Princeton historian speaks on justice and the complexities of gradual emancipation in early 19th-century America

The OHC is pleased to welcome Princeton historian Hendrik Hartog as this year’s O’Fallon Lecturer in Law and American Culture. Hartog will present his lecture “Justice and Dilemmas of Gradual Emancipation: A Case of Arson in 1815” on Thursday, April 21 at 7:30 p.m. in 175 Knight Law Center.

In 1815, Hartog explains, the Eagle Fire Insurance Company, one of the first fire insurance companies in the new nation, agreed to insure a large house (or hotel) on the Jersey shore for 10,000 dollars. The insurance policy had been purchased by John Quay, a judge and a prominent political figure in Monmouth County, New Jersey. A few weeks later the structure mysteriously burned to the ground. The question of who set the fire—and why—became the subject of a legal trial in New York City. The case hinged on the question of who was a slave vs. who was free, and offered on the part of the trial lawyers (according to one reporter) “one of the most splendid exhibitions of talent, on both sides, perhaps ever witnessed.”

Throughout his distinguished academic career, Hartog has focused his research and teaching on the social history of American law, and the difficulties and opportunities that come with studying how broad political and cultural themes have been expressed in ordinary legal conflicts. His April 21st O’Fallon lecture comes out of his current research on the long legal history of slavery in New Jersey. He has also worked on a variety of other topics in American legal history including the history of city life; the history of constitutional rights claims; the history of marriage, the history of inheritance and old age, and the historiography of legal change.

Hendrik Hartog is the Class of 1921 Bicentennial Professor in the History of

An evening with NY Times bestselling author Ben Fountain

Writer and best-selling author Ben Fountain will visit Eugene and Portland as this year’s Kritikos Lecturer in the Humanities. Fountain is the author of an award-winning collection of short stories titled Brief Encounters with Che Guevara (2007), as well as a powerful and highly acclaimed debut novel, Billy Lynn’s Long Halftime Walk (2012). He will speak in Eugene on Tuesday, May 10th, at 7:30 p.m. in 182 Lillis Hall, and on Wednesday, May 11th, at 7:30 p.m. at the UO in Portland, White Stag Block, 70 NW Couch St.

Ben Fountain captivates his readers and audiences with stories of fictional and nonfictional characters encountering the real-world issues that plague us all. His most recent book, Billy Lynn’s Long Halftime Walk, was a New York Times best-seller, a National Book Award finalist, and won the National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction, the Flaherty-Dunnan First Novel Prize, and the inaugural PEN New England/Cerulli Award for Excellence in Sports Fiction. In his public presentations, Fountain discusses the political and cultural environments that have inspired his stories.

In Billy Lynn’s Long Halftime Walk (a film adaptation of which will be released on Veterans Day, November 11, 2016, directed by Ang Lee), Fountain explores the lives of eight fictional soldiers known as the Bravo Squad, who, after defeating an elite force of enemy insurgents, come home on leave from Iraq to find themselves national heroes. The Bush administration sends them on a two-week “Victory Tour,” (accompanied by a military minder, a corporate escort, and a Hollywood film producer who wants to capitalize on their exploits) which culminates with their appearance as part of a live broadcast at the Dallas Cowboys’ Thanksgiving Day game. Things inevitable
First Humanities Undergraduate Research Fellows cohort hard at work

This winter the Oregon Humanities Center welcomed the first cohort of scholars in the new Humanities Undergraduate Research Fellowship (HURF) program. In its inaugural year, the HURF program provides academic, professional, and financial support to undergraduate researchers working in the humanities. The HURF program is a collaboration between the OHC, the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, and the Division of Undergraduate Studies, with the generous support of the Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation.

This year’s six fellows were selected through a competitive process based on their academic accomplishments, faculty recommendations, and the strength of their proposed research projects. During the course of the four-month program, the fellows research and write an original scholarly paper, suitable for public presentation and publication, under the guidance of a faculty mentor. They attend monthly cohort meetings each focused on a specific topic relevant to the work of humanities research, including defining humanities research and its importance, strategies for presenting humanities research in public presentations, and career paths and placement for humanities researchers. During the sessions, the fellows present assignments specific to each session topic and receive feedback and guidance from panels of resident experts, small groups of faculty, graduate students, and professionals with relevant qualifications.

