ARTS & CULTURE

MUSIC AND SHAKESPEARE
Jonathan Palevsky

Sessions I and II
Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. (begins September 18; class will meet during break week on October 9)
Fee: $130 ($65 for each session)

With the possible exception of Goethe, no author has had such a profound effect on classical music than William Shakespeare. Shakespeare’s own plays are replete with some very fine songs, but it was in the 19th century that composers discovered a desire to set his plays as symphonic works and operas. Take Romeo and Juliet as an example. Tchaikovsky set it as an overture, Prokofiev as a ballet, Berlioz as a choral symphony and Gounod as an opera. Giuseppe Verdi turned three of Shakespeare’s plays into operas, which are all significant parts of the standard repertoire today. Then there is the incidental music for Shakespeare’s plays composed by English composers like Walton and Elgar. Throw in all the movie soundtracks and there is more than enough music to learn about during this course and beyond. Throughout history, great text has always attracted great music. Come and explore both.

Jonathan Palevsky, B.M., M.M., is program director for WBLC. His undergraduate studies focused on musicology and his graduate work at Baltimore’s Peabody Institute on instrumental training in classical guitar performance. Jonathan can be heard as host of Face the Music, Past Masters, WBLC Opera Fest and regular afternoon classical programming on WBLC. He also hosts Cinema Sundays at the Charles Theater. Jonathan has been a regular of the Osher faculty since the former Auburn Society’s first semester in spring 1999.

THE ORIGINS OF JAZZ
Seth Kibel

Sessions I and II
Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. (begins September 12)
Fee: $130 ($65 for each session)

This course takes looks at the early decades of the music we now call jazz. Our exploration begins in New Orleans, where multiple ethnicities and several musical traditions all converged to give birth to this uniquely American musical genre. Then we take our story to Chicago, in the 1920s, and wind up in New York, which will remain the epicenter of jazz from the 1930s up until the present day. Genres examined will include Dixieland, stride piano, and early swing and big band music. We will explore the music, careers, and personalities of such early jazz pioneers as Sidney Bechet, Bix Beiderbecke, Louis Armstrong, “Jelly Roll” Morton, and others. This class will include audio, video, and live musical performances by the instructor.

Seth Kibel is one of the Mid-Atlantic’s premier woodwind specialists, working with some of the best bands in jazz, swing, and more. Wowing audiences on saxophone, clarinet, and flute, Seth has made a name for himself in the Washington/Baltimore region, and beyond. He is the featured performer with The Alexandria Kleztet, Bay Jazz Project, Music Pilgrim Trio, The Natty Beaux, and more. Winner of 28 Washington Area Music Awards (Wammies), including “Best World Music Instrumentalist” (2003–11) and “Best Jazz Instrumentalist” (2005, 2007–8, 2011–14). His most recent recording, No Words — Instrumental Jazz & Klezmer by Seth Kibel, was released in 2015 on the Azalea City Recordings record label. One song from that album, “New Waltz,” was the Grand Prize winner of 2016 Mid-Atlantic Song Contest (MASC), sponsored by the Songwriters’ Association of Washington (SAW).
Session II
Thursday, 11:00 a.m. (begins October 18)
Fee: $65

This course will follow the guitar from its obscure origins out of the Iberian Peninsula to the iconic instrument of Rock-n-Roll it has become today. This course will delve into the structure of the guitar, the musicians who wrote for it, and the performers who brought it to life. As we explore the rich heritage of the guitar, we will go back over 500 years to uncover the first ever published music for the tiny ukulele-sized instrument that started it all. Traveling forward in time from the Renaissance and Baroque periods through the 19th and 20th centuries, the guitar not only grows in size but in unprecedented popularity. The shapes, sizes and materials used are almost as wide and varied as the genres this instrument exploits. Discover the fascinating history of the guitar!

J. Scott Matejicka, guitarist, has performed as a concerto and recital soloist throughout the east coast of the United States as well as concertized extensively with the 1 East Guitar Quartet. In addition to many lectures and master classes, Scott has served on the faculty for the guitar department of the Peabody Preparatory for 14 years, and in 2005 was appointed chair of the department. He has been giving lessons for over 26 years, holds a Master of Music degree in guitar performance from Yale University and currently teaches electric, acoustic, bass, and classical guitar.

