

2022-2024
BIANNUAL REPORT
COLUMBIA MAISON FRANÇAISE



“Since its creation more than 100 years ago, the Maison Française at Columbia University has been a formidable ally in our efforts to promote the French language and Francophone cultures and their significance in the U.S. From discussions on cross-cultural issues and talks by renowned French intellectuals and authors to film festivals and performances, the Maison’s event programming sets it apart as a place where French and American scholars, artists and leaders can enter into dialogue and create new paths for the future. More than ever, the Maison’s mission and the questions it raises are crucial to nurturing the French-American conversation.”

—LAURENT BILI, AMBASSADOR OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED STATES

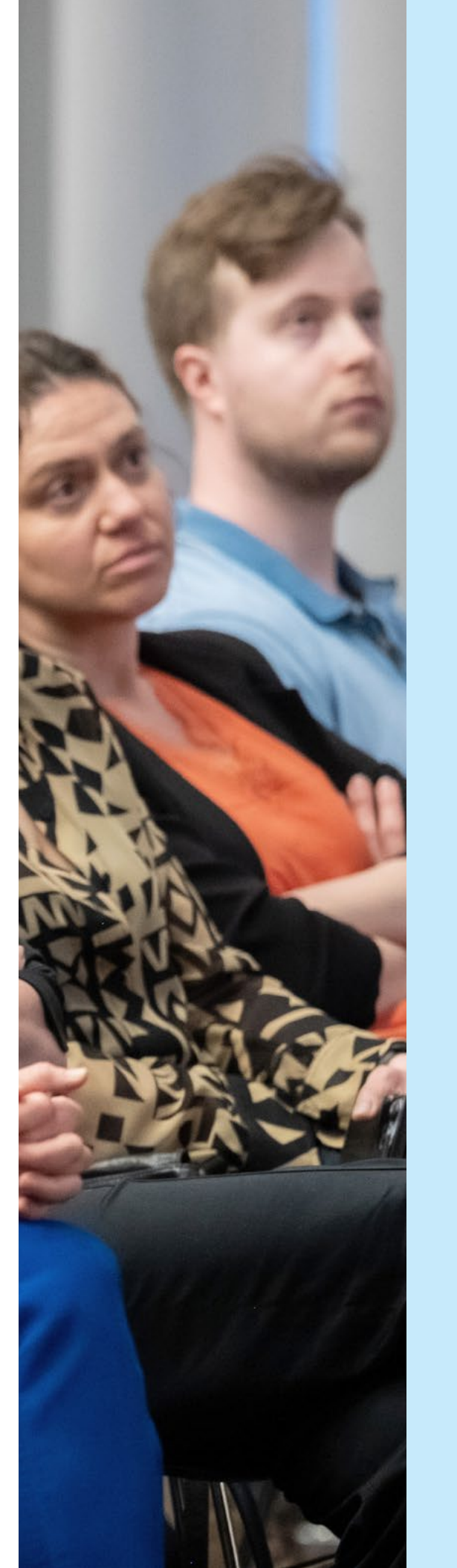
Eileen Gillooly, Marie Volkea Doezema, Shanny Peer, Nina Berman, and Fanny Guex at event on Journalism and Crisis, April 15, 2024.

COLUMBIA MAISON FRANÇAISE

BIANNUAL REPORT 2022–2024

“The Columbia Maison Française has earned a strong reputation in recent years for the quality, visibility, reach, and relevance of its programming. Its lively events attract hundreds of students and scholars every year, as well as people from the broader New York community, providing an important bridge between the university and the city beyond its walls. Anyone who is concerned about the fate of the Humanities or French studies in the U.S. can take inspiration from the Maison Française, which shows just what a rich and vital contribution these fields can make to our understanding of an increasingly globalized world.”

