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The American Library in Paris

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e-Libris 30 August 2022

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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

Fall Hours

Today, 30 August 2022, the Library returns to its regular operating hours:

Tue–Wed: 10h–21h

Thu–Fri–Sat: 10h–19h

Sun: 13h–19h

Mon: Closed

Last hour: self-service only

Last entry: 30 minutes before closing time

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.

Seeking Programs Volunteers:

Interested in helping the Library while you enjoy our evening events?

If you're available on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings, we invite you to [apply online](#) to become a Programs volunteer.

September Programs

Evenings with an Author, sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg, returns to the American Library in Paris this fall. As we launch this new programming season, we renew our promise to showcase innovative writing and be a home for critical dialogue.

We will turn our attention to urgent current events: Journalist **Peter Conradi** will explain the war in Ukraine; scholar **Rob Nixon** will show us a new approach to the climate crisis; and historian **Andrew Curran** will enlighten us on scientific racism.

We will examine American identity at home and abroad. **Amor Towles** will lead us into the heart of Americana with his triumphant *The Lincoln Highway*, and we will explore the mind of one of America's most iconic voices during an evening with **Joyce Maynard**.

Our proud partnership with **Festival America** will bring pressing issues in American society to French soil. Authors such as **Viet Thanh Nguyen**, **Jonathan Franzen**, and **Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah** will touch upon the themes of visibility, embodiment, and political literature as they diagnose the present day and confer on solutions.

Keep reading to learn more about all of our September events.

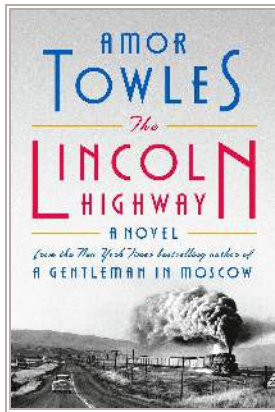


[Daniel Levin Becker](#)
[on *What's Good: Notes on Rap and Language*](#)
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 6 September at 19h30 CEST

A life-long fan of hip-hop and a professional music critic, writer Daniel Levin Becker dives into the complex world of hip-hop in his newest book *What's Good: Notes on Rap and Language*. Analyzing lines of famous (and sometimes infamous) songs through cultural, philosophical, and historical lenses, Levin Becker reveals the complicated web of influences that go into crafting a rap single and explores topics ranging from misogyny and “hashtag rap” to drug dealing and the aesthetics of cool.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



[Amor Towles on *The Lincoln Highway*](#)

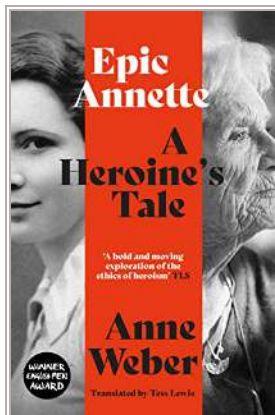
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Thursday 8 September at 19h30 CEST**

Reception at the Library following the event

Amor Towles's latest novel, *The Lincoln Highway*, is populated by a charming ensemble of misfits. When troubled teenager Emmett and his brother Billy make plans to leave their Nebraska farm behind for California, the road ahead quickly twists and deviates. Unexpected companions, petty crime, and a youthful spirit of adventure combine to transform a simple road trip into a high-stakes railway pursuit across the country.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



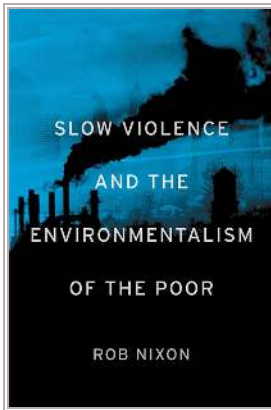
[Anne Weber on *Epic Annette*](#)

**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 13 September at 19h30 CEST**

Epic Annette: A Heroine's Tale details the miraculous and harrowing story of Annette Beaumanoir, a medical student whose involvement with the French Resistance during World War II and the Algerian FLN cemented her name in history. Weber seizes on Beaumanoir's gripping personal tale, including her exile from France and separation from her children, to explore the tragic conflict between political activism and familial obligation. Anne Weber will be in conversation with Tess Lewis, the English translator of her book.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



