

footnotes

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Do something boring

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Charles Deering McCormick

University Librarian:

Sarah M. Pritchard

Director of Development:

Alex Herrera

Director of Library Public Relations:

Clare Roccaforte

Editor and Writer: Nina Barrett

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OBLIQUE STRATEGIES

Over one hundred worthwhile dilemmas
by BRIAN ENO and PETER SCHMIDT

Brian Eno Peter Schmidt

Printed January 1975 in an edition of 500
of which this is number

205

On the cover and above Cards from *Oblique Strategies*
by Brian Eno and Peter Schmidt. Collection
of the Music Library. See more on page 4.
Photo by Andrew Campbell.



Gene and Margery Pflughaupt honored

The 2009 Deering Family Award was presented to Gene and Margery Pflughaupt at the annual Deering Society Recognition Dinner in May. The couple, who met in 1946 while standing in a registration line during their freshman year at Northwestern, have been Library benefactors for decades. “They set a wonderful example, and we are truly grateful for their sustained devotion to this institution,” said Sarah M. Pritchard, the Charles Deering McCormick University Librarian. Members of the Deering family — including Stephen Strachan, who presented the award; his wife, Linda; and Nancy McCormick Vella — were on hand at the dinner. The family’s philanthropy to the Library now spans six generations.

Rediscovering the recorder



John Russell, special collections cataloger in the bibliographic services department, has been named the Library’s 2009–10 fellow to the Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities. Russell will research the history and culture of the end-blown flute known as the recorder in the art, literature, and music of the 19th century, a period in which the instrument was believed to have disappeared. Since 1994 the Library has sponsored a yearlong fellowship at the Kaplan Institute. The fellowship is awarded on a competitive basis to a deserving Library staff member with a serious research interest. The Library fellow receives a half-time release from regular duties for an entire year to pursue a project of his or her choice.

... and a Neapolitan ballet



Morris Levy, senior music cataloger, has been awarded the 2009–10 John M. Ward Fellowship in Dance and Music for the Theatre from Houghton Library at Harvard University. He will do research on the 1838 Neapolitan ballet *Furio Camillo*, choreographed by Salvatore Taglioni with music by Robert Gallenberg. The manuscript of the ballet is held by Harvard. Levy is working on a modern edition of the work, which he hopes to publish in 2010.



Jeff Garrett directs newly merged departments

In addition to his role as associate University librarian for special libraries, Jeff Garrett has also been appointed director of special collections and archives — two formerly separate departments that are being merged into one. “The rare and unique materials in those collections complement each other beautifully,” Garrett says. “Integrating them into one department will enable us to be more efficient in our operations, provide better public services, and create richer, more exciting exhibits and publications.”



From Abyssinia to Zanzibar

Historical photo collection debuts online

Northwestern University Library has launched an innovative web site featuring more than 7,500 photographs of European colonization of East Africa between 1860 and 1960. Known as the Winterton Collection, the photos were taken by European explorers, colonial officials, settlers, missionaries, military officials, travelers, and early commercial photographers. They document the relationships between Africans and between Africans and Europeans during a period of dramatic change.

“From the moment we acquired the collection in 2002,” says David Easterbrook, curator of the Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies, “we knew it would be of interest to an international body of scholars and educators. So, it was a very high priority to digitize it and make it available online.”

In addition to digitizing the materials, the Library set itself a further challenge. Assembled over a 40-year period by British collector Humphrey Winterton, the collection contained 76 photo albums, scrapbooks, and boxes of loose items such as postcards and stereoscopic slides. “To a researcher,” says Claire Stewart, the Library’s head of digital collections, “it might be important to be able to browse the collection exactly as it was originally organized — or it might be more important to be able to search it as a database, with dates or keywords. We felt it was important to design a site that would do both.” The resulting web site, launched in June, achieves both those goals: making an extraordinary historical collection

available to other universities, secondary schools, and museums worldwide and inviting users to explore it in a variety of creative, intriguing ways.

The scope of the materials is remarkable, Easterbrook says. The earliest images, from the 1860s, portray life off the east coast of Africa in Zanzibar. These photos were taken and annotated by British explorer and abolitionist James Augustus Grant, best known for his 1864 book *A Walk Across Africa: Or, Domestic Scenes from My Nile Journal*. A set of pictures from the Abyssinian campaign of 1868 — an expedition by the armed forces of the British Empire against the Ethiopian Empire — preserves the first surviving use of photography in an African military campaign.

