



Humanities Update

JUNE 2008

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From the Dean's desk

The year that has passed since the last issue of *Humanities Update* has been an extremely exciting and productive one. New initiatives include:

- The award of four NRF research chairs, to Professor Caroline Hamilton (Archive and Public Culture); Professor Raj Mesthrie (Migration, Language and Social Change); Professor Lungisile Ntsebeza (Land Reform & Democracy in SA: State and Civil Society Dynamics); and Professor Adulkader Tayob (Islam, African Publics and Religious Values). These new chairs provide us with opportunities to build research excellence of international stature in all of these areas.
- The creation of the Institute for the Performing and Creative Arts (IPCA) to promote excellence in teaching, research and creative output, across the creative and performing arts departments, (Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, Film & Media, Music and Fine Art) and the Baxter Theatre. IPCA, which enjoys significant donor funding, will foster shared performances, festivals, exhibitions, and other creative endeavours. We recently advertised the Directorship and later this year we will officially launch the Institute, under the name of the donor.
- The formation of the Centre for Curating the Archive (CCA) as a research centre and as a vehicle for the conservation and creative use of object, image and paper collections. Already the CCA has secured the South Collection and is currently working to organise its 30 000 images representing twenty five photographers.
- The award of significant funding from the Andrew W Mellon Foundation for strengthening scholarship in the faculty. This funding will enable emerging researchers in the faculty to travel abroad and extend international collaboration. Additionally, the funding will be used to further strengthen departmental research cultures by bringing outstanding fellows to UCT for brief periods.

The new Faculty website is now live and provides up-to-date information about what is happening in academic departments. Please stay in touch with us. Those living in the Cape Town area are warmly welcome at all faculty events, which are advertised on the UCT website.

With warm good wishes

Paula Ensor

www.drama.uct.ac.za

ATTEMPTS ON HER LIFE

Bookings: 021 480 7129

Little Theatre
37 Orange St
17 - 24 May 2008

Martin Crimp's ATTEMPTS ON HER LIFE
Directed by Liz Mills



Claim to the country



In the 1870s, facing cultural extinction and the death of their language, several men and women from the northern Cape told their stories to two pioneering colonial scholars, Wilhelm Bleek and Lucy Lloyd. These were the |xam (or Cape San or Bushmen) and theirs were narratives of the land, the rain, the history of the first people and the origin of the moon and stars. They told of the importance of the land and all its plants and animals, and the circumstances of their relocation to Cape Town as prisoners of the British Crown.

All these narratives were faithfully recorded and translated by Bleek and Lloyd, creating an archive of over 13 000 pages that includes drawings, notebooks, maps and photographs.

Now residing in three main institutions – the University of Cape Town, Iziko: The South African Museum and the National Library

of South Africa – this archive is all that remains of the |xam language and the way of life that it described.

In *Claim to the country* Pippa Skotnes, presents, for the first time, all the notebook pages and drawings that comprise the bulk of the archive. Also included is a searchable, annotated index for all the narratives and contributors and several contextualising essays by well-known scholars. More than this, Pippa has revealed both the beauty of the archive and the loss that it represents. She celebrates the enormous achievement of Bleek and Lloyd as well as the lives of the men and women and their children who struggled against unimaginable odds to survive, yet who filled the landscape with the poetry of their ideas and set their stories adrift on the wind. This book shows that more than a record of the memories of a few |xam and !kun individuals and the dispossession of their descendants, the archive is their claim to the country.

Pippa studied at the University of Cape Town where she is now Professor of Fine Art and Director of the Lucy Lloyd Archive, Resource and Exhibition Centre (LLAREC) at the Michaelis School of Fine Art. She was educated in both Fine Art and Archaeology and has published essays on the rock art of the San. She is the author and editor of several books, including *Sound from the Thinking Strings* (1991), *Miscast: negotiating the presence of the Bushmen* (1996), which accompanied a major exhibition on the colonial history of the San at the South African National Gallery in Cape Town, and *Heaven's Things* (1999). She has also published a number of private press books, including *Lamb of God* which is, in part, a narrative inscribed on the bones of horses. She has exhibited her work in many different parts of the world.

Claim to the country is part of the Lucy Lloyd Archive and Resource Centre, supported by the Andrew W Mellon Foundation, de Beers, and Scan Shop, to digitise, research and publish the Bleek and Lloyd Archive. It includes the complete |xam and !kun texts given in the 1870s and 1880s by |alkunta, ||kabbo, =kasin, Dialkwain, !kweiten ta ||ken and |han=kass'o, and the boys |uma, Tamme, !nanni and Da, along with their water-colours and drawings.

A review

Do you ever wonder what books you'd take with you if you were forced to choose only an armful? I have just found another to add to that fateful list were I ever to be faced with that literary Sophie's Choice moment. Without question, I'd dash to my bookshelf and hold Claim to the Country to my beating breast. It's the kind of book that offers the prospect of a better death... there is something about the content of this book and the way it has been composed that affirms a diverse totality so complex and mysterious it makes you breathless with the kind of awe people feel in churches. But what is being put before you is outside religion. It is a collision of history, memoir, myth, dreams, biography, poetry, art and semiology... If James Joyce were alive today to delve into it, he'd be as ecstatic as he was in Nora's arms. One thinks of the final words of his masterpiece: "His heart was going like mad and yes I said yes I will Yes." What Joyce tried to with Ulysses, this book affirms through historical retrieval.