Session I
Thursday, 1 p.m. (begins September 13)
Fee: $65

Get your ticket to the world of Broadway. From 1890 through 1920, immigrants flocked to the United States. Many of them had extraordinary talent, found their way into the theatres of lower Manhattan, and then to the new theatre district called “Times Square”. We will briefly review the early entertainment venues as minstrels, operetta and vaudeville, which preceded the musical. Then we shall launch into the lives and careers of the greatest names in show business who created “Broadway” and discuss their impact and their importance as Broadway expands and develops. We’ll explore the life and career of Florenz Ziegfeld who glorified the American woman in his spectacular Ziegfeld Follies, and see the Follies come to life via film clips of the dancers and historic scenes. We will delight in performances by Fanny Brice, Will Rogers, and Eddie Cantor and understand how and why they entertained us. We will also learn about the impact and importance of the first composers and lyricists for Broadway including Irving Berlin, George M. Cohan, Oscar Hammerstein II, and Jerome Kern. We will see their productions via film and listen to examples of their music as well as hear live performances from the instructor.

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 at Towson University. She taught music for Baltimore County Public Schools, private schools in the area, Catonsville Community College and for the Peabody Conservatory of Music Elderhostel. Professionally, Ellen has entertained for many community organizations with a wide array of musical selections from popular, Broadway, and the “American Songbook”. She is a former member of the prestigious Baltimore Symphony Chorus and Handel Choir.
Neo-Classicism is closely identified with the Enlightenment of the 18th century and with the French Revolution. A broad intellectual movement developed characterized by its emphasis on Reason and Rationality. Artists like Jacques-Louis David used art to create a society, which was both modern and virtuous. On the other hand, Romanticism valued human emotions, instincts, and intuition over a rational approach and had a bearing on society, art and politics. It was about authentic individual expression of experiences. It placed emphasis on the sublime usually in the encounter of the immensity of nature in which humans recognized their own transience and true moral character. In such a context, Joseph Mallord William Turner and his landscape painting will become the main subject of art.

This course will be offered both on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Please choose one or the other.

Joseph Paul Cassar, Ph.D., is an artist, art historian, curator, and educator. He studied at the Accademia di Belle Arti, Pietro Vannucci, Perugia, Italy, School of Art in Malta (Europe), and at Charles Sturt University in NSW, Australia. He is the author of several books and monographs on the pioneers of modern art of the Mediterranean island of Malta, two of which were awarded best prize for research in the Book Festival, Europe. He served as a freelance art critic for The Daily News (1978–1981) and The Times of Malta (1997–2000). He has lectured at various educational institutions in Europe and the United States, including the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC, The Renaissance Institute in Baltimore, York College of Pennsylvania, the Johns Hopkins University, Carroll Community College, and the Community College of Baltimore County, among others. He is a visual arts examiner and moderator for the International Baccalaureate Organization in Cardiff, United Kingdom. He currently designs online art courses for the University of Maryland University College. Cassar exhibits his work regularly in the Baltimore-Washington area. His work is represented by Vee Gee Bee Galleries and Opus 64 Galerie in Europe.
ARTS & CULTURE

HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY, THE SEQUEL
Steve Dembo

Session II
Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. (begins October 17)
Fee: $65

George Eastman, Edwin Land, and other inventors and innovators were on the forefront of creating the tools, techniques, and methods that continued to make photography an important social, political and amazing art form. Learn about their contributions and discuss the advances in photography through the 20th century and into the present time. We will talk about where photography is today and where it is going. How do social media sites such as Snapchat and Instagram factor into the conversation? You will be introduced to the photographers and artists who were innovators in color, landscape, conflict, and fine art. Learn how Photoshop™ has influenced the manipulation of photographs.

Steve Dembo is a native of Baltimore and a photographer for as long as he can remember. He received his B.A. degree from Towson University and an M.F.A from the Maryland Institute College of Art. He is an adjunct professor of photography at CCBC and has been teaching college level courses for more than nine years. His photographic work has been critically acclaimed and has garnered numerous competitive awards and accolades, having appeared in national publications and juried exhibitions.

MONUMENTS TO HEAVEN:
Baltimore’s Historic Houses of Worship
Sally Johnston and Lois Zanow

Sessions I and II
Tuesday, 1 p.m. (begins September 11)
Fee: $130 ($65 for each session)

This course will present churches and synagogues built between 1785 and 1891 that are still used for religious purposes and are true to the original architecture. These houses of worship reflect the changing demographics of Baltimore over centuries including the immigrant groups many of them were built to serve. Every structure has its own unique story to tell. Many well-known figures are associated with them. We will learn about the architects who designed them—the most sought after of the day—and the skilled artisans who contributed to the stunning interiors. Color images will show the stained glass, mosaics, statuary, paintings, carvings, and decorative plaster work found within these treasured spaces of Baltimore. The course instructors are co-authors of Monuments to Heaven: Baltimore’s Historic Houses of Worship.

Lois Zanow is the former executive director of the Maryland Association of History Museums. With a degree in history, she has worked at several museums and in university administration. She has written a newspaper column and been a tour guide in Baltimore, Annapolis, and Washington, D.C.