Jonathan Glassman, associate professor of history at Northwestern, who has used the Winterton Collection extensively, says its special value lies in its unusual subject matter. “The most familiar photographs of this era,” he says, “tend to dwell on what the photographer considered the glamorous aspects of East Africa: wildlife, landscapes, settler life, the occasional posed portrait of an African sultan or Maasai warrior. What makes the Winterton Collection stand out is the large number of items that document more prosaic matters. Such matters are precisely the most difficult for the student of African history to get a handle on.”

A generous grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services enabled the Library to not only digitize the images but

also design the innovative software that lets the user “see the collection as the collector saw it.” A user can choose to browse through the images exactly as they were organized in the collector’s original albums, scrapbooks, and boxes, either by displaying pages of thumbnails or by using a feature that reproduces the experience of flipping through the pages of a photo album.

Because the images are tagged with extensive metadata, they can also be searched by date or certain keywords. A school group viewing the site in its pilot stage, for example, asked Easterbrook to check if there were any photos related to the ancestry of President Barack Obama. That search yielded a group of 31 photos of people and places related to the region of Kenya where President Obama’s father was born.

Designed in consultation with both a group of K–12 educators and members of Northwestern’s renowned Program of African Studies, the site also includes a “Winterton in the Classroom” feature that explains how elementary and secondary school teachers can use the collection for classroom projects and curricula, and links to other resources on teaching about Africa.

For more information, visit the Winterton Collection web site at www.library.northwestern.edu/africana/winterton.

H I D D E N T

O F N O R T H W E S T E R N U



Photo by Andrew Campbell

What is it? A rare deck of cards titled *Oblique Strategies: Over One Hundred Worthwhile Dilemmas*, published privately and signed by musician Brian Eno and artist Peter Schmidt in 1975. The cards propose random solutions to work dilemmas — “Take a break,” “Overtly resist change,” or “Imagine the music as a moving chain or caterpillar.”

Where is it? The Music Library. It was acquired to supplement the Music Library’s strong holdings of original materials by John Cage and others who incorporated chance procedures into their composing process. Eno — sometimes referred to as “the father of ambient music” — has worked with David Bowie, David Byrne, and U2 and is credited with introducing the concepts of chance music to pop and rock.

What is it? Silent film footage of Northwestern’s U.S. Naval Reserve Midshipmen’s School, which was located on campus from 1940 to 1945. Among the trainees who attended was a young John F. Kennedy. Beyond its military interest, the footage features World War II-era views of Navy Pier, Lincoln Park lagoon, the Water Tower, and other familiar Chicago landmarks.

Where is it? University Archives, and it can be viewed online at www.library.northwestern.edu/archives/navyschool. While everything in University Archives relates in some way to Northwestern’s history, some holdings offer interesting glimpses into events of local, national, and even international significance.



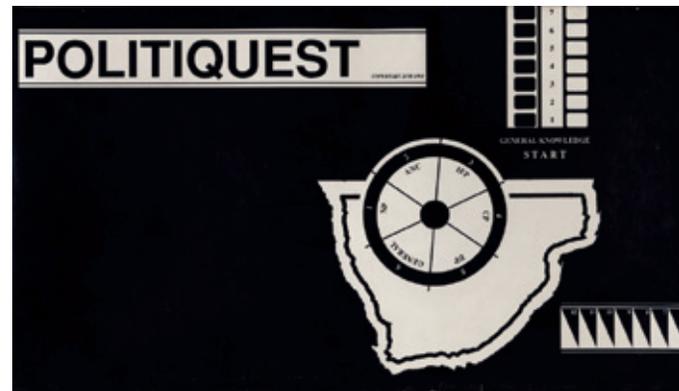



 MODETIPS
 FÜR
 DIE
 FLUGREISE




What is it? A South African board game called Politquest: A Game for All Reasons, developed in the period leading up to South Africa's first majority-rule election in 1994. Players on two teams compete to answer political trivia questions such as "Where was Steve Biko born?" and "Name three of the ANC's founding members."

Where is it? The Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies, which collects all kinds of materials that document the changes in South African politics between Nelson Mandela's release from prison in 1989 and his election as president in 1994.



