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The American Library in Paris

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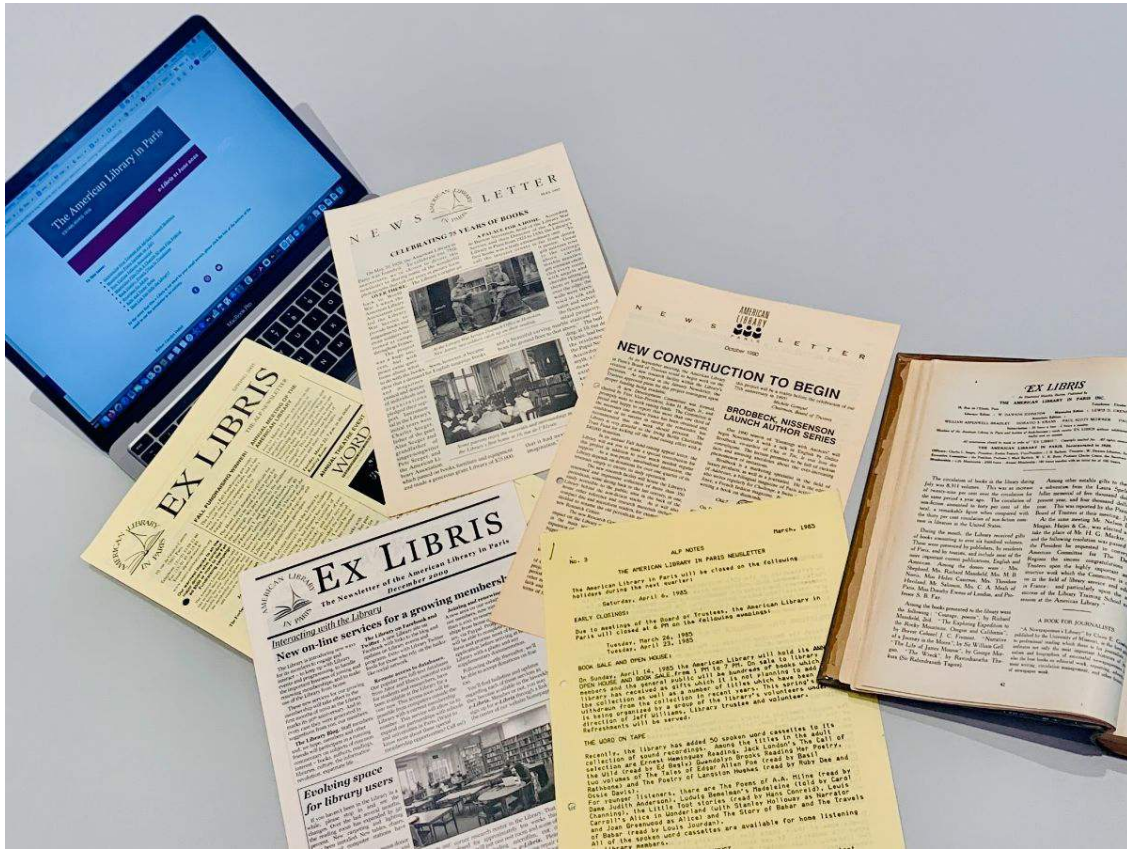
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Editor: Carolyn Dubol

Your Library Newsletter



The Library’s newsletter has changed dramatically over the last 102 years. It began as *Ex Libris* in the 1920s, as a literary magazine with contributors such as Stein and Hemingway. It was revived in the 1980s as a seasonal review, and is now the bi-weekly email newsletter, *e-Libris*.

Every two weeks, we send out updates on *Evenings with an Author* sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg; programming for children and teens; the collection; the Visiting Fellowship; the Book Award; book groups; the Young Authors Fiction Festival; On the Road; the archives; and so much more—everything that makes the Library such a vibrant literary community and cultural institution in Paris.

Next Tuesday we’ll send out a special edition, with details on the exciting programs coming up this fall for kids, teens, and adults.