The fellows will present oral versions of their research papers at the sixth annual Undergraduate Research Symposium on Friday, May 20th in the Global Scholars Hall on the UO campus. (See: undergradsymposium.uoregon.edu for the full day’s schedule.) At the end of spring term, they will submit their completed research papers to their mentors, to the OHC for inclusion in our research library, and to appropriate scholarly venues for possible publication. The program culminates with a celebratory gathering of fellows, their mentors, and the program administrators in early June.

For more information about the Humanities Undergraduate Research Program, please visit: ow.ly/Zvuk3

Oregon Rare Books Initiative

The OHC’s Oregon Rare Books Initiative (ORBI) Research Interest Group (RIG) seeks to publicize the wonderful early print and manuscript collections of UO Libraries, to encourage their use in the classroom, and to stimulate an intellectual community gathered around the history of the book. ORBI seeks to draw particular attention to the many early volumes not currently listed in the UO Libraries online catalogue. To that end the RIG will present three lectures this spring as part of its 2015-16 lecture series “Natural History, Print, and Empire.” On April 5th Ralph Bauer, English professor and editor of the Early Americas Digital Archive at the University of Maryland, will speak on “Alexander von Humboldt and the Crucible of the Tropics.” UO English professor Elizabeth Bohls will give a talk “Thinking about Captain Cook: Narrative and Engravings for the Pacific Voyages” on April 20th. The series culminates on May 5th with a lecture by Paula Findlen, Ubaldo Pierotti Professor of Italian History at Stanford University, “Why Write a Book on China? Athanasius Kircher (1602-80) between Rome and the World.” Event details can be found in the calendar.

OREGON HUMANITIES CENTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>2015-2016 Advisory Board</th>
<th>OREGON HUMANITIES CENTER Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul Peppis</td>
<td>Daniel HoSang</td>
<td>Paul Peppis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Ethnics Studies</td>
<td>Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor of English</td>
<td>Colin Koopman</td>
<td>Professor of English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia J. Heydon</td>
<td>Susanna Lim</td>
<td>Julia J. Heydon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Director</td>
<td>Clark Honors College</td>
<td>Associate Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Gustafson</td>
<td>Joseph Lowndes</td>
<td>Melissa Gustafson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Coordinator</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Program Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peg Freas Gearhart</td>
<td>Priscilla Ovalle</td>
<td>Peg Freas Gearhart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications Coordinator and Producer of UO Today</td>
<td>Karen McPherson</td>
<td>Communications Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scott Pratt</td>
<td>and Producer of UO Today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephen Rodgers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gordon Sayre</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fabienne Moore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kate Mondloch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rachel Morgan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scott Pratt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The first HURF cohort visited the First Folio exhibit at the art museum in January
Women writers explore immigration, migration, and transition

The fifth annual CSWS Northwest Women Writers Symposium will be held Friday, May 6 through Sunday, May 8, 2016. “Crossing Borders: Women’s Stories of Immigration, Migration, and Transition” will explore how migrations and moves contribute to or instigate our writing; what we move away from, and what we go toward; the historical, political, and personal currents that influence our transitions—from one country to another, from one state to another, from city to country, from mountains to sea, from one marriage or partnership to another, from one career to another, from one self-view to another.

American Book Award winner Reyna Grande, whose 2012 memoir The Distance Between Us tells the story of a childhood spent torn between two parents and two countries, will give the keynote lecture. Other presenters include Ariel Gore, founding editor and publisher of the Alternative Presss Award-winning magazine Hip Mama and author of eight books; Dominican-American poet and novelist Ana-Maurine Lara; novelist Miriam Gershow; novelist Chris Scaife; travel and food magazine writer Jennifer Burns Bright; documentary filmmaker and anthropology professor Lynn Stephen; and Mare, a Zapotec hip-hop artist from Oaxaca, Mexico, and founder of Advertencia Lirika. The symposium includes panel discussions, writing workshops, author conversations and readings, book signings, and discussions.

