Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, Rudolph Hall—familiarly, and now formerly, known as the “A and A”—opened its doors to reveal a newly renovated School of Architecture and the latest addition to the Yale family of libraries, the Robert B. Haas Family Arts Library. Dedicated in 1963, the original building was designed by Paul Rudolph, then Dean of the School of Architecture, and was one of two Yale buildings to appear recently on U.S. postage stamps. Six years after its dedication, however, the building was swallowed in flames; the cause of the blaze remains unknown. Now, after a dozen years of planning and fundraising (and eighteen months of construction), the building has re-opened to wide acclaim. Moreover, Rudolph Hall is now joined by the Jeffery Loria Center for the History of Art. Both the renovation and the Loria Center were designed by Gwathmey Siegel and Associates of New York. Charles Gwathmey, a student of Paul Rudolph, led the design team.

The Robert B. Haas Family Arts Library Opening

The Robert B. Haas Family Arts Library spreads across the ground floors of both buildings, bringing together the Art & Architecture Library, the Drama Library, the Visual Resources Collection, and the Arts of the Book Collection. These formerly discrete collections will be administered by the newly formed Arts Library Special Collections facility, which features an electronic classroom, a comfortable reading room (restored to the exact specifications of the original, down to its signature orange carpet), staff processing spaces, and display cases for rotating exhibitions. Patrons will have access to three group study rooms and workstations for scanning and DVD viewing.

For former Art & Architecture Library tenants and patrons, gone are the days of working in cold, drafty spaces in the winter and oppressively hot and humid conditions in the summer. Exquisite furnishings—from Knoll Studio’s sleek leather Breuer armchairs and wild red Saarinen Womb chairs to custom-made study tables and carrels fashioned after the original pieces designed by Rudolph—will add to staff and patron comfort. Other improvements include the restoration of sculptures throughout the building, many of which had been damaged or removed.

The Loria Center, the main entry point for the library and primary residence for the Department of the History of Art, is a modern complex filled with state-of-the-art lecture halls, spacious faculty offices, and terraces that offer terrific views of New Haven.

notes from the university librarian’s blog

Yale University Library on Facebook

The Yale University Library now has a profile on Facebook (www.facebook.com), the exceptionally popular social networking web site. Facebook has more than 80 million active users from around the globe (including some 10,000 from around Yale and New Haven), and libraries worldwide are now using the site for outreach and to promote their research tools, collections, and services. The Yale Library’s profile features blog postings from across the system, news and announcements, and images of library buildings and collections. You can become a fan of the Library by searching for “Yale University Library” in the Facebook search box. Suggestions for enhancing our profile are very welcome. —AP

Yale Map Department Helps New Haven Youth Improve Their Neighborhood

Stacey Maples, Yale Map Department GIS Assistant, has partnered with Professor Colleen Murphy-Dunning (Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies/Director, Hixon Center for Urban Ecology, Urban Resources Initiative) to help members of the Hill Youth Action Team (HYAT) do urban forestry in their neighborhoods. Using GPS (Global Positioning System)-enabled mobile computing devices and multi-user geodatabases designed and managed by Maples, high-school students from the HYAT program are surveying the urban forest in the Hill neighborhood. Over the summer, they revisited trees surveyed in 2001, confirming their species, evaluating their health, and measuring their growth. The students also identified potential planting sites in under-forested areas of The Hill, and began planting new trees at selected sites.

Lessons learned during this program will be implemented in a larger urban forestry survey to be used as a teaching tool for the Modules in Technical Skills (MODS) Program which, this year, will initiate nearly 150 incoming graduate students to the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies.

This project has highlighted the need to support solutions that allow Yale researchers to integrate complex, spatially-referenced field data into large projects. Toward that end, the Map Department plans to acquire a large number of GPS-enabled mobile computers and to develop server-based relational databases to support mobile mapping applications for Yale researchers.

