



Gala Celebration Marks the 30th Anniversary of Bobst Library and Opening of the Mamdouha S. Bobst Gallery

At a gala affair on December 16, the NYU community celebrated both the 30th anniversary of the Elmer Holmes Bobst Library and the eagerly anticipated debut of the new Mamdouha S. Bobst Gallery. Slated for public opening the following day, the gallery exhibition featured treasures from the Fales Collection of books and manuscripts, the Grey Art Gallery's permanent collection of fine art, and documents from the University Archives on NYU's history. The unveiling of a portrait of Mrs. Bobst by the noted portrait artist, Everett Raymond Kinstler, highlighted the evening's festivities.

Situated on the west side of the first-floor atrium, the newly fashioned gallery opens for view rare and important items from the University's collections of fine art, rare books, and historical documents. It initiates the first phase of modernization and upgrades in Bobst Library, made possible by a \$10 million gift from Mrs. Bobst and a \$3.5 million gift from Madeline and Kevin R. Brine. Mrs. Bobst and Mr. Brine are NYU Trustees.

"Thanks to the vision of Mamdouha Bobst," said Carol Mandel, dean of the NYU Libraries, "the opening of the Bobst Gallery marks the beginning of an important undertaking for this community of scholars: a renewal of our magnificent Bobst Library in the context of the information age. The University is deeply grateful to Mrs. Bobst and to Kevin and Madeline Brine for their generosity. They have demonstrated that they share our belief in the importance of the role that research libraries play in advancing the scholarly enterprise and expanding human knowledge. They have enabled this project to go forward."

Architects and Advisory Committee Named for Library Renovation

The opening of the new Mamdouha S. Bobst Gallery on December 16 marked the official start of Phase One of Bobst Library's scheduled refurbishment (floors A, B, 1, and 1M), along with preparation for Phase Two, which will cover floors 2 through 10. The distinguished architectural firm Alspector Anderson Architects, llp will head the project. Principal architects Jacob Alspector and Samuel Anderson possess impressive resumes that include the design for the Science, Industry and Business Library of the New York Public Library – a ground breaking project on the integration of information technology and libraries. Their other projects include: the Graduate

Citing the many changes that have occurred since the Library first opened 30 years ago, Dean Mandel pointed out that current research involves new techniques. "Curricula and teaching methods are more varied," she noted, "and study modes require different physical arrangements. The cohesive building imagination that shaped Bobst Library and consolidated library collections and services across NYU is still sound. We now need to update its functional spaces to keep pace with three decades of change and the developments we see coming for the future."



Cutting the ribbon for the opening of the Bobst Gallery are, L to R: President John Sexton, Mrs. Mamdouha Bobst, Dean of Libraries Carol Mandel, and Board of Trustees Chair Martin Lipton.

Mrs. Bobst – as the gala's guest of honor – presided over the formal ribbon-cutting ceremony that initiated the gallery opening. Among the special guests attending were Kevin Brine, Board of Trustees Chairman Martin Lipton, President John Sexton, President Emeritus John Brademas, President

Emeritus L. Jay Oliva, former President and Mrs. James Hester, former Dean of the Libraries Carlton Rochell, Susan Fales-Hill, and Patricia Nixon Cox and her husband Edward Cox.

The Elmer Holmes Bobst Library, designed by noted architect Philip Johnson and his partner Richard Foster, was dedicated in December 1972. The building serves as the flagship library of NYU's Washington Square campus and contains over three million books in open stacks, as well as the Avery Fisher Center for Music and Media and notable special collections. Named for pharmaceutical pioneer and philanthropist Elmer Holmes Bobst, the Library was made possible through Mr. and Mrs. Bobst's original gift.

School and University Center of the City University of New York; the Thaw Conservation Center of the Morgan Library; the Straus Center for Conservation of the Harvard University Art Museums; the American Museum of the Moving Image; and the expansion and renovation of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York City. Following is their statement concerning the project.

"We are just delighted to have the privilege and honor of working on one of the most important facilities of the NYU (continues on next page)"

Bobst Renovation *(continued from cover)*

academic community - the intellectual heart of the campus - especially one with such a distinguished architectural lineage. We are looking forward to ongoing collaborations with the Bobst Library administration, staff and users to update the user spaces of this work of architecture so it can continue and expand its vital service to NYU well into the twenty-first century."

