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The American Library in Paris

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Editor: Carolyn Dubol

2022 Book Award: *Coups de Cœur* Announced

Every year, in the run-up to the announcement of the Book Award winner, the Screening Committee creates a *coups de cœur* list of exceptional books about France. Like the Book Award finalists, the *coups de cœur* are selected from the submissions to the Library's literary prize.



The 2022 American Library in Paris Book Award *Coups de Cœur* are

Half-Blown Rose, a rich and sensual novel about marriage, betrayal, and self-realization, by Leesa Cross-Smith

Hostages of Empire, an examination of structures of racial difference and hierarchy under the Vichy regime, by Sarah Ann Frank

The Man Who Invented Motion Pictures, a thrilling look at the life and mysterious death of photography pioneer Louis Le Prince, by Paul Fischer

Soundscapes of Liberation, a comprehensive survey of the transatlantic cultural power of African-American music, by Celeste Day Moore

Sprinting Through No Man's Land, a riveting story of cyclists navigating the ruin and hope of post-WWI France, by Adin Dobkin

A Waiter in Paris, a witty and moving memoir about down-and-out life in a Parisian café, by Edward Chisholm.

2022 Book Award Finalist Interviews

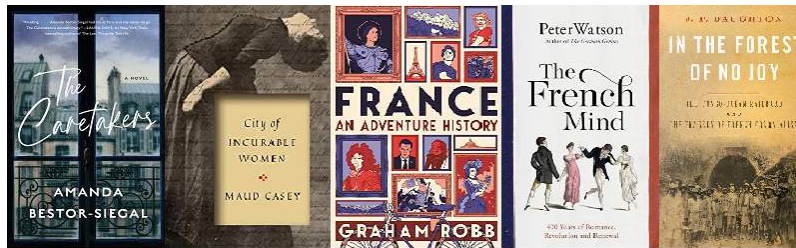
Throughout the month of October, American Library in Paris Book Award Administrator Rachel Donadio will interview this year's shortlisted authors for the Library's YouTube channel.

Donadio's first interview is with Maud Casey, author of *City of Incurable Women*. Casey's novel is historical fiction inventively enriched with the history of science and historical imagination. Using period photographs and medical records both actual and fabricated, Casey tells the stories of female psychiatric patients in Paris in the nineteenth century. Her portraits breathe life back into the real women whose tragic pasts have been long forgotten, ignored, and marginalized by history.

Visit our [YouTube channel](#) on Sundays in October for interviews with shortlisted 2022 Book Award authors.



2022 Book Award Ceremony 3 November



The winner of the 2022 Book Award, chosen from [five finalists](#), will be revealed at a ceremony at the George C. Marshall Center on Thursday 3 November. This event is the Library's most important donor appreciation event of the year, and invitations are sent to supporters who have contributed 250€ or more over the past twelve months. If you have any questions about your eligibility, please contact giving@americanlibraryinparis.org.

The American Library in Paris Book Award is generously supported by the Florence Gould Foundation.

Critical Conversations 2022/2023: Analog Sea



In partnership with [Analog Sea](#), an offline publisher of printed books, we are delighted to announce the fourth season of Critical Conversations, an expert-led discussion series that allows Library members to ponder the most important issues of our time. This season we will discuss questions such as:

- **What do we gain from disconnecting, and how can we do it?**
- **How can we sharpen our senses and redirect our attention in order to change our thoughts and actions?**
- **How can we live in contemporary society with nuance and intention?**

To learn more about Critical Conversations 2022/23 and to see the syllabus, visit the [Library's website](#).

Important Information about Critical Conversations 2022/23: Analog Sea

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

The season will unfold over **nine sessions, from November 2022 to July 2023**. The first three sessions have been scheduled for Thursday 17 November, Thursday 8 December, and Thursday 12 January. The remaining six sessions will be planned with participants' availability in mind.

Conversations will begin at 19h00 CET and run for ninety minutes; technology of all description is happily forbidden. Jonathan Simons, founding editor of Analog Sea, and Alice McCrum, the Library's Programs Manager, will begin each meeting with some opening remarks, before guiding a group discussion.

Advance payment and registration are required:
Regular rate: 150€ per participant

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

Please email Emilie Biggs, Event Assistant, biggs@americanlibraryinparis.org with any questions.