For more information:
http://www.library.yale.edu/maps
http://www.yale.edu/hixon

—SM
Biblical Computing Benefits Students of Ancient Greek and Hebrew

The project grew out of the frustration Estelle-Holmer and Croasmun experienced as students of ancient languages. Learning a foreign language today, even an ancient one, involves being able to compute in that language. Students now expect to utilize the computer for language study and as aspiring scholars, they need to incorporate text in original languages into their papers. Estelle-Holmer and Croasmun realized that support for multi-language computing was not optimal. Students were confused by the many fonts and software programs available. The problem was not a lack of options, but a lack of evaluation and testing to determine which solutions would work best for students.

On December 6, 2007 the Divinity Library sponsored the first of two Biblical Computing Fairs. This was an opportunity for the grant team to test the web site and to assist students in setting up their laptops. Over 30 students enjoyed Mediterranean snacks while learning how to compute in biblical Hebrew and Greek. Quite apart from the expertise and the hands-on assistance the team offered students, the exciting part of this project was the collaboration and support they received from the Divinity Library, the Divinity School, and Yale’s Center for Language Study. –SEH

Inaugural Applebaum Prize Awarded for Outstanding Senior Essay Based on Research at GDIC Center

In May 2008, the Yale University Library awarded the inaugural Applebaum Prize to Yale College senior Stephen Fowler for his essay “Crisis and Compromise: Carter Glass, Henry Steagall, and the Story of the Banking Act of 1933.” Each spring, the Library will award the $500 prize to a Yale College senior for an outstanding essay based on research done in the collections of the Library’s Government Documents & Information Center (GDIC).

The Applebaum Prize was established by the daughters of Harvey M. Applebaum, class of 1959. Mr. Applebaum is a senior counsel with the Washington firm of Covington & Burling LLP and a lecturer at the University of Virginia School of Law.

For his senior essay, Mr. Fowler mined the Congressional Record and the hearing transcripts of the Senate and House Committees on Banking and Currency. The Applebaum Prize selection committee felt that his essay made excellent use of the GDIC collections and presented an engaging argument about the creation of this important legislation. Mr. Fowler was advised by Professor Glenda Gilmore of the History Department. His choice of topic was inspired by a summer job at the Senate Historical Office.

The GDIC is a depository library for materials from the United States and Canadian federal governments, the United Nations, the European Union, and the Food and Agriculture Organization. The purpose of Applebaum Prize is to promote awareness and use of the GDIC collections, as well as to reward outstanding student research.

Questions about the Applebaum Prize may be directed to Julie Linden (julie.linden@yale.edu). –JL
**Beinecke Summer Internship**

During the summer of 2008, the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library initiated a program of summer internships for current library school students. Interns Martha Horan (University of Texas, Austin), Bergis Jules (Indiana University), Robin Katz (Kent State University), and Audrey Pearson (San Jose State University) were selected from a pool of more than 100 applicants to work with Beinecke staff for a ten-week period.

The internship was designed to provide professional experience to current library school students—particularly those from underrepresented communities—who plan to pursue careers in a special collections setting. As one of the country’s leading rare book and manuscript libraries, the Beinecke Library is uniquely positioned to help train the next generation of special collection librarians.

Each intern completed a project associated with his or her professional interests, which included archival and manuscript processing, digital library and metadata development, preservation, and rare book acquisitions and cataloging. Projects ranged from a condition survey of the Osborn Collection’s bound manuscripts to the creation of podcasts about the *Gutenberg Bible* and John James Audubon’s *Birds of America*. Archival collections that were processed included the Ella Barksdale Brown papers and the Chester Himes papers.

To gain exposure to the breadth of library resources at Yale, the interns visited special collections and other units throughout the library system. They also orchestrated a Yale Archival Reading Group discussion on diversity in the archival profession and presented the results of their summer experiences at a forum open to all library staff. –ECS

**Romance in the Library**

Many great things have begun at Sterling Memorial Library: research projects, book manuscripts, and even a marriage. After meeting in SML’s Memorabilia Room at a library-sponsored symposium, Sahr Conway-Lanz, formerly an archivist in Manuscripts and Archives, and Jenifer Van Vleck, a Ph.D. candidate in History and a former Yale University Library Graduate Intern (and *Nota Bene*’s editorial assistant), were married on October 4 in Washington, DC.

