

# NOTES



Volume 8, Number 3, September

## NEW SUNDAY HOURS

In response to member requests, the Library will be open on Sundays from 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. from September 16 through mid-June. These will be the first Sunday hours in the Library's

## SPECIAL EVENTS

New York is Book Country Fair  
September 23  
11:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Christopher Gray, 79th Street Tour  
October 6, 10:00 A.M.

Lionel Casson on Ancient  
Libraries

Smart Surfing For Kids  
Workshop  
October 16, 5:30 P.M.

Author Meg Cabot  
October 17, 5:30 P.M.

Author Series: Wendy  
Wasserstein

The NYSL Top to Bottom Tour  
Nov. 3, Dec. 1, 10:00 A.M.

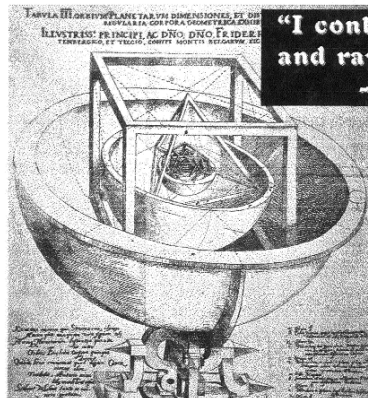
Author Elizabeth Winthrop  
November 8, 5:30 P.M.

Andrew Delbanco on Melville  
November 20, 5:30 P.M.

To register, call the Events  
Office at (212) 288-6900 x230

## Books from the Special Collections

A New Exhibition



"I contemplate its beauty with incredible and ravishing delight."  
-Johannes Kepler on the solar system

Kepler's *De Stella Nova in pede Serpentarii*  
with works by Paracelsus and Robert Fludd

The John Winthrop Collection  
science and medicine books

"They call me the inimitable, and the incomparable, and the sprightly and whimsical. . . I wonder if I am."  
-Max Beerbohm

Beerbohm's *Rossetti and His Circle*

with works by  
Edith Wharton and Maxfield Parrish  
Frans Masereel ♦ Eugène Delacroix

The John Cleve Green Collection  
books related to the fine arts



"hear, hear, ambrosiol. . . scarcely could I propose crimes so quick as you performed them. you are mine, and heaven itself cannot rescue you from my power!" -matthew lewis' *the monk*

with works by Ann Radcliffe ♦ William Godwin  
Thomas Love Peacock ♦ Charles Brockden Brown

The James Hammond Collection  
gothic fiction

Opening October 10

in the second floor exhibition space

## STAFF CHANGES

GOODBYE SUSAN

After twelve years as the Library's Acquisitions Librarian, Susan O'Brien returns to her native Dublin to open her own shop, Anthology Books. "I've enjoyed being part of a library with such a rich literary and public service history," she says. "People have always smiled when I told them I bought books for a living; I want to see if they still smile when they hear I'm selling them. I hope Anthology Books will be a resource for literary works of excellence from international small and alternative presses as well as a comfortable space."

HELLO STEVEN

Steven McGuirl takes over the Acquisitions Office in September. He comes to us from the Jefferson Market Public Library. Along with his love of books, Mr. McGuirl is an expert in American vernacular music and enjoys American cultural histories and classic crime novels. Mr. McGuirl says he looks forward to adding to this Library's distinguished collection and history.

**NEW YORK IS BOOK COUNTRY**  
**Sunday, September 23, 11:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. along Fifth Avenue between 48th and 57th Streets**

Come out and meet these authors at the Library's booth in the twenty-third annual New York Is Book Country street fair, and stay to watch bookbinder Howard Stein demonstrate his craft.

