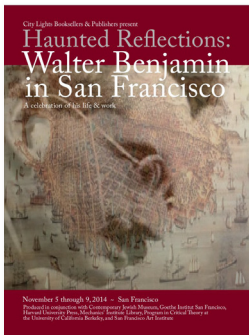




AUTHORS, LECTURES, & MORE HIGHLIGHT



Wednesday, November 5 to Sunday, November 9

Haunted Reflections: Walter Benjamin in San Francisco

A week-long literary festival celebrating the life and work of one of the 20th century's great thinkers. Produced by City Lights Booksellers in collaboration with Mechanics' Institute, Contemporary Jewish Museum, Goethe Institut San Francisco, Harvard University Press, San Francisco Art Institute, Department of History/University of California at Berkeley. Visit hauntedreflections.net for a full schedule of events, participants, and source materials.

Full listing on page 2 under The Arcades: From Haussman's Paris...



MECHANICS' INSTITUTE TOUR @ NIGHT

MEET ON THE 3RD FLOOR

Monday, November 3, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Have you been unable to take the Wednesday Tour at Noon because it's at an inconvenient time? The Institute is now offering the tour at Night!

Full listing on page 6

AUTHORS' CARNIVAL HIGHLIGHT

Saturday, November 1, 10:00 – 4:00 pm

Writing the Ancestor with Lyzette Wanzer

4TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

Do you enjoy writing about your family's history? Have you been collecting oral histories, photographs, genealogy charts, maps and letters? Would you like to use your material and research to craft a compelling essay? Are you interested in finding readers in audiences outside of your family? The story of embarking on a journey to uncover our origins - and learn where we came from - belongs to all of us. The reader should be changed by the essay, and learn something new about themselves as well as about your family. Here's your opportunity to demonstrate pride in your family history, and at the same time enjoy acknowledgement of your literary efforts! **MI Members \$95; Public \$120. Enrollment closes one week prior to class date. Course Fee is not refundable 14 days or less from class date.**



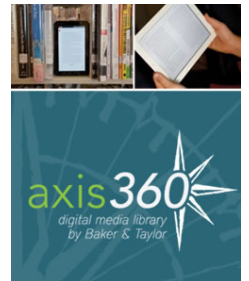
More Authors' Carnival on page 6

LIBRARY NEWS

Ebooks from Axis 360: expect more

CRAIG JACKSON, COLLECTION MANAGER LIBRARIAN

Effective November 1, we are working with Baker & Taylor as our new vendor for acquiring e-books for the Library. Expect to see a better assortment of titles, particularly current fiction and non-fiction bestsellers, that were unavailable to the Library in the past. Baker & Taylor works with over 400 publishers, which translates to some 700K e-books.



Axis 360 is Baker & Taylor's digital media library, which provides members with a state-of-the-art platform for searching, selecting, and checking out e-books.

(continued on page 6)

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AUTHORS, LECTURES, & MORE

Attend these intimate and up close author programs and engage directly with local, national, and internationally known writers talking about their newly released books. - LAURA SHEPPARD, EVENTS DIRECTOR



Thursday, November 6, 6:00 pm

The Arcades: From Haussman's Paris to Occupy Wall Street

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION WITH HOWARD EILAND, KATHERINE FLYNN, REBECCA SOLNIT, UWE STEINER, JUDITH WECHSLER, MODERATED BY LINDSAY WATERS

Walter Benjamin
A Critical Life



Howard Eiland
Michael W. Jennings

Inspired in part by the new book, *Walter Benjamin: A Critical Life* (Harvard University Press), the evening centers on Walter Benjamin's magnum opus, *The Arcades Project* which was written between 1927 and 1940. It encompassed one of the largest collections of writings on Parisian city life in the 19th century and focused on the iron and glass covered "arcades".

Tonight, the Arcades is "the looking glass" through which we view current social and economic upheavals in urban culture. From Hausmann's gentrification of Paris to the current rezoning of San Francisco, Benjamin's prescient ideas are explored in this discussion. Walter Benjamin was one of the twentieth century's most important intellectuals. His pioneering studies of modern media and critique of commodity capitalism proved him a visionary who could foresee the effects of modernity on culture.

The roundtable will be followed by the world premier of **Judith Wechsler's** new film *The Passages of Walter Benjamin* on *The Arcades Project* and the life of Walter Benjamin. **Judith Wechsler** will discuss her work with **Howard Eiland** after the film.

Members Free; Public \$15



Wednesday, November 12, 6:00 pm

The Georgetown Set: Friends and Rivals in Cold War Washington (Alfred A. Knopf)

GREGG HERKEN

Co-sponsored by the Commonwealth Club of California

In the years after World War II, Georgetown's leafy streets were home to an unlikely group of Cold Warriors: a coterie of affluent, well-educated, and well-connected civilians who helped steer American strategy from the Marshall Plan through McCarthyism, Vietnam, and the endgame of Watergate. This Georgetown set included Phil and Kay Graham, husband-and-wife publishers of *The Washington Post*; Joe and Stewart Alsop, odd-couple brothers who were among the country's premier political pundits; Frank Wisner, a driven, manic-depressive lawyer in charge of CIA covert operations; and a host of diplomats, spies, and scholars. It was a time when presidents made foreign policy in consultation with reporters and professors often over martinis and hors d'oeuvres – and columnists, like the Alsops, promoted those policies in the next day's newspapers. **Gregg Herken** illuminates the drama of these years and brings this remarkable roster of men and women and their world not only out into the open, but vividly to life.

Gregg Herken is professor emeritus of modern American diplomatic history at the University of California, and the author of *Brotherhood of the Bomb*, *The Winning Weapon*, *Counsels of War*, and *Cardinal Choices*. He and his family live in Santa Cruz, California.

Members of MI and Commonwealth Club of California Free; Public \$15

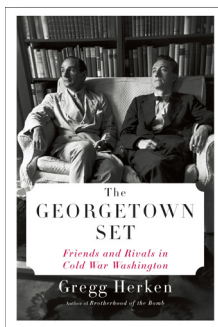


Photo credit:

Jim MacKenzie

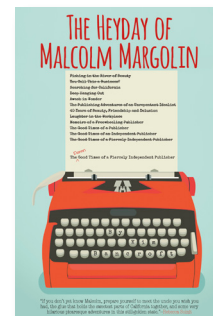
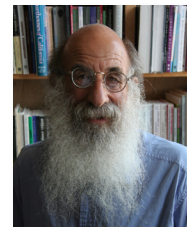
Thursday, November 20, 6:00 pm

The Heyday of Malcolm Margolin: The Damn Good Times of a Fiercely Independent Publisher (Heyday)

KIM BANCROFT ; A CONVERSATION BETWEEN MALCOLM MARGOLIN, HEYDAY FOUNDER AND RALPH LEWIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

It's time to celebrate Heyday and its courageous founder **Malcolm Margolin** after 40 years in the publishing business with over 350 book titles to its credit. Author **Kim Bancroft** offers an intimate view of this local independent press that has highlighted California's best authors, culture, landscape and history. Drawing from interviews with Margolin, this compelling portrait recounts the making of Heyday, from its shaky beginnings during the change-the-world days of 1970s Berkeley to its present day status as a major literary hub. A chorus of friends including Maxine Hong Kingston, Robert Hass, and Kevin Starr, add their voices to enrich our understanding of this vibrant community and its iconic leader.

Kim Bancroft is a longtime teacher and writer. She has edited several books, including *Ariel: A Memoir* by Ariel Parkinson; *The Morning the Sun Went Down* by Darryl Wilson; and *Ruth's Journey: A Survivor's Memoir*, by Ruth Glasberg Gold. She is the great-great-granddaughter of Hubert Howe Bancroft and is author of *Literary Industries: Chasing a Vanishing West*. **Members Free; Public \$15**



CINEMALIT

CURATED & HOSTED BY MICHAEL FOX

Fridays: Cafe 5:30 pm; Program 6:00 pm

Members Free; Public Suggested Donation \$10

ANJELICA HUSTON: WATCH ME!

This series is inspired by Angelica's Huston's new book, ***Watch Me: A Memoir***. (Simon & Schuster), which comes out November 11th and will be available for sale at CinemaLit .



Friday, November 7
Enemies: A Love Story (1989)
DIRECTED BY PAUL MAZURSKY
Ron Silver, Lena Olin

A masterful adaptation of I. B. Singer's witty, ironic and moving tale of a Holocaust survivor torn between three women in postwar New York.



Friday, November 21
Manhattan Murder Mystery (1993)
DIRECTED BY WOODY ALLEN
Woody Allen, Diane Keaton

When their neighbor dies under curious circumstances, a neurotic couple sets out to crack the case.



Friday, November 14
Agnes Browne (1999)
DIRECTED BY ANJELICA HUSTON
Anjelica Huston,
Marion O'Dwyer

This atmospheric, sentimental comedy centers on a widow raising seven children in Dublin in 1967.



Friday, December 5
Ever After:
A Cinderella Story (1998)
DIRECTED BY ANDY TENNANT
Drew Barrymore, Dougray Scott

Huston plays the villainous stepmother in a wittily feminist take on the fairy tale, set in 16th century France.

Information & registration: 415.393.0100 or milibrary.org/events. All events are held in the 4th floor Meeting Room and require advance registration unless otherwise noted.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

Our members only Book Groups select, read, and discuss books of a particular type or genre. Members lead the discussions, new members are always welcome, and registration is not required (unless otherwise specified). **Please note that Book Groups are not author events and the authors will not be present during the discussions.**



The Lady in the Lake

by RAYMOND CHANDLER

Monday, November 10, Noon

Brown Bag Mystery Readers

A couple of missing wives—one a rich man’s and one a poor man’s—become the objects of (Philip) Marlowe’s investigation. One of them may have gotten a Mexican divorce and married a gigolo and the other may be dead. Marlowe’s not sure he cares about either one, but he’s not paid to care. *(courtesy of ipage.ingramcontent.com)* **Members Only. Walk-ins Welcome.**



The Proust Society of America: San Francisco Chapter

Wednesday, November 12 & 19, 5:30 pm

Under the leadership of Dr. Mark Calkins, Mechanics’ Institute offers two bi-weekly discussion groups, on a semester basis. **The Proust Group** discusses Proust’s *In Search of Lost Time*, vol.1 (*Swann’s Way*), from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. From 6:45 – 8:00 pm, the **World Literature Group** discusses Proustian-inspired works, beginning the semester with Shakespeare’s *Anthony & Cleopatra*. The new semester began on September 10th, and these groups are now **closed to additional registrations**. For more information, contact Dr. Calkins at mark@tempsperdu.com or Diane Lai at dlai@milibrary.org.



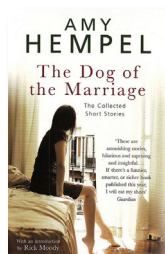
Things Fall Apart

by CHINUA ACHEBE

Tuesday, November 18, Noon

Fiction You Wish You Had Read

Achebe’s first novel portrays the collision of African and European cultures in people’s lives. Okonkwo, a great man in Igbo traditional society, cannot adapt to the profound changes brought about by British colonial rule. Yet, as in classic tragedy, Okonkwo’s downfall results from his own character as well as from external forces. *(courtesy of ipage.ingramcontent.com)* **Members Only. Walk-ins Welcome.**



The Dog of the Marriage

by AMY HEMPEL

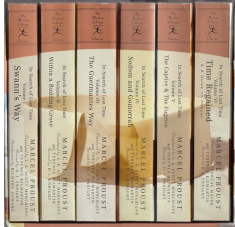
Tuesday, November 18, 5:30-6:30 pm

Literature in Brief – Short Stories

Amy Hempel’s compassion, intensity, and illuminating observations have made her one of the most distinctive and admired modern writers. *The Dog of the Marriage*, Hempel’s fourth collection, is about sexual obsession, relationships gone awry, and the unsatisfied longings of everyday life. *(courtesy of amazon.com)* **Members Only. Registration required.**

Book Discussion groups continue on page 5

(continued from page 4)



Remembrance of Things Past (Swann's Way only) Modern Library Edition

by MARCEL PROUST

Thursday, November 20, 6:00 pm

Forgotten Classics

Marcel Proust is generally considered the greatest French novelist of the twentieth century. His reputation, which derives almost exclusively from the importance of his multivolume novel *Remembrance of Things Past*, is that of a dazzling stylist, analytical thinker, and social observer. His novel is founded on his powers of meticulous recollection and his ability to shape those memories into a compelling—some might even say exhausting—account of one man's search for his past. *(courtesy of Contemporary Authors database)*

Members Only. Registration required.

Information & registration: Diane Lai at 415.393.0118, dlai@milibrary.org, or milibrary.org/events/book-group-meetings. A copy of each book is available at the 2nd floor Circulation desk. All Book Discussions are held in the 4th floor Board Room.

CLASSES AT THE LIBRARY

Tuesday, November 4, 12:00 – 1:00 pm

First Tuesday TED Talk

4th Floor Meeting Room

Topic: Nicholas Stern: The state of the climate — and what we might do about it

Bring your lunch and curiosity to talk about ideas, stories, and concepts with fellow Mechanics' Institute members and staff. This month we'll watch a video from September 2014 of Nicholas Stern talking about climate change. An informal discussion will follow the viewing. **Walk-ins Welcome.**



Thursday, November 13, 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Morningstar Investment Research Center Database: Fund, Stock & Market Data

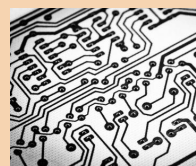


This course demonstrates both site content and site navigation. Morningstar provides independent research, analysis, and recommendations covering 1,700 stocks, 2,200 mutual funds, and 400 exchange traded funds. Useful site tools include screeners for both funds and stocks to generate a list of investments that meet particular criteria; Portfolio X-ray, an analytical tool to view portfolios in a variety of ways; four monthly newsletters covering various types of securities; plus articles and video features. **Registration Required.**

Friday, November 14, 3:00 – 6:00 pm

eBook Workshop – Axis 360

Through a new partnership with Axis 360, the Mechanics' Institute offers thousands of digital titles - including fiction bestsellers - that can now be downloaded to your computer, tablet, or smartphone from anywhere there is an internet connection. Bring your device to this workshop for a 30-minute, one-on-one session where you will set up an account, have your questions answered, and get started downloading eBooks from Axis 360. **Registration Required.**



Tuesday, November 18, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Tech Office Hours

4th Floor Meeting Room

Do you have a question regarding your eBook reader, formatting a Microsoft Word document, or using the library's online services from home? Do you have privacy or security concerns when browsing the Web? Reserve a half hour with our technology experts to work one-on-one on your technology-related questions or concerns. To register, contact Matt Montgomery with available time frames and a brief description of your question or problem by emailing mmontgomery@milibrary.org or by calling 415.393.0115. Walk-ins are welcome, but **registration is recommended to ensure a spot.** No question is too small or insignificant.

More Classes on page 7

AUTHORS' CARNIVAL



Readings, workshops, and camaraderie in celebration of our members' creative achievements



Mechanics' Institute Tour @ Night
Monday, November 3,
6:00 – 7:00 pm

3RD FLOOR LIBRARY

The Mechanics' Institute of San

Francisco was founded in 1854 with four books and a mission to start an organization to serve the education, information, and social needs of the city's mechanics, artisans, and industrialists. Within a few years the Institute was offering classes in such subjects as mechanical drawing, industrial design, electrical science, and applied mathematics; had started a chess club; and had acquired a magnificent library that slaked San Francisco's voracious appetite for technical and pleasurable reading material.

Today the Institute continues as a membership organization boasting a fantastic general-interest library, active cultural event calendar, and world renowned chess club. It is a favorite of avid readers, writers, downtown employees, students, film lovers, chess players, and the 21st century nomadic worker in search of a place for literary pursuits, thinking, research, and study.

If you are a new, long-time, or prospective member the Tour of the Institute will orient you to our building, include an overview of our history and mission, and outline our current services and the benefits of membership. Tours typically take 45 to 60 minutes. A wine and cheese reception will follow the tour. **Free.**

New Tricks for 21st Century Readers & Writers

Wednesday, November 19, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Are you intrigued by the ever-shifting literary landscape? Baffled by the Internet bazaar of websites, apps, forums, and digital devices for readers and writers? Eager to find the ideal holiday gift for your book-loving friends? Join MI's Indie Publishers' Working Group to celebrate our fourth anniversary and the dozens of wonderful, diverse books we've created. Win a free novel, memoir, biography, guide, or book of poetry signed by the author! **MI & Public Free.**

Information and registration: milibrary.org/events, or Taryn Edwards at 415.393.0103, or tedwards@milibrary.org.

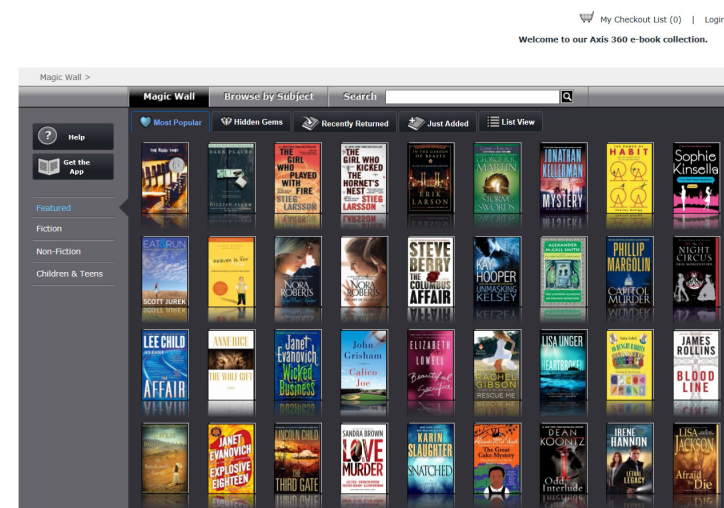
Axis 360 (continued from page 1)

On the Axis 360 Magic Wall (see below), rows of book jackets are clearly presented to show the titles available. Members can customize the size of covers displayed and the rows of e-books per page. To scroll through the entire collection, just click a series of buttons or arrows located at the bottom of the screen to move from page to page. Titles can be limited to those that are just fiction, non-fiction, or on a particular subject, which can then be browsed. Across the top of the Magic Wall are useful headers: *Most Popular*, *Hidden Gems*, *Recently Returned*, and *Just Added*. The latter are useful tools for browsing the collection and selecting titles for check out.

On the Magic Wall, hover over a cover and an overview (publisher, publication date and assigned subjects), a synopsis of the book, and text links to book reviews appear. The status of availability and number of holds are also noted. Select a title's e-book format, and the book can then be added to a shopping cart, checked out, or added to a wish list.

Members using mobile devices including iPads, Android tablets, and smart phones can peruse the Library e-book collection and check out titles in a user interface optimized for their device. E-books can be downloaded in EPUB, PDF, or in Blio format. Blio format preserves the typography and supports color illustrations, which make it particularly effective for e-books such as cookbooks, travel guides, and children's books.

Fortunately, the license agreements of many publishers who work with e-book vendors are becoming less restrictive. As a result, a growing number of e-book titles are accessible to libraries from a wider range of publishers. We are all pleased with the prospect of building up an impressive e-book collection, based on the reading interests and suggestions submitted by Mechanics' members.



(continued from page 5)

Thursday, November 20, 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Standard & Poor's NetAdvantage: Stock Reports, Industry Surveys & More!

Discover comprehensive business and investment information offered by this resource, such as industry surveys, stock reports, corporation records, mutual fund reports and market commentary. Includes search and screening tools to facilitate research, job searches, and competitive intelligence.

