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**5 September 2023**

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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

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## Welcome Back

Dear Friends,

It's a pleasure to welcome you back for the *Rentrée* and the onset of a new season at the American Library in Paris. This fall is especially exciting, with a robust lineup of [programs](#) and fresh additions to our collections. We're also offering new avenues for you to have a say in the Library's future offerings.

### Ever-Evolving Services and Collections

This past summer, we were thrilled to introduce our first e-graphic novel collection through Comics Plus and our new e-audio collection via OverDrive. Additionally, we've broadened our digital periodicals to include over 2,000 titles. Many of you enjoyed exploring these new offerings on your summer holidays! Our collections team has also fine-tuned the [catalog](#) to provide more accurate reading recommendations. If you haven't yet, make sure to explore our new docent-

led [History Tours](#); they offer an in-depth look at the Library's rich history and a glimpse into our archives.

### **Strategic Vision: Be Part of Our Story**

Our Board of Trustees is in the midst of strategic planning, focusing on our four core pillars: curated collections, engaging dialogues, a sense of community both locally and globally, and inviting spaces—both physical and digital. **We welcome your participation in this crucial conversation.** If you're interested in actively shaping the Library's future, please reach out to [feedback@americanlibraryinparis.org](mailto:feedback@americanlibraryinparis.org). We're offering several ways to give your input, including in-person and virtual focus groups, as well as upcoming surveys.

Here's to a season full of discovery and exciting opportunities ahead!

Yours in reading,

Audrey Chapuis  
Executive Director

## History Tour Dates in October

The Library's popular expert-led History Tours continue this fall!

Sign up now for our Tours on 6 October, 20 October, and 27 October, all Fridays at 11h00. A few spots also remain for Friday 29 September. Please don't wait to sign up, as the Tours will fill up quickly.

Tours are free and open to the public, and will take you on a deep dive into the Library's fascinating 103-year history. Follow the librarians who distributed books to the Doughboys fighting alongside Allied troops in WWI; learn about the famous writers of the Lost Generation who explored our stacks during their time in Paris; and discover the true stories of the brave staff who kept the Library open during the Occupation of WWII.



**Sign Up Now!**

## Angers Literary Festival

Looking for ideas for a day trip outside of Paris? We recommend a visit to Angers for the city's first-ever English-language literary festival on Saturday 23 September.



Welcome Back

Guest speakers include **Ajiri Aki, Amanda Dennis, Kate Gavino, Jake Lamar, and Lindsey Tramuta**, along with the American Library in Paris's Executive Director, **Audrey Chapuis**.

The Festival is presented by the [English Language Library in Angers](#) (ELLIA) with the support of the Embassy of the United States of America, France.

Besides supporting some of your favorite authors, you'll also have the chance to explore beautiful Angers. This historic riverside city is only an hour and twenty minutes from Paris by train and boasts a UNESCO-protected medieval town with a famous chateau. Visit the [website](#) of Anger's Tourist Office for a list of sites and activities.

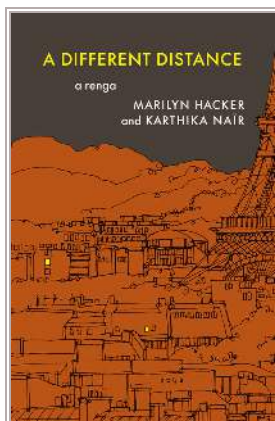
**Tickets are free. Please reserve your place in advance.**

[Reserve Now](#)

## 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**

**Poetic Confluence:**

**Marilyn Hacker and Karthika Nair in Conversation**

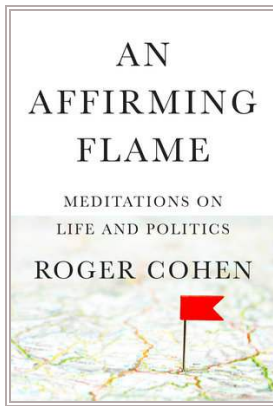
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**

**Tuesday 5 September at 19h30 CEST**

Join Marilyn Hacker, one of the most celebrated figures in American poetry, and Karthika Nair, known for her dynamic work at the borders of dance, poetry, and the visual arts, as they discuss the many migrations of the poetic voice.