Alex Dodd, *Business Day*, September 2007.



Dr. Andrew Burn from the Centre for the Study of Children, Youth and Media at the London Knowledge Lab was invited to visit UCT under the Visiting Scholars programme. An inter-disciplinary colloquium on children and digital media was planned to coincide with his visit.

'The conversation with Andrew Burn helped to remind us of the significant differences between the UK and US (where most of the research into youth and digital media is done) and the South African context,' comments Marion Walton, lecturer at the Centre for Film and Media Studies (CFMS). 'For example, in the UK study that Andrew Burn reported, 90% of children have used the Internet, and their use of digital media is far more extensive and creative in the home context than it is at school, where severe limitations and restrictions are applied. In South Africa, schools are leading the way in providing computers with Internet access.' Although only 60% of schools in the

Western Cape currently have Internet access for school children this represents a dramatic improvement over the situation even five years ago and is significantly better than home access. (Broader demographic statistics suggest that very few South Africans have Internet access at home; in 2006 only about 10% have any kind of access at all).

'What emerged from the discussions was the importance and specificity of mobile Internet access and practices in the South African context, where mobile phones reach large sectors of the population. For example, home-grown cost-saving applications such as mXit have evolved,' said Walton, 'Tino Kreuzer, an MA student in our department, is conducting research which suggests that, in township schools in Cape Town, a large majority of Grade 11s (especially boys) are already accessing the Internet, mXit and other applications via their phones'.

Research among adolescent girls done by Tanja Bosch, also a CFMS lecturer, showed that the rapid uptake of mXit has also created distinct spaces for mediated youth culture, where girls use mXit for peer support, redefining relationships with parents, gender performance, and conspicuous consumption.

At the same time, the overall climate of moral panic about children's media use is very similar in both countries. Burn pointed

out that 'moral panics' often arise when children and teens use new media that older generations don't understand – like rock music in the sixties and the Internet in the nineties. 'Parents worry and politicians have a field day', said Walton. Consequently, many South African schools have banned mXit, as Bosch reported.

These 'panics', are also reflected in current legislation, such as the 2006 Films and Publications Amendment Bill. 'While the Bill aimed to protect children from media, it turned out to entail a significant infringement of everyone's freedom of speech since it required pre-publication classification of certain types of potentially controversial news', said Walton.

'The original version caused an outcry, and the Bill was revised after feedback from the media industry. Even in terms of the watered-down Bill, artists, authors, university lecturers and librarians would still have to submit potentially controversial publications for classification. Personally I think that legislators and parents should focus on improving media literacy – both their own and that of their children - since regulation of children's media use is becoming more and more difficult. We should also beware of infringing on children's rights to information, and be particularly protective of teenagers' rights to information about sex and sexuality.'

Religion & Health

The African Religious Health Assets Programme (ARHAP) at UCT has been conducting innovative research on the contribution of religious entities to public health in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) since 2003. Two new grants received in 2007 made it possible to take this research to a new level:

- The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation grant to conduct a study on the contribution of religious entities to health services in sub-Saharan Africa. Working for 6 months starting in July 2007, ARHAP reviewed existing literature in English and French and in-depth case studies were conducted in Mali, Uganda and Zambia. 'It was our first opportunity to conduct a study in a predominantly Islamic setting,' comments Prof Jim Cochrane, Director of the African hub of the Programme. 'The findings showed a significant contribution to health services, health supporting initiatives, and health promotion in most countries, but with great variation in the extent of faith-based services (from 2% of health services in Mali to over 30% in Uganda), type of services provided, and ways of relating to Ministries of Health.'

The report is being finalised and will be used during report back visits to the case study countries and at the Global Ministerial

Forum on Research for Health (Bamako, November 2008) to advocate for more appropriate funding of and collaboration with faith-based organisations.

- A joint grant late in 2007 from UNAIDS and Tearfund is supporting further study of the relationship between Christian groups providing HIV and AIDS services, governments and donors. Research with stakeholders in Malawi, Kenya and the DRC during April 2008 will provide the material for a report to the International AIDS Conference in Mexico in August as well as in-country advocacy later in the year. More details and the study reports can be found at www.arhap.uct.ac.za



UCT's Barbara Schmid with colleagues in Mali



We declare for the vulnerable

A feature of the second year for Social Work students is the Declaration Ceremony. It marks the change from the theoretical to the practice of knowledge and from that moment on, the Social Work students enter into professional contracts with the people they serve.

The two speakers at the 2008 Ceremony were Virginia Petersen and Ingrid Daniels, both of whom are UCT alumni, having done Masters in Social Science (Clinical Social Work).

'If we look at the history of Social Work as a profession, it remains true that social workers entered the profession from the beginning because of a desire to help others or to make a difference in the lives of people. In the 21st century this remains the case,' said Director General of the Western Cape, Ms Petersen.

She reflected on the rapid changes that have occurred since 1994, and on how the profession has moved to a more developmental approach which seeks to move individuals and communities from marginalization to self reliance. 'Herein lies the challenge for the new cadre of social workers,' said Petersen. 'This is the time for highly skilled activists such as social workers to add



Second-year Social Work students at the 2008 Declaration Ceremony: picture courtesy of Deborah da Silva

significantly to addressing past imbalances.'

