

THE OBSERVER
February 21, 2023

Editor: Susan Rauch

Associate Editor: Micky Josephs
Contributing Editor: Irene Sax

[Current Observers](#) are available on the website all week from 5PM on the publication date.
Previous editions are kept on the website's [Observer Archive](#).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Director's Note

GMM Invitation

Announcements

- Help for Those Apprehensive About Coordinating
- Free Hearing Tests for Members and Their Families

Upcoming Events - Speakers

- [Fridays@1](#) - A Conversation with Jennifer Homans, author of Mr. B: George Balanchine's 20th Century
- [Unmasking Bias Event](#) - *The Changing American (Music)*
Canon: A Conversation with Jessie Montgomery

Upcoming Events - Workshops

- Coordinator Development Workshops

Grad Center Campus Information

COVID-19 Guidance

Online Art Show

Ongoing LP² Events

Reminders

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear members,

Another short week! Thank you to those who attended the Science Seminar with Matthew Goldberg on Thursday. The recording can be viewed here: [2.16.23 Science SIG with Matthew Goldberg](#)

Have you registered yet for the General Membership Meeting on Friday? Please do (registration link below) and you will receive the meeting link to join at 1:30pm that day.

The Orientation Committee checked in with our new members on Tuesday last week and all are enthusiastic to be part of our learning community. I hope you are introducing yourselves in class and getting together outside of class.

Please remember to update your LP2 contacts, including those on distribution lists that you may keep, with the new @gradcenter.cuny.edu email addresses (replacing the @gc.cuny.edu addresses). Importantly, the staff email addresses have NOT changed, only members. Those in our office still use @gc.cuny.edu (otherwise, your message will bounce back).

By popular demand, I am including a recent photo of baby Levi – turning 8 months on Saturday!

Be well!
Mariel

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

You are invited to the annual Spring LP² GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, which will take place this Friday, February 24th, at 1:30PM **ON ZOOM**. You'll hear what's been going on and have some fun. Bring your choice of refreshments.

[Register here.](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THINKING ABOUT COORDINATING A STUDY GROUP?

We know that coordinating your first study group can be daunting. The Curriculum Committee is here to help first time and repeat coordinators.

[Submit this form](#) if you would like help, and someone on the Curriculum Committee will contact you. Or you can contact one of the [Curriculum Committee Members](#). We will help you develop your idea, write a proposal, answer your questions and provide support. If you would like to have a co-coordinator or be a co-coordinator, we will try to match you up with a someone. You can also post a “Help Wanted” notice on The Observer.

Each semester, we offer workshops on coordinating, from brainstorming to leading your study group. You don't have to use technology (lots of coordinators don't), but if you want to show presentations, the Tech Committee workshops can show you how.

For more information on the Workshops, scroll down to UPCOMING EVENTS - Workshops. For a description of all the resources available to guide you, see [Coordinate a Study Group](#) on the LP2 website.

The Curriculum Committee wants to hear from you!

Free Hearing Test

The Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) Program
Spring Appointments: Wednesdays Only
9:00am, 10:30am, 1:00pm, and 2:30pm
For appointments, please call 212-817-7980

UPCOMING EVENTS - Speakers

Fridays@1

A Conversation with Jennifer Homans,
Author of *Mr. B: George Balanchine's 20th Century*
Friday, March 3, at 1:00PM (Zoom, Open to the Public)



Jennifer Homans is an American historian, author, and dance critic. After dancing professionally with the Pacific Northwest Ballet, Homans received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia and her PhD in Modern European History from NYU. She is a Distinguished Scholar in Residence at NYU, where she wrote her first book, *Apollo's Angels: A History of Ballet* and was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in 2010.

Homans was granted a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2013. In 2014, she established the Center for Ballet and the Arts at NYU. In 2019, she was named The New Yorker's dance critic, replacing Joan Acocella. Her 2022 book *Mr. B* is a finalist for the 2023 National Book Critics Circle award in biography.

Arguably the greatest choreographer of all time, **George Balanchine** was also a cultural titan of the 20th century. Born in Russia under the last czar, Balanchine experienced the upheavals of both world wars, the Russian Revolution, exile, and the Cold War. Co-founder of the New York City Ballet, he pressed ballet in the United States to the forefront of modernism, transforming it into a popular art. With full access to Balanchine's papers and many of his dancers, Jennifer Homans now gives us a comprehensive history of Balanchine's life and times.

