



Mechanics' Quarterly

Vol. 1, No. 1

January - March 2017

New Programming in the New Year



THINK & DRINK
w/ MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

The Mechanics' Institute Events Department is excited to kick off 2017 with two brand new series of thought-provoking programs called **Mechanics' Today** and **Transforming SF**. To identify these series you will see a new logo: **Inside Mechanics' Institute**.

Mechanics' Today will feature makers and creators who are developing industries, products, and resources that are changing the way we live. The kick-off event, **Innovators & Builders**, will offer a view of cutting edge local companies and organizations in technology, design, science, and craft. Panelists include professionals from Autodesk, MycoWorks, SFMade, and *Craftsmanship Quarterly*. Future **Mechanics' Today** programs will dive into video gaming, art, and industry.

Transforming SF will explore the Bay Area's evolving culture – as well as how new trends and ideas generated here influence California, the nation, and the world. The first program in this series, **The Future of Work**, will examine the social and economic impacts of technology, robotics, and artificial intelligence on employment. The conversation will feature artist, inventor, and robotics expert Ken Goldberg (UCB) and John Zysman, Co-Director of the Berkeley Roundtable on the International Economy. Future topics include homelessness and transportation.

In March, the MI will also premiere a new series called **Think & Drink with Mechanics'**. Local journalist Walter Thompson will curate the topic and moderate the "Question of the Night" with experts and aficionados—including a post-discussion social at the newly opened DaDa Bar. Watch for the Think & Drink logo, and find details on our website in February!

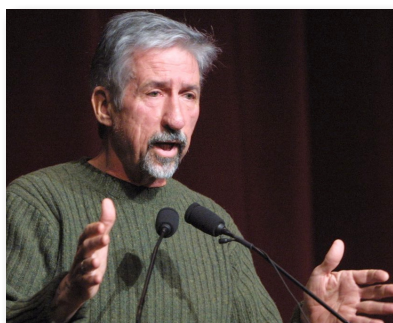


(L - R) Walter Thompson of *Hoodline* will curate quarterly **Think & Drink** discussions beginning in March. In the kickoff **Mechanics' Today** event, Janet Lees, Phil Ross, David Thomasson, and Todd Oppenheimer will discuss **Innovators & Builders**. Ken Goldberg and John Zysman will explore **The Future of Work** in the first **Transforming SF** program.

Mechanics' Institute Calendar

Programs

Mechanics' Institute special programs and author events are open to members (free) and the public (check the web for cost). Programs take place in the 4th Floor Meeting Room, unless otherwise indicated. Advance registration is required for all events. Watch for listings at milibrary.org/events to register; call 415.393.0101 for information.



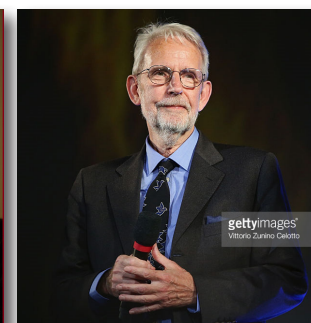
Tom Hayden (1939-2016)



Maxine Hong Kingston



Gish Jen



Walter Murch

Mechanics' Today features makers and creators who are developing industries, products, and resources that change the way we live. Thursday programs begin at 6:30 pm in the 4th Floor Meeting Room.

January 19 **Innovators & Builders**

February 16 **The Brave New World of Manufacturing**

March 23 **The New Mechanics: Forging Art and Industry**

Transforming SF explores the Bay Area's evolving culture – as well as how new trends and ideas generated here influence California, the nation, and the world. Thursday programs begin at 6:30 pm in the 4th Floor Meeting Room.

January 26 **The Future of Work**

February 23 **The Future of Homelessness**

March 30 **The Future of Transportation**



Think & Drink discussions are curated by Walter Thompson, who moderates the Question of the Night with experts and aficionados—including a post-discussion social at DaDa Bar (65 Post St, San Francisco). This program begins at 6:30 pm in the 4th Floor Meeting Room.

March 1 **I Left My Art in San Francisco: Our Creative Diaspora**

Author Events celebrate the work of noted and notable literary luminaries, and begin at 6:00 pm in the 4th Floor Meeting Room.

January 11 ***The Sea Forager's Guide to the Northern California Coast***

author Kirk Lombard

February 1 ***The River in My Backyard***

author Mikkel Aaland in conversation with journalist Markos Kounalakis

February 9 **Remembering Tom Hayden: A Life of Activism and Radical Reform**

panel discussion moderated by Steve Wasserman, with Mayor Willie Brown and authors Clara Bingham and Judy Gumbo Albert

February 15 ***Waves Passing in the Night: Walter Murch in the Land of the Astrophysicists***

author Lawrence Weschler in conversation with film editor and sound designer Walter Murch

March 8 ***The Girl at the Baggage Claim: Explaining the East-West Culture Gap***

author Gish Jen and poet Maxine Hong Kingston in discussion

March 16 ***Lost Worlds of the San Francisco Bay Area***

author Sylvia Linsteadt in conversation with Gary Kamiya

Chess

Chess Activities take place on the 4th floor of the Mechanics' Institute. Activities are open to members and guests. For additional information, contact the Chess Club at 415.393.0110 or visit the site at chessclub.org.