Ingrid Daniel's experience in the disability sector was reflected in her passion for the work of NGOs and civil society. She spoke to the crisis of scarce skills and to the fact that South Africa only has 9 000 of the 50 000 social workers needed. 'We have this amazing opportunity and the choice to work in so many different areas – child care, psychiatry, the aged, disability, the corporate sector.'

Ms Daniels then read extracts from *My Life*

in *Your Hands*, words that resonated with not only the 36 students but all the guests as well:

*I did not choose this life or these struggles that I face
And I don't know how I got here to such a vulnerable
state.*

*Every one is quick to judge me yet they offer no help.
Can't they see I'm alone here? I'm doing this by myself.*

So here I am. Fix me if you can.

I give it to you: my life is in your hands.

North-South Collaboration Procreation and parenthood

08 Festival was the first in a cultural exchange, an exchange of experience and tradition in theatre from one part of the world to another. 'Our students joined students of Dutch and other South African drama schools as guests of Toneelgroep De Appel in the Hague', said Mark Fleishman, Director of UCT's Drama Department.

'When you bring together two cultures, one an old democratic and one a new democratic nation, and then combine the experience of professional directors and actors with the inspirational power of young students, amazing things happen!'

The outcome is this case was three plays, *Power*, *Guests* and *Odysseus of Holland*, two of which will be part of the Fringe festival at Grahamstown in July, with performances either side at UCT and Wits.

Odysseus was written by Mike van Graan who was UCT's Artist-in-Residence in 2006. *Odysseus* functions as a metaphor for the former colonial power, and, just as in Homer's hero, he returns to his country of birth unrecognised and abused as a stranger.

For details and dates visit: www.drama.uct.ac.za



Bearing and Rearing Children: the ethics of procreation and parenthood was the theme of a conference that the Philosophy Department co-organized with Georgia State University's Jean Beer Blumenfeld Center for Ethics and the UK-based Society for Applied Philosophy in May.

The keynote speakers were Professor Jeff McMahan of Rutgers University and Professor Hugh LaFollette of the University of South Florida. The other participants included a number of eminent people working in the field and papers were presented on the ethics of pre-



Discussion over tea, l-r Dr Mianna Lotz, Dr Joseph Millum and Professor Tom Sorell

implantation genetic screening, cloning, commercial gestational surrogacy, anti-natalism, procreators' duties, parental rights and responsibilities, and licensing parents.

CONFERENCES

SEMINARS

COLLOQUIUMS



Aspects of Empire

‘The recent Classics conference was the biggest in South Africa since 1991, and incidentally that conference was also held at UCT,’ comments Professor David Wardle. ‘With substantial funding from the Dutch, Italian and Greek governments as well as from Distell, we were able to attract over 90 delegates from four continents, as well as from all the universities in SA which teach Classics.’ Its theme, *Aspects of Empire*, enabled a wide range of scholars to reflect on many facets of the Graeco-Roman world including sculptural representation, manifestations of imperialism, and literary responses to power. Another strong theme of the conference was medicine in the ancient world. Keynote speakers were Prof Simon Hornblower (UCL), Mario Capasso (Lecce, Italy) and Konstantinos Zachos (Ephor of Ioannina). A successful outreach event was held one evening with a talk for the general public by Prof Capasso on the Villas of Herculaneum. The conference marked the 50th anniversary of the Classical Association of South Africa.

For the love of Philosophy

It was a bitter Thursday night in May and yet through the doors of the Menzies building came group after group of young people – all to attend the Foundation in Philosophy series. The comments speak for themselves:

- I was thinking of doing a PPE before an LLB and so I thought I should see if I liked Philosophy, and I do, I really enjoy it!
- I love to question things, and theories open you up to so many more topics
- My teacher suggested it, and the topic ‘Freedom of Speech’ interests me
- I enjoy the lecturers and I enjoy going off and discussing the topic; it’s good to hear opinions from people from other walks of life
- It’s interesting to see people with fixed opinions clashing, whereas the lecturers are so good at arguing both sides, at having a cogent point of view

‘This is the second year we’ve run this programme and attendance has nearly doubled from 2007,’ said convenor Dr Greg Fried. ‘Local centres of the Western Cape Education Department kindly sent out details of our programme to about 160 high schools, and 175 students in grades 10-12 registered. This year’s theme was Freedom: over three evening sessions we’ve discussed John Stuart Mill on freedom of speech, reflected on the Danish cartoon affair, and argued for and against free will.’

‘One inspiration was UCT’s wonderful extra-mural offering in mathematics for high school students,’ said Fried. ‘We hope that Foundations in Philosophy will be a regular event at which teenagers get to enjoy some academic philosophy.’



Left to right: Amy Thornton (Rustenberg), Kehar Narismalu and Josh Miller (Bishops) chat together before the Philosophy lecture by lecturer Dr Elisa Galgut (far background).

Orthodox Western education in an African context

Bridging between orthodox Western higher educational practices and an African socio-cultural context was the title of a well attended seminar presented by Professor Robert Serpell, former VC at the University of Zambia.

‘African universities have inherited from the West a number of institutionalized arrangements for learning that tend to decontextualize the learning process by extracting learners from everyday life,’ he said. ‘I believe that situated learning and participatory appropriation is the key because project-based learning affords students

with unique opportunities to test formal theories against reality. This prepares them for practical challenges in the world of work and invites them to confront indigenous interpretations of experience.

‘In addition, some projects incorporate a dimension of community service that facilitates public appraisal of universities as engaged and valuable resources for the wider society.’

