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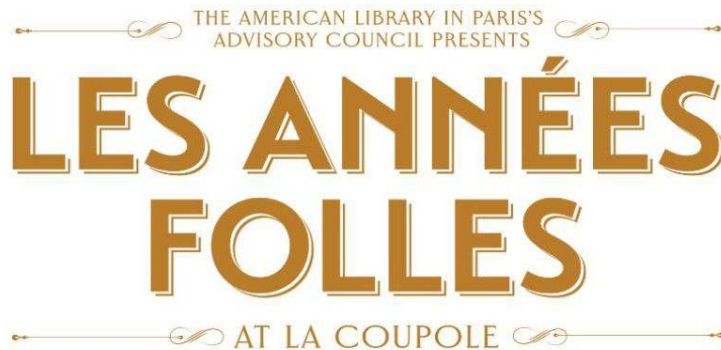
**23 January 2024**

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Editor: Carolyn Dubol

## Les Années Folles at La Coupole



MARCH  
**21**

Immerse yourself in the rich literary beginnings of the American Library in Paris with

**Les Années Folles at La Coupole!**  
**21 March 2024 at 20h30**  
**Le Dancing de La Coupole**  
[102, boulevard de Montparnasse 75014 Paris](#)

You'll enter the iconic La Coupole dance hall in Paris's 14th arrondissement and be transported back to the 1920s with a **live jazz quartet, dancing, and entertainment**. You'll rub elbows with writers and historians specialized in the era's literary history, and you'll learn more about the Library's storied relationships with Lost Generation writers and artists.

Your ticket includes hors d'oeuvres, champagne, wine, and beer.

Costumes highly encouraged!

Tickets are 75€ and quantities are limited.

## TICKETS

If you or your company are interested in sponsoring this event, please contact [giving@americanlibraryinparis.org](mailto:giving@americanlibraryinparis.org)

## We're especially excited about...

You're invited to some very special programming over the next few weeks!



### [Barbara Kingsolver at the Library](#)

**Thursday 8 February at 19h30 CET**

Do you follow contemporary fiction? Novelist Barbara Kingsolver took the literary world by storm (again) with her 2023 Pulitzer Prize-winning *Demon Copperhead*. Come learn about this timely retelling of Dickens' *David Copperfield*.

The event is open to the public, free to attend online, and 15€ to attend in person. Registration required.

### **Film Screening:**

#### [American Pavilion at Cannes Emerging Filmmakers](#)

**Tuesday 30 January at 18h50 CET**

Do you love cinema? Don't miss our screening event, in partnership with the [American Pavillion](#) at the Cannes Film Festival and the entertainment website [Deadline](#).

Free and open to the public.

Reservation required. Popcorn provided.





**By Popular Demand: A Saturday Writing Workshop!  
[Experimental Fiction as Philosophical Experiment  
 with Justin Smith-Ruiu](#)**

**Saturdays 3, 10, and 17 February at 15h00**

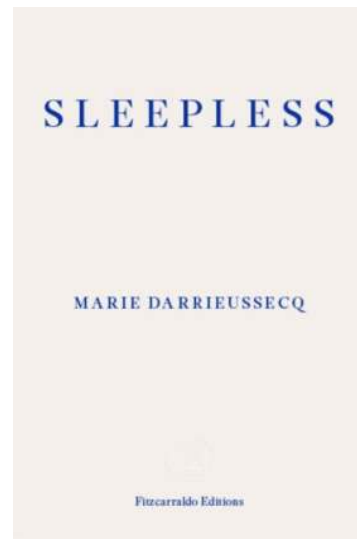
Join us for a three-part philosophical fiction workshop led by philosopher Justin Smith. Each session will unfold over two hours, and signups are limited to eighteen spots.

Advanced registration and payment required.  
 40€ per participant for Library members, and 60€ for nonmembers (all 3 sessions).

**Fitzcarraldo February**

We're thrilled to be partnering with renowned publishing house [Fitzcarraldo Editions](#) to bring you evenings with their top writers.