Registration Required.

**STANDARD
& POOR'S**

Information and registration: 415.393.0102 or milibrary.org/events/learn. All classes are held in the 3rd floor classrooms and require advance registration unless otherwise noted.

Chess

INTERNATIONAL MASTER JOHN DONALDSON,
DIRECTOR OF THE CHESS ROOM

The Neil Falconer Memorial Blitz, held September 21st, was a great success. 41 players competed including four Grandmasters, three International Masters, four FIDE Masters and one Women's International Master.



Hamed Nouri – Dennis Fritzing
from Neil Falconer Memorial

Visiting Romanian Grandmaster Ioan Chirila, currently living in El Cerrito, scored 9 from 10 to win the five double-round Swiss, which was held with a time control of five minutes a side plus two-second increment.

The 23-year-old Chirila, a graduate of the University of Texas at Dallas, drew his second-round match with National Master Jimmy Heiserman of Castro Valley. He then won his last three matches 2–0, defeating International Master Ricardo De Guzman in the penultimate round and Grandmaster Patrick Wolff in the final.

National Master Andy Lee of Berkeley won an unprecedented third consecutive Tuesday Night Marathon this past October scoring an undefeated 8 from 9 to top the 90-player field in the Jay Whitehead Memorial TNM. The last ten Tuesday Night Marathons have averaged over 90 players making it the largest weeknight open tournament in the United States.

Information & reservations: 415.393.0110 or chessclub.org.

Chess for Women

Sundays, November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
11:00 am – 1:00 pm

TAUGHT BY EWELINA KRUBNIK

Funded by a gift in memory of R. Martin Wiskemann

Tournaments

Saturday, November 15
10:00 am – 8:00 pm

14th Annual Pierre St. Amant Memorial G/45

Tuesday Night Events

November 4, 18, 25
5:15 pm – 6:15 pm

LECTURE BY JOHN DONALDSON

6:30 pm – 10:30 pm
Fall Tuesday Night Marathon

Wednesday Night Blitz

November 5, 12, 19
6:30 pm – 8:50 pm

DIRECTED BY JULES JELINEK

Saturday Morning Chess Class for Kids

November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
10:30 am – 12:30 pm

TAUGHT BY INTERNATIONAL
MASTER ELLIOTT WINSLOW

DECEMBER PREVIEW



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www.milibrary.org

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Join: milibrary.org/join
Renew: milibrary.org/renew

Library Hours
Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 9 pm
Friday: 9 am - 6 pm
Saturday: 10 am - 5 pm
Sunday: 1 pm - 5 pm

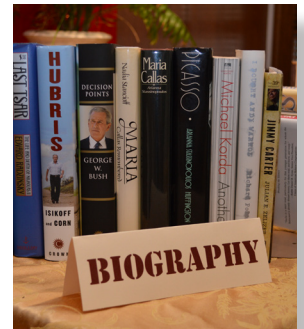
Sarah Cruz, Editor

ANNUAL BOOK SALE

Wednesday, December 3, 11:00 - 4:00pm
4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Holiday shoppers—come and select the perfect gifts for friends, family, colleagues or significant others! A delightful and diverse selection of hard-covers, paperbacks, book art, posters, and MORE will be available for purchase. The café will be open for refreshments.

Free to all.



BI-ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING

Thursday, December 4, 6:00 pm
5:30 pm Reception; 6:00 pm Meeting

Join us for our bi-annual Members' Meeting! Meet our new Executive Director **Ralph Lewin** and celebrate the Institute's 160th year with a special lecture on MI's founding and first five years by Librarian **Taryn Edwards**.
Members & Guests Free.



SAVE THE DATE HOLIDAY GATHERING

Thursday, December 11
5:30 - 7:00 pm
2nd Floor Library

Join members and friends for some holiday cheer and lively conversation while relaxing to musical interludes. Enjoy gourmet cheeses and hors d'oeuvres, delectable desserts and tempting libations!

Admission \$10 – Open to Members & Guests
ADVANCE RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
Call 415.393.0102 or online milibrary.org/events