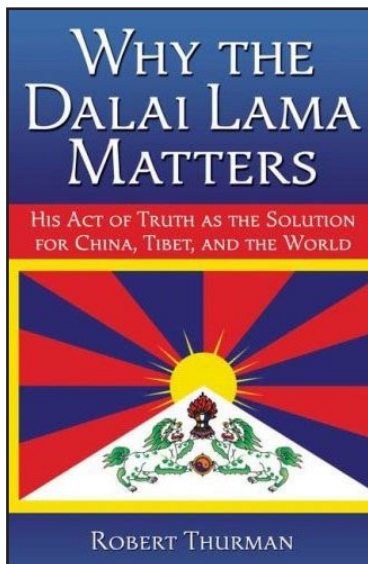
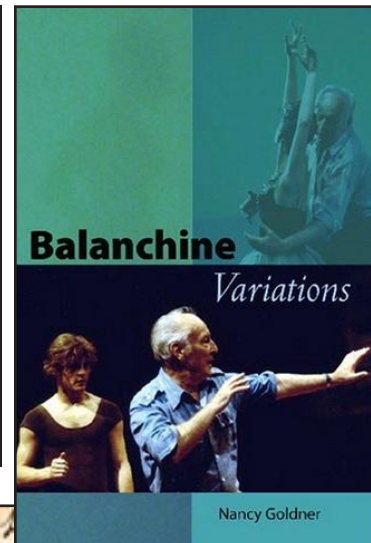




# EVENTS

LATE FALL 2008



as Craterio. Park

W I S E M E N

Love is more serious than Philosophy  
Who sees no humour in her observation  
That Truth is knowing that we know we lie.

S H E P H E R D S

When, to escape what our memories are thinking,  
We go out at nights and stay up drinking,  
Stay then with our sick pride and mind  
The forgetful mind.

W I S E M E N

Love does not will enraptured apathy;  
Fate plays the passive role of dumb temptation  
To wills where Love can doubt, affirm, deny.

S H E P H E R D S

When, chafing at the rule of old offenses,  
We run away to the sea of the senses,  
On strange beds then O welcome home  
Our horror of home.

Anden

THE NEW YORK SOCIETY LIBRARY  
53 EAST 79TH STREET  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10075

This newsletter is available  
in electronic form  
at [www.nysoclib.org/notes.html](http://www.nysoclib.org/notes.html).

## SPECIAL INVITATIONS

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### NEW EXHIBITION OPENING

**SHELF LIFE: BOOKS IN BRASS BY CHRISTOPHER HEWAT**

**OPENING RECEPTION THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 6:00-8:00 P.M.**

**THE PELUSO FAMILY EXHIBITION GALLERY**

**FREE OF CHARGE**

**EXHIBITION OPEN NOVEMBER 6-MARCH 2009**

The Library is proud to announce a new exhibition entitled *Shelf Life*, showing the beautiful books made of brass by artist Christopher Hewat. Hewat, who lives and works in Connecticut, has had one-person shows with the Victoria Munroe Gallery and W.M. Brady & Company in New York City, the Drawing Room in East Hampton, and the New Britain Museum of American Art in Connecticut. His work is included in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Addison Gallery of American Art, and the Princeton University Art Museum, as well as in private and corporate collections.

Library members are cordially invited to meet the artist and get a first look at his exquisite and evocative brass library at an opening reception on November 6 in the Assunta, Ignazio, Ada and Romano Peluso Exhibition Gallery.



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*This year's events and features newsletters are generously underwritten by Ada and Romano Peluso in memory of Assunta Sommella and Ignazio Peluso.*

## BOOK SALE

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.**

**REFERENCE ROOM**

Hidden treasures, beautiful display volumes, fun reads and holiday gifts can be found at the Library's first major used book sale. The Library offers withdrawn duplicate titles and donation copies at very reasonable prices. Members and their guests are encouraged to bring a bag and come to browse. (At any time, please ask at the circulation desk for book donation guidelines.)



No registration or entry fee is required; please contact Circulation Supervisor Patrick Rayner at 212-288-6900 x210 with any questions.

