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6 February 2024

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Editor: Carolyn Dubol

The Visiting Fellowship: Apply Now through 1 April



Are you a researcher, journalist, writer (fiction or non-fiction), poet, screenwriter, playwright, director, or documentary filmmaker interested pursuing a creating project in Paris for a month or longer?

We invite you to apply to the 2024–2025 Visiting Fellowship, made possible through the generous support of The de Groot Foundation.

Visit our website for [Fellowship details](#) and profiles on past and upcoming [Visiting Fellows](#) and [Scholars of Note](#).

VISITING FELLOWSHIP INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

Submit to YAFF Now through 1 April



Calling all students ages 5–18 who live in France and write in English! It's time to start working on your original story!

Now through 1 April, we are accepting submissions to the Young Authors Fiction Festival, the Library's short story writing contest. YAFF is free to enter and open to all young authors, from kindergarten/ *grande section* to 12th grade/ *terminale*. Finalists will be honored at a Celebration Event in June 2024, and the top five stories in each grade will be published in the YAFF Celebration booklet, which will be available for purchase during the event and will join the Library's permanent collection.

To read the submission guidelines and to enter your story, please visit the Library's website by clicking below.

SUBMIT TO YAFF

Looking for inspiration or writing advice? Visit the Children's and Teens' Services Desk for recommended short story anthologies, writing guides, and more. And keep an eye on the Library's [online calendar](#) and this newsletter, where we'll be offering writing workshops for young authors.

Celebrate Les Années Folles with 1920s History Tours

Did you know that Gertrude Stein had a penchant for pulpy mystery novels? Or that Hemingway attempted to secure a job at the Library for his drinking buddy?

To celebrate the Library's upcoming [Les Années Folles at La Coupole](#) event on 21 March, we've crafted a special, 1920s-focused History Tour, on select dates in March.

Have you already attended a History Tour featuring our 104 years of service? Past attendees of our original Tour will learn exciting new details about our origin story and the Library's important role in 1920s Paris.



Special 1920's Tour Dates: 8, 15, and 22 March

Original Tour, Celebrating 104 years in Paris: 9, 16 and 21 February and 1 March

SIGN UP FOR A HISTORY TOUR

If you haven't yet signed up for our **Années Folles at La Coupole party on 21 March**, limited tickets are still available. You'll be transported back to the 1920s with a live jazz quartet, dancing, and entertainment. 75€ tickets includes hors d'oeuvres, champagne, wine, and beer. Period costumes strongly encouraged!

ANNÉES FOLLES TICKETS

Fitzcarraldo February

It's Fitzcarraldo February here at the Library, and we're looking forward to welcoming a series of guest speakers published by programming partner [Fitzcarraldo Editions](#), the UK-based independent publishing house recognized for their distinctive blue and white covers and esteemed for their highly selective catalogue.

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. Keep reading this newsletter for links to sign up for these very special programs.

If you'd like to discover Fitzcarraldo's authors, browse the Members' Lounge this month. Staff member

Claire Hargreaves has assembled a book display of Fitzcarraldo editions in the Library's collection. All displayed books may be checked out!

If innovative, boundary-pushing literature is your thing, you'll also be inspired by the Library's collection of literary magazines and journals. Keep up on news from the literary world, or dip into brilliant short stories and poetry, by perusing the *Paris Review*, the *New York Review of Books*, and the whimsical *Slightly Foxed*. And head over to OverDrive/Libby to browse online editions of such titles as *Writing Magazine* and *Poets & Writers*!



Fashion Week at the Library

On Sunday 21 January, the Library was honored to host the fall 2024 Paris Menswear Fashion Week show for the luxury brand Winnie New York. Designer and founder Idris Balogun took inspiration for his latest collection from the American surrealist jazz poet Ted Joans, who spent much time in Paris in the 1960s through the 1990s.

By showing at 10, rue du Général Camou, Balogun sought to showcase the importance of libraries as intellectual and creative havens, and to introduce a new audience to the American Library's collection and community. He also generously highlighted the Library's fashion [periodical archives](#), which are popular for research by fashion students and design professionals in Paris.

Musician, composer, musical director, and DJ Pauli Lovejoy (Pauli The PSM) was on hand to spin a specially commissioned composition, which layered poetry and jazz.





Top photo: A model walks the runway through the Florence Gould Reading Room on 21 January 2024. Photo courtesy of Winnie New York.

Below photo: Idris Balogun (center) of Winnie New York in conversation with Julie Ragolia (right) and Emilie Biggs, on 22 January 2024. Photo by Alfonso Sjogreen.

