News

UC Arts at the Arts Centre

Launch of WORD Christchurch Programme including Free Radicals

On Tuesday night the programme of WORD Christchurch 2018 was launched at The Piano. UC is a sponsor of this festival. A featured event in the programme is Free Radicals, presented by UC Arts/UC Music in conjunction with Empress Theatre Collective. This event features UC staff Erin Harrington, Glenda Keam & Naomi van den Broek, and current School of Music student, Rosa Elliott. The work is an evolving song cycle celebrating the lives and achievements of women in science and technology. Celebrated UC Alumna Beatrice Tinsley is one of the women featured.

You can purchase tickets for this event here: https://wordchristchurch.co.nz/programme/

NZIA Canterbury Architecture Awards

Architects Warren & Mahoney have been honoured at this year’s Canterbury Architecture Awards for their work on the UC Arts City Location building at the Arts Centre. As winners in the Heritage category of the local awards, they are also in contention for a national award. This is the third award the restoration of the Old Chemistry building has won. You can see more here: https://www.nzia.co.nz/awards/local/award-detail/7331
New Music Central

On Monday New Music Central featured American cellist, Erika Duke Kirkpatrick. She performed a stunning programme of music for cello and piano accompanied by Mark Menzies on piano.

Next Monday’s programme (23.07.18) is ‘Off the Page: Real Time Composition’ improvisations in solo, duo and group settings featuring staff, extended SoM family and contemporary dancer Julia Harvie. 7pm in the Recital Room at UC Arts City Location.

All our 2018 concerts are live on the events section of the UC website and we encourage you to come along.

Lunchtime Concert
Our Semester 2 Lunchtime Concert programme begins today. Come and see students and staff perform a variety of music from classical to jazz and popular music. Concerts start at 1.10pm and generally finish at 2pm.

Celestial Strings
As part of the School of Music’s Winter Concert Series in collaboration with the Arts Centre, we are excited to present ‘Celestial Strings’ as part of the Arts Centre’s Matariki celebrations. This concert will feature performances from our guest, Erika Duke Kirkpatrick (cello), Mark Menzies, an ambient orchestra featuring electric guitar and more!

The concert is on Sunday July 22, at 2pm, in the Great Hall of the Arts Centre.

Tickets are available for purchase online or at the door.
Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities

As part of the School Holidays, the museum have been running a Matariki competition. The stars of Matariki are hidden around the gallery and the challenge is to locate them all and fill in the accompanying activity booklet. The prize is a hamper of New Zealand books and glow in the dark stars. If you have a child or are young at heart yourself and would like to enter the competition closes on Sunday. The museum is open 11-3pm, Wednesday to Sunday.

School of Humanities and Creative Arts

History

History student Anna Milne-Tavendale successfully defended her PhD thesis, “Paupertatem voluntarium possidete: ‘Possessing Poverty’ and the Development of Devotional Narratives in the Medieval Dominican Order, 1221-1363” on Thursday 12 July subject to minor amendments, and with a strong recommendation to publish from both examiners. The thesis explores the response of the Dominican order to enduring questions regarding the meaning, purpose and presentation of religious poverty. While the Dominicans are considered essential agents of late-medieval religious change, their close historical and ideological proximity to Saint Francis has meant that sometimes the particularities of their engagement with poverty have been overshadowed. The thesis provides a concentrated and unified exploration of the way that the Dominican Order constructed, navigated and articulated concepts of poverty in historical and hagiographical narratives composed in its first one hundred and fifty years. It establishes poverty as a dynamic devotional force, which consistently collapsed and/or bridged boundaries between the spiritual and material worlds in conception and performance. Anna took up a permanent position as a researcher at the Waitangi Tribunal in January 2018.

