

THE OBSERVER
May 3, 2021

NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear members,

We have a lot happening this week! Summer registration is open and Fall registration will open later today. Please read on for important details.

On Friday, May 7 at 2PM we will have our semester-end General Membership Meeting. Please register here: <https://forms.gle/17x4QadTEd8LMj6o6>, where you can also submit your questions before 5PM on Thursday. Registrants will receive the Zoom meeting link on Wednesday and again as a reminder on Friday morning.

Important update about the Fall! The LP² Advisory Board, Curriculum Committee, and The Graduate Center are exploring opportunities for two or three Fall 2021 study groups to be offered in a hybrid format: meeting in person for the duration of the term, with the option for those who are at home to participate simultaneously. This is a new and quickly evolving direction, so there are many moving parts and details to be resolved. We are opening registration today knowing that most activities will be remote in the fall – while we confirm which study groups will offer an in-person option, we know that *all* study groups will be possible to participate in remotely. As always, you can submit a registration form more than once and we use the most recent submission for the lottery. Changes and updates will be announced via dedicated emails, The Observer, and maybe as soon as Friday's General Membership Meeting. The tentative deadline for registration for existing members is May 14, which will be extended if at that point we have not confirmed the in-person study groups. The add/drop period is two weeks following the distribution of member schedules (date to be announced, pending confirmation of the above) and then another period that opens one week prior to start of classes and concludes after the second week of study groups (Sept. 7-Sept. 23). Membership invoices will be sent in early August and due September 10: the fees for 2021-22 are

the same as they have been: \$1135 for annual membership and \$715 for one term. The first day of Fall session is September 10 and the academic calendar for the year is below.

Summer study groups will be conducted via Zoom. Registration is now open, with a deadline of Monday May 10, for the one summer session that runs June 1- July 12. The fees are \$125 for one study group and \$200 for two or three study groups. The Grid is here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_lixaaVinHz3Cg8b8ktO1v1JckFxFxNV3e/view
and Registration form here: https://formfaca.de/sm/01PyG_dNI

Lastly, I am holding Director's Office Hours tomorrow, 11am-12pm at this link: <https://gc-cuny-edu.zoom.us/j/87450295130?pwd=Q3FMMUIqeWQzYVFUU1hhMmQzaWdpZz09>.

See you soon!
Mariel

LP² Academic Calendar 2021-22

Fall 2021

| Date | Day | Name |
|-------------|------------|--|
| 9/10/2021 | Friday | Fall session starts |
| 9/15/2021 | Wednesday | Yom Kippur (NO CLASSES) |
| 9/16/2021 | Thursday | Yom Kippur (NO CLASSES) |
| 10/11/2021 | Monday | Columbus Day (NO CLASSES) |
| 11/22/2021 | Monday | First Day of Thanksgiving Break (NO CLASSES) |
| 11/26/2021 | Friday | Last Day of Thanksgiving Break (NO CLASSES) |
| 12/17/2021 | Friday | Fall session final day |

Spring 2022

| Date | Day | Name |
|-------------|------------|--|
| 1/31/2022 | Monday | Spring session starts |
| 2/21/2022 | Monday | Presidents' Day (NO CLASSES) |
| 3/28/2022 | Monday | First Day of Spring Break (NO CLASSES) |
| 4/1/2022 | Friday | Final Day of Spring Break (NO CLASSES) |
| 5/13/2022 | Friday | Spring session final day |

Our office contact information:

engagement@gc.cuny.edu

212-817-2474

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Zine password updated for enhanced security

Effective immediately, Zine IDs and Passwords for the **Calendar, Directory, Faces** and **Minutes** are:

ID: LPsquared

PW: LP2CUNY

Thanks for your patience and cooperation.

POUR AT 4 OUTDOORS

Date: Friday, May 14th

Location: Brooklyn (Dumbo/Brooklyn Bridge Park)

Time: 4:30 - 5:00

Meeting Location: Montague St./ Court St.

Several benches are available in front of the Supreme Court building and fountain.

Myriam Bucatinsky will lead a 15-minute walk to Dumbo/Brooklyn Bridge Park, where you can have a drink and/or dine *al fresco*. Lots of wonderful options. (Note: If you want to stay for dinner in Dumbo, you may need a reservation.)

Transportation:

Subway: #2,3,4 - to Borough Hall

R train - Court St.
A, C, F trains - to Jay St. Metrotech

Contact Myriam with any questions, either at
mbucatsinsky@gc.cuny.edu or (347) 563-1861.

We always cancel for rain!

and

Save the Date:

Monday, May 24 (Rain Date: Tuesday, May 25)

Location: Soldiers & Sailors Monument (W. 89th @ Riverside Dr.)

Host: Carol Borelli

BREAK ACTIVITIES (on Zoom)

Wednesdays from 2PM to 3PM.: May 12, 19, and 26.

More *Shtisel* with Jenny Ross and Susie Herman,

Season 3 is now streaming on Netflix, Jenny and Susie invite you to join them in discussion of this wonderful show during the first break. We will discuss the whole season (9 episodes this time) in three sessions, if you would like to join us, please send an e-mail to Jenny at jross3@gc.cuny.edu and you will receive a Zoom invite before the first session.