The following night, Balogun was our Evenings with an Author sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg guest. In conversation with internationally renowned stylist Julie Ragolia, with whom he worked closely on his latest collection, he explored the interplay between technique and creativity. Balogun recounted his career trajectory in the fashion industry, from his first position as a teenage apprentice on Savile Row, where he mastered his skills as a cutter and tailor, to positions at Burberry and Tom Ford. He founded his own label, Winnie New York, in 2019. In 2022 he won the LVMH Karl Lagerfeld award for design.

The Evenings with an Author audience was filled with Library community members interested in fashion, art and fashion students discovering the Library for the first time, and fans and supporters of Balogun's work. You can watch a recording of the event on the Library's [YouTube channel](#).

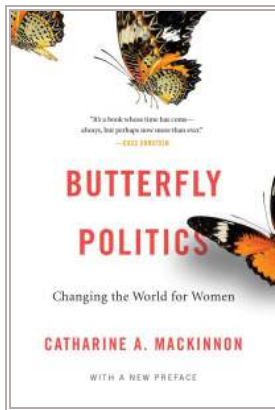
Slideshows, videos, and editorial reviews of the show (featuring images of the American Library, of course!) are available on [Vogue magazine's website](#), [WWD](#) (Women's Wear Daily), and the site of the [Fédération de la Haute Couture et de la Mode](#), which coordinates Paris Fashion Week.

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
IN PERSON SPOTS FULL
ONLINE TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE
[Changing the World for Women](#)
 with [Catharine A. MacKinnon](#) and [Kate Kirkpatrick](#)
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.

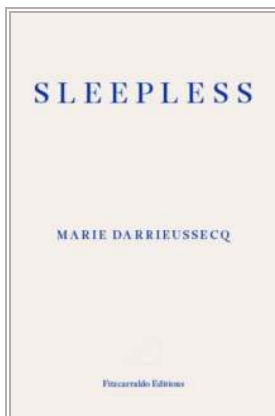
MacKinnon's 2017 book *Butterfly Politics* is a collection of essays and speeches that she has delivered across her fifty years of fighting. The title refers to the "butterfly effect": the idea that a butterfly opening and closing its wings can—under the right conditions—cause a tornado (or large-scale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



TOMORROW
[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](#)



**IN PERSON TICKETS SOLD OUT
ONLINE TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE**

**[Demon Copperhead](#)
with Pulitzer Prize Winner [Barbara Kingsolver](#)
Live on Zoom; Free to watch online
Thursday 8 February at 19h30 CET**

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.

English and French books for sale after the event, thanks to [Smith&Son](#) and [Tome 7](#). No book signing.

All attendees are invited to a reception following the event.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)



**[Translation Slam!](#)
[Featuring Tess Lewis, Daniel Levin Becker, and Bill François](#)
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*.

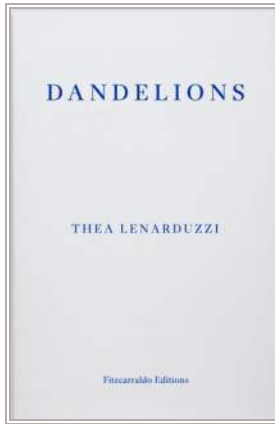
Supplied with an original French text by writer Bill François, and competing against ChatGPT, Lewis and Becker will offer their own translations of an original French text and be called to defend their choices. Audience members will be able to ask questions, propose their own translations, and vote for 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 and Visiting Fellowship programs are generously supported by The de Groot Foundation.

RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom

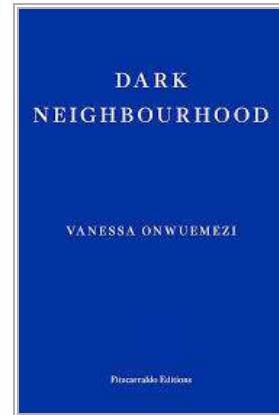


Writing Home
with Vanessa Onwuemezi and Thea Lenarduzzi
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 20 February at 19h30 CET

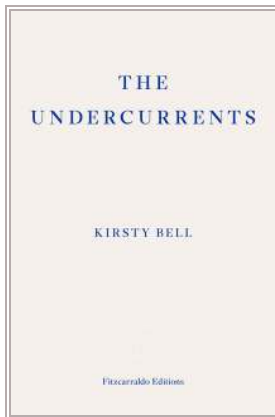
In her memoir *Dandelions*, Thea Lenarduzzi explores her family's journey from northern Italy to the UK. She meditates upon family history, migration, nationalism, and the meaning of "home" across generations and continents. Scholar of Note Vanessa Onwuemezi draws from Antillean poetry and philosophy to place translation and migration in conversation, and to reflect upon transit: between languages, places, and cultures; and across mediums, identities, and time.

