



AUTUMN 1996

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THE ALP NEWSLETTER

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WE WISH TO THANK
THE OFFICIAL SPONSORS OF OUR
75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
HELD AT THE CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES
ON OCTOBER 26, 1995.

CIGNA INTERNATIONAL

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MATIF

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SIEMENS NIXDORF

WHITE & CASE

OUR WARMEST THANKS TO
THE OFFICIAL SPONSORS
OF THE JUNE 4TH DINNER
IN HONOR OF WILLIAM STYRON
AT THE
U.S. AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.

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SIEMENS NIXDORF

A SPECIAL THANK-YOU TO
SEAGRAM GLOBAL BRANDS DIVISION
FOR DONATING
THE WINE AND CHAMPAGNE

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CELEBRATING THE ARTS

Jouve & Associés Presents John Peter: The Oral History of Modern Architecture

On September 18, **Jouve & Associés** is sponsoring An Evening with John Peter, author of *The Oral History of Modern Architecture: Interviews with the Greatest Architects of the Twentieth Century*, published by Harry N. Abrams, Inc. The evening will begin with a cocktail reception at 7 P.M., followed by Mr. Peter's presentation at 8 P.M. Madeleine Deschamps, correspondent in France for Abrams, will introduce the program, which will include slides and taped interviews.



The book, which includes a compact disk, tells the story of modern architecture in the words, pictures, and voices of the people who created it. "It is drawn from the recorded archive of interviews conducted over 40

years, with 60 of the world's most prominent architects and engineers," Mr. Peter notes. "I did not set out to do a book, but I wanted to capture the voices, before more were lost, of the masters who created one of the great revolutions in the history of the arts."

The interviews, most of which were taped between 1953 and 1966, include extended conversations with Wright, Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe, Niemeyer, Kahn, and Pei. Their articulate comments reflect the international scope of modern architecture and the extent to which many of its creators were influenced by modern painting and sculpture. The book is illustrated with photographs of the architects and their works.

Since serving as art director of the SHAEF Psychological Warfare Division in World War II, Mr. Peter has worked as an art director at Cowles Communications and *McCall's*, as an editor at *Life* and *Look*, and also as a reporter for NBC and CBS. His books include *Design with Glass* and *Masters of Modern Architecture*. Mr. Peter, who heads his own publications consulting firm in New York, was awarded the Vermeil Medal by the City of Paris for the poster "Le Jour se Lève," which originally decked the city during the Liberation in 1944 and was widely reproduced on the 50th anniversary.

7 P.M. cocktail; 8 P.M. program.
RSVP, Veronica Yanzi, Jouve & Associés,
Tel.: (1) 40 70 90 00

Abrams Gift Enriches Arts Collection

Paul Gottlieb, president of Harry N. Abrams, Inc., has given the American Library in Paris 300 Abrams art books, one of the richest gifts the Library has ever received. The titles, covering the entire history of art, from Shang ritual bronzes to Christo, include reference books, complete works by individual artists, museum catalogues, and children's books.

Harry N. Abrams, Inc., is the preeminent U.S. publisher of high-quality art and illustrated books. Founded in 1949, it was the first American publisher to specialize in art books. The firm is based in New York, with

offices in Amsterdam and Tokyo. Abrams books are particularly well-distributed outside English-speaking countries.

Many of the gifts will be displayed during the evening with John Peter on September 18 (see above). Here is just a sampling of the books Abrams donated:

History of Art for Young People; The Genius of Jacopo Bellini: The Complete Paintings and Drawings; Architecture: From Prehistory to Post-Modernism; The Oldest Known Paintings in the World; Dawn of Art: The Chauvet Cave; Harlem Renaissance: Art of Black America.

ALP IN CYBERSPACE

As many patrons know, the American Library in Paris has had a home page on the World Wide Web since last winter. This is the place to go for the latest updates to the calendar of events and opening schedules. It also provides information on the Library's history and fundraising project. This summer, with the help of volunteer Virginia Becart, we installed a Web counter to track the number of visitors to the ALP home page. So next time you cruise the information superhighway, be sure to stop by at <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/alp/> or drop us a line via e-mail at 100142.1066@compuserve.com

CAPES/AGREGATION DOSSIERS READY

For more than 20 years the American Library in Paris has been compiling and distributing bibliographies and dossiers of periodical articles about authors and topics to support French students throughout the country in preparation for the English-language and American Studies CAPES/Agrégation exams.