The first upgrades in Bobst Library will include work on the study spaces located on the A and B levels, the redesign of the information and reference center on the south side of the first floor, and technology upgrades that will improve the navigation of electronic information and of the physical library. The second phase will include upper floor improvements in the design of spaces that will support the changing ways various disciplines use library resources.

At this time, the architects are developing the design for Phase One with the expectation that construction will begin next year. To make the modernization of Bobst widely representational of the needs, visions and ideas of the NYU community, the Libraries is soliciting input for consideration in the planning. With this intention, a committee of faculty, students, administrators, and librarians – chaired by Carol Mandel, dean of Libraries – has been established to provide consultation for the anticipated work on the study areas and the new information centers. In addition to librarians and administrators, the committee includes seven faculty members and eight students. They are: Jeane Anastas, Director of the Ph.D. Program, School of Social Work; Daniel Fleming, Associate Professor, FAS, Hebrew and Judaic Studies; Michael Keenan, Professor, Stern School of Business, Finance; Caroline Persell, Professor, FAS, Sociology; Kenneth Silver, Professor, FAS, Fine Arts; Alexander Reyes, Assistant Professor, FAS, Center for Neural Science; Martha Rust, Assistant Professor, FAS, English; Keita de Souza, undergraduate student, Gallatin; Oleana Klein, graduate student, Steinhardt School; Brian Levine, graduate student, GSAS; Enuma V. Onyeukwu, graduate student, TSOA; Larkin Reynolds, undergraduate student, CAS; Richard Thomas, undergraduate student, CAS; Jonathan Vafai, graduate student, SOM (ex officio); Christopher Zanetis, undergraduate student, CAS (ex officio).

On November 14th, the Iris and Gerald B. Cantor Film Center and the Tisch School of the Arts Maurice Kanbar Institute of Film and TV Directors Series hosted a **Digital Cinema Seminar**. Sony Electronics Inc. of North America and NEC Inc. provided digital cinema equipment for the event, and Panavision Inc. supplied film and digital clips. Digital Cinema, a relatively new term, evokes the language of filmmaking and the technology of a new millennium. It influences the traditional areas of production/acquisition, post-production and exhibition. Recent technology advances bring digital image making closer to the quality of traditional 35mm film than ever before. At the same time, creating moving images with affordable tools is transforming the film and television industry. The evening seminar included short presentations by industry leaders, screenings of digital cinema and 35mm film clips, and questions from the audience.

Nancy Gwinn Delivers Goldsmith Lecture



Dr. Nancy E. Gwinn, director of the Smithsonian Institution Libraries and a recognized leader in the field of preservation of library collections, delivered the Barbara Goldsmith Preservation Lecture on December 5, 2002 in the Fales Reading Room. Her talk, entitled "Preservation and the Digital Dilemma," drew a capacity audience of members of the preservation community. Pictured are (from left to right): Carol Mandel, dean of Libraries; author Barbara Goldsmith; Dr. Nancy Gwinn; Paula De Stefano, Head of the Department of Preservation; and NYU Trustee Kevin R. Brine.

NYU's Digital Library Selected for the Computerworld Honors Program

The Computerworld Honors Program has selected a case study on NYU's digital library for inclusion in its archives. Established in 1988, the Program brings the chairmen or chief executive officers of the world's foremost information technology companies together with the world's leading universities, libraries and research institutions. The goal is to identify those whose use of information technology has been especially noteworthy for originality of conception, breadth of vision, and beneficial significance to society. The organizations are asked to contribute a case study to the Computerworld Honors Collection. Scott McNealy, CEO of Sun Microsystems, nominated NYU's Digital Library Program.

At a formal ceremony on April 6 in the main rotunda of San Francisco's City Hall, the organizations selected for inclusion in the Archives were awarded medals of recognition for their service to society. Jerome McDonough, head of the Libraries' Digital Library Development Team, accepted NYU's award.

To learn more about the Computerworld Honors Program and this year's winners, please visit: <http://www.cwheroes.org/>.

