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The American Library in Paris

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In the event that this *e-Libris* is cut short by your email service, please click the link at the bottom of the email to see the newsletter in its entirety.



Editor: Carolyn Dubol

Limited Services on Saturday 29 October

The Library's annual **Halloween Extravaganza** is Saturday 29 October. There will be **no study space** available that day. Access to the collection will be limited. The Library will **close at 18h** to everyone except Haunted Library ticket holders.

To register for Halloween events, please see our [web calendar](#).

The Haunted Library (ages 8–adult)

Grab your bravest friends, and explore the Library as you've never seen it before!

On the evening of Saturday 29 October, the American Library in Paris will turn into a Haunted Library, with guided tours throughout the dark, winding stacks.

Tours last 20–30 minutes and must be [booked in advance](#).

Short horror films created by the Library's Master Shot Film Club will be screened in the Library's Reading Room throughout the evening, and there will be a costume contest at 20h30 to wrap up the event.



Master Shot Film Club coach Clarence Tokley (pictured) and Children's and Teens' Services Manager Celeste Rhoads launched The Haunted Library in 2012. This year's horrific tableaux are adapted from literature, with assistance from the Teen Writing Group and Library staff member Pallas-Amenah Morgan.

Trick-or-Treating 101

Join us for Trick-or-Treating in the 7th arrondissement on **Saturday 29 October from 10h–19h**. You do not need to pre-register. Maps will be available that day at the Library (free for [Library members](#), 10€ per family for non-members).

Are you new to Halloween? Here's a step-by-step guide for newly-undead zombies and vampires:

1. Get dressed up in your graveyard-finest. 🧛‍♂️
2. Don't forget an empty bag for your candy haul!
3. Grab your grown-up—they'll need to be with you from now on. It's scary out there!
4. Come to the Library on 29 October to pick up your neighborhood Trick-or-Treating map (free for Library members, 10€ per family for non-members) 🗺️
5. Follow the map to sweet, sweet treasure. 🍬🍬🍬
6. Even the most despicable monsters know the magic Halloween words: "Trick or treat!"
7. Pick over your sugary loot, and don't eat the eye of newt or the bats' wings! 🦇

🎃 **Candy Donations:** The Library happily accepts donations of individually-wrapped, store-bought candy for Trick-or-Treating. If you would like to help out, please drop off your donation at the Children's and Teens' Services Desk. If you have any questions, please email celeste@americanlibraryinparis.org

Read Nobel Prize Winner Annie Ernaux



On 6 October, French writer Annie Ernaux won the 2022 Nobel Prize for Literature. The author of many works that she calls "autosociobiographical texts," Ernaux recounts experiences from her life, as well as the lives of others including family members and lovers. Often looking to vignettes from the everyday, she explores the historical, social, and cultural context of France in the second half of the twentieth century. All at once political, feminist, and intimate, she was heralded by the Swedish Academy for "the courage and clinical acuity with which she uncovers the roots, estrangements and collective restraints of personal memory."

The Library currently has six of Ernaux's books, translated into English:

Exteriors
A Girl's Story
The Years
Things Seen
The Possession
A Frozen Woman

An additional six titles are on order, and will be arriving next month:

Getting Lost
Do What They Say or Else
Happening
Simple Passion
I Remain in Darkness
Cleaned Out

If a book is currently checked out or on order, you may [log in to your Library account](#) and place a Request for the book to be reserved for you.

On the Road Again This Fall



On the Road, the Library's bilingual outreach program, is back. We kicked off the fall season with a visit to Le Collège des Pyramides in Évry-Courcouronnes (91) on 13 October.



The day's lineup featured a writing workshop with Children's and Teens' Services Manager Celeste Rhoads and a conversation on climate change with activist Juan Pablo Arellano.

Throughout November, December, and into 2023, On the Road will visit French schools, libraries, and cultural institutions in Île-de-France and Hauts-de-France, bringing the Library's unique blend of English-language literature, technology, history, scholarship, and workshops to a French-speaking audience.

Details on our upcoming site visits will appear later in the fall in *e-Libris* and on the On the Road [webpage](#).

This program is generously sponsored by the U.S. Embassy & Consulates in France, with support from The Hauts-de-France and Île-de-France regions.

Critical Conversations begins 17 November

“If you’re not online, you don’t exist.”

—From an interview with Analog Sea Founding Editor Jonathan Simons in the [London Magazine](#).

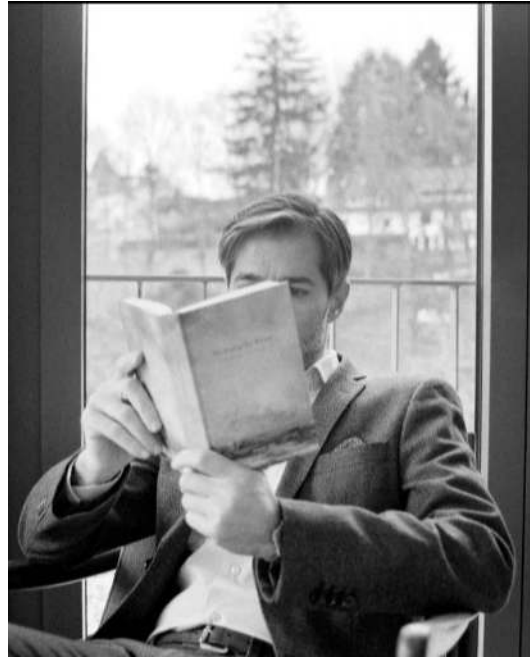
Critical Conversations, the Library's expert-led discussion series, is back, in partnership with Analog Sea, an offline publisher of printed books.

This season's conversations will be led by Jonathan Simons and Alice McCrum. We will meet over nine sessions, from November 2022 to July 2023, pondering the crucial question of our time:

What do we gain from disconnecting, and how can we do it?

Jonathan Simons is the founding editor of offline publishing house Analog Sea and its literary journal, the *Analog Sea Review*. As a poet and essayist, he has written for publications including the *London Magazine*, *PN Review*, and *El País*, among others. His work has been covered by the *Guardian*, the *Times Literary Supplement*, the *Washington Post* and *La Vanguardia*. He researched Buddhist poetics at Naropa University and McGill University and was formerly a visiting scholar at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Center for Humans and Machines, in Berlin.

Alice McCrum is a master's student of public policy at Sciences-Po Paris and the Library's Programs Manager.



This series will take place **in person** at the Library and is **open to both Library members and non-members**.

Advance payment and registration are required:

Regular rate: 150€ per participant

Reduced rate: 100€ (exclusively for students/60+/-26/unemployed/disabled)

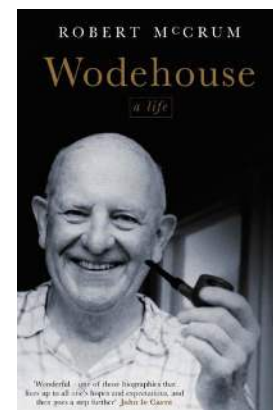
To learn more about Critical Conversations 2022/23 and to see the syllabus, visit the [Library's website](#). Please email Emilie Biggs, Event Assistant, biggs@americanlibraryinparis.org with any questions.

Critical Conversations Sign Up

P. G. Wodehouse, Lifetime Library Member

Writing to a friend in April 1945, English author P. G. Wodehouse, the master of the quip and one of the 20th century's most popular humorists, mentions he's reading books by William Dean Howells and Anthony Trollope "[taken] out of the American library (for which, by the way, thank God; it makes all the difference to life in Paris)."

Further proof of his appreciation is recorded in a 1946 Treasurer's Report, recently unearthed in the Library's institutional archives. That year Wodehouse became a "life member" of the American Library in Paris, by donating the sum of 5000FF (anciens francs, about 439€ today). He was living in the 16th arrondissement, only 4.5 km from our then-location in the 8th, at 9 rue de Téhéran.



The following receipts qualified the individuals as members and were reported under the head of "Subscriptions, etc."

| <u>PATRONS</u> | <u>FRS.</u> |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Bernard S. Carter | 15,000 |
| Mme. Claire Fabre | 15,000 |
| Morgan & Cie | 15,000 |
| | |
| <u>LIFE MEMBERS</u> | |
| Mme. Jacques Allex | 7,500 |
| Yves Brosselin | 7,500 |
| Mlle. Margeurite Divin | 3,000 |
| Mrs. Spencer Eddy | 7,500 |
| Dr. Alice Maas | 7,500 |
| P. G. Wodehouse | <u>5,000</u> |
| Total Frs. | 83,000 |

American Library in Paris Institutional Archives, File C3a

By the end of that year, Wodehouse had moved out to Saint-Germain-en-Laye, and wrote, with apparent relief, "Trains to Paris every quarter of an hour do the journey in twenty-five minutes, landing you in the heart of the city, so that I am really just as near to the American Library as I was at the Boulevard Suchet."

Many books by and about Wodehouse—fiction, letters, and biographies alike—are available in the Library's collection. If you, too, feel the Library makes a difference in your life, please consider a [donation](#).

Meet Volunteer Irene Su

Irene Su has been a volunteer in Children's and Teens' Services since 2018. Once a week, she comes to the Library to shelve, paying special attention to the picture books. She also helps members navigate the collection and check out books.

Each Library book has a special sticker called an RFID tag, which allows members to check in and check out items at the kiosks. These tags can become worn over time, especially on well-loved children's books, so Irene shows members how to patiently place items in the machines, one by one. She has even created instructional videos about using the kiosks, to train other Children's and Teens' Services volunteers.

Along with her weekly tasks, Irene has been great help preparing for the Library's seasonal events, making decorations for Halloween and Winter Wonderland, among others.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Library, [visit our website](#) to find out more, and for a link to the online application.



Programs for Adults

Evenings with an Author, sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg

Evenings with an Author and other evening programs are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted. You must RSVP to attend our programs, whether you join us in person or via Zoom.