Critical Conversations Sign Up

E-resources for Students

The back-to-school season is in full swing. Beyond quiet study spaces and our print collection, the Library offers members a host of reputable online resources for a variety of ages and disciplines:

- Elementary and high school students can log onto **World Book Online** for encyclopedia entries, introductory magazine articles, biographies, and timelines.
- Business school students can browse **Ebook Central's** 25,000+ full-text ebooks in a variety of business-related topics (marketing, finance, entrepreneurship, etc.).
- Liberal Arts students can search **JSTOR** and **EBSCO MasterFILE** for thousands of journal articles across a wide range of popular and scholarly subjects.
- All students can keep up with current events reported in the ***New York Times***.

To find out how to log in to our e-resources, please visit the [website](#).

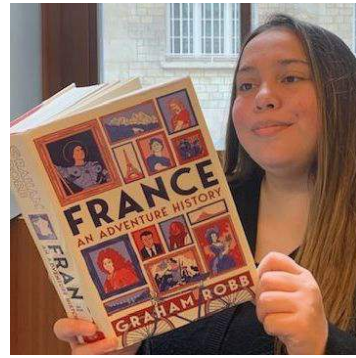
A Welcome and Thanks



We're delighted to officially welcome Event Assistant Emilie Biggs to the Library team. Emily joined the staff at *La Rentrée* and oversees operational logistics for all adult programming, including *Evenings with an Author* sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg, book groups, and Critical Conversations.

Emilie is a graduate of Columbia University, where she studied Comparative Literature with a concentration in Philosophy. She has experience as a teacher at the Institute of Reading Development in New York and as a teaching assistant at École Jean-Mermoz I in Sarcelles. Emilie is currently studying philosophy at l'École Normale Supérieure. She was a dedicated Library volunteer before joining the staff.

Many thanks to Elizabeth Revelo, who just finished her time as the Library's Collections Intern. Elizabeth is working on a Master's Degree in Elementary Education with a School Library Endorsement at University of Nebraska at Omaha. While at the Library, she completed various projects in the Collections department, including book inventory, organization of periodical archives, and maintenance of the Library catalog. She also spent time at the Member Services desk and assisted the Communications team with social media posts. We will miss her bright energy and enthusiasm!



Meet Volunteer Mayanne Wright



Mayanne Wright has been volunteering with the Library for five years. During that time she has helped out in just about every department, and become an invaluable and integral part of our community.

Here's what Mayanne has to say about volunteering at the Library:

"The *Evenings with an Author* events at the American Library in Paris have long enriched my life, broadened my thinking, and motivated me to learn more. Five years ago, I decided it was high time for me to help others enjoy these experiences, and I became a volunteer.

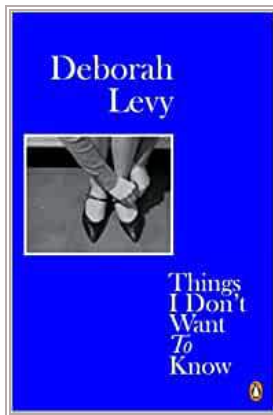
"Welcoming people to the Library's events and community, getting to know members and staff, and meeting and learning from visiting authors and scholars has evolved into a keystone of my Parisian life. In fact, my volunteer duties now include detective work in the archives, giving mini talks to literary tourists, and training volunteers in shelving. Many acquaintanceships have grown into friendships. And oh, the books I have learned about! I might never have discovered my current read, *The Caretakers* by Amanda Bestor-Siegal, a novel that hauntingly captures the reality—not the fairytale—of everyday life in France, if not for volunteering at the Library."

Are you, like Mayanne, a fan of *Evenings with an Author* sponsored by GROW @ Annenberg? Would you like to help the Library host these enriching events? If you're available on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings, we invite you to [apply online](#) to become a Programs volunteer.

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.

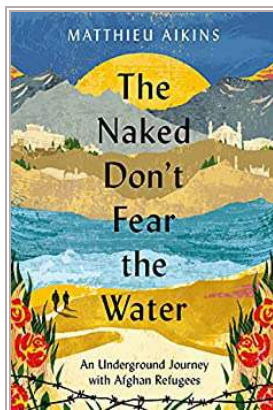
**TONIGHT****An Evening with Deborah Levy**

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 4 October at 19h30 CEST

Acclaimed novelist, playwright, and poet Deborah Levy will speak at the Library on her distinctive style and extensive career. Celebrated for her turbulent, dream-infused prose and philosophical agility, Levy is a master of language and a cataloguer of its failures, exploring the limits of what can be articulated. Join her as she details her experience writing in the “storm of life.”