—FRÉDÉRIC ROZÉ, CHAIR OF THE COLUMBIA MAISON FRANÇAISE ADVISORY BOARD



THE COLUMBIA MAISON FRANÇAISE has been a leader in fostering intellectual and cultural exchange between the United States and France, Europe, and the French-speaking world since its founding in 1913. Its rich program of events stimulates debate, spotlights original scholarship, promotes exchange across disciplines, and contributes to international and cross-cultural understanding.

Housed on Columbia's Morningside campus in historic Buell Hall, the Maison Française is directed by Shanny Peer, with Fanny Guex as Associate Director. Together they organize talks, panel discussions, conferences, seminars, and conversations across a range of topics and disciplines. They also curate an annual film festival and organize other film screenings, music performances, exhibits, receptions, a book club and weekly French conversation groups, and more. These events are free and open to the public.

Speakers in recent years have included renowned scholars such as Patrick Boucheron, Thomas Piketty, Étienne Balibar, Mohamed Amer Meziane, and Annette

Wieviorka; French filmmakers including Sébastien Lifshitz, Alice Diop, Amandine Gay, Alain Kassanda, and Mati Diop; the actor Viggo Mortensen, actress Jeanne Balibar, and artist Kader Attia; writers Mohamed Mbougar Sarr, Alice Zeniter, Kaoutar Harchi, and Marie NDiaye; journalists including Sylvie Kauffmann and Gilles Paris; and French Ambassadors Laurent Bili, Philippe Étienne, and Gérard Araud.

The Maison Française forms the hub for a network of departments and programs that make Columbia a leading center for French and Francophone studies. These include the Department of French, currently chaired by Emmanuelle Saada, as well as the Institute of African Studies, Alliance Program, European Institute, and Columbia Global Paris Center. Other partners include the Departments of History and Music, Institute for the Study of Sexuality and Gender, Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities, Middle East Institute, and School of the Arts.

www.maisonfrancaise.columbia.edu

COLUMBIA MAISON FRANÇAISE STAFF

Director **Shanny Peer** holds a Ph.D. in French Studies from NYU. Before joining Columbia in 2009, she taught for 10 years at the University of Vermont and NYU, and worked on comparative public policy at the French-American Foundation. She was named Chevalier (Knight) in the Order of Arts and Letters and Chevalier in the National Order of the Legion of Honor.

Associate Director **Fanny Guex** holds a Ph.D. in the History of Religions from the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. She has published on cultural translation between India and Europe, and is also an expert on the history of the Tutsi genocide in Rwanda. She joined Columbia in January 2019.

Ilana Custos Quatreuille (Intern 2022–2023) holds a Master's Degree in Intellectual Property Law from Paris-Sorbonne University. She developed a passion for cinema, design, and craftsmanship through professional experiences in France, Italy, and Germany.

Eva Martin (Intern 2023–2024) studied at Sciences Po Lille University and graduated with a master's in Sociology. She is now a journalism graduate student at the Centre de Formation des Journalistes in Paris.

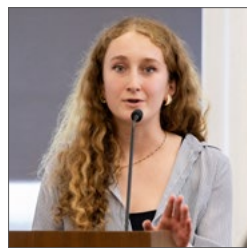
Camille Nait-Abdesselam (Work-study student 2022–2024) graduated from Columbia in 2024 as a double major in Computer Science and Comparative Literature, with a particular interest in the intersection of history and literature.



Shanny Peer



Fanny Guex



Eva Martin



Ilana Custos Quatreuille and Camille Nait-Abdesselam

IN THE 2022–23 AND 2023–24 ACADEMIC YEARS, THE MAISON FRANÇAISE:

- Organized 75 events, including 25 film screenings in 2022–23, and 62 public events, including 20 film screenings in 2023–24. These events are free and open to students, faculty and staff from Columbia and affiliated schools such as Barnard College, and to the general public.
- Involved 338 speakers, performers, discussants, and other active participants in our events over the two years.
- Continued to host music performances, including the Music Department's Music Performance Program that presents live performance by students, a jazz concert, a special concert related to the arts of abolitionism in the Atlantic world, a special solo violin concert with Marina Chiche, and two concert programs with *Music Before 1800* involving commentaries by Music Department faculty.
- Received 11,074 RSVPs for our public events in 2022–23, and 11,074 in 2023–24.
- Attracted more than 5,005 attendees to our events, including 1,896 viewers on Facebook Live and 3,623 viewers on Youtube in 2022–23. Attracted 4,862 in-person attendees to our public events, 235 viewers on zoom (for two virtual events) and 2,403 viewers on Youtube in 2023–24.
- Attracted 27,176 views of recorded events on YouTube since we began hosting virtual events in June 2020, through May 2022.
- Increased our Mailchimp listserv membership to 22,163 total contacts and 13,432 subscribers.
- Attracted 1,392 viewers on Instagram and 3,600 followers on our Facebook page. Reached 939 followers on X/Twitter and 11,000 subscribers on Youtube.
- Organized or hosted, in addition to its public programming more than 25 events each year for faculty and students in the French Department and other departments.



EVENTS

LECTURES

Cosmopolitical Agency: a Necessity and an Aporia?, Étienne Balibar, Sept. 21, 2022.

Critical Theoretic Foundations for Concrete Utopias, Étienne Balibar, Sept. 28, 2022.

Climate Crisis and Theatre, Frédérique Aït-Touati, Oct. 24, 2022.

Our Apocalypses, Clémence Boulouque, Nov. 16, 2022.

The Proust Pandemic of 2022, Antoine Compagnon, Nov. 28, 2022.

Writing in the Toxic Ruins of Colonial Slavery: Politics and Science of the Chlordecone Contamination of Martinique and Guadeloupe, Malcom Ferdinand, Feb. 7, 2023.

Juste une maladie: La peste noire, sans ses métaphores, Patrick Boucheron, Feb. 8, 2023.



Naturally Universal: How Aristotle Explains the Success of Medieval French Song, Sarah Kay, Feb. 13, 2023.

Happening by Annie Ernaux, a collective reading presented at Villa Albertine as the inaugural event of the Night of Ideas Festival, March 4, 2023 (see Highlights).

Those Who Forget, Géraldine Schwarz, March 9, 2023.

Tombeaux: Autobiographie de ma famille, Annette Wieviorka, April 4, 2023.

Comme nous existons, une expérience autobiographique de la race, de la classe et du genre, Kaoutar Harchi, April 10, 2023.

The Past and Future of Nonbinary History, Leah DeVun, Oct. 13, 2024.

Writing as Revenge/Repair, Alice Zeniter, and conversation with Alice Zeniter and Madeleine Dobie, Oct. 18, 2024.

Revolving Closets, Open Undergrounds: Clandestine Homosexualities in the French Banlieues, Mehammed Amadeus Mack, Nov. 2, 2024.

The Nature of the Beast: Gender and Sexual Embodiment in Medieval Bestiaries, Emma Campbell, Nov. 8, 2024.

The Worlds of Slavery, Cécile Vidal, Feb. 1, 2024.

On Being a Sketch: Trans/Queer Juvenilia and the Aesthetics of De-Formation, Hannah Freed-Thall, Feb. 12, 2024.

Science, race et politique en Europe et aux Etats-Unis XIXe-XXe siècles, Carole Reynaud-Paligot, Feb. 19, 2024.

Song and Conversion in Medieval Europe, Mary Caldwell, Feb. 27, 2024.

The Gender of Capital: How Families Perpetuate Wealth Inequality, Céline Bessière, March 20, 2024.

L'Afrique dans le temps du monde / Africa in the Time of the World, Mamadou Diouf with Emmanuelle Saada, Gayatri Spivak and Manthia Diawara, March 25, 2024.

PANELS, CONVERSATIONS, AND CONFERENCES

Free Market: The History of an Idea, Jacob Soll with Pierre Force, John Shovlin, and Carl Wennerlind, moderated by Emmanuelle Saada, Sept. 12, 2022.