When confinement forced artists into their homes, Hacker and Nair adopted an ancient collaborative Japanese poetic technique, the renga, in order to co-author *A Different Distance*. The book was written at a distance, as a way of understanding and overcoming it.

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



## TOMORROW

### [Meditations on Life, Politics, and Journalism with Roger Cohen and Jacques Rupnik](#)

**Live on Zoom**

**Wednesday 6 September at 19h30 CEST**

**In-person signups are full. [RSVP to attend online.](#)**

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*New York Times* Paris Bureau Chief Roger Cohen reflects on a life devoted to on-the-ground reporting, defending the free press, and writing for a shared humanity.

For over forty years, Roger Cohen has journeyed to all corners of the world to cover everything from truth and dissent, to dictatorship, revolution, and displacement. Cohen's finest columns have been compiled together for the first time in *An Affirming Flame: Meditations on Life and Politics*, accompanied by a never-before-seen essay on the state of the world. He will appear in conversation with European history expert Jacques Rupnik.

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

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)



### [Journalism under Siege with the \*Dial\* and Forbidden Stories](#)

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

**Tuesday 12 September at 19h30 CEST**

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We live in a dangerous time for journalists. Killings of reporters are on the rise, while countless journalists have been forced to work in exile. Meet reporters who publish the stories that journalists were silenced for writing.

Madeleine Schwartz, editor-in-chief of global magazine of culture and politics the *Dial*, will be in conversation with Laurent Richard and Sandrine Rigaud of [Forbidden Stories](#), an organization whose mission is to protect, pursue, and publish the work of other journalists facing threats, prison, or murder.

This event is organized in partnership with the *Dial*.

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



**Picking Evil Flowers**  
**with Gunnhild Øyehaug and Daniel Medin**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Wednesday 13 September at 19h30 CEST**

Critically-acclaimed Norwegian author Gunnhild Øyehaug, celebrated as “master of the short story,” will discuss *Evil Flowers*, a playful new collection full of Baudelarian wit.

In partnership with the Center for Writers and Translators, the Library presents Norway’s most celebrated contemporary writer, in conversation with editor and professor Daniel Medin.

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

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

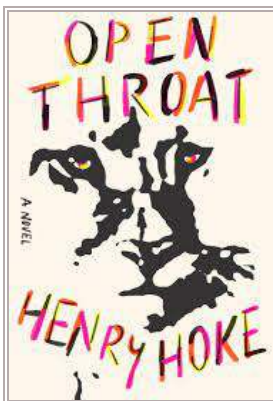


**“a place that lives in me”: Writing Caribbean Identity**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Thursday 14 September at 19h30 CEST**

What does it mean to be Caribbean in the 21st century? In *Elektrik: Caribbean Writing*, eight female writers from Haiti, Martinique, and Guadeloupe explore the beauty, pain, and complexity wrapped up in their identity. Writers Marie-Célie Agnant and Gaël Octavia join poet and translator Danielle Legros Georges to read from the collection and discuss language as defiance.

The event is part of our International Library series with the Brooklyn Center for Fiction and the San Francisco Center for the Art of Translation.

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



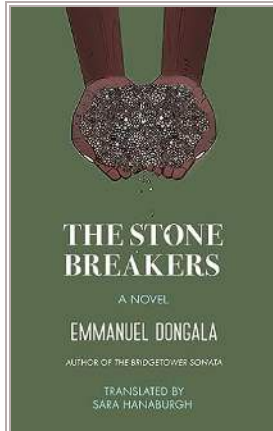
**On Animal Desire with Henry Hoke and Melissa Broder**  
**Online Event: Live on Zoom**  
**Tuesday 19 September at 19h30 CEST**

What might a mountain lion have to say about Los Angeles? In Henry Hoke’s rambunctious new book, *Open Throat*, the “queer and dangerously hungry” felid protagonist shares deep insights on modern life, weird sex, climate collapse, and gender.