Homans will be interviewed by LP² member and Dance/NYC board member **Ed Brill**.

To register for the live-streamed webinar via Zoom, [click here](#).

Diversity-Outreach Committee Unmasking Bias Series

A Conversation with Jessie Montgomery: *The Changing American (Music) Canon*

Tuesday, March 7, at 4:00PM (Webinar, Open to the Public)



BREAKING NEWS! New York Youth Symphony wins 2023 GRAMMY for Best Orchestral Performance Album featuring the works of three Black women composers: JESSIE MONTGOMERY, Florence Price, and Valerie Coleman.

Attention All Music Lovers:

The headline of the *New York Times's* full page [2021 profile on Jessie Montgomery](#) reads '*The Changing American Canon Sounds like Jessie Montgomery*'. The article continues "...a new portrait of American sound has emerged, with Montgomery's music providing some of the latest, crucial touches She's pretty much

changing the canon for American orchestras."

Her music interweaves classical music with elements of vernacular music, improvisation, poetry, and social consciousness, making her an acute interpreter of 21st-century American sound and experience.

Suddenly, Jessie Montgomery's music is everywhere. Orchestras in the U.S. and overseas are opening their programs with [Strum](#), [Starburst](#) and [Banner](#) (click to listen).

She is the recipient of the Leonard Bernstein Award from the ASCAP Foundation, the Sphinx Medal of Excellence, and *Musical America's Composer of the year*.

To register for the live-streamed webinar via Zoom, [click here](#). **BRING YOUR QUESTIONS for the Q&A.**

UPCOMING EVENTS - Workshops

Coordinator Development Workshops

This semester there will be a series of sessions on Zoom designed to answer your questions about coordinating and help you get started on the process of

putting your study group together. Brainstorming was the first workshop in the series and was designed to help you come up with a study group topic that could work and consider how to develop it. The second workshop explored the different ways you can design a study group depending on your preferences and the subject matter.

Here are the workshops that are coming up.

Speed Dating

For Prospective Co-Coordinator



A Coordinator Development Workshop

Speed-Dating - for Prospective Co-coordinators

Wednesday, February 22nd from 4:15-5:15PM on Zoom

Want to find someone with similar interests to put together a study group? We'll help you learn what's involved in working with a compatible collaborator. Maybe you'll find a match.

Note: This runs concurrently with **How's it Going?**

[Register](#)

How's It Going?

For Current Coordinators



A Coordinator Development Workshop

How's it Going? – for Current Coordinators

Wednesday, February 22nd from 4:15-5:15PM (on Zoom)

Want to discuss how your current study group is progressing and share problem-solving strategies with other new and experienced coordinators? We'll talk about what's working, what's not, and what to try next.

Note: This runs concurrently with **Speed-Dating**.

[Register](#)

Research Resources

Zeroing In



A Coordinator Development Workshop

Research Resources - Zeroing In

Wednesday, March 1st from 4:15-5:15PM (on Zoom)

Now that you've chosen a theme, it's time to deepen your research, investigating available means to follow up on your ideas. We'll look at some library and other research resources to enrich your content.

[Register](#)

...and coming later in the semester:

Making It Happen – Developing a Syllabus

Wednesday, March 8th from 4:15-5:15PM on Zoom

[Register](#)

Engaging the Group – Ways to Encourage Participation

Wednesday, March 15th from 4:15-5:15PM on Zoom

[Register](#)

Managing Media – Using Slides, Images, and Video

Wednesday, April 19th from 4:15-5:15PM on Zoom

[Register](#)

GRAD CENTER CAMPUS INFO

ID Cards and Stickers

- Graduate Center Student IDs can be obtained remotely or on campus. Please print your Spring 2023 schedule as proof of enrollment and identify yourself as an LP² member at the front desk. Public Safety will direct you to the ID office. Please reach out to lp2@gc.cuny.edu for instructions to request an ID remotely.

- Current term stickers are available in the AISI Office in Room 8309.

