

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT TOWSON UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM—SPRING 2012

FINE ARTS

Robert Schumann and Franz Liszt: 19th Century Musical Iconoclasts

Jonathan Palevsky

Sessions I and II Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.
Fee: \$130 (begins March 6)
(\$65 for each session)



This course will devote four weeks each to Robert Schumann and Franz Liszt. Each had a tremendous influence on 19th-century European music. Schumann's early life is the stuff of novels, and his romance, relationship and marriage to Clara Wieck Schumann that of legend. Schumann initially wanted to be a piano virtuoso but, having injured his hand, he set about writing some of the most exquisite piano works of the century. But it didn't stop there. We are blessed with his fabulous songs, his delightful chamber music and four very fine symphonies. And what of Liszt—the complete extrovert as a young man! Whereas Schumann failed to conquer the piano, Liszt was undoubtedly the greatest pianist of his day, maybe of all time. As he toured Europe performing concert after concert, women and men swooned. He was a rock star, a musical prophet, a teacher and eventually a monk! Liszt lived and wrote music enough for many lifetimes. He will not disappoint.

Jonathan Palevsky, B.M., M.M., is program director for WBJC, 91.5 FM. His undergraduate studies focused on musicology and his graduate work at Baltimore's Peabody Institute on instrumental training in classical guitar performance. Palevsky can be heard as host of Face the Music, Past Masters and regular afternoon classical programming on WBJC. He was an adjunct faculty member of Baltimore Hebrew University and has been a regular of the Osher faculty since the former Auburn Society's first semester in spring 1999.

Rodgers and Hart: "Songs of the Heart"

Ellen Katz

Session II Wednesday, 1 p.m.
Fee: \$65 (begins April 11)



Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart composed hundreds of classy, witty and nostalgic songs that remain fresh to this very day. In this course, we will review the early life of each, their meeting and early collaborations at Columbia University, their early stage and more mature musicals, the challenges of Hollywood and film, and finally the end of their partnership. Their most productive period was between two major World Wars and through a depression when their new musical and literary techniques buoyed the American spirit during difficult times. They provided us with unforgettable songs such as "Bewitched," "My Funny Valentine," "With a Song in My Heart," and "The Lady is a Tramp." Through documentaries, films, recordings and live performances, we will discover how their extraordinary literary and musical talent combined to create the melodies that still touch our hearts and souls.

Ellen Katz graduated magna cum laude from the University of Maryland with a degree in music education and a major in voice. She completed graduate studies in music education at Towson University, and taught music for Baltimore County Schools, area private schools, Catonsville Community College and the Elderhostel of Peabody Conservatory of Music. Ellen has entertained for many community organizations with a wide array of musical selections from popular, to Broadway and the "American Songbook." She is a former member of Baltimore's Handel Choir and the Baltimore Symphony Chorus.

PREVIEW OF SPRING 2012 CLASSES

Thursday, January 19, 10 a.m.–noon
Merrick Lecture Hall, Goucher College

Roots of the Blues

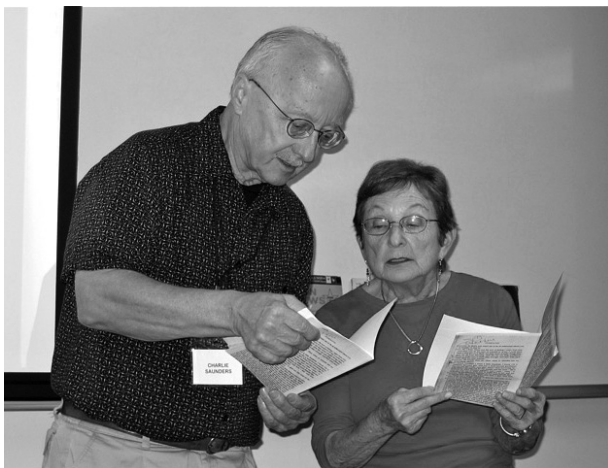
Seth Kibel

Sessions I and II Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.
 Fee: \$130 (begins March 7)
 (\$65 for each session)



Explore the origins of the blues in post-Reconstruction times and discuss such seminal musicians and songwriters as W.C. Handy, Mamie Smith, Bessie Smith, "Ma" Rainey, Alberta Hunter, Ethel Waters, Robert Johnson, Sonny Boy Williamson, T-Bone Walker and others. Trace the history of this music from its origins in the antebellum south, the brief blues "craze" of the 1920s, and the northward migration of African Americans to Chicago, culminating in the electrified blues of McKinley Morganfield, a.k.a. Muddy Waters (1950s). Audio recordings, video excerpts and live performances from the instructor will keep these lectures as lively and interesting as the music itself.