Mutualism: Building the Next Economy from the Ground Up, Sara Horowitz and Bernard Harcourt, Nov. 30, 2022.

L'Exploration de questions culturelles et sociales à l'aide de supports audiovisuels, AATF Workshop for Teachers of French, Jan. 28, 2023.

Poésie et Politique: Devenir ensemble, Marielle Macé and Jean-Marie Gleize, moderated by André Pettman (online), Feb. 16, 2023

Middle East Urbanism Beyond Conflict: Current Research, Ongoing Debates, and Next Directions, Conference organized by Hiba Bou Akar, Feb. 16–17, 2023.



Marie NDiaye reads at the Columbia Maison Française, October 20, 2024

Utopia 7/13 | Concrete Utopianism, Nadia Abu El-Haj, Kaiama L. Glover, and Gary Wilder, Feb. 21, 2023.

A Practice of Diaspora: Translation, Diasporic Literacy, and Afrodiasporic Fluency, Saidiya V. Hartman, Maboula Soumahoro, and Kaiama L. Glover, Feb. 22, 2023.

Nevertheless: Machiavelli, Pascal, Carlo Ginzburg with Pierre Force and Raphaëlle Burns (virtual event), April 3, 2023.

Today Sardines Are Not for Sale, Paula Schwartz with Philip Nord and Marianne Hirsch, April 26, 2023.

Abolitionism and the Arts in the Long Eighteenth Century, conference and performance, May 6, 2023.

Manet/Degas, Isolde Pludermacher, Emmelyn Butterfield-Rosen and Thomas Dodman, Sept. 19, 2024.

Cooperation, Bernard Harcourt, Saskia Sassen, Rahel Jaeggi, Jens Meierhenrich, and Kendall Thomas, Sept. 20, 2024.

Provincializing Language: Language and Colonialism, Cécile Canut with Souleymane Bachir Diagne and Thomas Dodman, Sept. 26, 2024.

Three Catastrophes and the Remnant of Politics: Climate, War, Metaverse, Étienne Balibar with Lydia Liu, Bruno Bosteels, and Anupama Rao, Oct. 19, 2024.

Vengeance is mine, Marie NDiaye with Sylvie Kandé, Oct. 20, 2024.

The Drama of the Commons, Étienne Balibar and Bernard Harcourt, Oct. 24, 2024.

Mohamed Mbougar Sarr in conversation with Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Oct. 25, 2024.

How can the humanities help a world in crisis?, Frédéric Worms, Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Clémence Boulouque, and Emmanuel Kattan, Nov. 1, 2024.

The Wizard of the Kremlin. Conversation with Giuliano da Empoli moderated by Brooke Habit and Maxence Genouville, Nov. 15, 2023.

Annual AATF Workshop for Teachers of French, Jan. 27, 2024.

Politics of Memory: Anti-semitism in Contemporary Western Europe, Fabien Théofilakis, Stefanos Geroulanos, Gil Hochberg, Mark Mazower, and Andrew Port, Jan. 31, 2024.

The Resistance of the Jewels Against Colonial Geographies, Ariella Aïsha Azoulay, with Jill Jarvis and Emmanuelle Saada, Feb. 14, 2024.

The History of Gaza: the Key to War and Peace in the Middle East, Jean-Pierre Filiu and Rashid Khalidi (online), Feb. 16, 2024.

An Artificial History of Natural Intelligence: Thinking with Machines from Descartes to the Digital Age, David Bates with Stefanos Geroulanos and Joanna Stalnakier, March 6, 2024.

On Both Sides of the Tracks: Social Mobility in Contemporary French Literature, Morgane Cadieu with Aubrey Gabel and Hannah Freed-Thall, March 26, 2024.

Sound Design Anthropology and Ecosound, Frank Pecquet with George Lewis, Seth Cluett, and Miya Masaoka, April 2, 2024.

Tears of History: The Rise of Political Antisemitism in the United States, Pierre Birnbaum with Ira Katznelson and Rebecca Kobrin, April 9, 2024.