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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

**TOMORROW****Matthieu Aikins and Luke Mogelson on Wartime Journalism**

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 5 October at 19h30 CEST

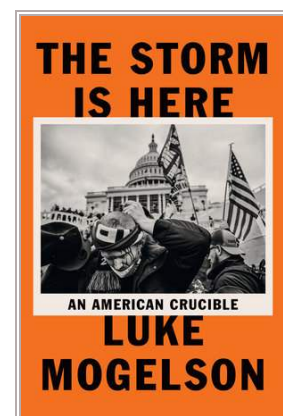
What is the role of a war correspondent? What challenges await the reporter in the war zone, and how are they mitigated? What ethical obligations does one have when covering war? Faced with constant danger, violent regimes, mass displacement, and fatality, what can journalism do? Join journalists Matthieu Aikins (a 2020 Visiting Fellow) and Luke Mogelson as they discuss their experiences on the ground in war zones.

From Afghanistan, Syria, and Iraq, to recent reporting in Ukraine, Aikins and Mogelson have witnessed countless scenes of destruction, terror, and tragedy. At risk to their own lives, they have documented the civilian experience and amplified disempowered voices. They will share what they have seen, and why war reporting matters.

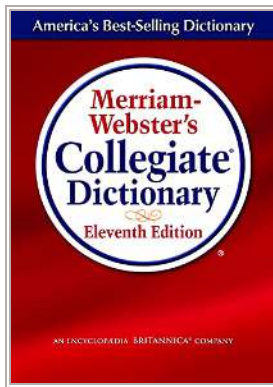
Free and open to the public. Registration required.

A catered reception to celebrate the Visiting Fellowship program will take place after the event.

The Visiting Fellowship is sponsored by The de Groot Foundation.



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



[Nobles and Yeomen: How French Brought 'Class' to English with Peter Sokolowski](#)

**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 11 October at 19h30 CEST**

Why does English have both brotherhood and fraternity? Why is the crime called murder but the accusation called homicide? French words that we use in English might seem fancy—like cuisine or couture. But these borrowings are just the more recent French invaders into our vocabulary since the time of the Norman Conquest. Merriam-Webster dictionary editor Peter Sokolowski will share how the injection of French and Latin words into English tell much more than a linguistic story: they are a map of how we identify class and privilege.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



[Lindsey Tramuta, Rokhaya Diallo, and Grace Ly on Who Represents France](#)

**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 12 October at 19h30 CEST**

France, with its wine country, chateaux, and lavender fields, has resided in the public imagination for centuries. The image of Paris has undergone a series of transformations: at varying points an artistic refuge, City of Love, symbol of the aristocratic world, and center of revolution, the capital's historical identity is rich and many-sided.

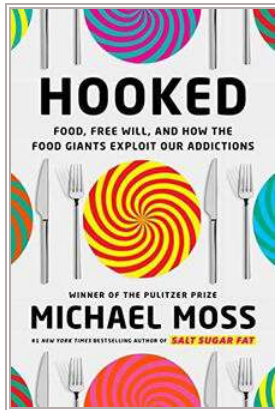
Yet what lurks behind the city, the country, and its people when one looks beyond images of baguettes, cheese, and berets? How have stereotypes evolved with social media, immigration, and a changing political landscape over the twenty-first century? What do they share with the reality of contemporary France? Join Lindsey Tramuta, Rokhaya Diallo, and Grace Ly to discuss the fictions and fantasies of modern French life.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

A catered reception will take place after the event.



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



[Processing the Processed Food Industry with Michael Moss](#)

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Thursday 13 October at 19h30 CEST

In *Salt Sugar Fat* and *Hooked*, Michael Moss reveals the secret ingredients to processed food's domination of supermarkets. Hidden behind the foods many Americans love most—potato chips, cookies, soda—is a world of research and marketing aimed at designing the perfect, and most perfectly addictive, snack. Learn how the world got hooked, and what we can do now.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



[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 Irena 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](#)

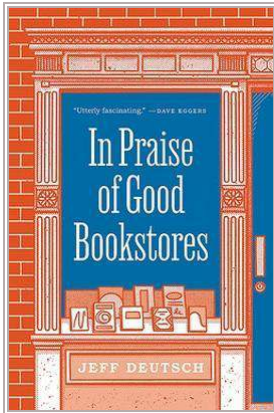
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 25 October at 19h30 CEST

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](#)

Watch the Library's Programs Manager Alice McCrum moderate the panel ["Politique de la littérature"](#) at Festival America 2022, recorded on 24 September, and featuring authors Jonathan Franzen, Karl Marlantes, and Viet Thanh Nguyen.