Seth Kibel is the clarinetist and composer for The Alexandria Klezmet, a genre-bending klezmer band he founded in the Baltimore/Washington area. Kibel fronts a variety of swing and jazz groups, including the Bay Jazz Project, the area's leading jazz combo. His second solo album, "The Great Pretender," was a blues/jazz project released in 2007. Kibel has appeared with such notables as Percy Sledge, The Coasters and Johnnie Johnson. He has performed at the Kennedy Center, the Lowell Folk Festival, as well as on several European tours. This will be his fourth course for Osher.



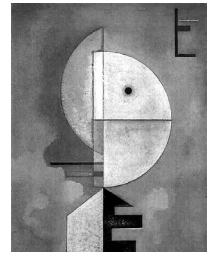
From Realism to Abstract Art

Joseph Paul Cassar

Sessions I and II Tuesday, 11 a.m.
 Fee: \$130 (begins March 6)
 (\$65 for each session)



Sessions I and II Thursday, 11 a.m.
 Fee: \$130 (begins March 8)
 (\$65 for each session)



This course discusses the very foundation and definition of art. It traces the development of western art, conceived as a representation of nature and reality, to its gradual deviation from this norm to a more abstract expression. The course links past western artistic expression with modern trends in art and, tracing the changes in artistic expression, relates these changes to the major philosophical ideas of the period. Old masters will stand side-by-side with the modern masters to compare and contrast the transformations that took place. The course discusses major protagonists such as Kandinsky, Mondrian, Ben Nicholson and Klee in Europe as well as Pollock, de Kooning and Hofmann in the United States. The sessions will be in the form of a Power-Point presentation with rich images. Questions and discussion will be welcomed.

Note: The same class is being offered on two different days in order to accommodate more registrants. Choose one day or the other.

Joseph Paul Cassar, Ph.D., is an artist, art historian, curator and educator. He specializes in the modern and contemporary aspects of art history. He has researched the subject extensively, and has published a series of books and monographs on the pioneers of modern art of the Mediterranean island of Malta. He has lectured about the subject in various educational institutions in Europe and the United States, and is an associate professor of art at University of Maryland University College.

Monuments to Heaven: Baltimore's Historic Houses of Worship

Lois Zanow and Sally Johnston

Sessions I and II Wednesday, 11 a.m.
 Fee: \$130 (begins March 7)
 (\$65 for each session)



Baltimore's houses of worship parallel the development of Baltimore City. This course will describe by lecture and visual images the architecture, history and art associated with 23 of Baltimore's historic churches and synagogues dating from 1785–1891. These buildings are city treasures in terms of their history, architecture and artisans' contributions to the interiors. Robert Cary Long, Jr., Benjamin Latrobe and Stanford White are a few of the architects. Louis Comfort Tiffany, John LaFarge, Constantine Brumidi and Hans Schuler represent some of the artisans. These distinctive landmarks served burgeoning immigrant populations; some were built as memorials; some are associated with famous historical figures; and others are connected to American saints. The structures are concentrated in downtown Baltimore, include a number of neighborhoods and all have active congregations. A majority of the buildings are National Historic Landmarks or are on the National Register of Historic Places. The history of the founding of each church or synagogue, the particular ethnic group or social group it served, and how it adapted over the years to the changing demographics will be explained.

Lois Zanow grew up in South Dakota and holds a degree in American history from the University of Minnesota. A resident of Baltimore for 26 years, she is a tour guide who gives tours of Baltimore, Washington, Annapolis and destinations further afield. Zanow has taught adult education classes, was executive director of the Maryland Association of History Museums and worked at the former City Life Museums.