Sally Johnston is a past director of the Flag House and has worked in several museums in Baltimore including the City Life Museum, Homewood, and Mount Clare. In addition to co-authoring the Monuments to Heaven: Baltimore’s Historic Houses of Worship, she has written a book on Mary Pickersgill. Sally has served on and held offices in many non-profit organizations in Baltimore.

TUITION FEES
$65 for one course;
$130 for two four-week courses or one eight-week course;
$150 for an unlimited number of courses.
THE CULTURE OF THE 1930S*
Bill Barry

Sessions I and II
Monday, 11:00 a.m. (begins September 10)
Fee: $130 ($65 each)

The 1930s was a period of enormous social change and upheaval, a tumult reflected in all of the culture. The course will describe the wonderful variety of movies, the emergence of great literature and music, and the imaginative theater productions. Programs of the New Deal also provided unique support of public art, creating both imaginative productions and historical projects, while provoking contentious political controversies. The development of new technologies and their impact on the culture will also be emphasized. We will study the culture and the conflicts embodied in popular culture and examine how artists, writers, musicians, and others reflected the conditions of a period rich in cultural conflict and change.

MORE MOVIES OF THE 1930S*
Bill Barry

Session I
Wednesday, 1–4 p.m. (begins September 12)
Fee: $65

This is the third edition of The Movies of the 1930s. The era reflected a tumultuous social period and brought popular culture to every town in the United States. The movies dramatized the sufferings of the Depression, romantic escapism, and deep political issues. It was a period for marvelous directors, talented actors and actresses, and powerful scripts—a wonderful combination. Films in this series include: Heroes for Sale (1933), Make Way for Tomorrow (1937), The Adventures of Robin Hood (1938), and Bringing Up Baby (1938).

Bill Barry is the retired director of labor studies at CCBC-Dundalk where he created a full semester history course on the 1930s. He has taught several courses in the history of the 1930s for Osher. He is also a movie zealot and enjoys using movies as an illustration of the historical period.

*Due to a change in the instructor’s schedule, “The Culture of the 1930s” course will be a 4-week course that starts on Monday, October 15th. The “More Movies of the 1930s” course will be moved to Session II, Wednesdays at 1 p.m. (begins on October 17).
MOVIE MATINÉE AND DISCUSSION

FILMS OF 1967 AND 1968: Reflecting Change
Peter Lev

Session I
Monday, 1–4 p.m.
(begins September 17; class will meet during the break week on October 8)
Fee: $65

The late 1960s was a period of great stress and great change in American life. Among the stresses were: an unpopular war; political assassinations; Civil Rights conflicts; new sexual freedoms; recreational drug use; and a growing gap between parents and children. Hollywood, too, was going through rapid changes, with films made for a young, educated, culturally adventurous audience. In this screening class we will view and discuss four excellent films from the era. Romeo and Juliet (1968) is classic Shakespeare but also a rebellious youth film. Bonnie and Clyde (1967) presents a couple—played by Faye Dunaway and Warren Beatty—that is rebellious, subversive and violent. In the Heat of the Night (Academy Award for Best Picture, 1968), starring Sidney Poitier and Rod Steiger, centers on racial prejudice. Finally, The Graduate (1967), starring Dustin Hoffman, is about the sexual and existential confusions of a recent college graduate. Many of us remember these films from young adulthood; here’s a chance to reconsider them.

FILM AND POLITICS IN THE 1970s
Peter Lev

Session II
Monday, 1–4 p.m. (begins October 15)
Fee: $65

The Hollywood film industry grappled with social and political controversies through most of the 1970s. The issues of the 1960s, such as Civil Rights and the Vietnam War, were joined by new issues, including government corruption (represented especially by Watergate) and feminism. In this course we will screen and discuss four films, which represent the era but also anticipate controversies of today. The Conversation (1974), starring Gene Hackman, is about surveillance and conspiracy. In Dirty Harry (1971), starring Clint Eastwood, a tough cop frustrated with government takes liberties with the law. Network (1975) explores the power of the media, in this case television. Julia (1977) is about a woman’s decision to take political action, at great personal risk, in Europe during the late 1930s. Conspiracy, surveillance, distrust of government, media and politics, personal engagement—these issues are clearly relevant today. The course will also consider film aesthetics and film history. It is not solely about politics. A good film must connect with its audience, and we will discuss how these films entertain as they educate and/or persuade.

Peter Lev is professor emeritus of electronic media and film at Towson University. He is the author or editor of six books of film history. His 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.

FOR THE BEST OPPORTUNITY TO BE INCLUDED IN YOUR DESIRED COURSES, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION BY AUGUST 27, 2018.

Late registrations will be accepted. After the deadline, you may register for courses that are not full. You will be notified if you do not get into a selected course. Confirmations will be sent via email.

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