Tournaments

10:00 am – 8:00 pm

January 7

17th Annual Bob Burger Open G/45

February 4

17th Annual Henry Gross Memorial G/45

March 4 & 5

17th Annual Fink Amateur Memorial

March 18

17th Annual Max Wilkerson Memorial G/45

Tuesday Night Marathon and Lecture

by International Master John Donaldson

Lecture 5:15 pm – 6:15 pm

Marathon Play 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

February 7, 14, 21

March 14, 21, 28

Wednesday Night Blitz

directed by Jules Jelinek

6:30 pm – 8:50 pm

January Hiatus

February 1, 8, 15, 22

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Chess for Women

taught by Ewelina Krubnik

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

January 8, 15, 22, 29

February 5, 12, 19, 26

March 5, 12, 19, 26

Saturday All Ages Chess Class

taught by International Master

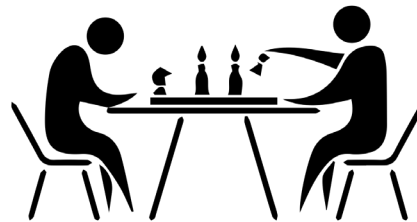
Elliott Winslow

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

January 7, 14, 21, 28

February 4, 11, 18, 25

March 4, 11, 18, 25



CinemaLit Film Series

curated by Michael Fox

CinemaLit screenings take place on Fridays in the 4th Floor Meeting Room, beginning at 5:30 pm. Attendance is open to members (free) and the public (suggested donation \$10). Registration is required. Watch for listings at milibrary.org/events to register; call 415.393.0101 for information.

January Pre-Code: Adult Entertainment

January 6 Murder at the Vanities (1934)

January 13 Employee's Entrance (1933)

January 20 Safe in Hell (1931)

February A Fine Romance?

February 3 The Divorcee (1930)

February 10 The Prisoner of Zenda (1937)

February 17 The Private Affairs of Bel Ami (1947)

February 24 The Goodbye Girl (1977)

March Imposter!

March 3 Mata Hari (1931)

March 10 The Hoax (2006)

March 17 The Importance of Being Earnest (1952)

March 24 The Great Imposter (1961)

March 31 Catch Me If You Can (2002)



Safe In Hell
Image used by permission. Copyright Warner Brothers.

Book Discussion Groups

All M.I. members are welcome to book discussion groups; authors will not be present during the discussions. Unless otherwise indicated, pre-registration is not required; groups meet in the 4th Floor Board Room. A copy of each book is held at the 2nd floor circulation desk for one-week checkout. Contact hterrell@milibrary.org or 415.857.6727 with any questions.

Brown Bag Mystery Readers meet on the second Monday of each month at **noon**. Bring your lunch and join the discussion with this long-running MI book group.

January 9 *Let Me Die in His Footsteps* by Lori Roy

February 13 *In the Heat of the Night* by John Ball

March 13 *The Killer Inside Me* by Jim Thompson

World Literature Book Group meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from **6:45 - 8:00 pm**. This member-led group reads works of literary merit as determined by its readers.

January 11 & 25 *Fever and Spear*, book one of the *Your Face Tomorrow* trilogy, by Javier Marías

February 8 *Beware of Pity* by Stefan Zweig

February 22 *Speedboat* by Renata Adler

March 8 *One, No One and One Hundred Thousand* by Luigi Pirandello

March 22 *A House and Its Head* by Ivy Compton-Burnett

Book Riot Reading Club is a brand-new discussion group meeting quarterly at **noon**. Bring your lunch and engage with members in Book Riot's 2017 "Read Harder" challenge.

January 27 *The Humans* by Stephen Karam

Virginia Woolf Readers explore the works and world of Virginia Woolf on the third Wednesday of each month at **5:30 pm**.

