History Associates Have a Date With the First Movies

Nothing seems more 20th century than the habit of going to "the movies." The practice can even be given a date: Spring of 1895, which is when the Lumière brothers in Lyons, France, began charging admission to see 10 short films (the longest was 49 seconds) produced with their patented cinématographe process.

Thomas Edison’s "kinetoscope" for viewing motion pictures dates to 1892, but this was a "peep show" rather than projection process.

But more than a century earlier, in February of 1781, Londoners were being treated to a program of moving images at the "Eidophusikon" in Leicester Square.

Unlike the silent films of the Lumière brothers, the Eidophusikon images were accompanied by sound effects and music.

History Associates will have an opportunity to revisit this all-but-forgotten ancestor of the modern cinema on Wednesday, Nov. 28, when Prof. Ann Bermingham of the History of Art and Architecture department speaks on "Making Motion Pictures in Eighteenth-Century London."

Co-sponsored by the UCSB Affiliates,
Spickard Gives Lectures in Japan

Prof. Paul Spickard spent two weeks in Japan last month as the honored guest of the Japan Association for American Studies, the Organization of American History, and the US-Japan Friendship Association.

During his stay, Prof. Spickard gave lectures on multiculturalism and national identity at Tokai University, Japan Women’s University, and Doshisha University.

Prof. Spickard is a recognized authority on these subjects. His most recent book, *Almost All Aliens: Immigration, Race, and Colonialism in American History and Identity*, is being hailed as “the most thorough reinterpretation of the shape and meaning of immigration in United States history” in several decades. It was published earlier this year by Routledge.


Hasegawa Interview Airs On UC-TV Network

Prof. Tsuyoshi Hasegawa’s interview with author Martin Sherwin is set to broadcast this month on the UC-TV educational network.

Prof. Hasegawa conducted the interview last February before a live audience in Campbell Hall. The program focuses on Sherwin’s Pulitzer-Prize winning book, *American Prometheus*.


Movies

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

Drawing as a social practice in Britain from the Renaissance to the birth of photography.


Admission to the event is $8 for members and $10 for non-members. Reservations can be made through the UCSB Office of Community Affairs, (805) 893-4388.

A Festive Occasion

[Photo of Stephen Humphreys was honored with a conference put on by his former grad students at the College of St. Benedict in Minnesota last month. Celebrating with him are (l. to r.) conference co-organizer James Lindsay (PhD Wisconsin, 1994), Heather Keaney (PhD 2005), Anna Bigelow (PhD Religious Studies, 2004), Rachel Howes (PhD 2005), Prof. Humphreys, John Iskander (PhD Religious Studies, 2004), Linda Jones (PhD Religious Studies, 2004), Nancy Stockdale (PhD Gallagher, 2000), and Stephen Cory (PhD 2002). Not shown are Tom Szigorich (PhD Drake, 2005) and conference co-organizer Jon Armajani (PhD Religious Studies, 1999).]
Grads, PhDs
Keep Up Publication Pace

If publications are a sign of good graduate mentoring, the UCSB History department is doing something right.

“Do Prophets Come with a Sword?” Conquest, Empire, and Historical Narrative in the Early Islamic World,” by Tom Sizgorich (PhD 2005, Drake) is the lead article in the October issue of the American Historical Review. Tom currently holds an endowed assistant professorship at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

Colonial Encounters Among English and Palestinian Women, 1800-1948, by Nancy Stockdale (PhD 2000, Gallagher) was published this month by the University Press of Florida. Nancy is currently assistant professor of History at the University of Central Florida.

Yale University Press has given a contract to David Torres-Rouff (PhD 2006, Spickard) to publish Making Los Angeles: Race, Space, and Municipal Power, 1822-1890. David is currently visiting assistant professor at Colorado College.

Alicia Rivera (Majewski) will have her analysis of César Chavez’s “Commonwealth Speech” published in an anthology analyzing significant documents in American history edited by Paul Finkelman of Albany Law School. The speech, delivered at the Commonwealth Club in 1984, is considered on of the Chavez’s Two HISTORY grad students have had their efforts rewarded with scholarly prizes.

Megan Barber (Mouré) won Phi Alpha Theta’s Nels Andrew Cleven National Paper Prize for a paper on “La femme qui fume: Women, Tobacco and Politics in 1940s France,” written for Prof. Erika Rappaport.

Leandra Zarnow (Boris) was named co-winner of the best grad student paper contest sponsored by the journal Law and Social Inquiry.

Her paper, “Braving Jim Crow to Save Willie McGee: Bella Abzug and the Fight for Civil Rights, 1948-1951,” explores the effect of this Mississippi rape case on Abzug, who as lead counsel insisted on making the then-taboo subject of consensual inter-racial relationships part of the legal record.

It will appear in print this summer.