This year's dossiers are available on Paul Auster: *Moon Palace*, William Blake: *Poems*, Samuel Clemens: *Huckleberry Finn*, Charles Dickens: *David Copperfield*, Harold Pinter: *The Caretaker*, Ann Radcliffe: *The Mysteries of Udolpho*; William Shakespeare: *Hamlet*, and *The Indian Problem 1830-1890*. They were compiled with the help of Megan Sayce, an intern from Smith College, and Kathleen Szeper, an intern from EABJM.

NEWS BRIEF

The Centre Georges Pompidou has asked the American Library in Paris to lend copies of *Ebony* magazine for the exhibition "Face à l'histoire," opening December 19 and running through April 7, 1997, to celebrate next year's 20th Anniversary of the Centre Pompidou.

EVENINGS WITH AN AUTHOR A Library Tradition Since the 1930s

Wednesday, September 18
An Evening with John Peter

The Oral History of Modern Architecture: Interviews with the Greatest Architects of the Twentieth Century program includes slides and taped interviews. Cocktail reception, 7 P.M.; program, 8 P.M. Sponsored by **Jouve & Associés**. (See cover story.)

Monday, October 7
Hugo Vickers

The Private World of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor
A slide-illustrated talk about the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. Mr. Vicker's book contains selections from a cache of 10,000 photographs belonging to the Duke and Duchess, many of which had never been seen before.

Wednesday, October 9
Pharos:

New Poetry and Prose from Paris
A group reading of poetry and fiction by contributors to the Paris literary magazine *Pharos*. Produced by the Creative Writing Workshop run at the British Institute in Paris by Alice Notley and Douglas Oliver; *Pharos* publishes both international and Paris-based writers.

Wednesday, October 16
Marianne Buchwalter

Memories of a Berlin Childhood
Marianne Buchwalter and her family left Berlin four days after Kristallnacht in November 1938 and settled in Oregon. Her book is a personal account of the gradual breakdown of a life of comfort and predictability.

Wednesday, October 30
William Wharton

Houseboat on the Seine: A Memoir
The award-winning, best-selling author of *Birdy* has turned to his beloved Paris for his second memoir, an often hilarious saga of his misadventures as an expatriate American trying to make a home out of a leaky wooden houseboat.

Campaign 2000: Investing in the Future

The Library's exciting plan for the future, **Campaign 2000**, is well under way. Campaign packets are available in the Library. Materials include the **Campaign 2000** brochure, which covers Library history, activities and goals, and the renovation brochure, which describes plans to refurbish and expand Library space for better access and future growth in collections and membership. Please call Library Director Kay Rader if you would like to meet with her about the campaign or receive a campaign packet.

Wednesday, November 6
Phyllis Michaux

The Unknown Ambassadors: A Saga of Citizenship
A history of efforts to establish and improve the rights of Americans abroad, *The Unknown Ambassadors*, deals with issues from Medicare benefits, tax treatment, and voting rights to broader matters such as educational opportunities for bicultural children.

Wednesday, November 13
John Baxter

Steven Spielberg: The Unauthorized Biography
In this first full biography of the director, John Baxter charts Spielberg's development from his teenage 8mm-home movies to his current spectacular stature. The book is based on extensive interviews of those who have worked with Spielberg from his early days in television to his Oscar-winning films.

Wednesday, December 4
Rachel Kaplan

Little-Known Museums In and Around Paris
In a program illustrated with slides, Rachel Kaplan talks about her entertaining and practical guide to 30 often-overlooked museums in the Paris region, from the Monte Cristo Estate and Castle to the Museum of Curiosities and Magic.

Evenings with an Author are free and open to the public. Programs begin at 8 P.M.



Officials Tour ALP

On June 13, the Board of Trustees held a reception for Mme Hélène Macé de Lépinay, Deputy Mayor of Paris for Cultural Affairs; Michel Kollitsch, Deputy to the Mayor of the 7th Arrondissement; and James Hogan, Cultural Affairs Attaché at the U.S. Embassy. The guests toured the Library with Trustees Catherine Coste, Michèle Gompel, Whitney de Courcel, Tom Rose, and Chairman of the Board John Riggs. The tour was followed by a reception and lively discussion about library issues and programs in France and the U.S.

Children's Story Hours, September through December

Wednesdays, 2:30-3:30 P.M.

SEPTEMBER

- 11 Back to School
- 18 Autumn is coming
- 25 Dinosaurs

OCTOBER

- 2 Feeling Better
- 9 Meet My Friend
- 16 My Family Just Got Bigger
- 23 Counting
- 30 Halloween Party

Special Story Hours in October:

- 1 Children from MESSAGE, 10:30-11:30 A.M.
- 23 About Ghosts, 4-6 P.M. (as part of the Temps des Livres events)

NOVEMBER

- 6 Native American Stories (for Native American Month)
- 13 Shhh...You're in the Library! (for National Young Readers Day and Children's Book Week)
- 20 Pinocchio (for Carlo Collodi's birthday)
- 27 Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 4 Hanukkah
- 11 Jungle Day (for Kipling's birthday)
- 18 Christmas (Watch for news about the ALP Christmas Party!)



Thanks from Sarah and Daniel

After living in Paris for a year and attending French schools, Sarah and Daniel Birman of Ithaca, N.Y., were going home. But first they paid a last visit to the Children's Room to present some drawings they had made and to donate copies of their favorite books. Their tutor said she had been able to keep up their English skills thanks to the Library's collections. Both young ALP members promised to visit on their next trip to Paris.



Pete Seeger Donates Bust of Alan Seeger

Folk singer Pete Seeger has given a bust of his uncle, World War I poet Alan Seeger, to the American Library in Paris. Alan Seeger's father, Charles, helped found the Library in 1920 in memory of his son, who was killed in the war. Pete Seeger's nephew Nick Seeger presented the bust to the staff this past summer.

In August, Library Director Kay Rader spent an afternoon with the Seeger family in Beacon, N.Y. Pete talked about his family's involvement with the Library and donated a signed edition of his children's book *Abiyoyo*.

ALA Supports Campaign 2000

In July Trustee Nancy Webster and Library Director Kay Rader attended the American Library Association conference in New York City. At the ALA Council Meeting, Association President Betty J. Turock presented a gift of \$10,000 for **Campaign 2000** to Mrs. Webster and Ms. Rader, in celebration of the Association's role as founder of the Library.

ALP on Library Tour Map

Book Adventures, which organizes tours of libraries and bookstores and meetings with authors all over the world, brought 26 American teachers and librarians to tour the Children's Room in July. Mary Lou White, a retired professor of children's literature and president of Book Adventures, had read about the ALP in the February issue of *American Libraries*. Members of the tour group were interested in the Library's unique holdings and the history of the Children's Room.

Children's book illustrator Satomi Ichikawa, who lives in Paris and publishes in France, the U.S., and Japan, met with the group and showed them a work in progress, along with sketches and watercolor originals from other books.

STAR-STUDDED GIFTS

Gregory Peck: Catalogue Arrives

When Gregory Peck visited in April, he noticed that the Library owned only two volumes of *The American Film Institute Catalog of Motion Pictures Produced in the United States*. Recently, the actor shipped seven volumes of the catalogue as a gift to the Library. Upon its completion by the AFI, the catalogue will list every feature, short, serial, and newsreel produced in America since 1893.

Sarah Smith: Paris Flood Tale

Science fiction/mystery author Sarah Smith toured the Library and donated a copy of her latest book, *The Knowledge of Water*, set during the Great Flood of Paris in 1910. Ms. Smith used the Library to do research for her next book.

Books on Tape

Dianna Bond, a lawyer who lives in Cincinnati, has donated a collection of over 50 books on tape, including mysteries, popular fiction, and best sellers.