NYU in Grant Project to Archive Political Web Sites

Over the past decade the World Wide Web has emerged as a vital medium for non-governmental political communications, serving as a global message board for political parties, activists, popular fronts and other such organizations. With the growing dissemination of important documents and messages comes the need to ensure their long-term survival for future research. Addressing the problem, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is providing a grant of \$445,000 to a team of libraries for an investigation and planning effort geared toward the preservation of these Web-based materials. The project is coordinated by the Center for Research Libraries (CRL), a Chicago-based not-for-profit consortium of colleges, universities and libraries.

Although by nature fugitive and susceptible to loss, Web-based information can be a valuable resource for historical studies and the social sciences. It is the contemporary equivalent of broadsides and pamphlets. Notable examples might be the on-line Liberation Army manifesto of the Free Papua Movement in Indonesia (<http://www.eco-action.org/opm/>); and the declaration of the state of Cabinda's independence from Angola by the territory's government in exile (<http://www.cabinda.org/anglais.htm>). Because such documents tend to be produced sporadically and subject to change and disappearance, their future availability for research is threatened despite their long-term value.

In a cooperative effort, NYU, Cornell, Stanford, the University of Texas at Austin and the San Francisco-based Internet Archive are all participating in the Mellon-funded CRL investigation. Using Web communications produced by political groups in Southeast Asia, Latin America, and Sub Saharan Africa and by radical organizations in Europe, they hope to produce a framework for saving and archiving these resources.

Committed to the documentation of radical political movements in the United States and Western Europe, New York University's Tamiment Library already holds an extensive collection of political pamphlets and other ephemeral materials deemed essential for future research. Now expanding its efforts to the online environment, Tamiment has identified 100 organizations in England, France, Germany, Italy, and Spain whose Web presence represents significant segments of the Western European left. NYU's digital library program is also coordinating the technology team's efforts. The team must determine the best means of capturing such content and sustaining it in a rapidly changing technological environment where the applications driving today's Web will most likely be unavailable within five years.

Fales Hosts Kathy Acker Symposium

An air of special intellectual excitement could be felt in Bobst Library on November 7 and 8 when the Fales Collection hosted an international symposium on the life and works of Kathy Acker, the noted experimental fiction writer, performer, and theorist. Entitled *Lust for Life: The Life and Work of Kathy Acker*, the conference – the first to focus on her work since her untimely death in 1997 – attracted capacity crowds and featured more than 30 presenters from the United States, Canada, and Europe. Co-sponsoring the event were the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences; the office of the Dean of Humanities; the departments of German, English, Comparative Literature, American Studies, and Performance Studies; and the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality. Outside sponsors included the Duke University Libraries and Grove Press.

Among the noted scholars presenting papers were: Steven Shaviro, Avital Ronell, Peter Wollen, Eve Kosofsky-Sedgwick, Judith Halberstam, Leslie Dick, Eleanor Kaufman, Barrett Watten and David Antin. Artists and writers included: Robert Gluck, Nayland Blake, Carolee Schneemann, Sarah Schulman, and Lynne Tillman. Their

presentations explored the many faceted persona, decentered fiction, and the intellectually challenging philosophical and theoretic formations that informed Acker and her work. Following the final session, a packed audience at Fales enjoyed readings from Acker's work by Richard Foreman, Diamanda Galas, Kim Gordon, Kathleen Hanna, Rick Moody, and Sapphire.



The conference was timed to coincide with the publication of *Essential Acker: The Writings of Kathy Acker* (Grove Press, 2002) edited by Amy Scholder and Dennis Cooper. Accompanying the symposium was an exhibition at Fales concerning Acker's life and work titled "Discipline and Anarchy," which opened on November 7 and continued until February 1.

The conference received considerable media coverage, including a full-page article in *The Village Voice* by C. Carr. *Lust for Life* is the third in a series of symposia sponsored by the Fales Collection to promote scholarly interest in contemporary art and literature from New York City.

New Appointees: Director of Classroom Media Services and Webmaster

Filling two important newly created staff positions, the Division of Libraries welcomes Roddy Austin as Director of Classroom Media Services, and Joanna DiPasquale as Web Administrator in the Libraries' Information Technology Services Department.

