This interesting, intelligent and useful book makes a valuable contribution to the relatively limited Anglophone literature on early medieval southern Italy and to the wider literature on the early medieval church,” said Graham Loud, University of Leeds, while Chris Wickham, University of Birmingham, called it a “major contribution to the religious history of 10th-11th century Italy.”

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89 students complete summer research

A total of 89 students from Wellesley and other colleges conducted 10 weeks of research this summer on and off campus. Of these, 79 received stipends to work on campus with 44 faculty members in astronomy, biological chemistry, biological sciences, chemistry, computer science, cognitive and linguistic sciences, economics, environmental studies, geosciences, mathematics, neuroscience, physics, political science, psychology, sociology, women's studies and the Center for Research on Women. The Science Center program supported the off-campus research of 10 Wellesley students. Students presented their results at an all-campus poster session in August. Abstracts have been printed in a booklet, “Wellesley College Summer Research 2006.” For more information, call x3075.

colleagues

in the news

charles bu, mathematics, was a keynote speaker at the summer conference of the Bingxin Research Society in Fuzhou, China. Bingxin (1900-1999 and sometimes written as Bing Xin) earned a master's degree at Wellesley in 1926. She was one of the most influential Chinese writers in the 20th century, especially in children's literature. Bu presented the history and mission of Wellesley, the life of Bingxin here during the 1920's and his Wellesley experience as one of the first tenured faculty originally from the People's Republic of China. Wang Binggen, president of the Bingxin Research Society and director of the Bingxin Museum, announced that Bu has been elected as a vice president of the Bingxin Research Society.

kristin butcher, economics, has co-authored a paper, “Reading, Writing and Raisinets: Are School Finances Contributing to Children's Obesity?,” which has been written about in the *Wall Street Journal Econoblog*. Butcher and Patricia Anderson, economics, Dartmouth, examined whether schools under financial pressure are more likely to adopt potentially unhealthy food policies and whether students' Body Mass Index (BMI) is higher in counties where a greater proportion of schools are predicted to allow these food policies. They found that a 10% increase in junk food availability led to a 1% increase in students' BMIs—but the effect is entirely driven by students who have an overweight parent. “It is likely that genetic susceptibility to obesity is interacting with family-based norms—about how much of the available junk food it is appropriate to consume—in driving higher obesity rates among certain adolescents and not others,” said the WSJ blog, online at http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB115634907472843442-NmcS1gAPt4UJABCJbnvmngnOK1c_20070824.html.

calendar

monday september 11

open chapel. 9 am-4 pm, Houghton Chapel. In



Memory of Sept. 11, 2001. A time for sharing reflection, candle lighting, silent meditation. Open to entire Wellesley College community; members of Religious Life Team will be available throughout the day. Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2685.

cws workshop. "Writing Effective Cover Letters." 12:30 pm, GRH 130. Info: x2352.

cws workshops. "Résumés." 10 pm, Cazenove, Munger, Severance, Shafer, Tower living rooms. Info: x2352.

tuesday september 12

administrative council. 11 am, Academic Council Room, 4th Floor, Green Hall.

cws info session. "Balancing Thesis and Post-Graduate Plans." 12:30 pm, Wang Center 104. Refreshments. Info: x2352.

study abroad info session. For Class of '09. 4:15-5:15 pm, SCI 277. Sponsor: International Studies. Info: x2320.

fall fling. Performances and presentations by 100+ campus organizations. 6:30-8:30 pm, Chapel Lawn. Sponsors: College Government. Info: eoxford@wellesley.edu.

volleyball vs. Springfield. 7 pm, Sports Center. Info: x2003.

cws workshop. "Résumés." 10 pm, Beebe and Pomeroy living rooms, 10 pm. Info: x2352.

wednesday september 13

cws scholarship deadline. Noon. Preliminary application deadline for Rhodes, Marshall, Mitchell scholarships. Info: x2352.

cws meeting. "Davis Scholar Senior Orientation." 12:30 pm, CWS Library, GRH 441. Info: x2352.

ice cream social/info meeting. For returning study abroad students. 1-2 pm, Tishman Commons, Wang Center. Sponsor: International Studies. Info: x2320.

cws meeting. "Planning for Law School." 4:30 pm, PNE 239. Speakers: Tom Burke and Nancy Scherer, political science; Elizabeth O'Connell, prelaw advisor. Info: x2352.

gathering. Unitarian Universalist worship circle. 6 pm, Little Chapel. Info: x3484.

cws workshop. "Résumés." 10 pm, Bates, Claf-
lin, Freeman, Lake House and Stone-Davis liv-
ing rooms. Info: x2352.