**PATRICIA BOSWORTH**  
author of



**PAMELA CLARKE  
KEOGH**  
author of

**ALAN FURST**  
author of  
*Kingdom of*



**PHYLLIS ROSE**  
author of  
*The Year of  
Reading Proust*

**MEG WOLITZER**  
author of  
*Surrender,*



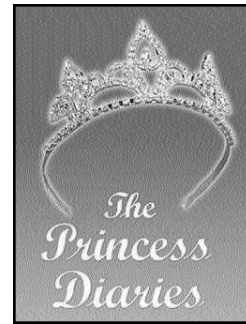
**CHILDREN'S LIBRARY**

**MEG CABOT ON *THE PRINCESS DIARIES: THE INSIDE SCOOP FROM BOOK TO FILM***

**Wednesday, October 17, 5:30 P.M., the Members' Room**

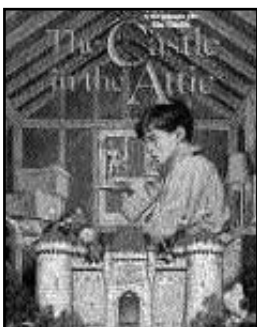


What happens when Manhattan teen Mia Thermopolis finds out her father rules a small country, and she is the heir to the throne? Meg Cabot tells all in *The Princess Diaries*, recently made into a movie starring Anne Hathaway, with Julie Andrews as the royal grandmother who gives Mia daily "Princess Lessons." Ms. Cabot will discuss how she developed the story and how the book was transformed into a film. She will also share a sneak peek from the series' upcoming third book, *Princess in Love*. This free program is for members and their guests from fifth grade to adult.

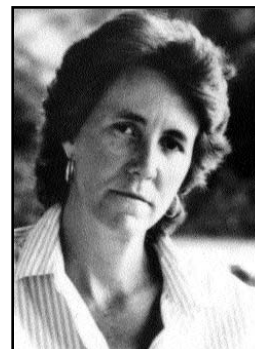


**ELIZABETH WINTHROP ON BECOMING A WRITER**

**Thursday, November 8, 5:30 P.M. the Members' Room**



Author Elizabeth Winthrop will discuss how she became a writer and how children can develop their own writing talent. "I always tell the kids that by the time you are twelve years old, you'll have all the memories you need to write a hundred books," she says. Ms. Winthrop is the author of *The Castle in the Attic*, *Island Justice* and more than fifty other books for children and adults. She hails from a family of writers including Theodore Roosevelt and his cousin Franklin, the subject of her novel in progress, *Dear Mr. President*. This free program is for members and their guests from second grade to adult. Call the Events Office to register.



☪ **SMART SURFING FOR KIDS: A FAMILY INTERNET WORKSHOP** ☪

**Tuesday, October 16, 5:30 P.M. and Saturday, October 20, 1:00 P.M., Whitridge Room**

Want to explore the Egyptian pyramids, watch a volcano erupt, or visit the White House? Maybe get homework help or publish a story you've written? Then join Children's Librarian Carrie Silberman for a family tour of the best educational and recreational sites on the Internet. She will also discuss online safety tips. This program is for families with children in grades one to five. Call the Events Office to register.



## LIBRARY LECTURE

### LIONEL CASSON ON LIBRARIES OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

Thursday, October 11, 6:30 p.m., Members' Room

Books whose pages were unrolled rather than turned, copied by hand, containing no punctuation - these were the contents of the great libraries of Alexandria and the Roman Empire. On October 11 Lionel Casson, author of *Libraries in the Ancient World* (Yale University Press, 2001), will bring to life these ancestors of the modern library and describe how kings, scholars and readers interacted among the shelves. This lecture is free for Library members and their guests, but space is limited. Call the Events Office to register.

*Sappho reading, from a 5th-*



## 2001-2002 AUTHOR SERIES

### WENDY WASSERSTEIN ON *SHIKSA GODDESS*

Wednesday, October 17, 6:30 p.m., Temple Israel, 112 East 75th St.



In thirty-five essays Wendy Wasserstein's *Shiksa Goddess* covers everything from her sister's battle with cancer to the charm of cardboard coffee cups. She joins our Author Series to share insights from that book and from a writing career that includes the Pulitzer- and Tony-Award-winning play *The Heidi Chronicles*. Washington University called her speaking style "pure Wasserstein--warm and witty and wise and intelligent, honest and evocative." Ms. Wasserstein has been a member of the Library for many years and serves on the boards of Channel 13/WNET and the Guggenheim Foundation. She has also taught at New York University, Columbia and Princeton. This lecture is free for members and their

## TOURS WITH ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN CHRISTOPHER GRAY

79th Street Tour: Saturday, October 6, 10:00 a.m.