Mondays at 3PM: May (17, 24), July (19, 26) and Aug (9, 16)

More Stories Aloud with Sharon Girard and Helene Schiffman

Sharon Girard and Helene Schiffman invite you to Stories Aloud during the two summer breaks. Participants read stories aloud or just listen. We'll meet (zoom) on. Sessions last for about an hour and a half. Stories are sent in advance by e-mail. The fun and emphasis are in our live reading as well as brief discussion. E-mail Sharon at sgirard@gc.cuny.edu for the zoom link. Please indicate whether you would like to read aloud.

Monday, May 24th, 1:00PM.

Book discussion with Joy Schulman

***A Short History of Reconstruction* by Eric Foner**

Our present era has been compared to Reconstruction, with some of the white population's fierce negative response to advances by the African-American and Latino population. Eric Foner is the premier scholar on Reconstruction. This book summarizes his longer, seminal work.

If you'd like to participate, send an e-mail to Joy Schulman at jschulman1@gc.cuny.edu to receive a zoom link before the session.

Tuesday, May 25th 1PM

Film discussion with Robert Sholiton

Tickled: A Quirky Investigative Documentary

When a New Zealand journalist specializing in the weird and the bizarre comes across an online video of “competitive endurance tickling,” he decides to write an article about this subculture that is little-known except to its devoted internet followers. However, he immediately runs into a wall of resistance that raises his suspicions and leads him to embark on an investigation that takes him across the US from LA to the Midwest to Florida to Garden City, NY. His discoveries become ever more surprising and even sinister. Manohla Dargis of the NY Times named it a Critic’s Pick. Watch it on Amazon Prime before the discussion.

If you are interested, send an e-mail Robert Sholiton at rsholiton@gc.cuny.edu and you’ll receive a Zoom invite before the session.

REMINDERS

Call for Break Activities before and after Summer Semester

The Community Building Initiative is seeking volunteers to lead activities during the next two breaks. The first break is from May 17th to May 28th and the second break is from July 13th to September 3rd. Your break activity can meet once or many times. It can be a book, movie or current events discussion, a travel adventure, an art presentation, an encore presentation selected from a study group you’ve coordinated or something else. Tech help is available. You’ll receive a Zoom link to send to participants. Contact Jane Case Einbender at jeinbender@gc.cuny.edu to propose your activity

Open Call for *Voices Online* Submissions

Deadline: May 31, 2021

Voices Online presents the written and photographic work of our members. The deadline for our upcoming issue is May 31. For a copy of the guidelines for submissions send an e-mail to Charles Troob at lp2voicesonline@gmail.com.

If you are interested in being a judge of the submissions, please contact the editors as follows:

Prose—Mary Houts at mhouts@gc.cuny.edu and Eric Roper at eroper@gc.cuny.edu

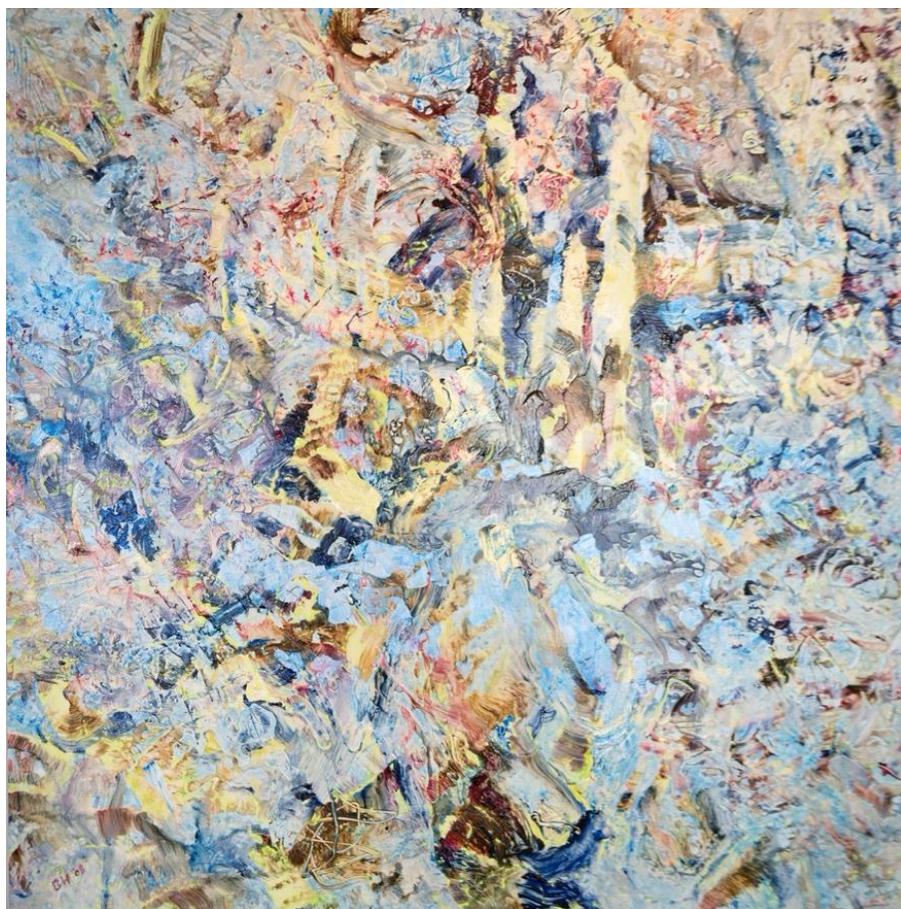
Poetry— Irene Sax at isax@gc.cuny.edu and Mark Fischweicher at mfishwords@gmail.com