The symposium is sponsored by the Center for the Study of Women in Society and is cosponsored by the OHC’s Endowment for Public Outreach in the Arts, Sciences, and Humanities. For more information and schedule go to csws.uoregon.edu

Work-in-Progress and Books-in-Print talks

Talks by OHC fellows on their current research or recently published books. All talks take place on Fridays at noon in the Humanities Center Conference Room, 159 PLC. All are welcome to attend. Brown-bag lunches are welcome. Seating is limited; early arrival is recommended.

April 8

April 15
Hometown Religion: Regimes of Coexistence in Early Modern Westphalia (University of Virginia Press, 2016). David Luebke, former OHC Research Fellow, and History

April 22
“From Mind to Brain: The Emergence of Neuroscience and the German Novel.” Sonja Boos, 2015–16 OHC Faculty Research Fellow, and German and Scandinavian

April 29
“Creating the Cossack: A Comparative Study of Nation Formation in Ukrainian and Russian Literature.” Anna Kovalchuk, 2015–16 OHC Dissertation Fellow, and Comparative Literature

May 6
Slavery and the Politics of Place: Representing the Colonial Caribbean, 1770–1833 (Cambridge University Press, 2014). Liz Bohls, former OHC Research Fellow, and English

June 3
“Shadows of a Gunman: Reframing Postcolonial Cinematic Consciousness in The Informer.” Mark Quigley, 2015–16 OHC Faculty Research Fellow, and English

Hartog continued from page 1

American Law and Liberty at Princeton University. He is the author of Public Property and Private Power: the Corporation of the City of New York in American Law, 1730-1870 (1983); Man and Wife in America: a History (2000); and Someday All This Will Be Yours: A History of Inheritance and Old Age (2012). In 2015, his book on marriage was cited in the majority opinion in Obergefeld v. Hodges, where the U.S. Supreme Court recognized same-sex marriage as a constitutional right. He is currently a visiting fellow at the New York Historical Society, where he is working on two books about legal change in early nineteenth century New York and New Jersey.

The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, or for disability accommodations (which must be made by April 14th), please visit och.uoregon.edu or call (541) 346-3934.

Fountain continued from page 1

Fountain’s fiction has been published in Harper’s Magazine, the Paris Review, Zoetrope: All-Story, and New Stories from the South: The Year’s Best, and his nonfiction has appeared in the New York Times, the New York Times Sunday Magazine, and the Wall Street Journal. His coverage of post-earthquake Haiti was nationally broadcast on the radio show “This American Life.”

The lectures are free and open to the public. For more information, or for disability accommodations (which must be made by May 3rd) visit och.uoregon.edu or call (541) 346-3934.
Conference brings early music scholars and performers to UO

In an effort to stimulate student and community interest in early music and historical performance practice studies, the School of Music and Dance will present the “Musicking: Performance, Politics, and Personalities” conference April 13–16, 2016. The four-day event will offer academic scholarship, classes, and performances. The conference is organized and facilitated by University of Oregon historical performance practice students who wish to share their passion for early music with those outside of their intimate cohort. The conference is cosponsored by the OHC’s Endowment for Public Outreach in the Arts, Sciences, and Humanities.

The Musicking conference will address the ways that meaning is found both consciously and unconsciously in musical activities, and will celebrate the relationships among personalities and cultures that are realized when studying and performing music together. Lunch time concerts will be offered each of the first three days. Panel discussions will focus on Romanticism and historically informed performance practice; music and rhetoric; and Italian music. Evening concerts will feature a survey of Schubert’s Idylls, a recital by Baroque violinist Michael Sand, and a culturally-informed performance by the Musicking Conference Oratorio Orchestra. Stephen Stubbs, Artistic Co-Director of the Boston Early Music Festival will give the keynote “The Birth of Opera” on Thursday, April 14 at 4 p.m. in Collier House.

For more information and a complete list of conference events go to blogs. uoregon.edu/musicking