"NYSL Top to Bottom": Saturdays, November 3 and December 1, 10:00 a.m.

Trustee and columnist Christopher Gray expands his guided tours to the 79th Street area, a memorable pocket of the Upper East Side. The tour will meet in the Library lobby and last approximately 45 minutes. And for those who missed learning about the Library's architecture and history last season, he will repeat "The NYSL Top to Bottom" on November 3 and December 1. Space is limited; call the Events Office to register.

## CONVERSATIONS ON GREAT BOOKS

ANDREW DELBANCO ON HERMAN MELVILLE

Tuesday, November 20, 5:30 p.m., Members' Room



Herman Melville (1819-1891)

November marks the 150th anniversary of *Moby-Dick's* publication. In celebration, Andrew Delbanco, Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University, will join Library members to talk about its author's writing and world. Professor Delbanco is one of the country's leading commentators on American literature, culture, and conscience, and is now publishing *Writing New England: An Anthology from the Puritans to the Present* (Harvard University Press). He has received honors from many distinguished associations, including the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, which elected him a Fellow in 2001. This Conversation will focus partly on *Moby-Dick* but principally on Melville's classic story "Bartleby, the Scrivener." The event is \$10 for Library members and guests; call the Events



### Technology Workshops

Steve Baumholtz and Ingrid Richter introduce computer and research skills. Call the Events Office at 212-288-6900 x230 to register for these free classes. All workshops meet in the Whitridge Room and last approximately 90 minutes.

#### **NYSL ONLINE RESOURCES**

September 12, 10:30 A.M.  
Introduction to FirstSearch and the online Oxford English Dictionary and American National Biography

#### **INTERNET I & II**

September 12, 1:30 P.M.  
E-mail and web searching

#### **NYSL ONLINE RESOURCES**

September 19, 10:30 A.M.

#### **INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS I**

September 19, 1:30 P.M.  
A first encounter with PCs

#### **ONLINE CATALOG I**

September 26, 10:30 A.M.  
Introduction to the Library's GEAC catalog system

#### **COMPUTERS II**

September 26, 1:30 P.M.  
Increase your knowledge of Windows 95/98/2000/ME

#### **ONLINE CATALOG II**

October 3, 10:30 A.M.  
GEAC beyond the basics

#### **COMPUTERS III**

October 3, 1:30 P.M.  
In-depth on Microsoft Word and Excel

#### **REFERENCE SOURCES**

October 10, 10:30 A.M.  
Introduction to print and on-line reference resources

#### **INTERNET III**

October 10, 1:30 P.M.  
Creating your own web page in HTML

### Reading Groups

Modern Fiction  
with Ellen Feldman

**Tuesdays, September 25, November 13, January 22, 11:00 A.M., Whitridge Room**

The Library welcomes back novelist Ellen Feldman for this season's Modern Fiction group. She is the author most recently of *God Bless the Child*. The group will first discuss Richard Yates' *Revolutionary Road*, with the second and third books to be announced.

The Art of Biography  
with Brenda Wineapple

**Thursdays, October 25, November 15, January 17, 11:00 A.M., Whitridge Room**

Brenda Wineapple, whose books include *Genet: A Biography of Janet Flanner*, is co-director of the New York University Biography Seminar. Her Art of Biography reading group will examine the tools and techniques of contemporary biography through three major works. The group will begin with *Samuel Johnson* by Walter Jackson Bate, with the second and third books to be announced.

**☛ Reading groups are free of charge but space is very limited. Registrations will be accepted in the order of calling beginning at**

**Please write or phone the Library with any comments or suggestions.**

**THE NEW YORK SOCIETY LIBRARY**

53 East 79th Street  
New York, NY 10021