2011-2012 Newhouse Resident Fellows

Elena Creef
Elena Creef is an Associate Professor in the Women’s and Gender Studies Department of Wellesley College. She received her PhD from the University of California at Santa Cruz in the History of Consciousness. While at the Newhouse Center she will be spending her sabbatical year completing her book manuscript *Shadow Traces: Theses on the (Photographic) Representation of Japanese/American Women in the Archives*. The project explores what a history of Asian women in America would look like if conceptualized through the language of photography.

Paul Fisher
Paul Fisher is Assistant Professor of American Studies at Wellesley College and he received his PhD from Yale University. While at the Newhouse Center, he will research a biography of John Singer Sargent. He will interpret gender and sexuality in the painter’s patronage relations in order to the assess role of the turn-of-the-century art world in defining, marginalizing, enabling, and fostering emerging “queer” sexualities.

Anna Katsnelson
Although trained at an art historian, with a PhD in Art History and Architecture from Harvard University, Anna Katsnelson is an Assistant Professor in Slavic Languages and Literatures at Princeton University. Her book project, which she hopes to bring to completion during her time at the Newhouse Center and which she has titled *See Under Stalinism: The Visual Culture of the Late Russian Avant-Garde*, aims to provide a user’s guide to the radical changes that occurred in Soviet visual culture under Stalinism.

Mary Lewis
Mary Lewis is a Professor of History at Harvard University. She received her PhD from New York University in History and French Studies. While at the Newhouse Center, she plans to complete drafting her book manuscript, *Divided Rule: Sovereignty and Empire in French Tunisia*. The book demonstrates the mutual constitution of international relations and local colonial life by showing how French colonial governance in the Tunisian protectorate (1881-1956) affected and was affected by imperial rivalry between France, Italy and Great Britain.

Leila Nadir
Leila Nadir is a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Environmental Humanities. She holds a Ph.D. in English from Columbia University and works as an artist, art critic, literary scholar, and creative writer. Leila is currently working on a book manuscript exploring the role of sacrifice in twentieth-century literature’s imagination of
sustainability, modernity, and democracy. While in residence at Newhouse, she will also be at work on two creative projects. With her post-disciplinary art and theory collaborative, ecoarttech, which she co-founded in 2005, she is completing an urban hiking app called Indeterminate Hikes. In addition, she will continue work on her environmentally infused memoir about growing up in an Afghan immigrant community in rural Central New York during the Cold War.

Alessio Ponzio
Alessio Ponzio comes to us from the Università Roma Tre, where he completed his PhD in 2005. In addition, he was awarded a resident fellowship at the Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton from January to June, 2011. At the Newhouse will continue his work on the book Mussolini and Hitler’s Youths: How Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany Tried to Create a Society of “Obedient Fighters and “Blind Believers.” The book charts and compares the history of Fascist and Nazi youth organizations by looking at the relationships and cultural exchanges that took place from 1933-1943 between Italian and German youth organizations.

Ato Quayson
Ato Quayson will be in residence at the Newhouse Center as the Mary L. Cornille Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Humanities during the 2011-2012 academic year. He is Professor of English and inaugural Director of the Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies at the University of Toronto. He completed his PhD at the University of Cambridge and held a Research Fellowship at Oxford University before returning to Cambridge to become Lecturer and subsequently Reader in Commonwealth and Postcolonial Literature in the Faculty of English at Cambridge. While at the Newhouse he will be working on a project called “Oxford Street, Accra: Urban Evolution and the Itineraries of Globalization in an African City,” one that draws upon insights from urban studies, anthropology, history, and political science among others.

Robert Sobak
Robert Sobak is Assistant Professor of Classics at Bowdoin College, and he received his PhD in Classics and Ancient History from Princeton University. His book project is titled Labor, Education, and Power: Crafting Citizenship in Archaic and Classical Athens. The book uses a range of evidence for the activity and self-identity of craftsmen in democratic Athens to argue for the intimate relationship between the domains of politics and the production of goods and services in a direct democracy like that of classical Athens.

Jay Turner
Jay Turner is an Assistant Professor in the Environmental Studies Program at Wellesley College. He received his PhD from Princeton in Environmental History. His first book, The Promise of Wilderness: A History of American Environmental Politics, 1964-2009, is forthcoming in the Weyerhaeuser Environmental Series edited by William Cronon at the University of Washington Press. Currently, he is launching a new project on the environmental history of batteries and a culture of mobility. By focusing
on the environmental history of batteries, this project aims to draw attention to the social and environmental costs stemming from the mining, processing, and recycling of metals.