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The American Library in Paris

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Discover the Work of Zadie Smith

On 23 September, we will have the honor of welcoming the incomparable Zadie Smith to our **2021 Gala**.

In preparation for this exciting evening of reunion, conversation, and celebration, we invite you to discover Smith's *œuvre* in our collection. Besides her novels *White Teeth*, *The Autograph Man*, *On Beauty*, *NW*, and *Swing Time*, you'll find her novella, *The Embassy of Cambodia*, her essay collections *Changing My Mind*, *Feel Free*, and *Intimations*, and her first short story collection, *Grand Union*. You'll also find issues of the *New Yorker* and the *New York Review of Books*, to which she is a regular contributor.

We have most of Smith's titles as e-books, ready to download to your e-reader. Please visit the Library's [online catalog](#) to find out more.



This year's event will be held at Le Pré Catelan in the Bois de Boulogne on 23 September. Visit our [Gala 2021 webpage](#) or contact Advancement Manager Morgan Wurzburger to **purchase your tickets** or to **sponsor a table**: gala@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Meet our 2021–2022 Visiting Fellows



Dina Nayeri (fall 2021) is the author of *The Ungrateful Refugee*, winner of the Geschwister Scholl Preis and finalist for the LA Times Book Prize, Kirkus Prize, and ELLE Grand Prix des Lectrices. She was a 2019–2020 fellow at the Columbia Institute for Ideas and Imagination in Paris, and her work has been awarded an NEA grant in literature and UNESCO City of Literature Paul Engle Prize. Nayeri's writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *New Yorker*, the *Guardian*, *Granta*, *O. Henry Prize Stories*, *Best American Short Stories*, and many others, and has been published in over twenty countries.



Ian Williams (spring 2022) is the author of the novel *Reproduction*, winner of the 2019 Scotiabank Giller Prize; *Personals*, which was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize and the Robert Kroetsch Poetry Book Award; *Not Anyone's Anything*, winner of the Danuta Gleed Literary Award for the best first collection of short fiction in Canada; and *You Know Who You Are*, a finalist for the ReLit Prize for poetry. In 2020 he published his latest poetry collection, *Word Problems*, winner of the Raymond Souster Award. This fall he will release *Disorientation: Being Black in the World*. Williams is Associate Professor of English at the University of Toronto. He has held fellowships or residencies from Vermont Studio Center, the Banff Center, Cave Canem, the National Humanities Center, and the University of Calgary's Distinguished Writers Program.

The 2021 Book Award Jury

Honoring Literature. Interpreting France.

We are proud to announce the jury of the 2021 American Library in Paris Book Award. Stay tuned for the announcement of the shortlist, coming in July.


Lauren Collins, the jury chair, is a Paris-based staff writer for The New Yorker. Her book, *When in French: Love in a Second Language*, was published in 2016; she is now at work on a book about the legacy of an 1898 revolt of white supremacists in Wilmington, NC.

Julian Jackson is a professor of modern French history at the University of London. His biography of de Gaulle, *A Certain Idea of France*, won the American Library in Paris Book Award in 2018. His earlier monographs have concentrated on France in the 1930s and 1940s.

Dinaw Mengestu is the author of three novels, *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*, *How to Read the Air*, and *All Our Names*. His nonfiction work has appeared in *Rolling Stone* and *Harper's*, among other publications. A 2012 MacArthur Fellow, he teaches at Bard.

Maggie Paxson, an anthropologist and musical performer, is the author of *Solovyovo: The Story of Memory in a Russian Village* and *The Plateau*, the latter of which won the American Library in Paris Book Award in 2020. Her current work takes her deep into the musical world of the 1930s and 1940s.

Programs for Adults



GROW @ ANNENBERG

Evenings with an Author and other weeknight programs at the Library are free and open to the public (with a 10€ suggested donation) thanks to support from GROW @ Annenberg, our members, and those who attend programs.

All programs, including book groups, workshops, and *Evenings with an Author* sponsored by GROW @ Annenberg, will continue virtually for the present time.



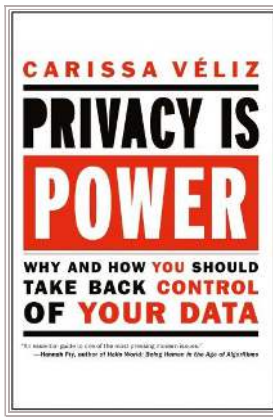
An Evening with Paula Deitz

Tuesday 22 June at 19h30

Join Paula Deitz to discuss her work as long-time editor of the *Hudson Review*. At the vanguard of developments in literature and the arts, over the years Deitz has published undiscovered writers from diverse backgrounds, many of whom have become major literary figures. Deitz is also a cultural critic whose articles about art, architecture, and landscape design have appeared in newspapers and magazines in the US and abroad.