Inspired by a real-life Hollywood Hills puma, Hoke uses an animal perspective to break into human language, highlighting the cruelties and

contradictions of the anthropocene age. Hoke will appear in conversation with celebrated author of *Milk Fed* and *The Pisces*, Melissa Broder.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)

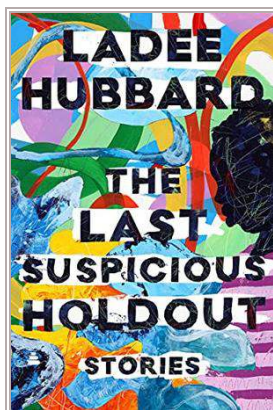


**[Emmanuel Dongala: Scribe of Social Reality](#)**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Wednesday 20 September at 19h30 CEST**

Emmanuel Dongala, "the most accomplished novelist from Africa since Chinua Achebe," will make a special appearance at the Library to discuss the new English edition of *The Stone Breakers: A Classic Novel of Labor Resistance*.

The novel tells the story of a feminist uprising among a group of workers in a gravel pit. What begins as a village protest escalates to a state-wide rebellion that confronts the corrupt leadership and challenges the status quo set by the government and the mining corporations. Dongala will appear in conversation with Will Mountain Cox, author of *With Paris in Mind* and the forthcoming debut novel, *Roundabout*.

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



**[Myth, Power, Genre](#)**  
**with Scholar of Note Ladee Hubbard**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Tuesday 26 September at 19h30 CEST**  
**Cocktail reception to follow.**

Currently in residence at the American Library in Paris, Scholar of Note Ladee Hubbard is working on a project that reimagines society's relationship to mythical women across literature as a way of understanding our vision of Black women today.

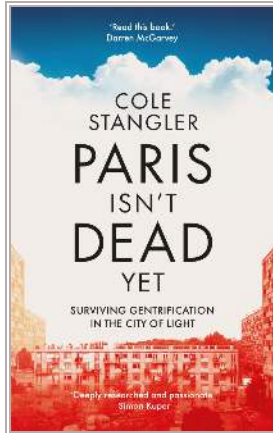
In conversation, the author will consider: What is our relationship to myth? What makes it eternally fascinating, relevant, and open to new interpretations? How does it reveal and conceal power, gender, and race? Moreover, who is the *femme fatale*, and what is her role in the *noir* genre? Join us to learn how the author works within literary history, adopting genres of mythology and crime, in order to reinvent the narratives marginalized women are forced into.

The [Visiting Fellowship](#) and [Scholar of Note](#) programs are generously supported by The de Groot Foundation.



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

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



### [Paris Beyond the Postcard with Cole Stangler](#)

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

In *Paris is Not Dead: Surviving Hypergentrification in the City of Light*, French-American journalist Cole Stangler combines street reporting with recent history and political analysis to paint a true-to-life portrait of a vibrant city. As urban centers evolve, Stangler argues, our collective responsibility to honor and sustain the cultural identities woven within their fabric becomes paramount. He locates the heart of the City of Lights in its working class history, and reveal the mechanisms pricing residents out of their homes.

Stangler will appear in conversation with Erin Ogunkeye, journalist with France 24.

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

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



### [Two-part Historical Fiction Writing Workshop with Scholar of Note Ladee Hubbard](#)

**In Person at the Library  
Session 1: Thursday 28 September at 19h00 CEST  
Session 2: Wednesday 4 October at 19h00 CEST  
Open to members and non-members.**

Join American Library in Paris Scholar of Note Ladee Hubbard for a two-part writing workshop devoted to historical fiction.