Because of rapid growth and increasing complexity, Classroom Media Services – which formerly operated under TV and Media Services – will now function as a separate entity. It offers a large inventory of audio and video systems for classroom use and bears responsibility for the design and implementation of digital multi-media technology used in new and renovated NYU classrooms.

Mr. Austin, whose purview also includes the Iris and Gerald B. Cantor Film Center, brings a wealth of related experience in university computing and instructional technology. His credits include the management of information technology operations at Polytechnic University and New School University, as well as technology consultant for The Julliard School, School of Visual Arts, City College of CUNY and Bank Street College of Education. His office is located on the 2nd floor of Bobst Library in the Studio for Digital Projects and Research. He can be reached by telephone at (212) 998-2495 and by email at roddy.austin@nyu.edu.

Web Administrator, Joanna DiPasquale, fills a new position in the Information Technology Services Department created in response to the need for a central technical and administrative coordinator for Web activities. As such, Ms. DiPasquale assumes responsibility for the review and upkeep of current content on Bobst Library's Website, the resuscitation of a library-wide Intranet/Extranet scheme, and the project management and implementation of a newly designed Website. Her other activities include Web programming, troubleshooting, and enforcement of technological and accessibility standards for the Library's Internet presence.

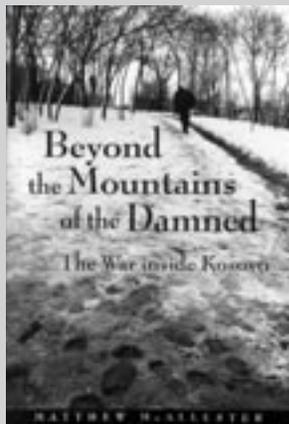


Joanna DiPasquale and Roddy Austin

Formerly, Ms. DiPasquale worked at the NYU Libraries from 1998-2001 serving as Web liaison and then as “junior Webmaster” for various departments in the Division of Libraries. She holds a bachelor's degree in history, and a master's degree from NYU's John W. Draper Program in Humanities and Social Thought (history/anthropology). Leaving the Division of Libraries to pursue a second baccalaureate degree in applied mathematics, she went full circle, returning to the Libraries last July. Ms. DiPasquale can be reached at (212) 998-2428 and by email at joanna.dipasquale@nyu.edu.

Kudos to NYU Press

The NYU Press has won a *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of 2002 Award for *Beyond the Mountains of the Damned: The War Inside Kosovo*, by Matthew McAllester. *Publishers Weekly* selected 51 winners from the almost 50,000 new books published last year. The Press also received the National Jewish Book Award, Reference, for 2001 for the *Encyclopedia of Jewish Life Before and During the Holocaust*, 3 volumes, edited by Shmuel Spector.



Irish Institute Grant Helps Fund Archives of Irish America



Irish waitresses in the kitchen of Stouffer's Pershing Square Restaurant (Manhattan), 1958. Joan Dineen (front) from County Kerry. Photograph by Charles Harbutt, Actuality, Inc.

Kevin Morrissey, president of the Irish Institute Incorporated, presented a check for \$18,000 in support of the Paul O'Dwyer Fund to Carol Mandel, dean of the Libraries, during the Institute's annual reception on January 14.

The Institute's financial support for the Libraries' Archives of Irish America, dating from 1997, has made it possible to begin building an important research collection documenting the history of the Irish in the United States. Under the aegis of the Tamiment Library, the Archives collects materials documenting the Irish immigrant experience, the role of the Irish in the labor and progressive movements, and the impact that they had on American social and cultural development. Dr. Marion Casey, Assistant Professor in New York University's History Department and a Faculty Fellow in Irish-American Studies at Glucksman Ireland House, has played a leading role in the development of this project, gathering personal papers, community materials, organizational records, photographs, home movies, and ephemera while promoting the collection within the Irish-American community.

Bobst Library Gratefully Acknowledges the Generous Support of our Recent Donors

ELMER HOLMES BOBST LIBRARY MODERNIZATION PROJECT

Mrs. Elmer Holmes Bobst
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin R. Brine

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, Bobst Library has been able to maintain the level of excellence its patrons have come to expect while continuing to expand its collections and enhance its research environment. If you would like to help ongoing efforts to enrich existing collections and explore new technologies, please contact Jennifer Sancton, Director of Development for the Libraries, at (212) 998-6909 or jennifer.sancton@nyu.edu.