Known for their distinctive blue and white covers, and esteemed for their highly selective catalogue, Fitzcarraldo is the leading publisher of innovative, boundary-pushing literature. Founded in 2014 with the mission to publish only twenty-two works per year, the publishing house has already established itself as champion of the most exciting and ambitious literary voices of our time, including four Nobel Prize-winning writers: Svetlana Alexievich (2015), Olga Tokarczuk (2018), Annie Ernaux (2022), and Jon Fosse (2023). The Library is delighted to welcome [Marie Darrieussecq](#), [Thea Lenarduzzi](#), Vanessa Onwuemezi, Kirsty Bell, and Brian Dillon, all of whose work explores the frontiers of genre, form, and craft, challenging us to rethink what writing can do. We'll be sharing more information about this series in the next edition of *e-Libris*.



**Mango Languages and Vocabulary**

Did you make a New Year's resolution to improve your French? Or are you ready to learn an entirely new language? The Library's language-learning e-resource, **Mango**, offers lessons in seventy different languages, and they now offer a feature called Mango Vocabulary. You'll discover curated vocabulary collections, allowing you to target specific themes such as food or locations. You can even create your very own vocabulary list specific to your interests.

Check out Mango Languages using the smartphone app or your computer. Visit the Library's [e-resources](#) page on our website to get started, and stop by our Member Service desk with any questions.



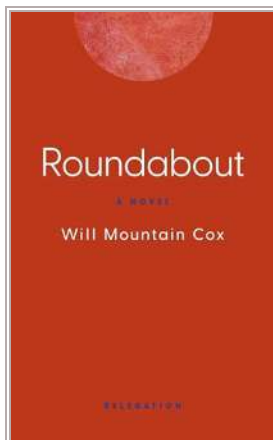

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## Programs for Adults

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.

We thank the following additional sponsors: the Florence Gould Foundation, The de Groot Foundation, and the American Center for Art & Culture.



**TONIGHT**

**[Paris of the Present with Will Mountain Cox](#)**

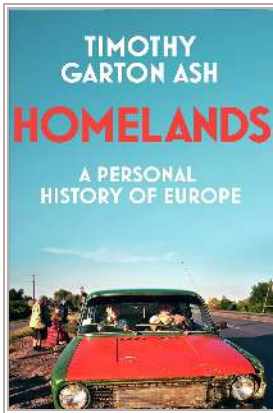
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom  
Tuesday 23 January at 19h30 CET**

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Tired of romanticized visions of the Paris of the past, Will Mountain Cox set out in his debut novel, *Roundabout*, to write the Paris present: the Notre Dame fire, the November 2015 attacks, gentrification, climate change, and hyper-tourism.

Cox is the founder of the bi-monthly literary magazine *Belleville Park Pages*. Ever-sensitive to the spirit of the age, he will speak at the Library about the Parisian cultural landscape.

**RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom**



## TOMORROW

**Europe's Past and Future with Timothy Garton Ash**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Wednesday 24 January at 19h30 CET**

In recent years, populist and authoritarian regimes have gained momentum across Europe, and democratic norms have shown signs of erosion. How can we understand the tectonic shifts that have shaped contemporary Europe? What lessons can Europe learn from its own recent past?

Timothy Garton Ash is a journalist, historian, and author of new book *Homelands, A Personal History of Europe*. He will appear in conversation with historian and writer Thomas Dodma to guide us through recent European history and offer his expert predictions about what comes next.

Book sale and signing after the event, thanks to [Smith&Son](#).

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



**(In-person Registration Full)**

**Entre Nous: Art as Social Action**  
**with Peter Sellars and Yasmine Seale**  
**Live on Zoom**  
**Thursday 25 January at 19h30 CET**

Theater director Peter Sellars is famous for his avant-garde stagings of classic operas: His version of *Così fan tutte* was set in a diner in Cape Cod, and *The Marriage of Figaro* in a luxury apartment in Trump Tower. He is also known for his stagings of groundbreaking new works, such as the John Adams operas *Nixon in China* and *Doctor Atomic*. This winter, the Opéra Nationale de Paris will present Sellars's production of Bellini's [\*Beatrice di Tenda\*](#) at the Opéra Bastille.

At the Library, Sellars will be joined by writer and translator Yasmine Seale to discuss his latest project and the role of the arts in today's world.

This program is a part of our Entre Nous series, co-produced with Columbia Global Centers | Paris and the Institute for Ideas & Imagination.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)



### **Screening: American Pavilion at Cannes Emerging Filmmakers In Person at the Library**

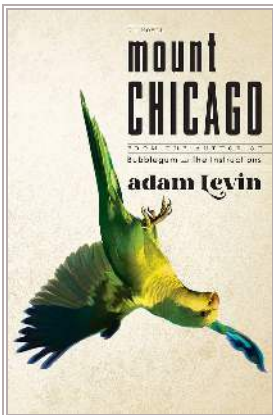
**Tuesday 30 January at 18h50 CET**

Note the special start time for this event.