What are they? Seventeen issues of the in-flight magazine of Interflug, the official airline of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), spanning the years 1968 to 1974. The magazines promote the friendliness and efficiency of Interflug service in both German and English: "When our stewardess brings you a woollen blanket for a night flight, this does not mean that our air conditioning equipment has broken down — it is just to make you feel at home. The youngest passengers will be pleased about the toys they receive — a box of bricks, funny dolls, or a colourful oldtimer."

Where are they? The Transportation Library. No other holdings of the magazine are known to exist outside Germany.

Introducing two new associate University librarians



AFTER TWO NATIONWIDE SEARCHES, THE LIBRARY'S TEAM OF FOUR ASSOCIATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS IS ONCE AGAIN COMPLETE. ROXANNE SELLBERG, ASSOCIATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN FOR TECHNICAL SERVICES AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, AND JEFF GARRETT, ASSOCIATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN FOR SPECIAL LIBRARIES, HAVE BEEN JOINED BY TWO NEW COLLEAGUES WHO PLAN TO MAKE SERVICE INITIATIVES AND PUBLIC OUTREACH A HIGH PRIORITY.

Marianne Ryan joined the staff in June as associate University librarian for public services. "You don't want people thinking that the Library is only somewhere to go," she says. "You also want them thinking: it's the place that helps me find the information I'm looking for, wherever I am. In other words, defining the Library by its services rather than solely by its structure."

Ryan's orientation toward public service was honed over many years as a

government information librarian. She's also had a career in the classroom, holding adjunct faculty appointments at four universities and teaching courses via both traditional and online methods. Those paths converged in Ryan's most recent position as associate dean for learning at Purdue University Libraries, where she managed 12 campus libraries and oversaw programming and educational initiatives.

"Today's students learn differently," she says. "They grow up Googling,



which makes it challenging to help them evaluate the merits of the information they find so easily.”

At Purdue, Ryan helped implement innovative programs that established collaborations between faculty and librarians, such as one that “embedded” librarians in classrooms for consultation. Coming to Northwestern, she says, “I’m excited by the opportunity to explore some new services that haven’t been tried here before.”

Stu Baker, who had been acting associate University librarian for library technology since April 2008, was permanently appointed to the position in January 2009. Baker’s career spans the Library’s technical evolution over the course of nearly three decades. A year after graduating from the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 1980 with a bachelor’s degree in radio/TV/film, he joined the Poetry and Listening Center. In that facility, then the Library’s most high-tech

department, users could listen to materials from the LP collection. When a gift from Marjorie Mitchell made it possible to upgrade the facility into a cutting-edge multimedia center that accommodated audio, video, and computer capabilities, Baker managed the transition.

“At some point,” he says, “I went from being a ‘media person’ to being an ‘IT person,’ but it seemed natural. I always assumed that eventually high-tech media and computer technology were going to converge.”

Baker now manages the Library’s technology infrastructure, from the systems that discover and deliver resources to the University community and thousands of users worldwide to the hundreds of workstations used by the public and Library staff.

The expertise of his division makes possible innovative projects such as the online Winterton Collection (see story on page 2) and has increasingly established Northwestern’s reputation as a trailblazer in library information technology.

Baker’s ultimate goal, he says, is invisibility. “The job of technology is to support the mission of the Library,” he says. “If we’re doing that job correctly, no one should notice we’re doing it at all. We don’t want to get in the way of the research, teaching, and learning activities of the community.”



TALK AND EXHIBIT
SPOTLIGHT
LEOPOLD & LOEB
COLLECTIONS

Still making history

When historian Simon Baatz came to mine Northwestern's University Archives and Charles Deering McCormick Library of Special Collections for material on the infamous 1924 murder of Bobby Franks by Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb, he was amazed at what he found: Leopold and Loeb's verbatim confessions; an original 5,000-page transcript of the famous court case, in which Clarence Darrow defended the killers; detailed reports by the psychiatrists Darrow hired to assess their sanity; and, most sensationally, the original ransom note Leopold and Loeb sent to the Franks family.

For a historian reexamining such a notorious case so long after the fact, the documents were a fabulous find. They enabled Baatz to read the killers' accounts of the murders in their own words, evaluate the strategies of the opposing legal teams, and include dialogue in the book that was completely historically verifiable. Typically, such materials are thrown away after a case is over, Baatz told a packed audience at the spring Board of Governors lecture in March. "There really isn't that complete a record of any other case in American history," he said. "What you have here at Northwestern is an unrivalled account of a murder."