The full text of the paper is available from Heather.Jacklin@uct.ac.za



Gender-based violence



(l-r) Prof. Colin Tredoux, Dr Floretta Boonzaier and Anastasia Maw from UCT with Assoc. Prof. Mary Harvey from Harvard Medical School

A three-day symposium entitled *Researching Gender-Based Violence: Issues and Challenges* was held at the Saartjie Baartman Centre for Women and Children in Athlone in March. The symposium was part of a greater strategic project within the Department of Psychology which is to establish gender-based violence (GBV) research as a niche area of research.

Some of the symposium debates centered around which methodologies should be used, namely large-scale epidemiological research with the intention of collecting statistics about the prevalence of violence, or in-depth qualitative studies that unpack the meanings and experiences of victims and perpetrators of violence.

It was acknowledged that both these areas are necessary in order to expand the local

knowledge in the field. Further discussion was sparked around the ethics of researching GBV and how the complexities of the lives of victims should be acknowledged in terms of the practice of gender-based violence research.

It was this relational aspect that researchers and practitioners acknowledged as key.

‘Women are in particular relationships with men (and with other women), and these individuals live in particular families and family structures; these families are located in particular communities and communities are themselves structured through particular state institutions and responses to gender-based violence,’ comments Dr Boonzaier. ‘The embeddedness of individuals (both victims and

perpetrators) in these particular structures is central to understanding GBV violence in the South African context.’

Following on from the symposium, a two-hour presentation was held in the Department of Psychology. Associate Professor Nicola Gavey, University of Auckland, presented a thought-provoking paper on rape, trauma and meaning. Associate Professor Mary Harvey, Harvard Medical School, challenged researchers and practitioners to focus on and better understand resilience in the aftermath of trauma.

Professor Hydén, Linköping University, argued for qualitatively-based research which contributes to a more nuanced and complex understanding of the impact of intimate partner violence.

Male Interpersonal Violence

Religious Studies, through the African Religious Health Assets Programme has been invited to participate in an international research study, led by the Medical Research Council and UNISA, on the affects and effects of religion in relation to “male interpersonal violence”. Sentinel sites are likely to be in Johannesburg, Memphis and Seattle.

NEW DIRECTION

Heritage and Public Culture

From 2009, not only will the existing Honours and Masters course in Public Culture include Heritage Studies, but elements of the new programme will be offered by both the Centre for African Studies (CAS) and the School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics.

'Heritage Studies has always been divided between a more technical and a more critical approach. This collaboration with our colleagues in Engineering & the Built Environment (EBE) places Heritage in both its social and political settings and in the context of a world of work, comments CAS lecturer, Nick Shepherd. 'Humanities postgraduates will do a full course in Heritage methodologies in EBE, and EBE students in the conservation for the built environment programme will do a course on Critical Issues in Heritage Studies in CAS.

'Museums and heritage sites have burgeoned in post-apartheid South Africa, but the same is true throughout Africa and in fact wherever there is contested history,' he said. '60% of our students are international, many from Africa, and CAS honours electives such as 'Race, Culture & Identity in Africa', are very popular. We already have considerable interest in the new programme.

The CAS Gallery is a heritage 'site' in itself. Events in the first semester have ranged from *Save our Seafront*, to an exhibition from documentary photographer Paul Weinberg to seminars with Laurie Nathan (About SA and Darfur) and Faith Adiele (Finding Faith) to the Library at Timbuktu. Anyone interested in being on the mailing list should write to cas-africas@uct.ac.za



NEW COURSES

A watershed for Sociology

'It was when Sociology embarked on a self-review in March last year that we realised that 2008 would be something of a watershed,' comments Head of Department, David Cooper. 'The retirement of two long-standing senior academics, Prof Jan Maree and Assoc Prof Ken Jubber (2008 and 2009 respectively) were seen as the catalyst to the reconfiguration of some of our core activities that we had been considering for a while..

'A bit of background. The Sociology Department emerged in 1968 out of the then-combined Department of Social Science in which Social Work formed a part (Social Anthropology, established in 1934, has always been a separate department). The 'historical moments' of the 1970s and 1980s in South Africa, and of the 1990s, had led to a relatively greater stress on 'Public & Policy' Sociology, on the socio-economic development of the wider society.

'Current societal issues however indicate

the need to incorporate 'professional' Sociology which, because of its focus on academic research for peer-review publication, will have the effect of pushing new knowledge forward. Its link (in Burroway's model) with 'critical' or self-reflective Sociology is logical.

'2010 will see a restructuring and streamlining of our undergraduate suite of courses associated with the existing majors in Sociology and Industrial Sociology,' said Professor Cooper.

PhD numbers in Sociology are currently among the highest in the Faculty.

'Our aim is not only to increase the number, but to change the focus to an 'apprenticed' doctorate where the students are involved in teaching, and learn and participate in the academic philosophy of the Department, said Cooper. 'To this end we have recently refurbished a room as a postgraduate lab and hope to have two more labs on stream next year.'



Over sixty years of teaching and research experience, I-r Professors Maree and Jubber

Philosophy of Science

Dr Jack Ritchie joined the Philosophy Department in the middle of 2007. Dr Ritchie, who hails from Scotland, did his BA (in Physics and Philosophy) at Oxford University and his MPhil and PhD degrees in Philosophy at the London School of Economics. Prior to joining UCT, he was a lecturer at Trinity College Dublin and before that a post-doctoral fellow at University College Dublin.