Each year, the American Pavilion at the Cannes Film Festival holds an Emerging Filmmaker Showcase, providing an opportunity for up-and-coming American filmmakers to share their work with a global audience.

In anticipation of the 2024 Cannes Festival in May, the Library is partnering with the American Pavilion and entertainment website Deadline. On 30 January we'll transform the Library into a cinema and will screen the American Pavilion's past Emerging Filmmaker Showcase winners. The screening will be followed by a Q&A session with Deadline's Diana Lodderhose and the winning filmmakers. The evening will conclude with a networking reception where aspiring and professional filmmakers—along with casual film lovers—can connect over a love of cinema.

**RSVP to attend in person**



### **Writing Disaster with Adam Levin**

**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**

**Wednesday 31 January at 19h30 CET**

A natural disaster devastates Chicago. A Jewish comedian, his most devoted fan, and the city's mayor must struggle to move forward while the world—quite literally—caves beneath their feet.

Mount Chicago is a story of Chicago-style politics and political correctness, stand-up comedy and Jewish identity, and the absurdist semantics of disaster. With his third novel, Adam Levin has created a monument to laughter, love, art, and resilience in an age of spectacular loss. Join Levin in conversation with writer Amanda Dennis.

Book sale and signing after the event, thanks to [Smith&Son](#).

**RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom**



### **Saturday Workshop: Experimental Fiction as Philosophical Experiment with Justin Smith-Ruiu (Session 1 of 3)**

**In Person at the Library**

**Saturday 3 February at 15h00 CET**

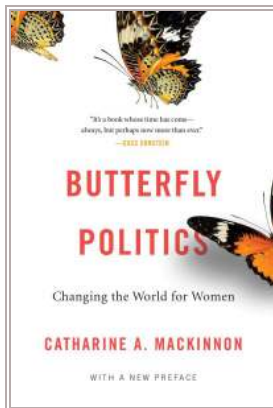
From Plato's *Symposium* and the *Bhagavad Ghita* to more recent works of philosophers such as Sartre and Camus, some of the most significant philosophical texts have been written as stories. Avoiding the path of didactic truth, these authors use basic tools of character and plot to tease out nuanced meditations on love, truth, politics, enlightenment, and life itself.

Philosopher, author, and historian Justin Smith-Ruiu is an expert in undertaking experimental fiction as a form of philosophizing. Over the course of three sessions, he will share his perspective on the relationship between philosophy and experiment, and demonstrate the role of creativity in the philosophical project.

In this first meeting, participants will be introduced to the subject matter of philosophical fiction, reading and discussing examples of philosophical texts.

Please note that this workshop is limited to 18 places.  
Advanced registration and payment required.  
40€ per participant for Library members (all 3 sessions).  
60€ per participant for nonmembers.

[RSVP to attend in person](#)



**[Changing the World for Women](#)  
[with Catharine MacKinnon and Kate Kirkpatrick](#)  
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom  
Tuesday 6 February at 19h30 CET**

Legal scholar Catharine MacKinnon has been at the forefront of legal and social battles for gender equality for nearly fifty years. In 1979, she was the first to make the groundbreaking argument that sexual harassment in the workplace violates laws against sexual discrimination.

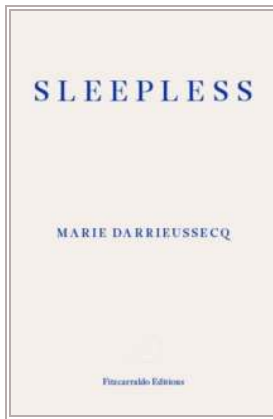
MacKinnon's 2017 book *Butterfly Politics* is a collection of essays and speeches that she has delivered across her fifty years of fighting. The title refers to the "butterfly effect": the idea that a butterfly opening and closing its wings can—under the right conditions—cause a tornado (or large-scale social change) on the other side of the world.

MacKinnon will be joined in conversation with former American Library in Paris Visiting Fellow and renowned feminist philosopher Kate Kirkpatrick.

Book sale and signing after the event, thanks to [Smith&Son](#) and [Tome7](#).

The Visiting Fellowship is generously supported by The de Groot Foundation.

