Ricardo Pereira and Christine Tremonti star in “Werther”

History Associates to Go Backstage at the Opera

Another of the UCSB History Associates’ popular theater talks is on tap for Sunday, Feb. 27, as director Simon Williams and the cast of “Werther” meet with members for lunch and discussion prior to a matinee performance of the Massenet opera on the UCSB campus.

The afternoon will begin at 1 p.m. with a luncheon talk by Williams in the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center (IHC) Conference room on the 6th floor of the Humanities and Social Sciences Building (HSSB).

At 2 p.m., Associates will reassemble in the Lotte Lehman music building to meet the artists and discuss the play with Williams, conductor Jeffrey Schindler and Music Prof. Michale Beckerman.

Then it’s on to the opera in Lotte Lehman Concert Hall, where prime seating has been reserved for the Associates.

Massenet’s opera is based on Goethe’s celebrated novel, The Sorrows of Young Werther. It tells of the hopeless love of Werther, an idealistic young man, for a young married woman, Charlotte.

“The opera, like the novel, is widely regarded as one of the most penetrating and moving explorations of the power of Romantic love and of its capacity to overwhelm all other aspects of life,” Prof. Williams says.

“Massenet’s score is noted both for its rich melodies and for its capacity to reveal the most intimate corners of human emotions.”

The role of Werther will be sung by Ricardo Pereira, Charlotte by Victoria Hart, Sophie by Christine Tremonti, and Albert, Charlotte’s husband, by Justin Plank.

Prof. Williams has published widely on the history of European theater and opera. He is an authority on the German composer Wagner. His book, Richard Wagner and Festspiel Theater, was published in 1994, and he delivered the English-language audience lectures at the Bayreuth festival in 1998 and 1999.

Most recently he directed the UCSB Opera productions of Britten’s The Turn of the Screw and Mozart’s La finta giardiniera.

Cost of the program, including lunch, tour, opera and a donation to the scholarship fund, is $50 for members and $65 for non-members. Reservations may be made with the UCSB Office of Community Relations, (805) 893-4388.

Perfect Weather For a Perfect Archive Tour

BY CATHY RUDOLPH

On December 11, which was one of those rare crystal clear Santa Barbara winter days, a sellout crowd of History Associates, friends and interested community members gathered at the Santa Barbara Mission for a very special behind-the-scenes tour of the Mission Archive Library.

While waiting for the program to start, early arrivals enjoyed perusing several displays of artwork, old documents, rare books and artifacts in the Conference Room adjoining the library.

Associates President Patrick O’Dowd welcomed everyone and introduced Franciscan Father Virgilio Biasiol, Director of Mission Archive Library, an independent

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The Graham Files: A University Grows From Goleta Sands

By Otis L. Graham

Ed. Note: This is the third and final installment of Otis Graham’s reminiscences about the explosive growth of UCSB’s History Department in the ’60s and ’70s. The two earlier installments ran in Historia in April and November of last year.

By the late 1970s, as Elliot Brownlee (of our generation) moved into the Chairmanship, the generational shift was complete.

In retrospect, I am impressed by the dedication to basic research and sound scholarship of the original six, or eight, or whatever.

We youngsters who came more from the Ivy League schools did not have to do battle with dummies or anti-researchers. We found on arrival and easily dismantled the usual system of Old Boy cronyism that perpetually grows up in all academic settings.

It felt like quite a cause, one parallel to the other Sixties causes. It was less than that, but it was what we should have been doing.

This generational revolt and reform has been my main story, and perhaps it

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Graduate Secretary Shines As Center’s Featured Artist

**Question: What is more impressive than having one of your paintings featured in a UCSB art show?**

**Answer:** Having three more accepted, and selling another, after less than two years of lessons.

That’s what has happened to History Graduate Secretary Darcy Ritzau, who took up watercolor after being impressed by the paintings of local artist Jennifer Eby and arranging to study with her.

Darcy decided to submit one of her paintings for the “Obsessions II” show put on last Fall by the Women’s Center. The painting, “Body Image 1999,” is now on the Women’s Center web page at http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/womenscenter/gallery/fall.html (click on “Fall”; it is the first painting you see).

Then Darcy discovered that one of the water colors she submitted for the Winter show sold. Now the Center has accepted three more of Darcy’s paintings for their “Seasons of Love” show, which runs through March 25.

“I love line and color and the medium of watercolor,” Darcy says. “I’m not a natural at it, that’s for sure. It doesn’t come easy for me but I love the way the color and water play on the paper so I just keep practicing.”