Dr Ritchie's main research interests are in the philosophy of science and the connections between science and philosophy. His book, *Understanding Naturalism*, will be published by Acumen Press this year. He will be teaching new UCT courses in the Philosophy of Science at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels to students in the Humanities and Science faculties.



NEW DIRECTION

NEW COURSES

NEW RESEARCH

New head, new home for Dance



School of Dance's Elizabeth Triegaardt and Gerard Samuel

From the Ballet School in 1986, to the introduction of a full course in Contemporary Dance in 1987, to a B.Mus (Dance) in 1997, the first graduate in African Dance in 1999, a full suite of post-graduate programmes up to doctoral level and full circle to a department within the South African College of Music, Elizabeth Triegaardt has serenely lead the way.

As of May 2008 however, she hands over to homegrown professional dancer, international academic and research-driven teacher, Gerard Samuel.

Just what is the profile of the School that she is handing over? There are 62 students in the School of Dance this year, most of whom are from out of town and principally from the Eastern Cape, Dur-

ban and Gauteng; most are in the degree programme with the balance split evenly between the Dance Teacher's Diploma and the Performer's Certificate.

Who is the 'new' person on the block? Gerard was awarded his diploma at UCT in 1984 and danced with the NAPAC and the Playhouse Company. His published work has a focus on disability arts, contexts of dance and culture in South Africa.

He has been on several exchanges in Denmark, attended a Developmental Movement course at the Sherbourne Institute and holds an MA from the University of Natal.

Future plans include widening notions of dance, inclusivity and contemporary dance.

Certificated courses introduced

For the first time, people attending short courses presented by staff and departments in the Faculty of Humanities will be able to be certified by the faculty. The initial four courses to be approved have been offered to mathematics and science teachers by the School of Education's Schools Development Unit (SDU), co-ordinated by Anthea Roberts.

Short courses which are certified by the Faculty of Humanities have to be approved in advance by the Faculty's Short Courses sub-committee and the assessment for the courses is externally examined. The certificates awarded specify the NQF level of the course and the number of NQF credits it carries.

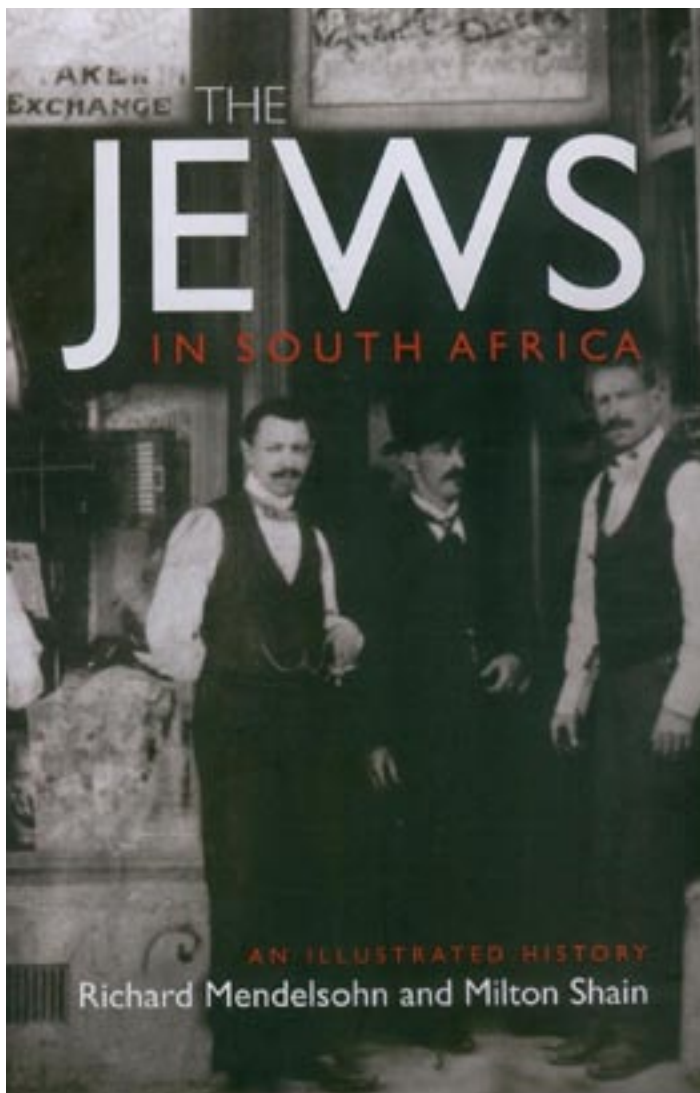
Of Classics, French & Spanish

The most exciting development in the School of Languages and Literatures is the establishment of a major in Spanish Language and Literature, offered for the first time in 2008.

2008 also saw the introduction of a new Honours in Teaching French as a Foreign Language. It is hoped that a Masters programme will be launched in 2009.

The Classics Section has appointed Dr Roman Roth. Dr Roth is also an archaeologist, and will be responsible for redesigning the syllabus of some Classics courses to include Classical Archaeology. An exciting possibility is that UCT students will be involved in excavations in Italy in the future.

The Jews in South Africa



Richard Mendelsohn and Milton Shain recently published the first comprehensive account of the South African Jewish experience in over fifty years.

The Jews in South Africa, An Illustrated History includes a wide range of important photographs and encompasses a broad swathe of Jewish life.