On a chilly February evening in 2006, the library held a symposium, “William C. Bullitt, Jr. and Louise Bryant: New Insights,” to celebrate the opening of the Bullitt and Bryant Papers, housed in Manuscripts and Archives. The previous year, MSS&A had hired Conway-Lanz to process the two collections, and he returned to Yale to give a talk at the symposium. Van Vleck had worked with the Bryant Papers during her internship at MSS&A in the fall of 2006. At the reception, Sahr and Jen were introduced by Christine Weideman, Director of Manuscripts and Archives. The two got to know one another further at the symposium dinner; William Massa, Head of Collection Development at MSS&A, can be thanked for seating them at the same table.

After the symposium, Sahr returned to Washington, DC, where he now works as an archivist at the Nixon Presidential Library in the National Archives. For three months, he and Jen corresponded over email. Printed out, their correspondence comprises 90 single-spaced pages. In May, Jen moved to DC after receiving a fellowship from the Smithsonian Institution—and the rest is history.

Befitting how the couple met, certain elements of the wedding had a library theme: bookmarks served as save-the-dates, invitations were designed as miniature books, and reception tables were numbered after the Dewey Decimal System. The couple was also fortunate to have several Library staff members in attendance. –JVV

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**THE LIBRARY ›› tomorrow**

For information about funding opportunities at the Library, please visit the new library development web site at [www.library.yale.edu/development](http://www.library.yale.edu/development).
Library Intern Helps Preserve Rare Maps

The stacks in Sterling Memorial Library are filled with aging books, and the responsibility of the library’s Preservation Department is to ensure that collections are available for generations to come. As an intern in the Preservation Department, Katie Risseeuw, a student at University of Texas at Austin’s Kilgarlin Center for Preservation of the Cultural Record, learned firsthand the many challenges and rewards of a career in this field.

Katie’s internship included a variety of activities, from meeting with engineers and architects in a construction trailer, to planning out the intricacies of the Beinecke’s new HVAC system, to discussing copyright issues at a DPIP (Digital Production and Integration Program) gathering. Her main project, though, was to begin a condition survey of the Special Collection in the Map Department. Preservation condition surveys involve taking a random sampling of a collection—in this case, pre-1850 maps and atlases—in order to assess the condition of physical items and their immediate physical environment. The results then help determine recommendations for treatments, housing, or staffing.

Under the supervision of Tara Kennedy and the Special Collections Conservation Unit, Katie spent many hours navigating the unique call number system and locations of the maps, an enjoyable task that involved perusing materials that spanned several centuries. The Map Special Collection had never been assessed in this way, and the knowledge gained from the survey will be valuable in helping to determine suitable care and housing for these rare and beautiful works. –KR & TK

Highlight from the Haggadah

To the left is a highlight from the recent Passover Haggadah exhibit in Sterling Memorial Library. It is taken from The New Union Haggadah, edited by Herbert Bronstein and with drawings by Leonard Baskin [New York: Central Conference of American Rabbis (1974)].

Baskin (1922–2000), the son of an Orthodox rabbi, was an accomplished sculptor, book illustrator, printmaker, graphic artist, writer, and teacher. He grew up in Brooklyn and, in 1941, won a scholarship to Yale. At the Yale Library he discovered William Blake’s illustrated books, which inspired him to become an illustrator and writer.

Baskin’s Jewish upbringing and his concern with social causes likely influenced his decision to illustrate the Haggadah. He used water colors and his own calligraphy; indeed, in Baskin’s Haggadah illustrations, art and text were inseparable.

“Therefore Let Us Give Thanks.....”: with these words the Hallel section of the Haggadah begins. The Hallel, a prayer of thanksgiving based on the Book of Psalms, is recited on major Jewish festivals and with the new moon. This opening passage gives thanks to God for bringing the Israelites from slavery to freedom. The text in Baskin’s illustration becomes the clothing of a man in shackles who has been transformed into a free man.