How Can We Talk about Humanism Today?, Ali Benmakhlouf and Madeleine Dobie, April 11, 2024.

Colonizations: Our History, Pierre Singaravélou, Mamadou Diouf, Youssef Ben Ismail, Madina Thiam, Audrey Céléstine, Gregory Mann, Guillaume Calafat, and Emmanuelle Saada, April 12, 2024.

Journalism and Crisis, The Blindsided, a book talk with Sylvie Kauffmann and Alexander Stille, April 15, 2024 (see "Highlights").

Journalism and Crisis, War Reporting: the Case of Gaza and Israel, Tanya Habjouqa, Ameera Harouda, Dalia Hatuqa, Gideon Levy, and Gilles Paris, moderated by David Remnick, April 16, 2024 (see "Highlights").

Journalism and Crisis, Visual Investigation in Journalism: Which Images Should We Trust?, Asia Balluffier, Pooja Chaudhuri, and Santiago Lyon, moderated by Mounir Ibrahim, April 17, 2024 (see "Highlights").

FILM FESTIVALS

MAISON FRANÇAISE FILM FESTIVAL 2022

Being in the World: People and the Planet in French and Francophone Cinema

(See description in "Highlights")

MAISON FRANÇAISE FILM FESTIVAL 2023

Across Generations: Unveiling the Past, Embracing the Future

Featured films

Dancing the Twist in Bamako (Twist à Bamako) by Robert Guédiguian (2021), outdoor screening also presented as part of "Films on the Green" with French Embassy Villa Albertine and NYC Parks on Low Plaza, Sept. 6, 2023.

The Life Ahead of Us: Another Face of Immigration (La vie devant nous) by Frédéric Laffont (2022) and discussion with Frédéric Viguier, Emmanuelle Saada and Shanny Peer, Sept. 14, 2023.

A Story of One's Own (Une Histoire à soi) by Amandine Gay, (2021) and Q&A with Amandine Gay, Joyce McMillan, and Shanny Peer, Sept. 21, 2023.

Colette and Justin by Alain Kassanda (2022) and Q&A with Alain Kassanda and Madeleine Dobie, Oct. 5, 2023.

Coconut Head Generation by Alain Kassanda (2023) and discussion with Alain Kassanda, Leye Komolafe, and Abosede George, Oct. 9, 2023.

The Super 8 Years (Les années Super 8) by David Ernaux-Briot and Annie Ernaux (2022) and Q&A with David Ernaux-Briot and Thomas Dodman, Oct. 12, 2023.

The Missing Picture (L'image manquante) by Rithy Panh (2013) and discussion with Marianne Hirsch, Leo Spitzer and Shanny Peer, Oct. 17, 2023.

OTHER FILM SCREENINGS

Peaceful by Emmanuelle Bercot (2021) and Q&A with Dr. Gabriel Sara, Dr. Lydia Dugdale and Shanny Peer, Jan. 26, 2023.

Angels by Jasmine Bissette (2021) and Q&A with Jasmine Bissette and Roxanne Varzi, Feb. 2, 2023.

A Tale of Love and Desire (Une histoire d'amour et de désir) by Leyla Bouzid (2021) and Q&A with Leyla Bouzid and Madeleine Dobie, Feb. 9, 2023.

Happening (L'événement) by Audrey Diwan (2021), Feb. 23, 2023.

Non-Aligned & Ciné-Guerrillas: Scenes from the Labudović Reels by Mila Turajlić (2022), March 6-7, 2023.

The Thief of Paris (Le Voleur) by Louis Malle (1967), March 30, 2023.

Josep by Aurel (2020), April 6, 2023.

Saint Omer by Alice Diop (2022) and Q&A with Alice Diop and Maboula Soumahoro, April 7, 2023.

We (Nous) by Alice Diop (2020), April 12, 2023.



Lost illusions (Illusions perdues) by Xavier Giannoli (2021), April 20, 2023.