Beginning with the first Jewish immigrants to South Africa, and depicting the fragility of the early foundations and the shifting fortunes of this infant community, the book traces its development to robust maturity amidst turbulent social and political currents.

These include the strident anti-Semitism of the 1930s, the moral dilemmas of the apartheid era, the subsequent turbulent transition towards a non-racial democracy, the birth of the new South Africa and the fresh challenges and promise that have followed in its wake up to the present day.

On Cyril Ramaphosa

Cyril Ramaphosa was the guest speaker at the launch of Anthony Butler's unauthorised biography *Cyril Ramaphosa* in January. Associate Professor in Political Studies, Butler is also a weekly columnist for Business Day.

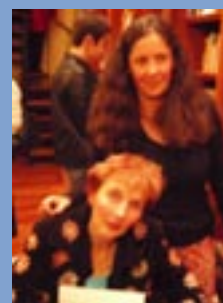
Prizes for the Snyman & vdVliet

Emma van der Vliet was awarded a UCT Meritorious Book Award for her novel *Past Imperfect* that was published last year, and Wilhelm Snyman & Guiseppe Stellardi (ex UCT, now Oxford) were awarded the 'Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Prize for Translation of Works in Italian' for *Persuasion and Rhetoric* (*La Persuasion e la Rettorica*) by Carlo Michelstaedter.

Uncommon Etudes

Uncommon Etudes by Mike Rossi is described by Ulrich Suesse as 'the secret cure for students and pros alike when practicing scales in all keys. These etudes are firstly MUSIC and also FUN to play. Combined with the etudes is Rossi's unique Contrast concept, which transforms already hip-sounding, scale-based phrases into a multi-coloured CREATIVE sound and language.'

Gender foregrounded



Jane Bennett, of the African Gender Institute, published a short story collection, *Porcupine*. The collection is full of discussions of gender, sexuality and South African contexts which take academic concerns into a whole new realm.

Professor Bennett with her publisher, Nel-lecke de Jager



Hambidge's post-postmodern novel

Palindroom / Koesnaatjies vir die proe, Professor Joan Hambidge se jongste werk is 'n unieke publikasie: 'n dubbeldoor, twee boeke in een saamgevat onder die vaandel van die Koningin van Harte. Begin lees aan die eenkant aan 'n prosawerk, maar keer dit om en jy lees 'n digbundel.

Two new collections

'What this anthology, his fifth, *The Light Echo and Other Poems 2000 – 2006* confirms, if there was ever any doubt, is that Stephen Watson is possibly the most accomplished poet writing in South Africa today (Cape Times, May 2nd, 2008).

For JM Coetzee, Peter Anderson's new collection of poetry, *Foundling's Island*, has a 'stoic vision' answering 'our human need to keep things complex'. For Jeremy Cronin the book 'confirms a major voice' full of 'taut wit, tactile moment, wisdom'.

Xhosa poetry

Abner Nyamende's *Anthology of Xhosa Poetry* has been prescribed for Grade 10; two of the anthologer's favourites are *Aa! Zam' ukulunga* (p.3) and *URholiblabla* (p.37)

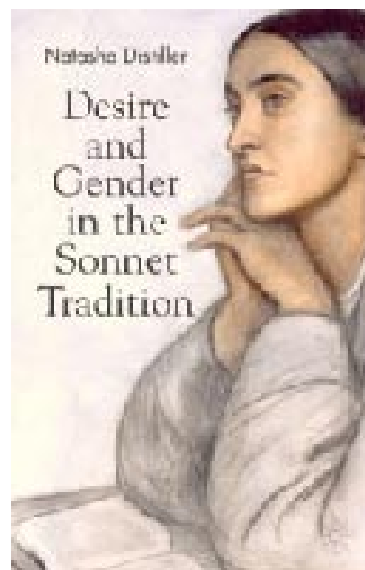
English ... Musicology?

Rodney Edgecombe, who has no formal training in the field of music beyond two months' harmony lessons with a Claremont piano teacher, has just published his 19th musicological article in *The Musical Times*. He has two further pieces in press with that journal, and an additional three with *The International Journal of Musicology*.

Stealing Empire

From 'empire stealing' through their commodification of countercultures to the 'stealing empire' activities of file-sharers, culture jammers and hip-hop activists, Adam Haupt's *Stealing Empire* tells the story of people defining themselves as active, creative agents in a consumerist society.

Desire and Gender in the Sonnet



In her *Desire and Gender in the Sonnet Tradition* which explores the poetic tradition of the love sonnet sequence in English as written by women, Natasha Distiller offers a unique contribution to the debate about gender and subjectivity by taking the subject of the sonnet as an analogue for the Lacanian subject.

The book ranges from the development of Petrarchism in sixteenth-century English poetry, to sequences by English women in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It examines the work of Edna St Vincent Millay in the early twentieth century, and explores the Petrarchan inheritances in gangster rap today.

Offering a distinctive theoretical scope, and speaking to scholars of feminist theory, of the sonnet, of women's literary history and of cultural studies, it engages with current and ongoing debates about the place of women's voices in Western literature and theories of subjectivity; about the development of a psychoanalytic literary critical vocabulary; and about the history of poetics in discourses of love.

STAFF NEWS

Academics on the move

UCT in Sweden



Gail Fincham, Head of the English Department, has been invited to teach Postcolonial Studies at undergraduate and postgraduate level at Växjö University, Sweden, in the UCT September break.