## EVENTS

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**NANCY GOLDNER**

**WITH MERRILL ASHLEY**

***BALANCHINE VARIATIONS***

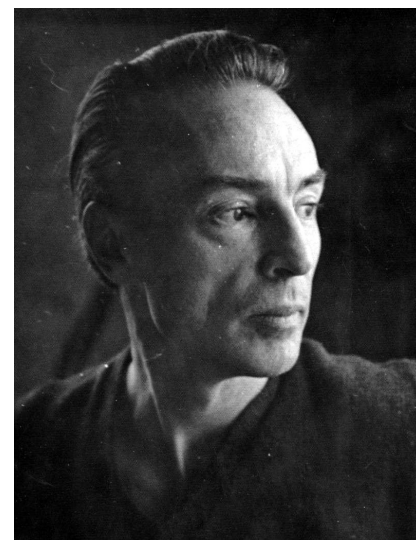
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12,**

**6:30 P.M., MEMBERS' ROOM**

**\$10 IN ADVANCE/\$15 AT THE DOOR**

The twentieth century's foremost name in classical choreography, George Balanchine has inspired a wide range of art, thought, and criticism. Nancy Goldner's *Balanchine Variations* is being hailed as the new definitive companion to the great master's work. The *New Yorker* calls it "an indispensable guide to dancers and spectators alike"; the *New York Times* says that "she has the best ear for music and dance musicality of any dance critic writing today...[and] best of all, Ms. Goldner is a true writer." In the *New York Review of Books*, dance critic Robert Gottlieb writes, "The only serious quarrel one can have with *Balanchine Variations* is that there isn't more of it....[it] immediately takes its place among the half-dozen or so essential books on George Balanchine."

This event will include personal stories of Balanchine, his technique and per-





formance style, New York City Ballet lore, and the current state of classical ballet.

**Nancy Goldner** is also the author of *The Stravinsky Festival of the New York City Ballet*. She has been the dance critic of *The Nation*, *The Saturday Review of Literature*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, and *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, and has also written about dance for *The New York Times*, *Raritan*, and *Dance Now*. She was the education director of the Balanchine Foundation and conducted its annual lecture program, often appearing with Merrill Ashley, and also served as director of Duke University's Dance Critics Workshop.

**Merrill Ashley** (shown at right), a celebrated principal dancer with the New York City Ballet, is the author of *Dancing for Balanchine* (1984). The leading role in Balanchine's *Ballo della Regina* was created for her, and she has danced principal parts in many major Balanchine ballets. She is currently Teaching Associate at the NYCB, and she stages Balanchine's ballets in companies around the country under the auspices of the Balanchine Trust. She has lectured on Balanchine across the country.



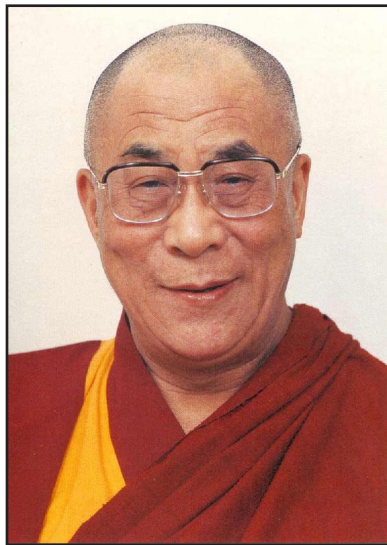
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## ROBERT THURMAN

**WHY THE DALAI LAMA MATTERS:  
HIS ACT OF TRUTH AS THE SOLUTION FOR  
CHINA, TIBET, AND THE WORLD**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 7:00 P.M.  
TEMPLE ISRAEL; FREE OF CHARGE**

The Dalai Lama's life is widely considered extraordinarily dedicated to peace, communication, and unity, as demonstrated by his receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize and the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal. Robert Thurman's *Why the Dalai Lama Matters* explores why this "simple Buddhist monk" has earned the world's love and respect, and also how restoring Tibet's autonomy within China is not only possible, but reasonable, and necessary for a peaceful world future. The book both concerns Tibet and the Dalai Lama, and offers a provocative solution for a world in conflict, dealing with the very fundamentals of human rights and freedoms.



**Robert Thurman** has been named one of the "25 Most Influential Americans" by *Time* magazine and "the leading American expert on Tibetan Buddhism" by the *New York Times*. The first American ordained as a Tibetan monk, Thurman is co-founder and board president of Tibet House US, President of the American Institute of Buddhist Studies, and professor in the Religion Department of Columbia University. For 45 years, he has been a close personal friend of and advocate for the Dalai Lama and his people.

*This event is part of the 2008-2009 Author Series, co-sponsored by the Library and Thirteen/WNET New York.*

*Temple Israel is located at 112 East 75th Street, just east of Park Avenue.*



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## AFFINITY COLLABORATIVE THEATER

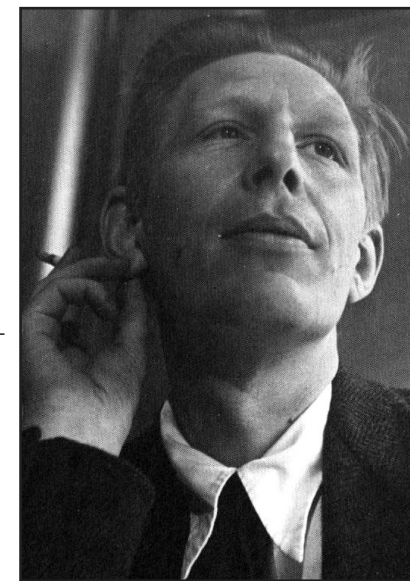
### W.H. AUDEN'S

### FOR THE TIME BEING: A CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

produced by Sheila Schwartz, Diane Morrison, and John Dias

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 7:00 P.M.  
MEMBERS' ROOM; \$20 PER PERSON**