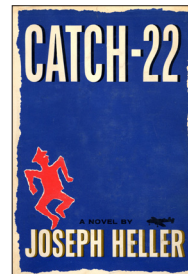
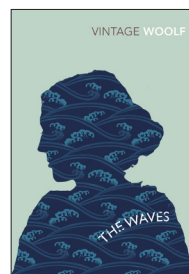
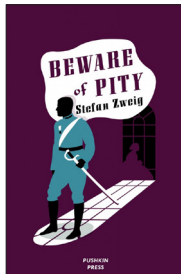
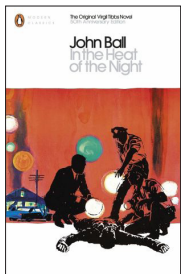
January 18 *The Voyage Out*

February 15 *Orlando*

March 15 *The Waves*

Catch-22 Reading Group takes place over four sessions, meeting on Thursdays at **11:00 am** in the **4th Floor Board Room** during the month of January. **Registration is required.**

Scheduled dates: **January 5, 12, 19, 26**



The **Dwelling Dreamers Discussion Group** meets on the first Tuesday of each month at **5:00 pm** in **3rd Floor Classroom B**. This is an interactive, member-led, general discussion group covering books and websites on home design. Member-led groups are initiated and maintained by member leaders, open to Mechanics' Institute members, free of charge, and do not require registration.

Scheduled dates: **January 3; February 7; March 7**

Writers' Programs

Visit milibrary.org/events for detailed information and registration.

The **Indie Publishing Working Group** meets on the third Wednesday of each month from **3:00 pm - 4:30 pm** in the **3rd Floor Classroom B**. Registration is not required.

Scheduled dates: **December 21; January 18; February 15; March 15**

Writers' Programs (cont'd)

Visit milibrary.org/events for detailed information and registration.

The **Teacherless Writing Group** is open to Mechanics' Institute members. **Registration for the first meeting is required**; the \$10 charge covers the cost of a copy of *Writing Without Teachers*. You will be notified by email when the book is available to pick up at the 3rd Floor Reference Desk. This group will meet on bi-weekly Wednesdays at **10:00 am** in the **3rd Floor Classroom B**.

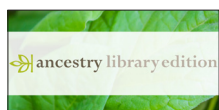
Scheduled dates: **January 18; Feb 1; Feb 15; Mar 1; Mar 15; Mar 29**

The **Writers' Lunch** is hosted on the third Friday of each month at **noon**. Light refreshments are provided, and attendees are welcome to bring their own lunches. The meeting begins with a presentation and includes time for networking with other Mechanics' Institute writers.

January 20 **David Colin Carr** presents, "Why Do We Write?"

February 17 Novelist **Michelle Zaffino** discusses the craft of Young Adult literature.

March 17 **Jeanne Powell** provides insight on public presentation of your work in "Art of Reading".



Librarian-Led Classes

Classes are free of charge and for Mechanics' Institute members only. Classes without sufficient registration may be canceled. Watch for listings at milibrary.org/events to register; call 415.393.0101 for information.

Second Tuesday TED Talks are hosted in the **4th Floor Meeting Room** at **noon** on the second Tuesday of each month. **Registration is not required**: drop-ins welcome.

Scheduled dates: **January 10; February 14; March 14**

Technology Office Hours are held in the **4th Floor Meeting Room** from **10 am - 4 pm** on the second Thursday of each month; registration is strongly recommended to ensure a spot, but not required. To register, **contact Erik Sandall** with available time frames and a brief description of your topic at esandall@milibrary.org or 415.393.0111.

Scheduled dates: **January 12; February 9; March 9**

Library Downloads Workshop is held in **3rd Floor Classroom A** from **4 pm - 6 pm** on the third Wednesday of each month. **Registration is not required**.

Scheduled dates: **January 18; February 15; March 15**

Financial Literacy Classes are offered on the below Thursdays at **12:15 pm** in the **3rd Floor Classroom A**.

January 19 Business Insights: Essentials

January 26 Morningstar Investment Research Center

February 16 Mergent Intellect

February 23 ValueLine Resource Center

March 23 Information Sources on Private Companies

March 30 Investment Information on the Web

Electronic Resource Exploration Classes meet in the **3rd Floor Classroom A**.

January 17 Adding Branches to Your Family Tree Using Ancestry Library Edition, at 12:15 pm

January 25 Get More Out of Your Computer with DigitalLearn.org, at noon

February 22 Find Open Access Journal Articles with the DOAJ Database, at noon

March 9 Adding Branches to Your Family Tree Using Ancestry Library Edition, at 6:00 pm

March 22 Resources for California News, Old and New, at noon

Recent Major Gifts

We are grateful for the support we receive from the following individuals and foundations, who make our continued growth possible. Thank you!

Erik Anderson
Ralph F. Caspersen
Bruce D. Celebrezze*
Estate of Frederica Clough
Earl Diskin**
Gene L. Edwards
Estate of Eleanor F. Gettman
David B. Goodwin*
Henry Mayo Newhall Foundation
Richard Laiderman*
Leroe Family Charitable Foundation
Shelby Lyman
Charles K. McCabe**
Bobbie McChristy**
Miner Anderson Family Foundation
E. Craig Moody
Tim Muller
Mrs. Josephine Shuman
Alison Steel

Contributions were received between August 1, 2016 and November 30, 2016.