Photography—Jerry Vogel at gvogel@gc.cuny.edu

ONLINE ART SHOW

From: Bonnie Ford Voit

Title: BUDDING, LOOKING UP
Acrylic on Canvas, 54" x 54"



Bonnie says: The moment in Spring when leaves are still enclosed in red buds (See more of Bonnie's work on her website, BonnieFordVoit.com.)

Attention Water Colorists, Sculptors, Block Printers, Photographers, Painters, Collagists and Needleworkers! Contact cmillsom@gc.cuny.edu with a title and brief statement about how or where or why you made it, and your work will appear in the Online Art Show.

MEMBER FORUM

NYC Retirees Face Possible Changes in Medicare Coverage

Many LP² members and/or spouses worked for New York City and then retired. NYC is proposing to shift retirees from traditional Medicare into Medicare Advantage Health plans in order to save \$600 million annually. Premiums for Medicare Advantage are often lower than in traditional Medicare, but involve trade-offs such as a smaller network and higher out-of-pocket costs. The proposed switch follows a 2018 agreement between the Municipal Labor Committee representing NYC retirees and the Office of Labor Relations to begin in 2021.

CUNY is sponsoring a meeting to discuss this issue on Monday, May 3rd at 1PM. The 1-3PM meeting will be in two parts. (1) A CUNY New Deal: There will be a presentation about this legislative package and campaign phased over five years to rebuild and reimagine CUNY. Hear speakers from both the PSC and CUNY Rising (an alliance of labor, students and community groups), who are leading the campaign. (2) Updates on the NYC/MLC negotiations on retirement health insurance and the organized response to these moves.

Registration link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAKf-qhrzMsGdNtDGfZCfwEZcjmZ3gPMmC5> [r20.rs6.net]

If you have questions, contact Micky Josephs at micky4@att.net.

From Nancy Small: **A video view of the New York art scene**

David Hammons: Day's End

Whitney Museum. Gansevoort Peninsula, Hudson River
Opening May 16 - permanent exhibit

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vv3rVp3g9Ic>

In 2014, prior to the inaugural exhibition at the Whitney Museum, the artist David Hammons (1943) met with Adam Weinberg, the museum's director. Weinberg later noted that when he mentioned that Gordon Matta-Clark's "notorious and legendary" artwork, *Day's End* (1975) was once located on the Gansevoort Pier 52. Hammons eyes were transfixed on that Hudson River site. Long since demolished, all that was left of the sculptural intervention, "was a ghostly, skeletal representation that was no longer there."

Soon after that meeting Hammons suggested a reimagining of the 52 × 325 × 65-foot original *Day's End*. Now, Hammons reinvention is situated on the exact location of the original shed. It is on public land, and it is not owned by the Whitney or by the Hudson River Park Trust, who helped to make the project possible. It is owned by everyone and by no one, open and free to all.

Hammons honors Matta-Clark (1943-1978) and his creation by naming his reimagining, *Day's End*. Hammons has said, "I would like to be a myth, to be on the invisible side of things. The shadow." Both Hammons and *Day's End* appear to be enigmas hidden in plain sight.

David Hammons: Body Prints

The Drawing Center
35 Wooster Street
On view until May 23, 2021

[In this video](#), Laura Hopman, Executive Director of the Drawing Center, details some of the unconventional processes that Hammons explored in his early collages and mono prints. Perhaps, most important, we learn about his deep commitment to social justice.

Photo: From John Becker - Spring tulips at their finest.



ONGOING LP2 EVENTS

The Women's Group meets at 3:45PM on Thursdays. Contact Arlyne LeSchack at aleschack@gc.cuny.edu

The Men's Group meets at 3:45PM on Wednesdays. Contact Jay Fleishman at efleishman@gc.cuny.edu.

Stitch Away Stress meets at 4PM Tuesdays. Members share skills and enjoy the meditative benefits of handwork. Contact Michelle Harris at mharris@gc.cuny.edu

CUNY EVENTS

For upcoming CUNY GC events, click here: <https://gc.cuny.edu/All-GC-Events/Calendar> and for events across the University, click here: <https://events.cuny.edu/>.

Observer Submissions Send items for the next week's Observer to Susan Rauch at srauch@gc.cuny.edu by 5PM on Friday. Send Online Art Show entries and suggestions for virtual tours to Carol Millsom at cmillsom@gc.cuny.edu.

Member Forum If you have something to share with the LP² community, *e.g.*, a photo, an article, a book or a web site that you've discovered that you think would be interesting to members, send it to Susan at srauch@gc.cuny.edu for inclusion in the Member Forum.