Written in 1942, when the world was at war, Auden's *Oratorio* is a parable merging the Biblical and the contemporary with a result that is simultaneously audacious and poetic. Auden points the audience toward seeing present-day attitudes, desires, and failings in the Nativity, to see themselves as both the Wise Men and King Herod. This concert-style dramatic reading is directed by Michael Cumpsty, star of the Tony Award-winning *Copenhagen*, and narrated by Maria Tucci, with a cast of exceptional classically trained actors. ACT presented *For the Time Being* to sold-out audiences in 2007; Edward Mendelson, Auden's literary executor, said that it was by far the best production of the piece he had ever seen.



In his later years, W.H. Auden was a member of the Library, and his charging card and related materials will be displayed at the event.

**Affinity Collaborative Theater** is a new company committed to creating stimulating productions with a community of artists for audiences of entertaining and provocative theater, in order to enlarge and deepen perspectives on our culture and society.

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**JOELLE WALLACH**  
**THE MIRACULOUS MESSIAH**  
**OF GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 15,**  
**6:30 P.M., MEMBERS' ROOM**  
**\$10 IN ADVANCE/\$15 AT THE DOOR**

Originally composed for Lent and Easter 1742, Handel's most legendary work has become a staple of the Christmas season in both secular and sacred settings. In this event, composer and musicologist Joelle Wallach will present a biographical, textual, and musical analysis of the beloved oratorio using fascinating archival photos, visual memorabilia, and diverse recordings.

**Dr. Joelle Wallach's** music for orchestra, chamber ensembles, solo voices and choruses has been honored with commissions by the New York Philharmonic Ensembles and the New York Choral Society and a nomination for the 1997 Pulitzer Prize in Music. She holds degrees from Sarah Lawrence College and Columbia University, as well as the first doctorate in composition given by the Manhattan School of Music. A frequent pre-concert lecturer for the New York Philharmonic, Dr. Wallach speaks on a broad range of musical subjects, bringing fresh insights to familiar works.



## WORKSHOP

*Space is still available for this special workshop. More information on all classes being offered this season is available at [www.nysoclib.org/tech/](http://www.nysoclib.org/tech/).*

### HOME BOOK MAINTENANCE WITH GEORGE MUÑOZ

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2:00 P.M.**

**WHITRIDGE ROOM; FREE OF CHARGE**

The course will focus on teaching the much-overlooked area of book maintenance, including proper handling, cleaning and some basic repair techniques for personal book collections.

## CHILDREN'S EVENT

*To reserve spaces, contact the Children's Library at 212-288-6900 x234 or [children@nysoclib.org](mailto:children@nysoclib.org). Fees may be paid at the door.*

*A Children's Calendar listing events for younger children is sent monthly by mail and e-mail. To receive it, contact the Events Office at 212-288-6900 x230 or [events@nysoclib.org](mailto:events@nysoclib.org).*

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## MONSTERS, MYTHS, AND MAGIC:

### AN EVENING WITH BRUCE COVILLE

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 5:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS' ROOM**

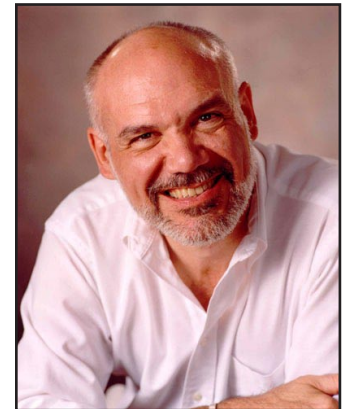
**FOR THIRD GRADE AND OLDER;**

**\$5 PER PERSON**

Bruce Coville is the author of many well-loved books including the *Unicorn Chronicles* series, *My Teacher is an Alien*, *Aliens Ate My Homework*, and the *Magic Shop* series. He has also written picture books, retellings of Shakespeare, and three children's plays, and co-authored *Armageddon Summer* with Jane Yolen. He is the founder of Full Cast Audio, an audiobook company producing unabridged full-cast recordings of children's and young-adult books.

As a kid, Mr. Coville loved to read children's classics such as *Mary Poppins* and *Doctor Dolittle* along with popular titles like *Nancy Drew*, *The Hardy Boys*, and many comic books. Now he says, "I feel like a very lucky person. From the time I was young I had a dream of becoming a writer. Now that dream has come true and I am able to make a living doing something that I really love."