The History Department was well represented at the 10th International Society for First World War Studies' conference, 'Recording, Narrating and Archiving the First World War', held in Melbourne between 9-11 July. MA students Tom Gilmour and Daniel Steel and lecturers Rowan Light and David Monger all spoke at the conference, held in the Southern Hemisphere for the first time, at Deakin University.
- Tom (pictured above) presented the paper 'Popular Media and the portrayal of the Great War: the study of First World War British Newsreels'
- Daniel spoke on 'Beyond the Hun? Reporting Britain's war with the Ottoman Empire, 1914-1918'
- Rowan (pictured below) discussed 'Nō Tātou Te Toto/ The Blood We Share: Māori Television and the Reshaping of New Zealand War Memory'
- David's paper was "'Make no reference": "D" Notices and official control of the British Press's record of the war'. 
Philosophy

- Philosophy is delighted to welcome Prof. Carl Posy as an Erskine Fellow this semester. Prof. Posy is a Professor of Philosophy and Member of the Language, Logic, and Cognition Center at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Former Academic Director of the National Library of Israel. His work covers philosophical logic, the philosophy of mathematics, and the history of philosophy. His edited volumes include *Kant’s Philosophy of Mathematics: Modern Essays and Computability: Turing, Gödel, Church, and Beyond* (with Jack Copeland and Oron Shagrir). He will be giving a series of seminars on ‘Knowledge and Metaphysics: Kantian Themes and Modern Echoes’.

- Prof. Timothy Williamson presented a paper entitled 'Morally loaded cases in epistemology' at the Philosophy Research Seminar on Tuesday. Prof. Williamson is the Wykeham Professor of Logic at the University of Oxford as well as a fellow of the British Academy and of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

English

Professor Henrietta Mondry has started her five month Fellowship at the Stellenbosch Institute of Advanced Study. Henrietta is working as part of an international multidisciplinary group of scholars, leading a project on "Dog-human Correlations in Post-Soviet and Post-apartheid Literature and Film".

School of Fine Arts

The Casting Room will present a series of six student exhibitions weekly from 17 July - August 24. Openings are each Tuesday at 5pm in Block 3, School of Fine Arts.

The first exhibition is ‘Like Platinum’ by painting students Richard Elderton, Jamie TeHeuheu and Connie Dwyer. 'Like Platinum' is a body of work inspired by an aesthetic sensibility presented in the 'Impersonal Theory of Poetry' by T. S. Eliot in the early 20th century. In an analogy of a chemical reaction, Eliot relates the potential of the artist as a passive catalyst of a creative process, which can combine, compare and link elements as a poetic form of art. Although static objects, our paintings explore the balance of representation and abstraction, intention and serendipity, and relations of material and subject as a poetic combination of elements.

Next week is the interactive installation 가지마: pleasedontleave! by sculpture student Min-Young Her.
School of Languages, Social and Political Sciences

Human Services and Social Work

Cindy Zeiher presented at the International Lacan Symposium in Melbourne on 15th July. The symposium focused on the seminars and writings of Jacques Lacan’s later work. Cindy discussed the movement and development of Lacan’s questions about science and the subject as they relate to Hegel, Koyré and Kojève. It was considered how this movement allowed for Lacan to introduce affect as pivotal to the ‘subject of science’.

Political Science and International Relations

Associate Prof Amy Fletcher (POLS) gave a talk on Machines as Learning Partners at the inaugural Future of Learning Conference held in Christchurch on Monday, 9 July. [https://www.futureoflearning.nz/](https://www.futureoflearning.nz/)

Amy Fletcher (POLS) gave a keynote address titled "AI, Robotics, Ethics and You" at the ITx (Innovation, Technology, Education) Conference held in Wellington on Wednesday, 11 July. [https://itx.nz/](https://itx.nz/)

Canterbury School for Continental Philosophy

Canterbury School for Continental Philosophy Seminar Series

Revolt or Resignation?