Leandra has another article, “Braving the Third Wave into History,” which considers the importance of historicizing contemporary feminisms.

This article will also be published this summer in the journal of the National Women’s Studies Association.

The issue will be devoted to re-considering the usefulness of the wave metaphor as a framework for conceptualizing feminist history, and will feature essays by some of the leading feminist historians in the country.

Grads Win Paper Prizes

One conference paper has been multiple prospects for grad student Marilene Barros (Dutra).

Following delivery of a paper on the proliferation of medical schools in Brazil that she delivered at the Latin American Studies Association conference in Montreal last September, Marilene was invited by the chancellor of University Federal of Rio de Janeiro, one of Brazil’s most prestigious medical schools, to address the school’s 2,000 students and faculty early next year.

She has also agreed to teach a class at the University Federal of Mato Grosso do Sul in the summer, and is fending off offers from several Brazilian scholars to co-author articles for Brazilian medical journals.

Also presenting at conferences were two McGee students—Tim Daniels and Patrick Ludolph.

Daniels presented a paper entitled “The Battle of the Downs and the Beginning of the First Anglo-Dutch War” at the eighth annual Maritime Heritage Conference in San Diego last month.

He and Ludolph both presented papers at the meeting of the Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies at the University of Puget Sound last Spring.

Meet the New Grads

ALL SMILES. The 2007-08 entering class of grad students takes a break from their orientation meeting. Picture (l. to r.): Brian Ernst (modern Europe), Rachel Winslow (US), Steve Campbell (US), José Igue (Latin America), Eric Fenrich (US), Bianca Brigidi (Latin America) Tory Swim (Public History), Kelly Morse Johnson (Middle East), Nicole Pucino (Latin America) Jill Briggs (History of Science), Andreas Magnusson (Middle East), Judy Kingkaysone (medieval Europe), Joe Malsy (medieval Europe), Abigail Dowling (medieval Europe), Seth Ford (medieval Europe), grad secretary Darcy Ritzau, and Ken Hough (US). Not in picture: Cristina Aparicio (Latin America), Moonsil Kim (East Asia), Janiene Langford (US), Filiberto Nolasco (Latin America), and Tj Smith (Public History). They join 100 students already in the program, bringing the total of MA students to 18 and PhD students to 104.

CONTINUED ON P. 4
Badash Uses Halloween For ‘Haunted Science’ Talk

EMERITUS PROF. LAWRENCE BADASH chose Halloween to preview his work on “Science in the Haunted Fifties” at Oregon State University.

The occasion was a two-day retrospective on the career of physicist Linus Pauling.

Prof. Badash spoke on the effects of the McCarthy era on science in the U.S.

"We know a lot about McCarthyism and Hollywood, and academics, and labor," Prof. Badash said, "but far too little about science."

Prof. Badash recently completed a book-length study of science and politics in the 1980s entitled A Nuclear Winter’s Tale.

Publications

most important.

An article on “Shii Ideology, Secular Nationalism, and the Iran-Iraq War (1980-1988),” by Mateo Farzaneh (Gallagher) has been accepted for publication in Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism, published by the London School of Economics.

Mark Hendrickson (PhD 2004, Furner) has had an article on “Gender Research as Labor Activism: The Women’s Bureau in the New Era,” accepted for publication in the Journal of Policy History.

Monique Vallance (Dutra) has signed a contract with Círculo de Leitores in Portugal, to write a book about Dona Luisa de Gusmão, queen of Portugal in the 17th century and subject of Monique’s doctoral dissertation. Publication is anticipated for May of 2010.

Amateurs Tracked Sputnik

CONTINUED FROM P. 2

anticipation of America’s first artificial satellite, but became crucial when Sputnik went up in 1957, before scientists had completed their own plans.

The program exploited a growth in amateur astronomy in the 1950s, fueled in part by surplus income in the middle class.

There were eventually 250 teams of trackers around the globe, involving somewhere between 4,000-5,000 volunteers.

“The story of Sputnik usually is told through the eyes of physicists and politicians,” Prof. McCray said. “Operation Moonwatch lets us see the role that ordinary people were able to play.”

In contrast to the passive form of most science instruction, Operation Moonwatch allowed students to take an active part in study.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

If you are a grad trying to get in touch with an old classmate, or a community member or alum with an article or story, why not drop us a line?

Send your letters to:
Editor, Historia
Department of History
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410
or email: drake@history.ucsb.edu
Fighting Corsairs of Marine Squadron 216
Re-Unite on the Site of Their Former Base

BY BONNIE HARRIS

On Friday October 5, 2007, Public History PhD candidates Jill Jensen and I conducted oral history interviews with retired marines of the WWII Fighting Corsairs Marine Squadron VMF 215.

Squadron members, spouses and widows have been holding Reunions at various venues in the United States since the late 1980s. The Squadron chose Santa Barbara, more specifically Goleta, for this year’s reunion because it was here in 1943 that the Squadron was first formed before they shipped out for their WWII deployment to the Pacific, where the VMF Fighting Corsairs Squadron was stationed on Guadalcanal.

Squadron members shared fond memories about their days in Santa Barbara and Goleta, when little was here other than a few homes surrounded by fields.

In 1940, Santa Barbara State College had outgrown its setting on the lovely “Riviera” campus, situated in the Santa Barbara hills, now part of Brooks Institute.

Plans were then underway to move the campus to a location on the Mesa, where Santa Barbara City College stands today.

Certain departments had already moved down to the Mesa campus when the United States was drawn into WWII, following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Even as the prospect of war had seemed imminent, the United States government, through a civilian defense program, began construction of 250 airports across the country, sharing the cost of construction with local governments.

Through the efforts of Thomas M. Storke, Santa Barbara became one of the sites in the program, and in 1941 the city held groundbreaking ceremonies for the conversion of a small commercial airstrip used in the 1930s into the Santa Barbara Municipal Airport.

The Civilian Aviation Administration spent approximately $1 million on the project that included filling in the Goleta Slough to accommodate three runways.

Eventually the site was chosen for a Marine Corps Air Station. A leasing agreement was reached with city officials in February 1942 and construction on the station began in May 1942. The first 139 Marines arrived in June that year.

By 1943 many of the permanent buildings, such as barracks, storage, and mess halls, were complete. The full extent of the station included 568 leased and 900 purchased acres, which included a lemon field farmed by the military during its stay.

The station was designed to support 180 aircraft, and had barracks built for about 500 officers, 3,000 enlisted men, and 450 women serving in the Marines. About 300 civilian employees also worked on the base.

After the war, the airport, where Squadron VMF 215 members trained for aerial combat, reverted back to the city of Santa Barbara and the purchased areas went to the War Assets Administration for disposal.

Negotiations between the WAA and California Regents began in 1948. A February 1948 LA Times article claimed the 450 acres that the Regents were interested in was appraised for $626,000!

In May, 1949 the Regents announced acceptance of the Goleta site for locating a new University of California campus. A deal was struck for Santa Barbara to annex the land the university obtained, which explains why today the campus is technically in Santa Barbara and not Goleta.

In 1952, the new University of California at Santa Barbara began to convert the former barracks, and classes began, often taking place in these old military buildings as the others were still under construction.

UCSB reached full UC campus status in 1958.

Digital video excerpts from our interviews can be downloaded and viewed at www.bonniehsbiz.com, linked under the section “PhD Research.”

The full unedited two-hour video-taped interview will be given to Special Collections of the Davidson Library at UCSB.

David Russell, oral historian for the UCSB Library, will be conducting follow-up phone interviews with Squadron members, in hopes of creating an archive for the Squadron where their memorabilia, photographs, and documents can be housed in perpetuity.

A PhD candidate in Public History, Bonnie Harris is also Archivist of the Jewish Historical Society of San Diego.
Another great year of UCSB History Associates’ events is under way. 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

(Available to residents outside of Santa Barbara County only)

In addition to my membership dues, enclosed is:
- $25 to obtain a UCSB Library card
- $____ to the History Associates Graduate Fellowship Fund.
- $____ to the History Associates Dick Cook Fund.
- $____ to the History Associates ______ Fund.

(specify other scholarship fund)

Note: Gifts of $1,000 or more qualify for one-year membership in the Chancellor’s Council.

Name: __________________________
Address: _______________________
City/Zip/State: ___________________  
Phone: _______________________

E-mail: _______________________

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

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 93106-1136

Questions? call (805) 893-4388

While Historía’s itinerant correspondent Paul Sonnino took a break this Fall, Prof. Jack Talbott cheerfully stepped into the breach with this photo. Not too difficult to figure out where he was, so this time a bag of hand-picked Sonnino avocados goes to the first person to identify not only where Prof. Talbott was, but also what he was doing there. Send entries to editor, Historía, Department of History, UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410, or email drake@history.ucsb.edu. Talbott family and CIA spooks not eligible.

Rutkowski started the restoration/renovation of the Granada Theater due to open March 2008. She no longer writes for the News-Press and does magazine freelance writing.

She says, “Studying history has sustained me as a glutton for research and detail. Whenever I see those old green Periodical Guides in the library, it renews my love/hate relationship with them! It saddens me to see history taught in our schools as a secondary thought and little public awareness of what has gone before. What we are today is the result of what people have done in the past. How are we to know our place in the scheme of things without some knowledge of that?”

The History Associates are well served by these three and the other equally impressive Board members who work to further History education at its best.

Barbara Lindemann

President’s Corner
CONTINUED FROM P. 4

Where’s Jacko?

Ready to Join?

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Santa Barbara
California
Permit No. 104