thursday september 14

cws workshop. "Résumés." 12:30 pm, CE House living room. For Davis Scholars. Info: x2352.

concert. *Angel of Memory* chamber music premiere. 7 pm, Jewett Auditorium. (See story, page 1.) Sponsor: Spanish. Info: x2402.

cws workshop. "Résumés." 10 pm, Dower and McAfee living rooms. Info: x2352.

friday september 15

add/drop ends.

saturday september 16

class. "Plant FBI (For Budding Investigators)." Children in Grades 3-5 have fun with horticulture and plant science. Also meets 9/30, 10/14, 10/28, 11/4 and 11/18. 9:30-11:30 am, Greenhouse Visitor Center. Cost for 6-class series: \$115 for WC community. Sponsor: Friends of Horticulture. Info: x3504.

volleyball vs. WPI. 1 pm, Sports Center. Info: x2003.

sunday september 17

flower sunday. 11 am, Houghton Chapel. Multi-faith community service with theme "Cel-



brating Sisterhood: My Sister, My Star." Upper class women "big sisters" bring "little sisters" and are greeted by the president and deans who give out flowers to each student – a favorite and cherished tradition among Wellesley students. (See story, page 4.) Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2685.

monday september 18

lecture. "Latin American Immigrants to Israel." Speaker: Tamara Melnik, poet and psychologist. 4:30 pm, Slater. Sponsor: Spanish. Info: x2402.

lecture. "Russian Now: the Current State of the Former Soviet Union." Speakers: Ivan Arreguin-Toft, political science; Marshall Goldman, economics (emeritus); Philip Kohl, anthropology; Nina Tumarkin, history. Moderator: Tom Hodge, Russian. 8 pm, PNE 225. Sponsor: Russian Area Studies. Info: x2602.

ongoing

exhibit. *Spain in Turmoil: the 70th anniversary of the Spanish Civil War.* An exhibit of materials related to how the Spanish Civil War was perceived on campus, prepared by Ariana Gutierrez '08. Main floor exhibition cases, Clapp Library, Archives. Through September. Info: x2128.

save the date!

9/19/06: Study Abroad Fair. Noon-3:30, Tishman Commons, Wang Center. Representatives from 30+ study abroad providers will be on hand to answer questions and distribute information about semester and year-long opportunities around the world. Sponsor: International Studies. Info: x2320.

9/19/06: Academic Council Meeting. 4:15 pm, Academic Council Room, 4th Floor, Green Hall.

9/20/06: South Asia Program Inaugural. 4:30 pm, Collins Cafe and Collins Cinema. Sponsor: Asian Studies. Info: x2636.

9/21-23/06: Actors from the London Stage, a touring Shakespeare Co, hold weeklong residency concluding with three performances of *Hamlet*: 9/21 at 7 pm; 9/22 and 9/23 at 8 pm, Barstow Stage, Alumnae Hall. Sponsor: Theatre. Info: x2000.

9/22/06: Oboe concert with Barbara LaFitte. 12:30 pm, Jewett Auditorium. Sponsor: Music. Info: x2028.

don't miss ...

russian area studies experts discuss state of former soviet union

A panel discussion, "Russian Now: the Current State of the Former Soviet Union," featuring Wellesley Russia Area Studies faculty members Ivan Arreguin-Toft, political science; Marshall Goldman, economics (emeritus); Philip Kohl, anthropology; and Nina Tumarkin, history; will be presented Monday, Sept. 18, at 8 pm in PNE 225. The moderator is Tom Hodge, Russian.

The former Soviet Union is a vast region covering one-sixth of the world's surface, and its current experience varies wildly between stability and volatility, growth and stagnation, anarchy and authoritarianism. Moreover, the region contains some of the world's greatest oil and natural gas reserves and has been of great strategic importance to the United States in the war on terror.

"Americans need to know about Russia and the former republics," said Tumarkin. "What is happening in this region now?" She and other Russian Area Studies faculty members will discuss a variety of topics and leave plenty of time for questions and answers. Arreguin-Toft will shed light on the growing authoritarianism of Putin's regime by discussing the causes—and impact—of its recent crackdown on non-governmental organizations. Goldman will talk about the crucial topic of the Russian government's nationalization of energy industries and the conflict of interest of the high officials in the Kremlin who head these industries. Kohl plans to explore some of the most volatile non-Russian areas of the former Soviet Union, in which Russia and the United States have a keen and competitive interest. Tumarkin will explore issues in Russian society and politics. For more information, call x2602.



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