LIP: Imagination in Power (Les LIP, l'imagination au pouvoir) by Christian Rouad (2007), US Premiere, and discussion with Etienne Balibar and Bernard Harcourt, Oct. 23, 2023.

For My Country (Pour la France) by Rachid Hami (2022) and Q&A with Rachid Hami and Madeleine Dobie, Nov. 8, 2023.

The Innocent (L'innocent) by Louis Garrel (2022), Nov. 29, 2023.

Hold Me Tight (Serre-moi fort) by Mathieu Amalric (2021), Jan. 18, 2024.

Histoires d'A by Charles Belmont and Marielle Issartel (1973) introduced by Nicholas Elliott, Jan. 25, 2024.

No Dogs or Italians Allowed (Interdit aux chiens et aux Italiens) by Alain Ughetto (2022), Feb. 8, 2024.

The Taste of Things (La passion de Dodin Bouffant) by Tran Anh Hung (2023), Feb. 21, 2024.

Menus-plaisirs: les Troisgros by Frederick Wiseman (2023), Feb. 29, 2024.

The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie (Le Charme discret de la bourgeoisie) by Luis Buñuel (1972), March 7, 2024.

Stolen Kisses (Baisers volés) by François Truffaut (1968), introduced by Annette Insdorf, March 21, 2024.

The Zone of Interest by Jonathan Glazer (2023) and discussion with Fabien Théoflakakis, Jane Gaines, A. Dirk Moses, and Richard F. Wetzell, March 27, 2024.

MUSIC PERFORMANCES

Mobke Presents : Jazz Transatlantic, Théo Girard, Jan. 19, 2023.

Concert series presented by Musical Performance Program, Columbia Department of Music 10 concerts in 2022-2024.

After a Reading of Bach: the Challenge of Solo Violin, performance by Marina Chiche, Sept. 11, 2024.

The Theatrical Imagination of Jean-Philippe Rameau, performance by Ryan Cheng (Baroque Violin), Andrew Koutroubas (Baroque Cello), and Dani Zanuttini-Frank (Theorbo) from Juilliard415, and commentary by Robert Mealy from Music Before 1800 and Julia Doe from the Department of Music, Sept. 28, 2024.

The Lady Fortune: Machaut and De Vitry with performance by Joëlle Greenleaf from TENET Vocal Artists with Music Before 1800, with commentary by Susan Boynton and Anya Wilkening from the Department of Music, Nov. 16, 2024.

Facing page, left: Director Shanny Peer and Gaëtan Bruel, Director of Villa Albertine

Facing page, right: Emmanuelle Saada, Chair of the French Department and Professor and French and History

Above: Q&A with Amandine Gay, Joyce McMillan, and Shanny Peer following the screening of Amandine Gay's *A Story of One's Own* in the 2023 film festival



SELECT HIGHLIGHTS

MAISON FRANÇAISE FILM FESTIVAL,
SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 27, 2022

BEING IN THE WORLD: PEOPLE AND THE PLANET
IN FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE CINEMA

The Maison Française presented 14 movies in its 2022 film festival entitled *Being in the World: People and the Planet in French and Francophone Cinema*. At a time of unprecedented threat to the planetary environment and stable climate that have made the growth of human civilization possible, we wanted to share these stories filmed by French and Francophone directors about people who seek to inhabit the earth differently, who understand the value of the natural environment and its living creatures, and who are working hard to find ways to protect the Earth and live sustainably.

Most of the featured movies were recent releases; several were U.S. premieres. Screenings were followed by discussions with several of the film directors (Emmanuel Gras, Cyril Dion, Julie Gautier, Flore Vasseur) and invited scholars from

Columbia; after *A Bigger World* we had a Q&A with Corine Sombrun, whose story inspired the film. All discussions were moderated by Shanny Peer.

Featured films

The Velvet Queen (La panthère des neiges) by Marie Amiguet and Vincent Munier (2020), outdoor screening, also presented as part of "Films on the Green" with French Embassy Villa Albertine and NYC Parks on Low Plaza, Sept. 8, 2022.