Important Reminders About Your Graduate Center Email Account

As a reminder, all LP² members have been given a new GC email account. Members have received personalized communication from the Graduate Center IT department with their new email address and initial password. The easiest way to check your GC email is to use your internet browser (Safari, Chrome, Firefox, etc.) to the website www.outlook.com and log in with your new e-mail address and provided password.

What changed:

- Your GC email address changed from username@gc.cuny.edu to username@gradcenter.cuny.edu.
- The easiest way to use your Graduate Center email account is online at www.outlook.com.
- The contents of your old email inbox have been automatically moved to your new inbox.
- You now have access to a free Microsoft Office 365 subscription for software to use on your personal computers and mobile devices.

What remains the same:

- You will continue to use your old GC account username and password to use the GC library online databases, GC community WIFI, and computer workstations and printers on campus.

Things to keep in mind:

- You will continue receiving communication from our office at your personal and new @gradcenter.cuny.edu email accounts.

This transition does not affect how you log in into www.lp2nyc.org website and the LP² Member Directory. Check out this great new guide to the LP² website <https://www.lp2nyc.org/new-lp2-website/> For all questions related to the website, please contact website@lp2nyc.org.

GRAD CENTER CAMPUS COVID-19 GUIDANCE

[The Graduate Center's COVID-19 guidance](#) follows [CUNY's COVID-19 Guidelines](#). All members of our community should be familiar with the protocols and services that are in place to keep our community safe and supported during the 2022-23 academic year.

Important notes about being on campus this Spring:

- LP² members who test positive for COVID-19, whether through a testing provider or with an at-home kit, must email the Graduate Center's Covid-19 Campus Coordinator at reactivation@gc.cuny.edu. The Coordinator will work with AISI staff to aid in identifying and notifying those who may have been exposed.

- CUNY mandates that all students taking in-person and hybrid classes be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. LP² members must upload their proof of vaccination to CUNY's Cleared4 system to obtain an electronic access pass, which must be presented to enter the building. If you don't have a Cleared4 pass, please contact our office at lp2@gc.cuny.edu.
 - Watch this [how-to video](#) to add a shortcut to your Cleared4 CUNY Access Pass to your smartphone.
 - At this time, CUNY does not have a mask mandate. Masking is optional and recommended in crowded public spaces at times of high transmission in NYC.
 - Regular testing is recommended and especially after travel. If you feel sick, stay home.
 - CDC guidance on [isolation](#) and [exposure](#). Quarantining is no longer necessary if you have been exposed to a person who has tested positive and do not experience symptoms yourself.
-

ONLINE ART SHOW

Photographer: Michael Shapiro

Title: *Central Park*



Michael says: While walking through Central Park, this scene caught my eye.

ONGOING LP² EVENTS

The Women's Group meets on Zoom on Thursdays at 4:30PM.
Contact aleschack@gradcenter.cuny.edu if you want a link.

The Men's Group meets in person every Wednesday at 1:20PM in
Room 8400. Contact Jay Fleishman at
efleishman@gradcenter.cuny.edu.

Stitch Away Stress meets at 4PM on Tuesdays. Members share skills
and enjoy the meditative benefits of handwork. Contact Michelle Harris

REMINDERS

Arts and Literature in Review

This column includes written reviews/recommendations for current arts offerings: film (in theaters or available to stream); theatrical events, music (including recordings), or literature.

If you'd like to contribute a review or a recommendation, please give us a "head's up" so we don't get multiple submissions on the same topic. Word limit - 300 or so. Tell us what you think, what's good, what's not and showcase your writing. Submit your article and/or questions to Susan Smahl at ssmahl@gradcenter.cuny.edu.

Calling All Painters, Sculptors, Photographers, Block Printers, Ceramicists and Textile Artists!

Display the creative work you are doing this summer in the Online Art Show. Send a photograph of your work with a title and a brief statement about it to Carol Millsom at cmillsom@lp2nyc.org. Art works appear in The Observer in the order in which they are received.

Observer Submissions

Send items for the next week's Observer to Susan Rauch at srauch@gradcenter.cuny.edu by 5PM on Friday. Send Online Art Show entries and suggestions for virtual tours to cmillsom@lp2nyc.org.

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@gradcenter.cuny.edu for inclusion in the Member Forum.