Fincham is co-editor, with Jeremy Hawthorn and Jakob Lothe, of *Literary Landscapes: From Modernism to Postcolonialism*; her chapter is on E.M. Forster. Other forthcoming publications include a chapter on Zakes Mda in *Ways of Writing* (ed. Johan Jacobs and David Bell, KZN Press), a chapter on J.M. Coetzee in *J.M. Coetzee and the Aesthetics of Place* (ed. Carrol Clarkson, UCT Press), and on Conrad in *Conrad: Voice, Sequence, History, Genre*. (ed. Jeremy Hawthorn, Jakob Lothe, and James Phelan, Ohio State University Press.)

Her special edition of the journal *The English Academy Review* which she co-edits with Elleke Boehmer is entitled *Voice and Gaze in Metropolitan and Postcolonial Writing and Film* and is due for publication in October 2008.

STAFF NEWS

From Hume to Hitchcock

John Higgins was recently invited to give the prestigious Stephen Copley Memorial Lecture at York University (UK) at the Centre for Eighteenth Century Studies. His lecture *Conversations: from Hume to Hitchcock* explored the idea of conversation in Hume's political philosophy, and the breakdown of that ideal in Hume's relations with Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Taking the figure of the third-person outsider in that exchange, Professor Higgins further examined its dynamic of this figure in films by Hitchcock (*Psycho*) and David Lynch (*Mulholland Drive*). Higgins has also recently been appointed to the Editorial Board of two new British journals: *Cultural Sociology* and *Keywords*.

Schalkwyk moves to DC

David Schalkwyk has been appointed Director of Research and Director of the Shakespeare Institute at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. from July 2009. The post also involves being editor of the *Shakespeare Quarterly*. The Folger Shakespeare Library is one of the leading institutions of Shakespeare and Early Modern research in the world, and the *Shakespeare Quarterly* is the leading international journal devoted to Shakespeare studies. His *Shakespeare, Love and Service* has just been published by Cambridge UP.



STUDENT & STAFF NEWS

Religion & Development

Jim Cochrane, who heads the UCT Hub of African Religious Health Assets Programme, delivered papers reflecting ARHAP'S insights in both Holland and Scotland.

The first paper was at a global conference on *Religion and Development* hosted by development agencies in Holland, at the Soesterberg Conference Centre near Utrecht; the second was at an internation-

al conference at Edinburgh University on "Exploring Religious Spaces in the African State: Development and Politics from Below". These meetings are all indicators of a rapidly growing interest in the role and place of religion in health, and in development more generally, an interest in part fuelled by past work done by ARHAP for the World Health Organization and others.

Van der Schijff in Beijing & Dakar



Johann van der Schijff, a senior lecturer in new media at the Michaelis School of Fine Art was one of five South African artists chosen from 17 African countries and the diaspora to exhibit at the 8th Dakar Biennale in May.

Johann was awarded two prizes, the European Union Award and the Zuloga Corporation Award.

The EU award includes the promotion of Johann's work and artistic career by the European Union, and will also involve an exhibition/workshop in Senegal in the near future.

The Zuloga award includes participation in an exhibition representing African Art in Beijing, as part of the 2008 Olympic Games

Professor Gavin Younge will also be on show at the Olympic Village - his Landscape Sculpture won a Five-Ring Award.

STUDENT & STAFF NEWS

Langerman a Junior Fellow



Fine Arts' lecturer, Fritha Langerman, was given a Junior Fellow Award in recognition of her 'sustained area research production that includes interests in taxonomies of information, curation, the book, systems of ordering and the history of print.'

These interests were reflected in her two recent exhibitions, *The Knowledge Chambers*, Cape Town and *Of Symmetries and Oxymorons*, Johannesburg

Writing about Langerman's work, Anna Tietze says that it engages with the idea of systems of knowledge and it does so by making reference to three of the great knowledge systems of history:

- the rose windows of mediaeval churches.
- the multi-volumed eighteenth-century Encyclopaedia edited by French philosopher Denis Diderot.
- the modern phenomenon of the Google search engine.



STUDENT & STAFF NEWS

"As you wish..."



Kevin Rochford 1944-2008

Lecture Theatre 1, in the Graduate School of Humanities, was filled to capacity on May 6th as people came together to remember 30 years of the magic, of the beauty of teaching, that Kevin Rochford inspired.

Students and colleagues alike spoke of how he led by example, he was always thoroughly prepared. His use of visual aids was legendary, his door was always open, even at 11pm.

Kevin Rochford motivated students to present at conferences and his board was covered with news of his students' publications. But perhaps his signature theme was that he never prescribed - for him it was always 'As you wish...

Current Director of the School of Education, Associate Professor Rudi Laug-

ksch, spoke to Kevin's particular skill in the teaching of Science. 'He used examples from as varied a sources as the then School of Ballet (the connection between bones, tendons and muscles) to overnight stays at Rondevlei.'

These outings, and the white BMW, were a common thread throughout the tributes, and not only for students. Kevin was part of the running fraternity and his generosity and resourcefulness were poured into that community too.

'I feel so proud of such people among us at UCT,' said the Vice Chancellor, Professor Ndebele, in an impromptu tribute. 'That night, we had taken away a person who had so much to give to so many others in the country. His death causes us to rededicate ourselves to the goal of a peaceful society.'