Darcy, who celebrated her 27th anniversary as graduate secretary on Jan. 7, is quick to add, “Don’t worry—I’m definitely not ready to quit my day job!”

**Lutefisk, Pheasants Top Bloopers**

**David Burden (Mendez)** won the blooper contest with two bloopers from History 4A finals. The judges divided over which was funnier—the bloopers, or David’s responses:

- **AD 622—** “The was the first date on the Islamic/muslim calendar marking the day that their Emperor moves to Denmark.”

- **To which David replied, “Hey Mehmet, pass the lutefisk and butter cookies eh?”**

- “The millions of poor pheasants were calling out for a great man and Caesar captured their spirit.” Replied David, “Oh well, at least he didn’t shoot them and serve them under glass.”

Honorable mention goes to **Susan Snyder (Lansing)** for another from the bottomless well of History 4A: “Justinian’s wife, Theodosius, was very popular.”

“Especially,” Susan replies, “with the army.”

On the faculty side, **Josh Fogel** keeps gunning for Al Lindemann’s bloopmeister title. His latest entry: The Buddhist theme was that ‘life is suffer-
Historian Watches As Old Socialist Beijing Yields To “Market Socialism”

BY MARK ELLIOTT

I TELL A TALE of two cities . . .
or, more exactly, a tale of two Beijings: Socialist Beijing and “Socialist-with-Chinese-characteristics” Beijing, also known as “Market-Socialist” Beijing.

I got to know the first Beijing in the early 1980s, when it possessed little of what one expects of a city. There were no tall buildings – the tallest structure was the Beijing Hotel, ten or twelve stories high. There was no traffic, at least not automobile traffic (though the narrow streets were choked with bicycles at rush hour), and there was not much pollution, except from the burning of coal in the winter.

There were no taxicabs to be hailed. There was no neon. There was very little in the way of what one could call “shopping” or “dining,” nor was there much in the way of night life, either. Even eating establishments (one could hardly call them restaurants) closed by 8 p.m.

By early in the evening, the whole city would be dark and mostly deserted, with the occasional bicyclist pedaling home under the eerie glow of mercury-vapor street lamps.

In other words, populous and sprawling as it was, socialist Beijing was not very urban.

The first signs of change came in 1982 as a result of the new policies of Deng Xiaoping. They were symbolized for me most vividly by the opening of the Jianguo Hotel (in reality, rumor had it, a clone of the Palo Alto Holiday Inn), which was the apogee of luxury in Socialist Beijing.

Classical music played in the comfortable lobby. There was a bar. There was Sunday brunch. There was bread and butter and chocolate cake (did I forget to mention that Socialist Beijing lacked bakeries?).

For Western business types, academics, and students, it was one of the few places of refuge in the city (though I have good memories, too, of the bookshops).

When I returned in 1990 for a year, Socialist Beijing was still pretty much in place. There were more hotels, to be sure, and Kentucky Fried Chicken had opened a few stores, but the city essentially looked the same.

When I returned in 1995, however, I could hardly believe how quickly Beijing had changed; and the replacement of Socialist Beijing by Market-Socialist Beijing was confirmed by my most recent research visit this past November.

The number of cars has multiplied astronomically, creating monstrous traffic jams, and there are now 100,000 cabs cruising day and night.

Not surprisingly, air pollution has also worsened dramatically (lead-free gasoline is to be introduced soon). Eating out is again a treat, as the choice and quality of restaurants has improved.

Pulsing with neon, the main thoroughfares of Market-Socialist Beijing are now lined with bars, clubs, cafes, and boutiques. It’s clear that many of the young people staffing these shops do not remember the days when shopping meant cultivating the good graces of the clerk in order to get her to agree to fetch the item you wanted to buy from wherever behind the counter it was kept, and to keep her from throwing it at you once she had.

The biggest change I have seen in Beijing’s landscape has come with the erection of scores of office buildings (called dà shā hū in Chinese) all over the city. The dà shā hū are huge, each taking up the better part of a block and rising up twenty stories or more. Many are quite pleasing to the eye, their contemporary mix of stone, glass, and chrome a welcome change from the ponderous Stalinist style characteristic of Socialist Beijing.

In parts of the city, notably the Wangfujing district that is Beijing’s Fifth Avenue, the reconstruction of the city has been remarkably successful. Two new multi-story shopping complexes have opened, complete with Starbucks, McDonald’s, and a play area for children.