This event will involve Mr. Coville storytelling with his book *The Monster's Ring* and talking about the creative process and his upcoming projects.





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Exhibition Launch

#### Shelf Life: Works in Brass by Christopher Hewat

Thursday, November 6, Peluso Family Exhibition Gallery,  
6:00-8:00 P.M.; free of charge

### Workshop: Home Book Maintenance

Tuesday, November 11, Whitridge  
Room, 2:00 P.M.; free of charge

### Children's Author Visit:

#### Bruce Coville

Tuesday, November 11, Members'  
Room, 5:00 P.M.; \$5 per person

### Nancy Goldner and Merrill Ashley on *Balanchine Variations*

Wednesday, November 12,  
Members' Room, 6:30 P.M.  
\$10 in advance/\$15 at the door

### Book Sale

Saturday, November 22, Reference  
Room, 9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

### Robert Thurman on *Why the Dalai Lama Matters*

Wednesday, December 3, Temple Israel, 7:00 P.M., free of charge  
*A 2008-2009 Author Series lecture*

### Affinity Collaborative Theater presents W.H. Auden's *For the Time Being: A Christmas Oratorio*

Sunday, December 7, Members' Room, 7:00 P.M.  
\$20 per person

### Joelle Wallach, "The Miraculous Messiah of George Frederick Handel"

Monday, December 15, Members' Room, 6:30 P.M.  
\$10 in advance/\$15 at the door



*Herod's slaughter of the innocents, by Giotto*



## CELEBRATION OF MEMBER WRITERS

*The Library was proud to hold its first-ever Celebration of Member Writers on September 25. These are a few images from the event, taken by David Ortiz.*

*Clockwise from upper right: Ed Hayes; John Buchanan and Thomas J. Fleming; Gayle Feldman and A.E. Hotchner; Mary Stewart Hammond, William J. Dean, and Shirley Hazzard; Susan Cheever, Richard Panek, and Jenny Lawrence.*



# REGISTRATION SYSTEM

Due to the enthusiastic response to many events, and because space in our building is limited, the Library has instituted a new advance registration system.

**The Children's Library** will continue to take reservations for events by phone (212-288-6900 x234) or by e-mail (*children@nysoclib.org*). Fees for children's events should be paid at the door.

**For all other events**, Library members are asked to reserve places for themselves and their guests in advance, using the registration form on the opposite page.

This form can be dropped off at the Circulation desk, faxed to 212-744-5832, or mailed to The New York Society Library, attention Events, 53 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10075.

Online registration is available at *www.nysoclib.org/events\_registration.html*.

Many events are free of charge; we simply need a count of how many plan to attend. Other events are \$10 or more per person for advance registration, as indicated. This fee must be paid at the time of the reservation by credit card or by check made out to The New York Society Library. If space is available, attendees arriving at the time of the event will be admitted, for an additional fee. Advance registration will be taken up to two hours prior to the stated event start time.

**Returning this form with payment automatically registers you for the events indicated.** Registrations will be recorded in the order received. The Events Office will contact you only if an event is fully registered and you are on a waitlist.

**For single-session events:** The Events Office will respond to your registration only if an event is fully registered and you are on a waitlist. A reminder will be sent to all registrants in advance of each event.

**For multi-session events:** The Events Office will contact you by phone or e-mail with a confirmation and further information.

There will be no refunds of registration fees, except in the case of waitlisted reservations for which no space becomes available, or cancellation of the event.

If you and your guests have reserved places for an event but are unable to attend, you are welcome to donate the fee as a tax-deductible contribution. Please indicate this by calling the Events Office up to two hours prior to the start of the event.

Finally, most Members' Room presentations can now be experienced as streaming audio and video from the Library's website within about a week.

**Questions or comments? Please contact the Events Office at 212-288-6900 x230 or *events@nysoclib.org*.**

# REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF PRIMARY REGISTRANT (PLEASE PRINT)

DAYTIME TELEPHONE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Event

Number Attending

## Special Invitation

Shelf Life: Books in Brass Exhibition Opening Reception  
November 6, 6:00 P.M. (free of charge)

## Events

Nancy Goldner/Merrill Ashley on *Balanchine Variations*  
November 12, 6:30 P.M. (\$10)

Robert Thurman on *Why the Dalai Lama Matters*  
December 3, 7:00 P.M. (free of charge)

W.H.Auden's *For the Time Being: A Chirstmas Oratorio*  
December 7, 7:00 P.M. (\$20)

Joelle Wallach, "The Miraculous *Messiah* of George Frederick Handel"  
December 15, 6:30 P.M. (\$10)

## Workshop

Home Book Maintenance  
November 11, 2:00 P.M. (free of charge)

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES

My check is enclosed.

Please charge my credit card:

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE