2023 WINTER LECTURES

Enjoy the Osher 2023 Winter Lectures from the comforts of home. Each of the free lectures will take place online via Zoom. Please note that there is one afternoon start time (February 22) and the others are all scheduled in the morning.

You must register for each lecture separately to receive the Zoom link.

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WINTER LECTURES

Billie Holiday—Lady Sings the Blues
Seth Kibel

Wednesday, January 11, 2023  |  10:00 a.m.  |  Zoom

There is no greater tragic heroine in the history of jazz than Billie Holiday. Her story is legend, from her impoverished childhood on the streets of Baltimore to her struggles with addiction to her eventual early demise. Attendees will listen to and watch her sing, putting her music in context with her sad and troubled personal story.

Seth Kibel is one of the Mid-Atlantic’s premier woodwind specialists, working with some of the best bands in klezmer, jazz, swing, and more. Wowing audiences on clarinet, saxophone, and flute, Seth has made a name for himself in the Baltimore/Washington region and beyond. He has won numerous awards for his performances. When he’s not performing, Seth frequently lectures on a variety of topics in music history for various institutions including Osher at Towson University.

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The Golden Age of Radio
Jack Burkert

Wednesday, January 25, 2023  |  10:00 a.m.  |  Zoom

Imagination was everything in an earlier age with the world of voices, and only voices, coming via the airwaves into homes across America. One had to imagine how scenes, be it news of the world, sporting events, comedy, or drama. The ever present “serial”, continuing sagas targeted to listening housewives were sponsored by detergent companies, ultimately becoming “soap operas”. This was the entertainment of America from 1920 to 1960, locally and networked across the country. From Marconi’s experiments in sending radio signals to the music of Rudy Vallee, Rosemary Clooney, and the Andrews Sisters, it was a unifying time. The nation listened together to the stories, the tunes, the commercials and the stations on a multiplicity of radios set to local and network programs. This lecture explores the radios, the networks, their stories and their origins, with a major focus on how radio came to Baltimore.

Jack Burkert is a Baltimore native who lectures at Osher and at the Baltimore Museum of Industry, following a long career as an educator and consultant.

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The Architecture of Social Space: 
Creating Spaces of Critique Within the Places We Live

Matthew Mazzotta

Wednesday, February 15, 2021  |  10:00 a.m.  |  Zoom

Matthew Mazzotta’s community-specific public projects integrate new forms of civic participation and social engagement into the built environment and reveal how the spaces we travel through and spend our time living within have the potential to become distinct sites for intimate, radical, and meaningful exchanges. Through his process, each project starts by creating temporary public spaces for listening – ‘Outdoor Living Room’ - as a way to capture voices from local people that might not attend more formal meetings. Stemming from this approach are experiences that involve people from a range of backgrounds working together to create new models of living that contribute to local culture beyond the economic realm. In this artist talk, learn about his approach to creating site-specific works of art.

Matthew Mazzotta works at the intersection of art, activism, and urbanism, focusing on the power of the built environment to shape our relationships and experiences. His public projects have received international art and architecture awards such as “Architecture Project of the Year” by the Dezeen Awards at the Tate Modern in London and six of his projects have been recognized by the Americans for the Arts. Matthew’s work has been featured on CNN, BBC, NPR, The Huffington Post, Discovery Channel, and Science Magazine to name a few, and presented at the Cooper Hewitt-Smithsonian Design Museum in NYC.

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Only Hope: A Survivor’s Stories of the Holocaust

Irving Lubliner

Wednesday, February 22, 2023  |  10:00 a.m.  |  Zoom

Before she passed away in 1974, Felicia Bornstein Lubliner wrote about her life in Nazi-occupied Poland during the Holocaust, including her internment in ghettos and two concentration camps, Auschwitz and Gross-Rosen. Her powerful stories have been published by her son, Irv Lubliner, an emeritus professor at Southern Oregon University. He will share excerpts from “Only Hope: A Survivor’s Stories of the Holocaust,” shedding light on his mother’s experiences and indomitable spirit, as well as his experience as a child of Holocaust survivors and his process in bringing the book to fruition. There will be opportunity both during and after his presentation for questions and discussion. Participants are invited to visit www.onlyhopebook.com for additional information or to purchase the book.

Irving Lubliner teaches math, blues harmonica, and literature classes for the OLLI program at Southern Oregon University (SOU). An emeritus SOU professor specializing in mathematics education, he taught for 40 years (at all levels, kindergarten through graduate school), led seminars for teachers in 39 states, and gave over 350 conference presentations, including several keynote addresses. In 2019, he created Felabra Press (onlyhopebook.com) and published his mother’s writings about her experiences during the Holocaust, the book that will serve as the theme for this presentation.

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