Onwuemezi and Lenarduzzi join us for a rich dialogue on the poetics of memory, constructions of identity, and the universal search for belonging in a rapidly changing world.

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. The Scholar of Note and Visiting Fellowship programs are generously supported by The de Groot Foundation.



RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom



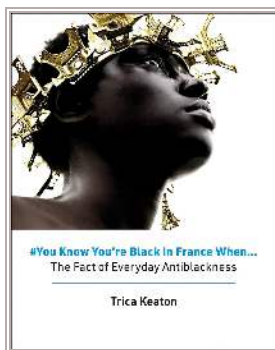
How to Make Space with Kirsty Bell
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 21 February at 19h30 CET

Told from the perspective of her Berlin apartment, writer and art critic Kirsty Bell's *Undercurrents* dives into the archives of the city: its marshy origins, urban experiments, wartime devastation, and disjointed efforts at rebuilding. Bell also uncovers the lives of her building's former inhabitants, vividly conjuring the experiences of people who shared the same urban topography across generations of historical change.

Join Bell at the Library to discuss the psychological, and architectural, structures we build around us.

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](#)



Everyday Antiracism in France with Trica Keaton
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 27 February at 19h30 CET

How do Black people experience race and racism differently in the United States and in France? How do the distinct histories, cultures, and political systems of each country produce different versions of antiracism? What (and who) gets sidelined or pushed out of the picture in French notions of universalism and republicanism? And how do Black people in France, in their everyday lives and relationships, expose the cracks in the logic of French universalism?

Trica Keaton's *#You Know You're Black in France When...* was shortlisted for the 2023 American Library in Paris Book Award. The author joins us, in conversation with Patrick Banks.

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

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



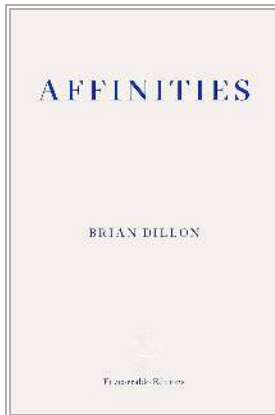
Magazine Launch: Journal
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 28 February at 19h30 CET

The Library is delighted to host the launch of the first issue of *Journal*, an international poetry magazine. Celebrating a wide spectrum of voices who are political, lyrical, conceptual, visual, comic, and more, the publication represents the liveliness of poetry today with a renewed sense of its vitality.

Join *Journal's* editors, Jim Dine and Vincent Broqua, along with fellow poets Hugo Pernet, Ghazal Mosadeq, Elke de Rijcke, and Dan Clarke for a reading and discussion of the need for poetry of the present.

This launch is organized in partnership with [Double Change](#), the Franco-American poetry association.

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



[Lessons from Language with Brian Dillon](#)
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Thursday 29 February at 19h30 CET

Have you ever read a sentence that sticks with you, or seen a piece of art that lingers in the back of your mind years later? How do our encounters with literature and art become parts of us—features of our personal and collective cultural consciousness?

Writer, critic, and art-lover Brian Dillon has published four books with Fitzcarraldo Editions. Join us at the Library as he discusses his quest to understand and experiment with the pleasures of the written word.

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](#)



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

- Writing Disaster with Adam Levin
- Entre Nous: Art as Social Action with Peter Sellars and Yasmine Seale
- Fashion Week: An Exclusive Review with Idris Balogun
- Europe's Past and Future with Timothy Garton Ash
- Paris of the Present with Will Mountain Cox
- Fixing France: How to Repair a Broken Republic with Nabila Ramdani



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



Information and tips about the Young Authors Fiction Festival from Children's and Teens' Services.

Children's Event Highlights

Open to Library members. Advance registration required.

[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

[Game Day](#) (ages 3–12) Saturday 17 February at 11h00

[Story Hour: Music Makers](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 21 February at 14h30

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

[Story Hour: True Stories](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 28 February at 14h30

Event Highlights for Teens

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

[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
- [Teen Night: Book Buffet](#) (ages 12–18) Friday 16 February at 19h00
- [Picture This: Creating Stories from Photos](#) (ages 12–18) Saturday 17 February at 16h00
- [Teen Night: The Hero's Journey with Amy Plum](#) (ages 12–18) Friday 23 February at 19h00

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.



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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