This is one of the many items housed in Yale’s Judaica Collection. For more information: http://www.library.yale.edu/judaica/ –NS

Peter Palmquist Collection of Women in Photography

An unparalleled collection of research files about women involved in photography is open to researchers at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. Compiled by a preeminent historian of photography, the Peter Palmquist Collection of Women in Photography provides name-based access to information about more than 30,000 women involved in photography, along with images created by more than 2,000 women photographers.

Peter Palmquist (1936–2003) was a photographer, collector, and historian of photography. In 1971, he began a systematic study of women photographers in California, which he later extended to include the photographic work of women worldwide. The project collected information on amateur and commercial photographers, studio assistants, retouchers, colorists, photojournalists, and filmmakers, as well as early critics of photography and characters in literary works.
library events calendar

The Yale Library has launched its program of lectures, exhibitions, and public events for the 2008–09 academic year. Detailed information and updates/changes to the schedule will be available on the Library’s web site: www.library.yale.edu/librarynews.

Lectures

All lectures are free and open to the public and will be held in the Sterling Memorial Library Lecture Hall, 128 Wall Street.

October: Ben Kriemier, A. Whitney Griswold Professor of History & Director of the MacMillan Center Genocide Studies Program, Yale University; author of Blood and Soil: Genocide in World History; October 29, 4:00 pm.

November: Frank Prochaska, Lecturer & Senior Research Scholar, Yale University; author of The Eagle and the Crown: Americans and the British Monarchy; November 11, 4:00 pm.

December: Alan Houston, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of California San Diego; author of Sowing the Seeds of Rebellion: The African American Food Culture of Civil Rights, 1919–1950; December, date and time TBA.

January: Elizabeth Abbott, Research Associate in the Arts, Trinity College, University of Toronto; author of Sex and the Single Savior; December, date and time TBA.

February: Glenda Gilmore, Peter V. & C. Vann Woodward Professor of History, Yale University; author of Defying Dixie: The Radical Roots of African American Food Culture; February, date and time TBA.

March: Angus Trumble, Curator of Paintings & Sculpture, Yale Center for British Art; author of A Brief History of the Smile; March, date and time TBA.

April: Jennifer Finney Boylan, Professor of English, Colby College; author of She’s Not There: A Life in Two Genders; April 16, 4:00 pm.

Other Events

• Oxford English Dictionary 80th Anniversary Symposium: October 1, 4:30 p.m., SSS 114.
• Noah Webster 250th Birthday Celebrations: October 16 & 17.
• Library Open House Days: October 25 & May 30.
• Lewis Walpole Series Launch & Reception: December 5.

The biographical files allow for broad and deep studies of women in photography. They mainly draw from secondary material collected by Palmquist, but also include biographical profiles, professional vitae, advertising items, exhibition announcements, and reviews provided by photographers and historians of photography. Photographic materials in the collection include vintage photographs created by women—most dating from before 1910.

The collection includes research files compiled by Palmquist for his publication and exhibition projects on topics related to women photographers. It also contains the organizational records of Women in Photography International, a non-profit group founded in Los Angeles in 1981. –MM

New Verdi Treasures at Yale

The Yale Library now has some new treasures to add to its already rich holdings in music and opera. In an office filing cabinet in the Music Library’s Collection of Historical Sound Recordings (HSR), a little-known collection of letters and photographs was recently discovered by Karen Henson, a visiting assistant professor from Columbia University’s department of music who spent several months at Yale conducting research in the collection. They include twelve previously unpublished letters from the nineteenth-century Italian opera composer Giuseppe Verdi. The documents originally belonged to the French baritone Victor Maurel (1848–1923), creator of the roles of Iago and Falstaff in Verdi’s final two operas – Otello, 1887, and Falstaff, 1893. They originally made their way to the HSR as part of the Witten Collection. Because of Maurel’s talents as a recording artist, he was among the first generation of opera singers to record, making twenty-seven recordings from 1903 to 1907.