Open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



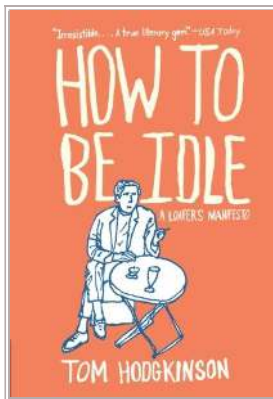
[Take Back Control of Your Data](#)

Wednesday 23 June at 19h30

An urgent and hands-on guide for taking back our right to privacy, Carissa Véliz's *Privacy is Power* is full of simple and effective analogies that make it clear how companies are stealing our private data, why this is harmful, and what can be done about it, while offering practical solutions for both policymakers and private citizens. Véliz is an Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Oxford.

Open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



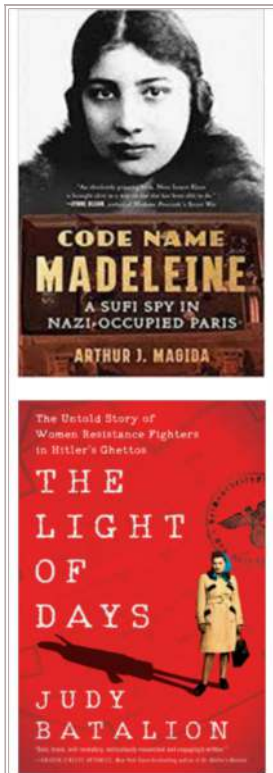
[How To Be Idle](#)

Tuesday 29 June at 19h30

In *How to Be Idle*, journalist and author Tom Hodgkinson presents his learned yet whimsical argument for a new, universal standard of living: being happy doing nothing. He covers a whole spectrum of issues affecting the modern "idler" (sleep, work, pleasure, relationships) and bemoans the cultural skepticism of idleness while reflecting on the writing of such famous apologists for it as Oscar Wilde, Robert Louis Stevenson, Dr. Johnson, and Nietzsche—all of whom have admitted to doing their very best work in bed.

Open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



[Tales of Resistance](#)




Tuesday 13 July at 19h30

Join Judy Batalion and Arthur Magida to discuss their latest books, *The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters* and *Code Name Madeline: A Sufi Spy in Nazi-Occupied Paris*, respectively. The former is a searing history that brings to light the extraordinary accomplishments of brave Jewish women who became resistance fighters—a group of unknown heroes whose exploits have never been chronicled in full, until now. The latter follows the captivating story of the valiant Noor Inayat Khan, daughter of an Indian Sufi mystic and unlikely Second World War heroine.

Both books are available now for purchase at [The Red Wheelbarrow bookstore](#). If you plan to tune in from Paris, be sure to pick up your copies in time to read them before the event.

Open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.

-  Past programs are on YouTube, including events with Annalyn Swan & Mark Stevens; Alec Lobrano; Dhonielle Clayton; and Elana K. Arnold.
-  Listen to our podcast, Evenings with an Author, available wherever you get your podcasts.
-  Visit our Facebook page for information about upcoming virtual events and Evenings with an Author sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg.

Kids and Teens

Children's Programming Highlights

The Library hosts virtual events for all ages. Check our [online calendar](#) to see what's coming up, and to register.

Select Teen Programming

Visit the [online calendar](#) for all upcoming teen programs.

Champs-Élysées Film Festival: 14–21 September

We're very happy to be partnering with the Champs-Élysées Film Festival again this year. The Festival is celebrating its 10th anniversary and, as always, will screen the best of French and American independent cinema.

The line-up will be released in the coming days, and will include a retrospective of American independent films.

Festival passes are [available now](#) (at a special Early Bird price through 30 June) and include unlimited screenings, access to the opening and closing ceremonies, and discounts on the Festival's rooftop events, which are known for their DJ sets.

Visit the [Festival's website](#) for more information.



Pandemonium U



Upcoming virtual events by the Library's partner Pandemonium U:

"Proust for Beginners" with Caroline Weber, professor of French at Barnard and author of *Proust's Duchess*

In conversation with Pamela Druckerman

Friday June 25 @ 9am Pacific/Noon NY/17:00 London/18:00 Paris

"Between America and Paris" with novelist Diane Johnson, best-selling author of *Le Divorce* and the new book *Lorna Mott Comes Home*

In conversation with Pamela Druckerman

Friday July 2 @ 9am Pacific/Noon NY/17:00 London/18:00 Paris

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