Sally Johnston grew up in Maine and majored in history at Chatham College. After receiving her M.A. at the University of Pittsburgh, she taught there before moving to Baltimore more than 25 years ago. Johnston was director of the Star Spangled Banner Flag House and has worked at many of Baltimore's historic sites including the former City Life Museums. She serves on several historic sites boards.

The Enduring Art of Japan

Wayne McWilliams

Sessions I and II Thursday, 9:30 a.m.
 Fee: \$130 (begins March 8)
 (\$65 for each session)



Art historians have long praised Japan's outstanding contribution to world art. This course will offer a chronologically organized presentation of Japanese art from its prehistoric beginnings through the 19th century. The course will include explanations of the historical and cultural context for the various arts in each respective period as well as commentary on Japanese aesthetics. But the main feature will be the presentation of reproduced images of famous and/or representative paintings, sculpture, architecture, ceramics, gardens and folk arts from each art period. Among the topics and images to be presented are the temples of Nara and Kyoto, Zen arts, and the distinct arts of the samurai and the townspeople during the feudal era. The course will be restricted to traditional arts of Japan as opposed to the modern art of the past century, but the final class will be devoted to the legacy and fate of the traditional arts in modernizing Japan. The instructor is not an art historian, but a historian who has developed an appreciation of Japanese art during his many years studying Japanese history and culture, living in Japan and visiting numerous art museums, exhibits, temples, gardens and other cultural treasures of Japan.

Note: This is a repeat of a course offered in fall 2010.

Wayne McWilliams, Ph.D., emeritus professor of history at Towson University, is a scholar of Asian studies and has taught Japanese and Chinese history for 30 years. He is co-author of the college textbook, The World Since 1945: A History of International Relations, now in its seventh edition. He is intimately acquainted with East Asia, having traveled many times to Japan, China and Korea as a soldier, student, research scholar, teacher, tourist or tour leader. In the fall of 2005, he taught courses on Japanese and Chinese history in the Semester at Sea program aboard ship while circumnavigating the world. He is a charter member of Towson's Osher Institute and has taught many courses relating to East Asian history and culture.

Art Meets the Dollar: The Business Side of Art

Ann Wiker

Sessions I and II Monday, 9:30 a.m.
Fee: \$130 (begins March 5)
(\$65 for each session)



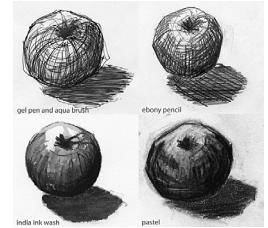
Vincent van Gogh's art sells for millions of dollars today, but the artist died poor. Conversely, Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dali became multimillionaires. Have you ever wondered why some artists only make money after their death? Or what influence money has had on artists and their work throughout history? Or which artists were successful salesmen and money managers and which just couldn't operate from "that side" of their brain? Starting with pre-historic art, this course explores the role of artists in communities, the value placed on their creativity and their ability to sustain themselves through the marketing of their productions. Did you know that the cave painters may have been released from tribal obligations in order to teach their art form? Egyptian artists were often paid members of the royal staff. The Greek artists were the first to sign their work, and Leonardo da Vinci distributed a brochure listing 36 artistic services that he could be hired to provide. In this course we'll focus on how some artists succeeded financially while others did not.

Ann Wiker is an artist, art historian, curator and educator. She is the director of a Baltimore-based arts organization, Art Exposure, which she founded in 2000 to assist artists in marketing their work. She has researched the subject of the business side of art extensively and has lectured on the subject in various educational institutions and to various art organizations in the area.

Intermediate Drawing

Joseph Paul Cassar

Sessions I and II Tuesday, 1 p.m.
Fee: \$130 (begins March 6)
(\$65 for each session)



This course addresses drawing fundamentals at an intermediate level. Some very basic experience is required for the course. Individual attention will be provided throughout to demonstrate different approaches to each topic. The sessions cover cross-hatching techniques, basic foreshortening, light and shade contrasts. Only pencils from HB to 6B are required for the first session. A complete list of materials will be given and discussed in the first class. An 18x24-inch drawing book is a basic requirement. You will experience the following media: pencils, ink and wash, pastels, charcoal and brown conte. Come and discover your hidden talent in this step-by-step course.