\$100,000 and above

Communications Workers of America
Ms. Susan Fales-Hill and Mr. Aaron Hill
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

\$50,000 to \$99,999

American Postal Workers Union
Mr. Herbert Kurz

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Actors' Equity Association
Dr. John Brademas
The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation
Mrs. Margery A. Mico
New York City Central Labor Council

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Mr. and Mrs. Haliburton Fales, 2d
Irish Institute Incorporated
Dr. Julius Korein
Mr. Arthur L. Loeb
Ms. Jessica M. Weber and
Mr. Alan Peckolick

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Ms. Cynthia M. Crossen
Estate of Jay Leyda
Long Island Power Authority
New York Foundation for the Arts

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Estate of Ruth Abromowitz
Mr. Arthur Bernstein
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley M. Bogen
Ms. Roseline C. Dooreck
Dr. Steven M. Fisch
Ms. Suzanne Gluck and Mr. Thomas Dyja
Dr. Ruth Dalila Johnston
Mr. Rickard Jorgensen
Ann M. Kappler, Esq.
Dr. Leah K. Lebec
Professor Richard C. Lonsdale
Mr. and Mrs. John P. Rafferty
Mr. Michael E. Schrader
Dr. George L. Williams

\$500 to \$999

Natalie Calabro, Ph.D.
Mr. Vincent R. Chiodo
Dr. Maura C. Flannery
Mr. Anthony Gomez
Ms. Cheryl D. Harris
Dr. James M. Hester
Mr. Theodore U. Horger
Professor Robert A. Kavesh
Mr. William J. Latimer
Ms. Roselyn Leibowitz
Ms. Kerin E. Meehan
Mrs. Marcia Mulzac Meinerth and
Mr. Barry R. Meinerth

Mr. and Mrs. Alan I. Menken
Mr. Howard M. Rothman
Ms. Sari M. Scheer
Dr. J. C. Spender
Ms. Cecilia M. M. Sta. Romana
Three Arrows Cooperative
Society
Miss Sharon L. Tomlinson
Mrs. Grace Lyu Volckhausen
Mr. Robert W. Whiteford

Donors since May 20, 2002

We also wish to thank all donors of gifts less than \$500 and those who made in-kind contributions.

Delmas Foundation Adds Further Support for Acton Papers Project

A recent \$40,000 grant from the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation has propelled the NYU Libraries into the final phase of its multi-year effort to catalog, process and make available the personal papers and library of the late Sir Harold Acton (1904-1994) and his parents.

The extensive collection is housed at Villa La Pietra, the magnificent Florentine estate bequeathed to New York University in 1994 by Sir Harold, which now serves as the University's center in Italy for the education of students, scholarly research, and other global initiatives. The library and archive contain books, historical documents, diaries, periodicals, personal correspondence and papers, catalogs, manuscripts, and photographs. These materials are of great significance to scholars of art history and art collecting, as well as for scholars of Italian, English and American history and culture, modernist litera-



ture, Edwardian mores and tastes, and landscape gardening. The Delmas Foundation has generously supported this fascinating project since September 2000, providing grants now totaling \$120,000.

In a related venture, last fall the NYU Press and Edizioni Olivares published *La Pietra: Florence, a Family and a Villa*, by A. Richard Turner, with forward by L. Jay Oliva and introduction by Christina Acidini Luchinat. Edited by NYU's dean of Libraries, Carol Mandel, the richly illustrated volume reveals the beauty and history of La Pietra, considered one of the great Florentine villas, and the extraordinary Anglo-American family that restored it to its former glory and ultimately bequeathed it to New York University. The author is the Paulette Goddard Professor Emeritus of Art and Humanities at NYU. The book is distributed by NYU Press.

Progressions is published twice a year by the NYU Division of Libraries and is available on the World Wide Web at www.nyu.edu/library/bobst/progress/. Send correspondence to: Newsletter Editor, Library Administration, 70 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012 or e-mail: reina.schratter@nyu.edu. Visit the NYU Libraries' website at www.nyu.edu/library/.

Editor: Reina Schratter
Designer: Maria Tierney