A Cow's Life (Bovines ou la vraie vie des vaches) by Emmanuel Gras (2011) and Q&A with Emmanuel Gras (virtual screening), Sept. 11, 2022.

Above Water (Marcher sur l'eau) by Aïssa Maïga (2021) and discussion with Upmanu Lall and Rhiannon Stephens, Sept. 14, 2022.

The Big Blue (Le Grand Bleu) by Luc Besson (1988), outdoor screening on Low Plaza, Sept. 16, 2022.

Farrebique, or The Four Seasons (Farrebique, ou les quatre saisons) by Georges Rouquier (1946), Sept. 23, 2022.



Narcisse (2022 U.S. PREMIERE); One Breath Around the World (2019); Ama (2018), Narcose(2014), four short films by Julie Gautier and Q&A with Julie Gautier and Gabri Christa, Sept. 30, 2022.

Animal by Cyril Dion (2021) and discussion with Cyril Dion and Leah Aronowsky (virtual screening), Oct. 3, 2022.

Pierre Rabhi: In the Name of the Earth (Pierre Rabhi: au nom de la terre) by Marie-Dominique Dhelsing (2013) and discussion with Ralph Ghoche and Jeffrey Potent, Oct. 6, 2022.

A Bigger World (Un Monde plus grand) by Fabienne Berthaud (2019) and Q&A with Corine Sombrun and Audrey Breton, Oct. 12, 2022.

Antarctica: Ice and Sky (La glace et le ciel) by Luc Jacquet, (2015) and discussion with Maureen Raymo and Jonny Kingslake, Oct. 13, 2022.

Cave of Forgotten Dreams by Werner Herzog (2010) (virtual screening), Oct. 13, 2022.

The Red Turtle (La Tortue rouge) by Michael Dudok de Wit (2016), Oct. 18, 2022.

The Great Green Wall by Jared P. Scott (2019) and discussion with John Furlow and Alex de Sherbinin, Oct. 20, 2022.

Bigger Than Us by Flore Vasseur (2022) and Q&A with Flore Vasseur and Francesco Fiondella, Oct. 27, 2022.



Top: Opening of Mohamed Kouaci: Vision(s) of Algeria photography exhibition

Above: Audience questions at a Maison Française event



Top left: Shanny Peer, Ken Chen, Rosalie Fisher, Marianne Hirsch, Fanny Guex, Laura Kolbe, and Thomas Dodman, among the readers of Annie Ernaux's *Happening*, March 4, 2023

Below left: Madeleine Dobie and Milène Klein reading a passage from *Happening*

Below right: David Remnick moderates a discussion with Gilles Paris and Dalia Hatuqa about War Reporting in Gaza and Israel, April 15, 2024



THINKING ALGERIA AT 60: IMAGES FROM A REVOLUTION, A SERIES OF EVENTS, NOVEMBER 2-11, 2022

In November 2022, the Maison Française, Department of French, and Alliance Program presented **Mohamed Kouaci: Vision(s) of Algeria**, an exhibition of photographs taken by Mohamed Kouaci about the Algerian War of Independence, curated by Adel Ben Bella. Working for the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic and FLN newspaper *El Moudjahid*, Kouaci was one of the very few Algerian photographers to document the entire Algerian War of Independence and first few years of the new Algerian nation.

The exhibition was accompanied by a **film program of rarely shown newsreels, propaganda films, military films and archival documents** produced during the Algerian Revolution by both sides. These included *Die Frage (The Question)* by Mohand Ali-Yahia (1961), *Algeria in Flames* by René Vautier (1958), *I'm eight (J'ai huit ans)* by Yann Le Masson and Olga Poliakoff (1961), and *Bread Delivery (La distribution de pain)* by Cécile Decugis (1957-2011). The series, curated by Olivier Hadouchi and Adel Ben Bella, explored the creation of the myth of the Algerian Revolution. The Maison Française also organized four related panel discussions:

Traces of Memory: The War of Independence in Visual Culture, with Meryem Belkaïd, Zeynep Çelik, Samia Henni, and Jill Jarvis, moderated by Marianne Hirsch.