TONIGHT

Writing Ukraine Panel

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 18 October at 19h30 CEST

Is it possible to write when one's country is under siege? What can writing achieve, and what are its limits? What is the relationship of writing to grief, violence, and peace? Prominent Ukrainian and Ukrainian-American authors convene to discuss literature and war. Speakers are Director of the Ukrainian Institute London, Olesya Khromeychuk; poet Lyuba Yakimchuk; Ukrainian-American author Sonya Bilocerkowycz; journalist Irena Karpa; and writer Artem Chapeye, who is currently enlisted and serving in the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)



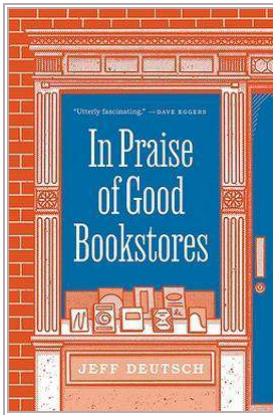
Hélène Périvier on *The Feminist Economy*

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 25 October at 19h30 CEST

Can one be both an economist and a feminist? This is the guiding question of Hélène Périvier's *L'Économie féministe*, which seeks to rebuke the alleged neutrality of economics and expose its gendered core. The study of economics, Périvier argues, was developed by men to serve a society led by men, and the field's fundamental concepts and methods of analysis are derived from a patriarchal model. This is also a field in which women are severely underrepresented: barely a quarter of all economists are women. Périvier proposes a critical alternative to the established economic model: the feminist economy.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)



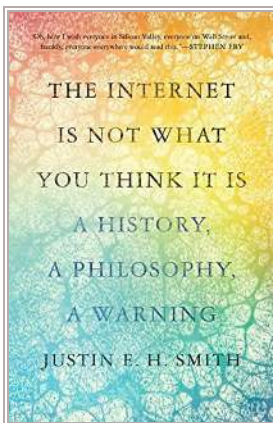
[Jeff Deutsch on *In Praise of Good Bookstores*](#)

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 26 October at 19h30 CEST

What is the role of the bookstore in the contemporary, digital age? What services does it offer that mammoth online entities such as Amazon.com lack? Can bookstores change the way we read? Bookseller Jeff Deutsch argues that they are civic institutions which promote the values of community, friendship, self-reflection, and meditation, and makes the case for the personal and public necessity of good bookstores.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)



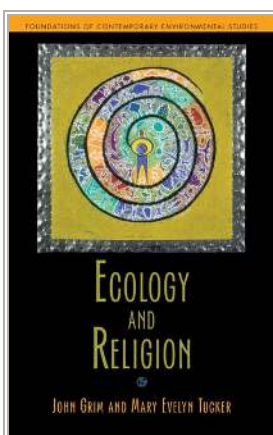
[Justin Smith on *The Internet Is Not What You Think It Is*](#)

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 2 November at 19h30 CET

The internet was born out of a desire to increase access to information and facilitate communication, thus bringing human beings closer together. This dream, argues historian Justin Smith in his new book, *The Internet Is Not What You Think It Is*, is officially, definitively dead. Considering social media, information algorithms, and smartphone dependency, Smith shows how the internet was transformed from social tool to social problem. Equal parts intellectual history, philosophical treatise, and manifesto, the book sounds the alarm for our future.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)




[Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim on *Ecology and Religion*](#)


Online Event: Live on Zoom
Wednesday 9 November at 19h30 CET

What can world religions teach us about the earth? How does religion express our relationship to nature, and how can we use religious philosophy to mitigate nature's destruction? Frequently placed in opposition to one another, the union of religion and science may be a vital strategic move in the fight against the climate crisis. Yale historians of religion Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim propose that religion can contribute an ethical and spiritual dimension to ecology, motivating the fight for climate justice.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)

 Past programs are on YouTube, including Michael Moss on the Processed Food Industry; Lindsey Tramuta, Rokhaya Diallo, and Grace Ly on Who Represents France; Peter Sokolowski on Nobles, Yeomen, and How French Brought ‘Class’ to English; Matthieu Aikins and Luke Mogelson on Wartime Journalism; and An Evening with Deborah Levy.



**GROW@
ANNENBERG**

Evenings with an Author and other weeknight programs at the Library are free and open to the public (with a 10€ suggested donation) thanks to support from GRoW @ Annenberg, our members, and those who attend programs.

Kids' and Teens' News



It's finally October and the Halloween Extravaganza is here! Join us for spooky happenings including scary story workshops, spine-chilling book recommendations, and chances to win prizes all month long.

How Can You Help the American Library?



As an independent, non-profit institution, we rely on the support and generosity of our community. How can you help the American Library in Paris throughout the year? Renew your Library membership, make a donation online, become a volunteer, and tell your friends about the Library.

RENEW

DONATE

VOLUNTEER

The American Library in Paris is an independent, non-profit institution that receives no regular government funding. Your generosity is essential in keeping the Library vibrant and creative.

All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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www.americanlibraryinparis.org



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