Rob Nixon on Environmental Justice and *Slow Violence*

Virtual Event: Streamed Live on Zoom

Wednesday 14 September at 19h30 CEST

From flooded Kentucky streets to a Portugal engulfed in flames, images of the climate crisis are used to underscore its urgency and communicate the scale of its devastation. Princeton scholar Rob Nixon, is equally interested in manifestations of climate change that are largely invisible and unspectacular. In his seminal 2011 work *Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor*, Nixon encourages us to look at the gradual processes of environmental harm which lead to catastrophic events. When we consider the unseen alongside the seen, new strategies for the fight against climate change emerge, and environmental justice becomes a more attainable goal.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)



Andrew Curran on *Who's Black and Why?*

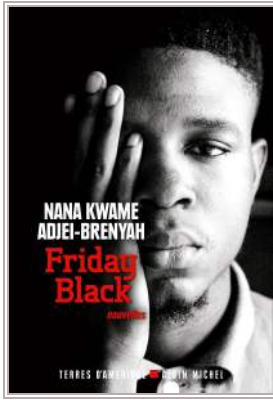
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom

Tuesday 20 September at 19h30 CEST

In 1739 the Bordeaux Royal Academy of Sciences held an essay competition on the scientific cause of 'blackness.' They received sixteen submissions. In 2022 editors Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Andrew S. Curran published these never-before-seen documents alongside a study of the birth of 'scientific racism.' Curran will be speaking at the Library on this curious 18th century competition, the history of race and racism, the relationship between science and the Enlightenment, and how these ideas relate to present day concepts of race.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



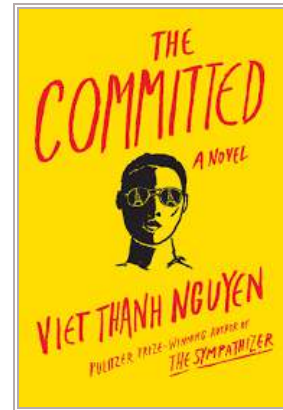
Festival America: Invisibles et Très Visibles
with Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah and Viet Thanh Nguyen
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 21 September at 19h30 CEST

In partnership with Festival America, the Library will welcome authors Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah and Viet Thanh Nguyen for a discussion on visibility and invisibility in literature. Invisible as minorities, visible as stereotypes, and highly visible as threats, Asian Americans, like Black Americans, like First Nations Americans, constantly slip in and out of sight, rarely seen for who they are. How can literature disrupt this slippage? How can writing authentically illuminate the overlooked corners of society?

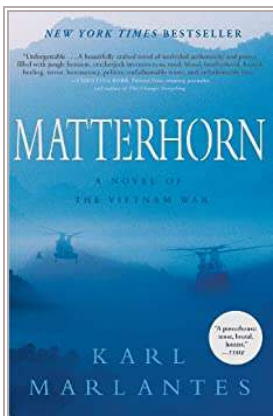
Equipped with humor and violence, theory and experience, the best literature exposes not only the hidden tensions of the world, but the hidden tensions of the reader herself. In exposing depths and wounds, literature which makes the invisible visible can be seen as a type of cure.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

This event is held in partnership with Festival America.



RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom



Festival America: Politique de la Littérature
with Jonathan Franzen, Karl Marlantes and Viet Thanh Nguyen
In Person at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Vincennes
Saturday 24 September at 18h15 CEST

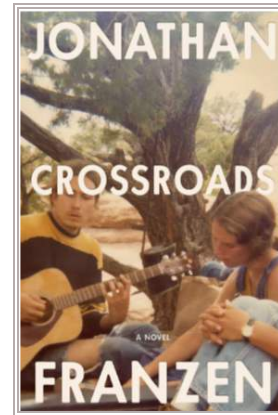
Note the special start time and location for this event.

In partnership with Festival America, we invite you to join Jonathan Franzen, Karl Marlantes, and Viet Thanh Nguyen for a panel on politics in literature. Writing a novel can be an eminently political gesture, whether one is denouncing infamy, reporting on unjust living conditions, or recounting a fight for justice. Like John Dos Passos, John Steinbeck, or Toni Morrison, writers of this camp do not intend to write to entertain, but rather to help open our eyes to the world as it is.