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



**[Dispatches from Insomnia with Marie Darrieussecq](#)**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Wednesday 7 February at 19h30 CET**

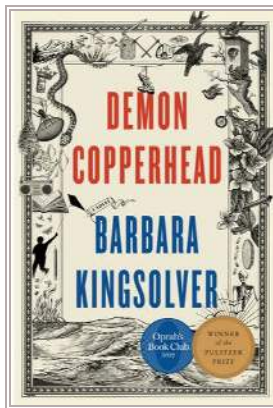
Sleep is a basic and essential bodily function, but it is not always easily achieved. We have all experienced it at one time or another: a night of sleepless torment, in which our minds refuse to slip into unconsciousness, even despite our exhaustion.

For decades, French writer Marie Darrieussecq has struggled with insomnia. In her new book, *Sleepless*, she explores the contours of her own sleepless nights and finds camaraderie with the sleep-deprived writers of days gone by.

This program is part of Fitzcarraldo February, a series of events featuring authors who have recently published books with the London-based independent publisher Fitzcarraldo Editions.

Book sale and signing after the event, thanks to [Smith&Son](#) and [Tome7](#).

**RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom**



**MARQUEE EVENT**  
**[Demon Copperhead](#)**  
**with Pulitzer Prize Winner Barbara Kingsolver**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Thursday 8 February at 19h30 CET**  
**15€ to attend in person. Free to watch online.**

Barbara Kingsolver first rose to literary fame with her first novel, 1988s *The Bean Trees*. Her 1998 novel *The Poisonwood Bible* catapulted her to even greater heights. Over the past year, she has swept the global literary world yet again with the release of her new novel, *Demon Copperhead*, a spirited retelling of Charles Dickens's David Copperfield, that won her the 2023 Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

Kingsolver draws energy from Dickens's beloved plot and characters, but with a crucial difference: her setting is not Dickens's London, but contemporary Appalachia—specifically, the mountains of southwest Virginia. Like Dickens's novel before it, *Demon Copperhead* confronts and condemns a range of social problems. Kingsolver's targets include the opioid crisis, the foster care system, and the economic abandonment of Appalachia. *Demon Copperhead* offers a vivid portrayal of rural American life, reclaiming hero status for a region that is often ignored or disparaged in American film, television, and literature.

Book sale and signing after the event, thanks to [Smith&Son](#).

**All attendees are invited to a reception following the event.**

**RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom**





**Saturday Workshop:**  
**Experimental Fiction as Philosophical Experiment**  
**with Justin Smith-Ruiu (Session 2 of 3)**

**In Person at the Library**

**Saturday 10 February at 15h00 CET**

During the second meeting of this three-part series, participants will bring their own ideas to the table through exercises and critique. We will explore thinking differently, writing strangely, and the avenues of expression which open up to us when we dare to break the rules.

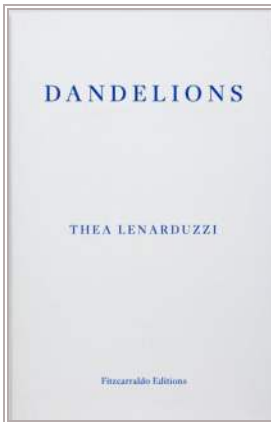
Please note that this workshop is limited to 18 places.

Advanced registration and payment required.

40€ per participant for Library members (all 3 sessions).

60€ per participant for nonmembers.

**RSVP to attend in person**



**Language and Lineage: An Evening with Thea Lenarduzzi**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Tuesday 13 February at 19h30 CET**

In her new memoir, *Dandelions*, Thea Lenarduzzi unpicks the meaning of "home" through a multi-generational exploration of her own family history. Her story shuttles back and forth between the provinces of northern Italy and the streets of Manchester and Sheffield, following in the footsteps of her family's many voyages. Join us for an evening of reflection on the nature of home, constructions of national identity, and the poetics of memory.

This program is part of Fitzcarraldo February, a series of events featuring authors who have recently published books with the London-based independent publisher Fitzcarraldo Editions.

**RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom**



**Translation Slam!**  
**Featuring Tess Lewis and Daniel Levin Becker**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Wednesday 14 February at 19h30 CET**

Have you ever wondered what it's like to translate a beloved work of literature from one language to another? Are you eager to try your hand at the task? Join us for an evening of Valentine's-themed live translation, featuring American Library in Paris Scholar of Note Tess Lewis, award-winning translator of Anne Weber's *Epic Annette* and Maja Haderlap's *Angel of Oblivion*, and Daniel Levin Becker, acclaimed translator of Laurent Mauvignier's *The Birthday Party*.