DONATIONS TO CHILDREN'S ROOM

Mrs. Edgar Kerestedjian of Michigan, who has already donated a number of books illustrated by some of the best contemporary American artists, has sent eight more.

Illustrator **Satomi Ichikawa** has donated nine of her books.

THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS

The Library thanks the 30 volunteers who staff the Welcome Desk, shelve books, organize periodicals, work on the reference desk or in the research center, and assist in many other ways. Special thanks go to Sue Frosch and Gloria Knight, who organized the book sale; Charlotte Stray and Pat Skinner, Welcome Desk volunteers who returned to the U.S.; Daniel Sussner, who is leaving to attend Harvard; Christine Collet, who helped in cataloguing and acquisitions; and Shadee Moez Ardalan, who worked in the Development Office.

To become a volunteer, please call Adele D. Witt at 53 59 12 65.

NEW ALP PHONE NUMBERS

General number:
53 59 12 60

To renew books:
53 59 12 61

Reference information:
53 59 12 66

"LE TEMPS DES LIVRES"

The Library will participate in "Le Temps des Livres," October 12-27, a national and international celebration of books and reading organized by the French Ministry of Culture. Watch for further announcements at the Library.

VISIT THE AMERICAN LIBRARY IN PARIS BRANCHES

Angers

60, rue Boisnet

Montpellier

11, rue Saint-Louis

Nancy

34, Cours Léopold

Toulouse

56, rue du Taur

Children's Writers, Illustrators Choose American Library in Paris as Base

The recently formed Paris chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) has chosen ALP as its home base for conferences and workshops, initiating an exciting cooperative relationship for the coming year.

SCBWI is the only international organization of its type, offering services and acting as an information network for people who write, illustrate, or otherwise have a vital interest in children's books: editors, publishers, agents, librarians, educators, bookstore personnel, etc.

On Thursday, September 26, at 7:30 P.M. the group will hold a general meeting and logo/short story contest at The ALP.

To become a member of SCBWI, contact Erzsébet Deak, 8, rue José-Maria-de-Hérédia, 75007 Paris, tel./fax: 42 73 33 75.

AIWF-France Presents Shirley King

The Library's first evening program of the fall, presented in cooperation with the American Institute of Wine and Food (France), features Shirley King speaking about her book *Pampille's table, recipes and writings from the French countryside*. The book is a translation and adaptation of Marthe Daudet's 1919 classic, *Les bons plats de France*. The talk will be followed by a *dégustation*.

Wednesday, September 11, 7 P.M., AIWF and Library members, 60F; non-members, 100F.

Tour of Bibliothèque l'Heure Joyeuse

ALP Director Kay Rader and Children's Services Librarian Armelle Aymonin recently toured France's oldest children's library, the Bibliothèque l'Heure Joyeuse (Joyous Hour).

Their guide, Head Librarian Viviane Ezratty, later visited the ALP with the head of l'Heure Joyeuse's rare book collection, Françoise Lévêque, cementing ties of friendship between the two institutions.

L'Heure Joyeuse, in the Latin Quarter across from St. Séverin church, recently reopened after an extensive renovation for its 70th anniversary. Like the American Library in Paris, it grew up in the aftermath of World War I. Following an initiative by the American Committee on Devastated Regions, L'Heure Joyeuse was founded in 1924. It was the first library in France directed exclusively to children.

OPENING HOURS

OPEN TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY
10 A.M. - 7 P.M.

CLOSED SUNDAYS, MONDAYS,
AND HOLIDAYS.

EXTENDED HOURS FOR MEMBERS ONLY, STARTING SEPTEMBER 16

SUNDAY, 2-7 P.M.

MONDAY, 10 A.M. TO 7 P.M.,
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY, TO 10 P.M.

EARLY CLOSINGS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18,
AT 5 P.M.,

FOR AN EVENING WITH JOHN PETER

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19,
AT 6 P.M.,

FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING



10, RUE DU GÉNÉRAL-CAMOU
75007 PARIS