Over two ninety-minute sessions, participants will focus on conducting historical research, adopting historical language, and situating themselves in a foreign time. They will consider the imagination required to recreate an era and our relationship to "accuracy."

The group will also discuss how history is constantly adopted, appropriated, used, and abused to serve political and artistic ends. Is all historical writing necessarily political writing? How do plot and character map onto the interstices of the personal and the political? When we wield history as a tool for narrative, what is our responsibility to the present?

The [Visiting Fellowship](#) and [Scholar of Note](#) programs are generously supported by The de Groot

Foundation.

Advance registration and payment is required to attend:

Members: 40€ per participant.

Non-members: 60€ per participant.

Mark your calendars! Registration for this workshop will open this Thursday 7 September at the link below. We expect spots to fill quickly.

[Registration page](#)



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

- Finding the Raga with Amit Chaudhuri
- The Problem of Parking with Henry Grabar
- Legislating for the Future with Tim Crosland, Irmak Kanyılmaz, and Linda Sheehan
- Crafting a Project with Visiting Fellow Adrienne Raphel
- The Women who Refused with Jennifer Tamas

**GROW@  
ANNENBERG**

*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 and Teens' events are for Library members, and advance registration is required.





As we jump into the busy *Rentrée*, don't forget that the Library offers an array of services, print and digital resources, and programs to help children and teens succeed in their school work. Young students can find books and online articles on almost any subject, as well as language learning software, study spaces, and events to connect with other readers.

Our Children's and Teens Services team share their favorite tips for the *Rentrée*:

**Celeste, Children's and Teens' Services Manager:** Our librarians are an amazing resource! If you're researching a school project, don't hesitate to come ask us for guidance!

**Jason, Assistant Librarian:** Our databases and e-sources are great tools that will help you with research and learning. With your library card you have access to JSTOR, World Book, Mango Languages, and many more helpful online tools.

**Arielle, Visiting Librarian:** The programs and events offered at the Library are a great chance to learn new things and make friends.

**Kelly, Intern:** The BOOKS! You have access to a vast collection of books, from novels to crafting guides, from writing manuals to coding handbooks, and much more.

### **Children's Event Highlights**

**Story Hour: Back to School** (ages 3–5) Wednesday 6 September at 14h30

**Story Hour: Big Bad Wolves** (ages 3–5) Wednesday 13 September at 14h30

**Story Hour: Fast and Slow** (ages 3–5) Wednesday 20 September at 14h30

**Saturday Series: Map Making** (ages 6–12) Saturday 30 September at 11h00

**DIY Halloween Decorations** (ages 3–12) Saturday 7 October at 11h00

**Ominous Origami** (ages 3–12) Saturday 21 October at 11h00

### **Teen Event Highlights**

**Teen Night: Capture the Flag** (ages 12–18) Friday 8 September at 19h00

**Financial Aid w/ College Goals** (ages 14–18) Saturday 16 September at 15h00

**Teen Night: Crosswords w/ Jane Mobbille** (ages 12–14) Friday 22 September at 19h00

**Optimize Your College Application** (ages 14–adult) Saturday 23 September at 14h00

**Monuments of Paris Scavenger Hunt** (ages 12–18) Sunday 24 September at 14h00

**Teen Night: Escape the Library** (ages 12–18) Friday 29 September at 19h00

**Teen Night: Scary Movie Night** (ages 12–18) Friday 13 October at 19h00

**Teen Night: Halloween Decorating Party** (ages 12–18) Friday 20 October at 19h00

**U.S. College Admissions Process** (ages 14–adult) Sunday 19 November at 14h00

**Teen Night: Story Sprints with Noah Weisz** (ages 12–18) Friday 24 November at 19h00

## **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.

**BECOME A LIBRARY MEMBER**

**[www.americanlibraryinparis.org](http://www.americanlibraryinparis.org)**



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