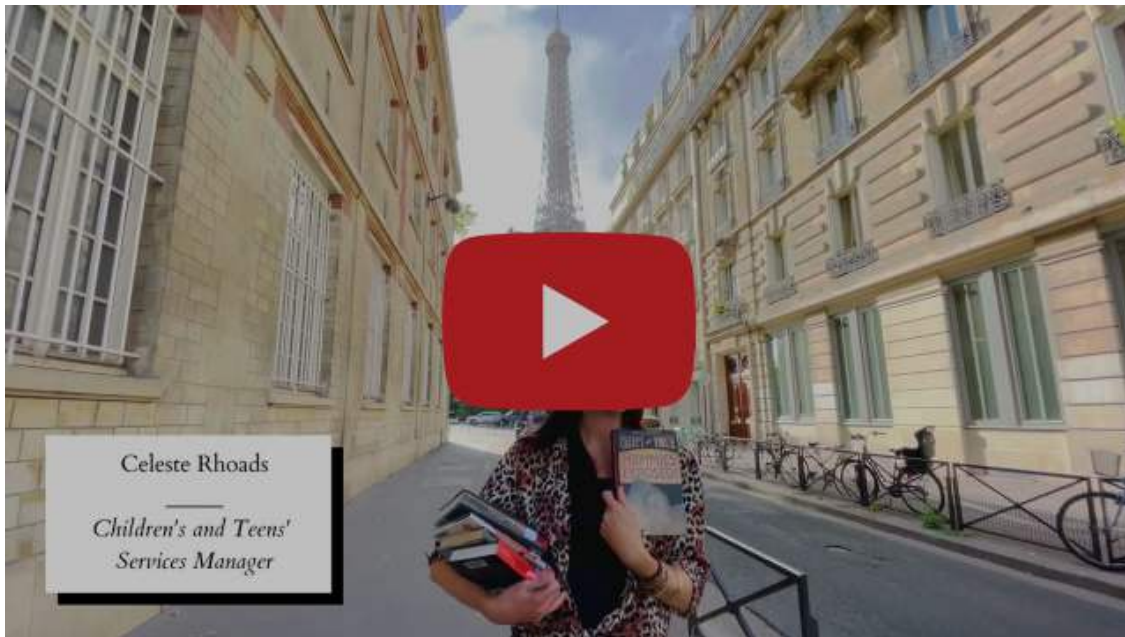
- Past programs are on YouTube, including Peter Conradi and Vivienne Walt on Who Lost Russia; a conversation with Joyce Maynard; Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah and Viet Thanh Nguyen on Visibility and Invisibility in Literature; and Andrew Curran on Who's Black and Why.



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.

Event Highlights for Children ages 0–12

Registration is required for all programs, and participants must be Library members to attend programs for children. To find out what's coming up next, check our [children's events calendar](#) and register early!

Caregivers should familiarize themselves with our [Children in the Library](#) policy.

[Story Hour: Monster Mayhem](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 5 October at 14h30

[Toddler Time: Pumpkin Party](#) (ages 1–3) Thursday 6 October at 11h00

[DIY Halloween Decorations](#) (ages 6–12) Saturday 8 October at 11h00

[Story Hour: Pretty Pumpkins](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 12 October at 14h30

[Ghost Stories](#) (ages 6–12) Saturday 15 October at 11h00

Program Highlights for Teens ages 12–18

Teen programs are free for Library members and 15€ per person for non-members, unless otherwise specified. All events require advance registration. See the web calendar for the full schedule, and to sign up. Visit our website to see our full [teen events calendar](#).

- [Teen Night: Monster Machines with Davis Zikovitz](#) – Friday 7 October at 19h00
- [Write Your Own Scary Story](#) – Saturday 8 October at 14h00
- [The Halloween Decorating Party](#) – Friday 14 October at 19h00
- [Teen Night: Creepy Campfire Tales](#) – Friday 21 October at 19h00
- [The Haunted Library](#) – Ticketed event, Saturday 29 October starting at 18h30
- [Collaborative Collage](#) – Saturday 5 November at 14h00
- [Scary Movie Night](#) – Friday 18 November at 19h00
- [History of Paris Scavenger Hunt](#) – Sunday 20 November from 14h00–15h30

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.

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

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