You don’t have to be a Library member to read *e-Libris*, so if you have a friend or family member who would enjoy our content, please invite them to [sign up](#) via our website.

Summer Hours Reminder

Summer Hours continue until 30 August:

Tuesday, Wednesday: 13h00–19h00 (*nocturne* suspended)
Thursday, Friday, Saturday: 10h00–16h00
Sunday, Monday: Closed

On Tuesday 30 August, we will resume our normal hours, including *nocturnes* until 21h on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We’ll also be open on Sundays from 13h to 19h.

The Freedom to Write

From Audrey Chapuis, Director:

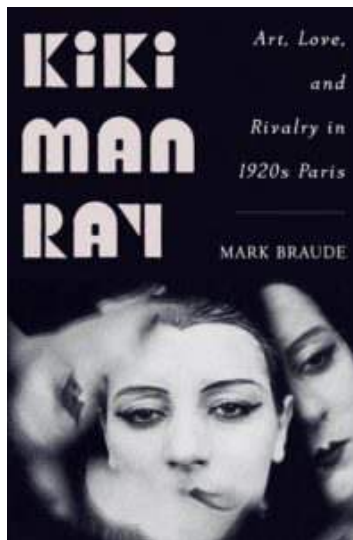
Around the time that Henry Miller was writing *Tropic of Cancer* in Paris, he included two items on a to-do list taped above his desk: "Get card from the American Library" and also, more problematically, "Steal good books from the American Library." (Alas, in the '30s, the Library wasn't yet equipped with the theft sensors that we have these days.) *Tropic of Cancer* was first published in France and banned for thirty years in the US before the Supreme Court allowed its publication, a victory that is widely viewed as a critical milestone in the long fight for freedom of expression.

Four years ago, Salman Rushdie came to the American Library in Paris as our 2018 Gala honoree. He spoke with grace and humor, and he told stories with an unbridled generosity. He presented himself as simply and fundamentally a storyteller, betraying nothing of his decades of raw bravery and his political fight (through initiatives like PEN America) to protect other writers.

The brutal attack on Rushdie during his talk at the Chautauqua Institution was a violent reminder that the battle to protect free speech is ongoing. Regimes all over the world are clamping down on artists, writers, dissidents, journalists, and thinkers. But we are also witnessing a renewed resolve, from within the international literary community and the wider world. We are resolved to protect those who stand for our freedoms, to uphold values of the free exchange of ideas and the conditions that enable it.

Every reader knows that a book represents an act of courage, a writer putting their ideas into the world. At the American Library, we are fortunate to be a place of solace for writers to work, to reflect, and to connect with their readers. For over a century, countless authors have penned works sitting in our reading rooms. Some may spark controversy. Some may be banned. We are proud to stand with libraries, librarians, and cultural institutions around the world that continue to fight to have those books on their shelves and to keep their doors and minds open to debate.




Mark Braude on Kiki de Montparnasse




Writers from around the world have found a literary home at the American Library in Paris through our Visiting Fellowship Program, which is generously supported by The De Groot Foundation.

One such writer is cultural historian Mark Braude, a recipient of the 2020 Visiting Fellowship. His past books include *The Invisible Emperor: Napoleon on Elba From Exile to Escape* and *Making Monte Carlo: A History of Speculation and Spectacle*.

His latest is *Kiki Man Ray: Art, Love, and Rivalry in 1920s Paris*, just released by W. W. Norton & Company. Read his 4 August article at Lithub.com, "[How Kiki de Montparnasse Made Her Life Into a Work of Art: Mark Braude on the Dueling Artistic Passions of Man Ray and a Muse With a Mind of Her Own.](#)"

-  Past programs are on YouTube, including Lara Marlowe on Love and War, David Chalmers on The Future of Reality, and Rahim Danto Barry on Portes d'Afrique.
-  Listen to our podcast, Evenings with an Author, available wherever you get your podcasts.
-  Visit our Facebook page for information about upcoming events and Evenings with an Author sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg.



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.

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

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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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