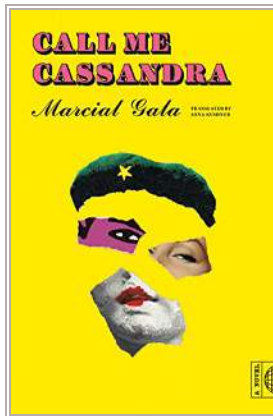
The authors will appear **in person** at the [Centre Georges Pompidou at 142 rue de Fontenay 94300 Vincennes](#).

This event requires the **advance purchase of a one- or two-day Pass** through the Festival America website.

Presented in partnership with Festival America.



[Purchase Festival America Pass](#)



[Festival America: L'Empire des sens with Marcial Gala, Brandon Taylor, and Bryan Washington](#)
In Person at the Maison des Associations in Vincennes
Sunday 25 September at 15h45 CEST

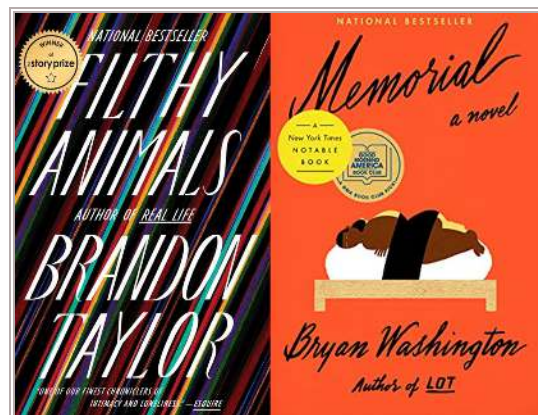
Note the special start time and location for this event.

Festival America and the American Library in Paris invite you to join writers Marcial Gala, Brandon Taylor, and Bryan Washington as they discuss desire and the body in literature. From the famous denial of the senses performed by Descartes (in order to doubt his own identity) to the modern day, the relationship between sensation, embodiment, and writing has been at the center of literature and philosophy. How does writing give flesh to sensation? What is the bodily experience of writing?

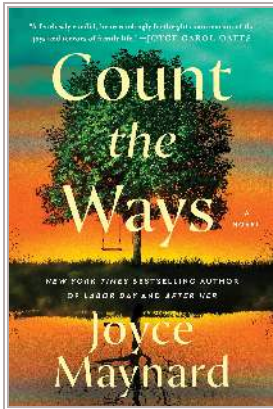
The authors will appear **in person** at the [Maison des Associations at 41 rue Raymond du Temple, 94300 Vincennes](#)

This event requires the **advance purchase of a one- or two-day Pass** through the Festival America website.

Presented in partnership with Festival America.



[Purchase Festival America Pass](#)



[An Evening with Joyce Maynard](#)

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 27 September at 19h30 CEST

Joyce Maynard is a renowned American author celebrated for her cool voice, clear gaze, and stylistic breadth. Over the course of her prolific career, she has authored eighteen books and has worked as a print and radio journalist, a syndicated columnist, a performer with The Moth, and a contributor to *Vogue*, the *New York Times Magazine*, and others. Her most recent novel is *Count the Ways*, published in 2021. She will speak to her writing process, the trajectory of her work, and a life dedicated to the written word.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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






[Who Lost Russia? with Peter Conradi](#)

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 28 September at 19h30 CEST

In 2017 author and journalist Peter Conradi released *Who Lost Russia? How the World Entered a New Cold War*. The book offered expert analysis of Western policies toward Russia following the fall of the USSR and drew a straight line from the political and economic isolation of Russia to Putin's rise and determination to rebuild the Soviet empire. In 2022, with the invasion of Ukraine, Conradi saw his prediction confirmed. In an updated edition of the book, the author examines the war in the context of Russia's post-Soviet history and Putin's authoritarian regime, considering the consequences for Europe and the world.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)

-  Past programs are on YouTube, including Visiting Fellow Ian Williams on Racialization and Disorientation and Colm Tóibín and Patrick Hastings on James Joyce's *Ulysses*.
-  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.

Kids' and Teens' News

Registration is required to attend any program, and attendees must be Library members. To find out what's coming up next, check our [calendar](#) and register early!

Watch to learn about exciting books and new programs for children and teens!



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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www.americanlibraryinparis.org



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