Baatz spent six years researching *For the Thrill of It: Leopold and Loeb and the Murder That Shocked Chicago*, published in 2008 and recently released in a paperback edition.

Writing in the *New York Times*, John Steele Gordon called it "a page turner of a book," noted Baatz's "meticulous research," and commended the book's vivid portrait of "the crime-ridden, bootleg-liquor-fueled Jazz Age city of Chicago and its spectacularly corrupt political culture."

At the Board of Governors lecture, Baatz shared some of the new insight his book brings to what is possibly one of the most-written-about crimes in American history. Not only had Leopold and Loeb collaborated in a whole series of petty crimes before the Franks murder, but Baatz believes that they had also collaborated in several other brutal, senseless, and officially unsolved murders. Baatz also shed light on the brilliant legal tactic Darrow used to rescue Leopold and Loeb from the gallows: rather than trying to persuade a jury that they were innocent by reason of insanity, he had them plead guilty. Then in the sentencing hearing, he tried to convince the judge to mitigate their sentence by introducing evidence from their psychiatric evaluations.

"Insanity is a legal concept," Baatz explained. "It means you can't tell the difference between right and wrong. Mental illness is different. It's a medical condition." This was a tactic, Baatz says, that Darrow had used successfully in other murder cases, but it was the massive media coverage given to this trial that really established the

legitimacy of psychiatric testimony in the courtroom.

In conjunction with Baatz's lecture, an exhibit called "The Murder That Wouldn't Die: Leopold & Loeb in Artifact, Fact, and Fiction" put many of the Library's most fascinating materials on public view from March 3 through June 30. Curated by Nina Barrett, the exhibit highlighted the fact that, like Baatz, many of the artists, historians, and scholars who have retold and reinterpreted the story over the past 85 years have consulted materials in the Library's collection. Notable interpretations of the case have included a chapter in the 1998 book *Crimes of the Century*, cowritten by Gilbert Geis and Northwestern University Law School professor Leigh Bienen; the films *Rope* (1948), *Compulsion* (1959), and *Swoon* (1992); the 1985 play *Never the Sinner* by John Logan, a Northwestern undergraduate who went on to become an Academy Award-winning screenwriter; and the 2003 musical theater production *Thrill Me*.

The exhibit received extensive media attention, including coverage by WMAQ-TV, WBBM radio, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Chicago Sun-Times*, and the July issue of *Harper's* magazine.

To learn more about the case and the Library's Leopold & Loeb collections, you can visit an online version of the exhibit at www.library.northwestern.edu/exhibits/leopoldandloeb.

bookend

For 25 years starting in 1908, the Northwestern circus thrilled and amazed thousands of visitors. The annual event included a parade, a midway, a Ferris wheel, rides, acrobats, clowns, concessions, and wild animals — the full circus package. Each year two Northwestern undergraduates were selected to be “Circus Solly” and “Circus Sally” and helped direct the planning and execution of the proceedings. This was a great honor, and the lucky guy and gal would don the costumes and appear around campus for weeks before the show. There is no definitive explanation of why the Big Top eventually folded, but an item in the *Chicago Daily Tribune* in May 1933 — the last year the circus took place — noted that an animal trainer had been severely injured during the opening parade when an elephant went berserk, slammed him to the ground several times with its trunk, and then kicked him.

For more information on the Northwestern circus and the University’s history, see www.library.northwestern.edu/archives/circus.



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Current and upcoming exhibits

Sound Design: The Rise and Demise of Album Art

July 7–September 10, Main Library

Selections from the Music Library's vast collection of original sound recordings show how LP cover art was once an essential part of the listener's music experience — and how CDs and downloads have changed that.

Best of Bologna: Edgiest Artists of the 2008 International Children's Book Fair

July 8–October 8, Deering Library

Every year, the Bologna Children's Book Fair picks 100 cutting-edge artists whose work breaks new ground in the field of children's book illustration. This exhibit features 23 provocative winners from Germany, Russia, Iran, Japan, and elsewhere who competed in 2008.

One Book One Northwestern: *Hot, Flat, and Crowded* by Thomas Friedman

September 15–November 19, Main Library

In conjunction with the annual campus-wide book project, this exhibit addresses the main question Friedman raises in his recent best seller *Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution — and How It Can Renew America*.

Lighting the Way to Freedom: Treasured Hanukkah Menorahs

November 24–January 14, Main Library

A private collection of menorahs illuminates the long history and many rituals of Hanukkah.