Several blocks have been converted to a pedestrian zone, lighting is updated, and benches and phone booths installed. The feel of Market-Socialist Beijing is rapidly becoming unmistakably urban.

Is this a good thing? How many people are really benefiting from these changes and how deep do they go? These are harder questions to answer. My sense is that to the extent they are able to see their own standard of living improve, many people, and not just foreigners, do indeed welcome these developments.

Old Beijing died when the city’s Ming-dynasty walls were torn down in the 1950s and 1960s, and the Beijing that took its place was a somber place, though comfort could be taken in its familiar shadows.

The New Beijing that is go-
Graham Remembers the Turbulent —And Record-Making —’60s & ’70s

“You can’t put a university in a place like this,’ [he said]. Well, we did, and we are.”

He was a brilliant fellow, with articles in AHR and JAH. But with no book ms submitted to us, the vote was to deny tenure, and he went north to build houses.

• Because I hailed from Columbia, home of fabled professor Henry Steele Commager who was coming for a lecture, I was sent to the airport to fetch him. Commager had boarded the plane in New York in a blinding snowstorm, and he stepped down onto the tarmac at SB on a typical February day (70 degrees, bright sun) still in his overcoat, hat, galoshes, scarf.

Dazed, he looked left to the mountains, up to the sunny sky, right over to Goleta Beach, and then said to me sternly: “You can’t put a university in a place like this.”

Well, we did, and we are. The sand gets in few typewriters. Anyway, that is my story, some of the sanitized parts of it. I left out the Glass Door Award, and much else. It is time for you to tell yours.

Two Beijings

CONTINUED FROM P. 3

Two Beijings

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

will seem to later generations as tame stuff, especially in the 1960s and 1970s. You had to have been there.

The result of the labors of the first generation and our transitional one was a strong, creative UCSB History faculty.

I leave to others the tallying of the benefits from that. That tally should feature the world-class Medieval program that Warren Hollister, Jeff Russell and Sharon Farmer established, and the nationally prominent innovation of a Public Historical Studies Program and journal (The Public Historian) by Robert Kelley and Wes Johnson, the History of Science program built by Larry Badash and Mike Osborne.

These have been some of the fruits of combining the talents of the starting 6-8 and adding a sturdy transitional scale, based on a not-altogether-realistic notion of what the city — of what a city — ought to be.

The key question must still be, however, What do people arriving from the countryside think when they behold all of this? Does it make them proud that the nation’s capital has reached such a level of prosperity? Or do they scorn the new dacha as extravagant and wasteful?

Near the end of my stay, I asked a good friend who has lived all her life in Beijing what she thought a peasant’s reaction would be. She just smiled.

Associate Prof. Mark Elliott

is in Tokyo in 1999-2000 on a postdoctoral fellowship from the Japan Society for the Promotion
Friar’s Lounge Lunch Caps Archives Tour

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

repository which is supported entirely by membership dues and donations and operated independently from the Roman Catholic Church which operates Santa Barbara Mission proper.

Father Virgilio, a native of Italy, had a distinguished career as a professor of philosophy and theology and as a librarian at Mission Archive Library before assuming the directorship following the death of Father Maynard Geiger, well-known in California history circles for his many writings on early California Mission history.

Father Virgilio reminded an attentive audience that California’s written history begins at the missions with the padres. And it was Franciscan Father Duran who brought all the mission archives to Mission Santa Barbara in 1833 on the eve of secularization of the Missions.

To this initial vast collection of administrative and personal padres’ documents were added 5,000 books used by the erudite missionary padres, on an astounding number of subjects and in several languages. Santa Barbara Mission Archive Library also houses several other very important document collections, including the papers of Father Junipero Serra (founder of the California missions), the College of Our Lady of Sorrows (first college in Santa Barbara), the De la Guerra family, Edith Webb (author of California Indian Life at the Missions), Kurt Baer (famous art historian), and Father Zephyrn Engelhardt (famed early California mission historian), among others.

Also housed here are the mission agricultural books, the Taylor collection on San Francisco history, and collections from San Fernando College and Franciscan headquarters in Zacatecas, Mexico.

Mission Archive Library had just received the first 250 boxes of a total of 500 boxes of art, history and literature books bequeathed to it by the late Norm Neuerburg, a long-time supporter and Board member of the Library.

Father Virgilio anticipated there would be many duplications of books already in the Library in the collection; the duplicates will be auctioned off for the benefit of the Library.

Their appetites whetted by Father Virgilio’s description, the approximately sixty people in attendance split into smaller groups for guided tours through the working and reading rooms of the Library, led by Mary Louise Days, Kathi Brewster, Dale Olmstead, Cathy Rudolph and Father Virgilio himself. They were enchanted by the many original documents, account books, baptismal registers, art work and perhaps especially the many, many shelves of 18th century volumes owned by the padres.

These leather or vellum bound books cover a myriad of intellectual and practical subjects, reflecting the needs of the padres in establishing settlements among the native peoples of California and training them to be productive future citizens of the Spanish Crown.

This very precious time ended much too soon for most, but once in the Friar’s Lounge their discontent was mollified by the magnificence of the marvelous tile work on the floor and around the massive fireplace in this elegant room.

The delicious box lunches from Chio’s helped, too!

All in attendance agreed this was one of the finest History Associates programs ever. A big thank you to Father Virgilio and his very able assistants Chris and Dale Olmstead for making it possible!

For my part, I am going to double my contribution this year. What about you? See you at the Opera. Janus has spoken.

Patrick O'Dowd
President

Bloopers

CONTINUED FROM P. 2

age.” Writes Josh, “I didn’t know Susan B. Anthony was a Buddhist.”

Finally, from a colleague who wished to remain anonymous: “After Kennedy’s assignment, Johnson was able to attack the issue…”

“Where was Al Gore when Clinton needed him?” this col-
Another great year of UCSB History Associates' events is beginning. You'll want to keep posted about events in the History Department as well. To renew your membership or join for the first time, just fill out this form and mail it with your check or money order (payable to UCSB History Associates).

Enclosed are my annual membership dues of $

- Active $30
- Corresponding 15

(Applicable to residents outside of Santa Barbara County only)

In addition to my membership dues, enclosed is:

- $25 to obtain a UCSB Library card
- $____ gift to the History Associates Graduate Fellowship Fund.
- $____ gift to the History Associates Dick Cook Fund.
  Gifts of $1,000 or more qualify for membership in the Chancellor's Council.

Name: ________________________________
Address: _______________________________
City/Zip/State: __________________________

Membership dues are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Gifts to the scholarship fund are considered a charitable donation.

Please make your check payable to the UCSB History Associates and return it to: UCSB Office of Community Relations University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2100

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Remember when there were almost no children in the department? Historia (with a noble assist from Josh Fogel) was able to get all these merrymakers at the Logevalls' annual holiday party to sit (relatively) still for this group photo.

Feeling Old? Try These On for Size

Just in case the above photo hasn’t made you feel old enough, take a look at some of the annual report on this year’s freshmen from Beloit College in Wisconsin, provided by David Burden (Mendez):

The people who are starting college this fall across the nation were born in 1980.

They were 11 when the Soviet Union broke apart and do not remember the Cold War. They have never feared a nuclear war. Tianamen Square means nothing to them.

Their lifetime has always included AIDS.

Bottle caps have always been screw off and plastic. Atari predated them, as do vinyl albums. The expression “you sound like a broken record” means nothing to them.

They have never owned a record player.

They have likely never played Pac Man and have never heard of Pong.

They may have never heard of an 8-track. Most have never seen a TV set with only 13 channels, nor have they seen a black-and-white TV. There has always been VCR’s, but they have no idea what BETA is. They cannot fathom not having a remote control.

They were born the year that Walkmans were introduced by Sony.

Roller-skating has always meant inline for them.

Jay Leno has always been on the Tonight Show.

They have no idea when or why Jordache jeans were cool.

Popcorn has always been cooked in the microwave.

They have never seen Larry Bird play.

They never took a swim and thought about Jaws.

The Vietnam War is as ancient history to them as WWI, WWII and the Civil War.

They have no idea that Americans were ever held hostage in Iran.

They can’t imagine what hard contact lenses are.

They don’t know who Mork was or where he was from.

They never heard: “Where’s the beef?”, “I’d walk a mile for a Camel”, or “de plane, de plane!”

They do not care who shot J.R. and have no idea who J.R. is.

The Titanic was found? They thought we always knew where it was.

Michael Jackson has always been white.

Kansas, Chicago, Boston, America, and Alabama are places, not groups.

McDonald’s never came in Styrofoam containers.

There has always been MTV.

They do not have a clue how to use a typewriter.

Do you feel old yet?