Supplied with an original French text, and competing against ChatGPT,

Lewis and Becker will offer their own translations of an original French text and be called to defend their choices. Audience members will be able to ask questions, propose their own translations, and vote for the most successful approach. The winner takes away a box of chocolates; the loser, a broken heart.

The event will feature festive cocktails and confectionery. Don't miss the rare opportunity to see translation in action, learn about AI's impact on the practice, develop your own perspective, and share a conversation (heart) or two.

The Scholar of Note program is generously supported by The de Groot Foundation.

**RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom**



**Saturday Workshop:  
Experimental Fiction as Philosophical Experiment  
with Justin Smith-Ruiu (Session 3 of 3)**

**In Person at the Library**

**Saturday 17 February at 15h00 CET**

During the third and final meeting of this three-part series, participants will share their own projects, developed over the previous two sessions.

Please note that this workshop is limited to 18 places.

Advanced registration and payment required.

40€ per participant for Library members (all 3 sessions).

60€ per participant for nonmembers.

**RSVP to attend in person**



**Find recordings of past programs on our [YouTube](#) channel:**

- Fixing France: How to Repair a Broken Republic with Nabila Ramdani
- Serving Stories with Edward Chisholm
- The Future of Consent with Manon Garcia
- Slaves for Peanuts:  
An Evening with Jori Lewis and Robin Allison Davis
- The Middle East Crisis: Journalists Look at What's Ahead
- Entre Nous: Possible Lives with Maria Stepanova
- An Evening with Binkady-Emmanuel Hié and Lyneka Little
- Writing Politics with Giuliano da Empoli and Antonio Monda



Evenings with an Author 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.



## Children's and Teens' News

Unless otherwise noted, all Children's events are for Library members only. Teen events are free for members, and 15€ per teen for non-members. Advance registration is required for all events for children and teens.

### Book Recommendations for Children and Teens



#### Children's Event Highlights

Open to Library Members.

[\*\*Story Hour: That's Ridiculous!\*\*](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 24 January at 14h30

[\*\*Saturday Series: DIY Accordion Books\*\*](#) (ages 6–12) Saturday 27 January at 11h00

[\*\*Story Hour: Flying Machines\*\*](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 24 January at 14h30

[\*\*Toddler Time\*\*](#) (ages 1–3) Thursday 1 February at 11h00

[\*\*Saturday Series: Geometric Art Exploration\*\*](#) (ages 6–12) Saturday 3 February at 11h00

[\*\*Story Hour: From Turtles to T-Rex\*\*](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 7 February at 14h30

[\*\*DIY Valentines\*\*](#) (ages 3–12) Saturday 10 February at 11h00

[\*\*2024 Read-A-Thon Kick-Off Party\*\*](#) (all ages) Saturday 10 February at 14h00

[\*\*Story Hour: Valentine's Day\*\*](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 14 February at 14h30

**Toddler Time** (ages 1–3) Thursday 15 February at 11h00

**Saturday Series: Computer Crafting** (ages 6–12) Saturday 24 February at 11h00

### Event Highlights for Teens

Ages 12–18. Free for members. 15€ for non-members.

**Teen Night: Messy Art Night** Friday 26 January at 19h00

**Pop Up Cards** (ages 12–18) Sunday 4 February at 16h00

**Teen Night: Ping Pong Play Off** Friday 9 February at 19h00

**2024 Read-A-Thon Kick-Off Party** (all ages) Saturday 10 February at 14h00

**Picture This: Creating Stories from Photos** (ages 12–18) Saturday 17 February at 16h00

### For University-bound Students and their Families:

#### **Choosing a Country for Your Child’s University Education with Richard Montauk**

Ages 14–adult

Saturday 27 January at 14h00

Advance Registration is required.

Resources in our collection for future college students: Our collection includes books on SAT prep, getting ready for college admissions interviews, writing college admissions essays, and more. Stop by the Teen Mezzanine to check out our selection of helpful books in print.

## How Can You Help the 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? [Become a member](#) or [renew](#) your Library membership, make an online [donation](#), become a [volunteer](#), and tell your friends about the Library.



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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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