Visual and Political Culture in Contemporary Algeria, with Ammar Bouras, Selma Hellal, Mourad Krinah, and Malika Rahal, moderated by Madeleine Dobie.

Algerian Popular Politics from the War of Independence to the Hirak, with Nadia Sariahmed-Belhadj, Brahim Rouabah, and Ahmed Mitiche.

Ottoman Algiers Beyond 1830, with Zeynep Çelik, Emmanuelle Saada, and Nouredine Amara.

HAPPENING BY ANNIE ERNAUX, A COLLECTIVE READING, MARCH 4, 2023

For the 2023 Night of Ideas, Columbia University's Maison Française and Department of French teamed up with the French Embassy's Villa Albertine to host a **collective public reading of *Happening* by Annie Ernaux**, French author and winner of the 2022 Nobel Prize in Literature. *Happening* recounts the abortion Ernaux had at age 23, in 1963, at a time when the procedure was still illegal in France. Ernaux's story resonated strongly in post-Roe America, where the Supreme Court abolished women's constitutional right to a safe and legal abortion in 2023, exactly 50 years after *Roe v. Wade*. *Happening* was read in its entirety during this evening event at Villa Albertine, with brief passages read by 30 diverse voices—writers, artists, doctors, teachers, students, activists—in a collective expression of appreciation for Annie Ernaux's bold work.

JOURNALISM AND CRISIS, APRIL 15-17, 2024

The Maison Française presented three events as part of a series of events about Journalism and Crisis, co-organized with *Le Monde* and Columbia Global Paris Center.

The first event featured *Le Monde* journalist Sylvie Kauffmann in conversation with Alexander Stille about Kauffmann's book, ***The Blindsided: How Berlin and Paris Cleared the Way for Russia*** (2023).

The second event focused on the extremely difficult and deadly conditions plaguing Gazan journalists in a panel on ***War Reporting in Gaza and Israel***, with Gideon Levy from *Haaretz* (joining from Tel Aviv), Gilles Paris with *Le Monde*, independent journalists Dalia Hatuqa, Tanya Habjouqa (joining from Jordan), and Ameera Harouda (Gazan journalist, joining from Qatar).

The third panel explored ***Visual Investigation in Journalism: Which Images Should We Trust?*** Discussants were *Le Monde's* Asia Balluffier, and Pooja Chaudhuri, Santiago Lyon, and Mounir Ibrahim. They examined how newsrooms are increasingly using new image technologies and visual evidence—such as satellite pictures, geolocation, and amateur videos on social media—to inform their reporting.



Sylvie Kauffmann and Alexander Stille discuss Kauffmann's book *Blindsided*, April 15, 2024

© Stéphane de Bourgies



THE MAISON FRANÇAISE BENEFITS FROM THE LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT OF ITS DISTINGUISHED ADVISORY BOARD

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Shanny Peer, Director, Columbia Maison Française, *ex officio*

Emmanuel André, Chief Talent Officer, Publicis Groupe

Emmanuelle Saada, Department of French Chair and Professor of French and History, Columbia University, *ex officio*

Mohamed Bouabdallah, Cultural Counselor, French Embassy in the United States and Director of Villa Albertine, *ex officio*

Sir Martin Sorrell, Founder & Executive Chairman, S4 Capital

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Domna Stanton, Distinguished Professor of French, Graduate Center CUNY

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Ion Yadigaroglu, Partner, Capricorn Investment Group

Charles Knapp, President, The Knapp Family Foundation

Mischa Zabolin, Founder, Lisula

Consul General of France in New York, *ex officio*

Top left: Advisory Board Chairman Frédéric Rozé

Top right: Paul LeClerc and Brune Biebuyck, Past and Former Directors of the Columbia Global Paris Center

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