The new Verdi letters date from the time of Falstaff and include a letter about how to perform the title-role. Few such letters exist for Verdi’s operas and in it the composer gives the perhaps surprising advice that the baritone should focus on the words rather than the music: “if the rhythm of the words is right, the music will take care of itself and will come ... of its own accord”. The composer had in fact been giving this advice for forty years, as part of his new, more “modern” approach to the bel canto tradition. Maurel, however, was an opinionated singer, and the new letters show that he replied by outlining to the nearly 80-year-old composer, his own ideas about singing. The baritone nonetheless became Verdi’s Falstaff of choice and premiered the opera around the world.

With the help and expertise of Richard Warren, Curator of the Historical Sound Recordings, an edition and translation of the letters has recently been published (Karen Henson, “Verdi versus Victor Maurel on Falstaff: Twelve New Verdi Letters and Other Operatic and Musical Theater Sources,” 19th-Century Music, 31 [2007]), 113–50). Other aspects of the documents, including the long correspondence between Maurel and turn-of-the-century Wagner soprano Lilli Lehmann, will be explored in Professor Henson’s forthcoming book Physiognomies of Opera. –KH


Verdi’s letter about the role of Falstaff (1892).
In the spring of 2008, the Yale Library was one of six U.S. academic institutions to host a librarian from South Africa under the auspices of the Research Libraries Consortium (RLC), a three-year project funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Aiming to enrich support to researchers at South African academic libraries, the project enrolls library staff in a South African “Library Academy,” followed by a U.S. internship.

Seven librarians from three South African universities—Cape Town, KwaZulu-Natal, and the Witwatersrand—formed the first group of RLC librarians. Their six-week long visit to the United States included an intensive learning program at the Mortenson Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, followed by a four-week residency at an academic and research institution, a mid-term gathering in San Francisco, and a final conference at the University of Arizona. Yale’s visitor was Paiki Muswazi, Deputy Client Services Librarian at the University of the Witwatersrand (“Wits” for short) in Johannesburg. A native of Zimbabwe, Paiki earned a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) from Simmons College and a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Zimbabwe.

At Yale, Paiki experienced day-to-day interaction between librarians and researchers, shadowed research librarians, and gained a deeper understanding of how research is supported by collection development, fundraising, and the use of technology. He recorded his experiences at Yale in the project blog, “RLC Librarians on the Move,” http://salibraryacademy.blogspot.com/ “My coordinator … leaves no stone unturned,” he writes in one entry. “By the end of the program, I will have gone through virtually all functions and services!” Which is what he did, surviving to tell the story to his colleagues and the world. —gk

The Library is pleased to announce that the Oral History of American Music (OHAM) project has become a department of the University Library. OHAM is the only ongoing project in the field of music that is dedicated to the collection and preservation of recorded memoirs in the voices of the creative musicians of our time. For nearly forty years, OHAM has been affiliated with the Yale School of Music and the Yale University Library, existing as an independent project responsible for raising its own funding. With the move to the Library, OHAM now enjoys ongoing support for its many activities. That support was complemented in March of this year, when the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded OHAM and the Library a grant of $248,000 to facilitate the transition of OHAM from project to Library department. In addition, OHAM Director Vivian Perlis and Associate Director Libby Van Cleve, working with University development officers, have embarked on a fundraising effort that will establish a permanent endowment for OHAM. All of these changes will help to insure that OHAM can continue to collect and disseminate the oral history of American music, and that this unique and valuable archive will be preserved. —lvc

OHAM holds several interviews with the celebrated composer Roy Harris (1898–1979), complemented by an unpublished memoir written by his daughter, Patricia. Among her comments: “My father had fabulous cars as long as I can remember. He always bought machines that could go twice the legal speed limit, and he always tried them out. In many respects, he was a product of America’s coming of age; cars remained one symbolic bastion of his belief in the prowess of American ingenuity.” Harris is pictured here with his Lincoln Zephyr “Golden Boy,” in the Colorado Rockies, Ca. 1941.
Updated Selector’s Directory

For requests for new materials as well as reference or instruction inquiries, please refer to the current list of the library’s subject specialists at:

http://resources.library.yale.edu/online/selectors.asp