The course is open to those who have taken Dr. Cassar's previous drawing courses as well as to those who have basic drawing experiences from other sources. The course will be limited to 12 participants.

Joseph Paul Cassar, Ph.D., is an artist, art historian, curator and educator. He specializes in the modern and contemporary aspects of art history. He has researched the subject extensively, and has published a series of books and monographs on the pioneers of modern art of the Mediterranean island of Malta. He has lectured about the subject in various educational institutions in Europe and the United States, and is an associate professor of art at University of Maryland University College.

Proud to be Endowed by the Bernard Osher Foundation

In the spring of 2009, the Bernard Osher Foundation awarded the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Towson University \$1 million to create an endowment to assure the ongoing success of its program. The Institute had received \$100,000 grants from the Osher Foundation for the three previous years.

It is important to note that membership dues and tuition fees will continue to be crucial for the financial viability of the Institute. Interest income from the endowment each year will not equal the amount of the yearly grants. The previous \$100,000 grants were used in various ways to expand our program and make improvements for everyone. Interest income from the endowment will be used for normal operating expenses.

We are proud and grateful to be endowed by the Bernard Osher Foundation and are committed to maintaining the high quality of our program and a vibrant member community.



Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Osher

Intermediate Watercolor Painting

Jane Byers

Sessions I and II Wednesday, 1–3 p.m.
Fee: \$130 (begins March 7)



Nature and art surround us! Long preceding the written word, the incredible beauty of the natural world inspired humans to transform it into endless art forms and countless art works. Participants in this art workshop will develop a greater awareness of the colors and compositions that make up Earth's splendors. Session I will focus on Sea and Landscapes; we will paint at Cylburn Mansion and Gardens once. Session II will focus on still life compositions. Throughout the course, composition, technique and color harmony will be emphasized. We will start from where each participant is, right now, in his or her art experience. Determined beginners are welcome but must know how to use paints and brushes before the class begins. Intermediates are those who have at least one painting which pleases them. Our motto will be that "it is the process, not the result" that makes this creative activity so compelling.

Jane Byers, M.Ed., was an education major and arts minor at Michigan State University. She has taken numerous painting workshops through the years but "discovered" watercolors just 13 years ago. In May 2004, she participated in a week-long painting workshop in northern France, following the path of van Gogh and Monet. Enthusiastic about the Impressionist painters' styles, she taught "Mary Cassatt: Her Life, World, Art" for Osher in spring 2005. In 2008 Byers visited Aix-en-Provence and toured Paul Cezanne's studio and the vistas he painted. She is the co-founder of the Catonsville Arts Guild (www.catonsvillearts.org) and spent two years painting garden views and interviewing 31 gardeners for her book, Gardens of Catonsville (2009). This is her fourth watercolor painting class with Osher.

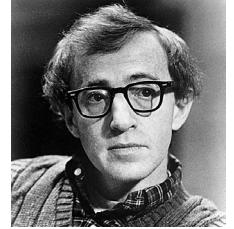
TUITION FEES

\$65 for one four-week course; \$130 for two four-week courses or one eight-week course; \$140 for an unlimited number of courses; \$30 for one or both book clubs if registrant takes only one four-week course or book clubs only. No charge for book clubs with a \$130 or \$140 fee.
Please register only for those courses that you are committed to attending.

Jewish Hollywood

Peter Lev

Session I Monday, 11 a.m.
Fee: \$65 (begins March 5)



For the last 100 years, many of the top executives, producers, directors and stars of the Hollywood film industry have been Jewish. Why is there such an affinity between Jews and the American film industry? And how has the film industry portrayed Jewish history and identity over the last 100 years? This course will discuss Hollywood and Jewishness in the context of American social and political history. Topics will include the building of the big companies in the silent era; the films and political controversies of 1930-1960; Jewish identity in the films of the 1960s and 1970s; and Jewishness and Hollywood today. Course meetings will involve a mixture of lecture, discussion and clips from a wide variety of films.

Peter Lev, Ph.D., is professor of Electronic Media and Film at Towson University. He is the author or editor of five books of film history. His recent honors include the Academy Scholars Award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, 2009; the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Literature/Film Association, 2009; and the Distinguished Service to the University Award from Towson University, 2010-2011.