* James Lick Legacy Society Member

**Life Member

Building Upgrades

We've had a busy 2016 at the Mechanics' Institute, including several building projects that helped freshen up our appearance. Some of these include finishing up our 18-month façade restoration; painting, cleaning up, and building out the retail space for the DaDa Art Gallery and Bar; and replacing the glass, painting the walls, and refinishing the wood railing on our signature main lobby stairwell.



We expect to continue beautifying and upgrading our building in 2017. The following projects are scheduled for the New Year:

*A wiring upgrade throughout the Mechanics' Institute will increase our network and internet speeds for members and staff.

*We will be upgrading all lighting to more energy-efficient LED.

*Building-wide plumbing fixture replacement will increase our water conservation efforts and improve our facilities.

In addition to these upgrades, we have several projects planned to help us improve and maintain our beautiful, historic building. If you would like to donate to our continued building improvement efforts, please visit milibrary.org/give.

DaDa Art Gallery and Bar at Mechanics'



We are thrilled to announce that the **DaDa Art Gallery and Bar** will open its doors in the Mechanics' Institute Building in January 2017.

And...when you flash your Mechanics' Institute membership card you'll get a 10% discount on each drink – the privileges of Mechanics' Institute membership keep growing!

With the opening of **DaDa Art Gallery and Bar** at 65 Post Street, the Mechanics' Institute will become an even stronger center for writers, artists, and thinkers – another place within the Mechanics' community where we can hang out, debate ideas and help shape the future.

We look forward to seeing you there, and will send you an email to let you know of the grand opening.

Recent Happenings at Mechanics' Institute

Members' Holiday Gathering

Enjoy a few snapshots from this year's holiday gathering for members!



Parisian DaDa Salon

Moe! Staiano (L) and Amy X. Neuberg (R) performed at the Parisian Dada Salon, a book release party for the first-time translation of the classic *Lost Profiles: Memoirs of Cubism, Dada, and Surrealism* by Philippe Soupault, co-sponsored by City Lights Books and hosted at Mechanics' Institute.



End Notes



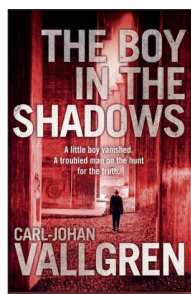
Mechanics' Institute Night Tour

This tour is open to members and the public, free of charge. Join us on Monday, **February 6** at **6:00 pm** in the **3rd Floor of the Library** to learn about the Institute's history and services. Following the tour, enjoy a wine and cheese reception. Registration is not required.

Staff Updates

Head of Technical Services **Matt Montgomery** has accepted an academic librarianship position. Technical Services will be handled by the new Head of Technical Services, **Joel Webb**, and Cataloging and Metadata Librarian, **Lia Ryland**. **Jessica Neaves** has joined the Mechanics' Institute as Development Manager. **Rhonda Hall** is MI's newest Library Assistant. Welcome everyone to the MI family!

Book Notes



Fiction books recently added to the library's collection with the highest rate of checkout include:

The Black Widow by Daniel Silva
Missing, Presumed by Susie Steiner
Before the Fall by Noah Hawley
Crowned and Dangerous by Rhys Bowen
The Boy in the Shadows by Carl-Johan Vallgren

Non-Fiction books recently added to the library's collection with the highest rate of checkout include:



Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance
Dark Money: The Hidden History of the Billionaires Behind the Rise of the Radical Right by Jane Mayer
The Nordic Theory of Everything: In Search of a Better Life by Anu Partanen
The Lost Book of Moses: The Hunt for the World's Oldest Bible by Chanan Tigay
Our Final Invention: Artificial Intelligence and the End of the Human Era by James Barrat

MI Around Town

The Hulu series *Chance* has been filming in San Francisco this Fall. Mechanics' Chess Room Coordinator **Paul Whitehead** was the technical advisor for episode 1:8, "The House of Space and Time", which includes a chess scene in which Mechanics' members **Wassim Nassif** and **Iris Kokish** make cameo appearances.

Happenings



Come visit the Mechanics' Institute at local history festival **San Francisco History Days, March 4 and March 5** from **11:00 am - 5:00 pm** at the **Old Mint** building (88-5th Street, between Market and Mission, San Francisco).

Chess Room News

Weekly blitz tournaments on Wednesdays continue to grow and are now routinely drawing 15-20 players under the direction of **Jules Jelinek**. The November 30th tournament was particularly strong with three International Masters competing – **Ray Kaufman (R)** won the day!



(photo by Arun Sharma)

57 Post Street
San Francisco, CA 94104
www.milibrary.org

Questions?

Call:
415.393.0101

E-mail:
reference@milibrary.org

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

Closures
January 1-2
New Year's Day

January 16
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Day

February 20
Presidents' Day

Editorial Staff
Heather Terrell, Editor