Pierre De Celles Award was given to **Robert Cameron** for the best paper presented at the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration Conference in 2004 for his paper on *Metropolitan Government Reorganisation in South Africa*.

School of Education Professor, **Crain Soudien**, has been appointed as Chair of the Ministerial Committee on Transformation, Social Cohesion and the Elimination of Discrimination in Public Higher Education Institutions.

STUDENT & STAFF NEWS

Ramon wins a Fulbright



College of Music graduate Ramon de Bruyn joined New York University in September 2007 on a Fulbright Scholarship. Ramon recently sent in news of some of the musical highlights he has experienced so far:

- A 6-week tour of Canada and the East Coast on upright bass as part of Gabriel Alegria's Afro-Peruvian band. Guest performances included Tierney Sutton (Jazzweek's Vocalist of the Year 2005) and trumpet player Bobby Shew. Dr Alegria is the deputy director for jazz at NYU
 - Playing as part of Joe Lovano's ensemble at NYU, performing with jazz pianist Kenny Werner and tenor sax player Lenny Pickett (of Tower of Power and band leader of TV Show Saturday Night Live)
 - Singing and performing as part of NYU's 16-piece jazz choir, studying composition with Gil Goldstein and bass with Mike Richmond, and performing with Arturo O' Farrell, son of Chico, pianist and leader of the Latin Jazz Orchestra.
- Ramon also played in the Peru International Jazz Festival. One of his musical dreams came true on April 15 when he had his first private lesson with world-renowned bassist John Patitucci.

The Keswick Prize

The Keswick Prize for Lucidity 2007 was won by Alexa le Chat, School of Dance and the inaugural **Alliance of Civilisations Essay Competition**, sponsored by the Embassy of Spain in partnership with UWC & UCT, was won by Political Studies' student Alexandra Searle.



STUDENT

Of Art and Music

Esti Strydon, a 2007 graduate was winner of *'My Home is Myself'*, a worldwide cultural exchange project in photography between prestigious art schools in Geneva, Sydney, New York, Shanghai and Cape Town.

Tashinga Matindike a current Masters in Fine Art student won the *Young Women Leading Change* award given by the World YWCA and funded by UNAID.

STAFF

Thomas Beckman has been accepted on a scholarship with one of the world's finest viola teachers; he will be attending the University of British Columbia for two years.

Sarah-Jane Brandon won the Teyte Prize (a soprano celebrated for her interpretation of French song) and Miriam Licette Scholarship; she gave a recital in the Crush Room at Royal Opera Covent Garden on June 2.

ALUMNI

Key Appointment



Gerhard de Jager has been appointed an assistant-conductor with the **Britten-Pears Festival in Aldebourg** (home of **Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears**), England until June 2009. 'The appointment entails three concerts, and in August I will be working with **Maestro Robin Ticciati** rehearsing **Bruckner 7 and Bartok Viola Concerto** with **Lawrence Power**,' said an ecstatic Gerhard.

Isdell endorses Humanities degree



Speaking at an alumni leadership forum on June 5th, current Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Coca Cola, **Neville Isdell** (1966) made success in business sound so simple! Key to his success were:

- A liberal Arts education at UCT, and the university experience where he found his political pulse, made friendships that have endured and tasted teamwork (in his case rugby). 'In the end it is all about how you relate to people.'
- The belief in yourself that academia gives you, so that you have confidence to turn the question, 'what have you learned?' into 'What do you think I have learned?'
- His career driver was 'to see the world', to embark on a voyage of discovery; that voyage began with a train ride, as a young boy, from Cape Town to Kitwe, having in Cape Town decided that UCT was the university for him.
- The multi cultural legacy that Africa gave him that caused him to study just exactly what it is that makes people operate. 'If your company does not reflect your customer base, it is not diverse; if a diversity programme is to be successful it must be logical, and not on a quota basis,' said Isdell.

• The old Chicago model of 'just making money' no longer pertains; to survive in the 21st century you need to be a part of every community – government, civil society and business working together. By the end of 2009, all waste used by Coca Cola will be returned to nature in a form that can support aquatic life. 'Commitment words without detail sound hollow!'

Answering a question from a Humanities student about what business is doing to develop entrepreneurial potential, Mr Isdell was adamant that it is business's responsibility to teach business, 'What business is looking for is emotional intelligence, and that is just what a Humanities degree teaches one.'

In thanking Mr Isdell for his stimulating address, Professor Paula Ensor said that as Dean of Humanities, she could confidently talk to parents and students about what a liberal arts training can lead to.

A Social Science graduate, Isdell became a licensed social worker (and even practised for a few months) and then joined Coca Cola in Zambia. He moved up to General Manager of the bottling plant in South Africa in 1972, and then on to Australia in 1980, the Philippines, Germany, Great Britain and finally in May 2004 to Head Office.

It was an invitation to speak at the Business for Social Responsibility Conference (BSR) that Isdell was reminded of when he became interested in business he had a lot of explaining to do – 'to my friends and parents and to a couple of Sociology professors in particular. They challenged me to remain faithful to my ideals, wherever business took me. Four decades later the invitation from BSR felt like a call across time, from the people who mean the most to me, and to whom I owe the most.'

Tannie Evita in the U-S-A



Pieter-Dirk Uys met with fellow alumni after a performance of ***Elections & Erections***, in Cambridge Boston, in April. 'He just made the evening', said **Tina Barsby**, Director, UCT Fund Inc.