



Harvard English Scholar Next Humanities Lecturer

Louis Menand, Anne T. And Robert M. Bass Professor of English at Harvard University, will deliver the final Hall Center Humanities Lecture of Fall 2011 on Thursday, 17 November, 7:30 pm, in the Spencer Museum of Art Auditorium. His topic is “A Man is Shot: The Cold War Meaning of a Cinematic Technique.” Menand will also speak more informally on Friday, 11 November, at 10:00 am in the Hall Center Conference Hall. This “Conversation with Louis Menand” is entitled “Reform and Resistance in the American University,” also the title of his most recent book (2010). A KU news release about Menand’s appearance notes that he is “[o]ften touted as ‘the foremost scholar of American studies.’ His reflections on the state of American culture, and the university as a frequent arbiter of culture, demonstrate wit, accessibility, and insider knowledge of American intellectual trends. He is a frequent contributor to *The New York Review of Books* and *The New Yorker*. His status as a public intellectual was launched with the publication of *The Metaphysical Club* [2001], which follows the lives and ideas of burgeoning pragmatists Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., William James, and Charles Sanders Pierce.” The work was hailed as “an absorbing narrative . . . about the evolution of the American mind.” Menand’s current research project, as reflected by the subject of his lecture, is a cultural history of the Cold War.



Louis Menand

Publications

Ellis, Iain

“Humor Vs. Religion: An Unholy War. Part Two: Dispatches From the Front Lines” (essay). *Popmatters* (located at popmatters.com). November 8, 2011.

Dockery, Mary Stone

“Spinning” (poem). *Medulla Review* 3.1.

Gunn, James E.

Rpt. *The Joy Makers*, Blacksburg, VA: Fantastic Books, 2011.
Rpt. *Crisis!* Blacksburg, VA: Fantastic Books, 2011.

Presentations

Lamb, Jonathan

“Shakespeare’s Wordplay for Pay,” Midwest Modern Language Association Conference, St. Louis, MO, 5 November.

Announcements, Notes, & News

• **Amy Devitt** reports that, in “the latest issue of the *Council Chronicle*, the news magazine of the National Council of Teachers of English, **Chris Anson**, incoming chair of the Conference on College Composition and Communication, was interviewed and was asked what professional books he had read and would recommend. After recommending the research handbooks he had just reviewed, he singled out only one scholarly book: **Mary Jo Reiff** and **Anis Bawarshi’s** *Genre: An Introduction to History, Theory, Research, and Pedagogy*. We have a star in our midst.”

• **Paul Outka** is one of two nominees to be VP of the **Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment (ASLE)**, the leading organization for literature and environment studies nationally and internationally. The VP automatically becomes the President the following year, and, in this year, would be responsible for putting on the biannual convention. ASLE has about 1500 members, 9 international affiliates, publishes a print and online journal: *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment*, sponsors standing panels at the MLA, the ASA, the ALA and elsewhere. The convention usually draws between 750-1000 participants. Outka is also one of two nominees to the **MLA Executive Committee for 19thC American Literature**, a five year position. If you are a member of either organization, consider casting a vote for Paul before 1 December.

Calendar

- T 15 Voting Department Meeting**, 4:00 pm, 4019 Wescoe.
Agenda: 1) review of draft documents re: new core curriculum; 2) graduate mentoring; 3) graduate program size report; 4) minor bylaws revisions.
- W 16 CLAS Second Annual Appreciation Reception**, 3:00-5:00 pm, Bruckmiller Room, Adams Alumni Center CLAS faculty and staff invited.
- R 17 Humanities Lecture Series**, “A Man Is Shot: The Cold War Meaning of a Cinematic Technique,” **Louis Menand**, Bass Professor of English, Harvard University, 7:30 pm, Spencer Museum of Art Auditorium.
- F 18 Humanities Lecture Series**, “Reform and Resistance in the American University: A Conversation with Louis Menand,” 10:00 am, Hall Center Conference Hall.

• **Mary Stone Dockery** has learned that her chapbook, *Becoming an Island*, is one of three finalists for the Mary Ballard Poetry Chapbook Prize. The winner will be announced in late December or early January.

KU and Regional Events

• **Peace, War & Global Change Seminar**, “US Army Doctrine and the ‘Last War’ Myth,” Walter Kretchik, History, Western Illinois University, 11 November, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.

• **University Theatre** presents *All My Sons*, by Arthur Miller, 12, 17-19 November, 7:30 pm; 13, 20 November, 2:30 pm, Crafton-Preyer Theatre, Murphy Hall.

• **2011 Lindley Lecture**, “A Lost Conception of Irony,” Jonathan Lear, Philosophy, University of Chicago, 14 November, 8:00 pm, Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union.

• **New Faculty Workshop**, “External Grant Funding: Why Should I Bother?” Kathy Porsch, Hall Center Grant Development; Sherrie Tucker, American Studies, 16 November, 12:00-1:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room. RSVP required. Lunch provided.

• **TGIF**, 18 November, 4:00-5:30 pm, Adams Alumni Center.

Calls for Papers, Conferences, Symposia, Etc. (Posted)

• **Frontiers and Borders**, Oklahoma State University English Graduate Student Association Conference, 9-11 March 2012, Stillwater, OK. Deadline: 20 January.

Fellowships, Contests, Awards, Scholarships, Etc. (Posted)

• *the madison review* presents the **Phyllis Smart-Young Prize in Poetry** and **Chris O’Malley Prize in Fiction**, for unpublished short stories and poems. Deadline: 1 February.