Between Lacanian Political Theory and Affect Theory

Distinguished Professor Mari Ruti
Dept. of Gender and Sexuality Studies, University of Toronto

Friday 27th July - 11:30-12:30 – Room 210 Puaka James Hight

This presentation explores the divergent attitudes that Lacanian political theorists—particularly Slavoj Žižek, Alain Badiou, Paul Ewald, and Todd McGowan—and affect theorists such as Sara Ahmed, Lauren Berlant, Siân Lowe, and Kathleen Stewart bring to questions of political resistance and agency. Where Lacanian political theorists speak a revolutionary language of acts, events, and ruptures that are designed to alter the course of history on the grand scale, affect theorists are primarily interested in the tenuous ways in which devalued subjects negotiate uncertainty, damage, and humiliating social worlds. For this reason, affect theorists speak a resigned language of compromised agency, the kind of agency that is characterized more by dreams of escape than by heroic acts of rebellion. Ruti presents a balanced account of both perspectives, expressing sympathy for the affect theoretical focus on the attempts of precarious subjects to bear lives that often feel unbearable at the same time as she acknowledges the political significance of transformative acts, events, and ruptures.

Mari Ruti is Distinguished Professor of Critical Theory and of Gender and Sexuality Studies at the University of Toronto, where she teaches contemporary theory, psychoanalysis, continental philosophy, and feminism and queer theory. She is the author of twelve books, most recently “Pleas: Envy and Other Bad Feelings: The Emotional Costs of Everyday Life” (2018) and “Obstacles: Theory, Ethics, Affect” (2018).
Internship Experiences
The NCRE has recently had two students return from internships in Wellington and Singapore, they report back:

I interned at the Asia-Europe Foundation in Singapore for three months, from February until May. ASEF, for short, comprises fifty-one countries across the Eurasian continent, as well as the European Union and ASEAN and the organisation can be described as a very well-established and far-reaching diplomatic actor. My placement was with the Political and Economic Department, where I spent a lot of time assisting in the preparation for the annual flagship event: the Human Rights Seminar Series, titled *Human Rights and the Prevention of Violent Extremism*. I believe that working towards the realization of this event was an incredibly interesting experience, as it is of high importance to discuss the topic at a supranational level while involving actors from fields such as education, law and politics.

Being part of a small team with big responsibilities allowed me to actively partake in almost all of the department’s activities. Therefore the internship was not only an intellectually exciting opportunity, but also a great chance to gather hands-on experience in project management, the logistics of event organisation and diplomatic communications.

I interned at the European Union Delegation to New Zealand from March – May 2018, as part of my MEURO degree. For this internship I was assisting with the Press + Information team at the delegation, but also worked with the Trade section from time to time. Tasks included running social media accounts and assisting with the different sections in their daily tasks. The highlights included the visit of a European Commissioner and the Europe Day celebration on May 9. The biggest benefit to myself was getting a taste of professional life in such a supportive and interesting environment.

Franzisca and Oli will be giving a joint seminar on their experiences from 2-3pm in Logie 105 on Friday 27 July and a full report will be published on our website in due course.

https://jeanmonnet.nz/internships/intern-experiences/
Winter Seminar Series 2018

Professor Constance A. Flanagan

Teenage citizens

Tuesday 31 July, 5-5.45pm
Puaka-James Hight, Rm 210

In most nations, teenagers are too young to vote and so too often their views are under researched in political science. In her presentation about her Harvard University Press book *Teenage Citizens: The Political Theories of the Young*, award winning University of Wisconsin-Madison Professor Connie Flanagan argues that civic identities form during adolescence and are rooted in teens’ everyday lives—in their experiences as members of schools and community-based organizations and in their exercise of voice, collective action, and responsibility in those settings. Drawing on 25 years of cross disciplinary research she examines how teens in a variety of nations come to understand the social contract, principles of tolerance, social inclusion, and equality and collective principles of democracy or rights as individuals and to envisage the world of politics and civic engagement.

The Sustainable Citizenship and Civic Imagination group: Hei Puāwaitanga is delighted to host Connie Flanagan and invites you to join us for refreshments in the Shilling Club after the talk from 5.45pm.

For more information contact: luisa.leso@canterbury.ac.nz
UC Arts gives updates on news and events from across the College of Arts, with over 30 academic programmes there are always interesting events happening, many of which are open to students and the public for free. Follow us.