

The American Library in Paris

LITERATURE | LEARNING | CULTURE | COMMUNITY

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15 May 2013

Art and the art of acting at the Library

The 19th century French-Dutch impressionist Camille Pissarro, while heralded by so many for his rich, beautiful tableaux, nonetheless has not been a fixture in popular culture in the way that those he influenced have become - artists like Cezanne, Seurat, Van Gogh and Gauguin.



On [22 May](#), **Ann Saul**, a veritable Pissarro scholar, writer and art lecturer, will take us on a journey through the evocative paintings of this master, an evening that promises to be fascinating art lovers and those who simply love to see France depicted on canvas. Be sure to read Saul's essay about the chapter that got cut from her book on the [Library blog](#).



On [28 May](#), French-American actor **Jean-Marc Barr**, best known from his landmark 1988 film *The Big Blue* and his ongoing collaboration with Danish cinematic provocateur Lars von Trier, will be at the Library to give us his take on being Jack Kerouac.

Barr stars as Beat Generation writer and poet Jack Kerouac in the upcoming film *Big Sur*, an adaptation of the author's 1962 novel about alcoholism and mental and physical descent in the wake of his popular success.

What are the burdens and responsibilities of portraying a cultural icon? How does an actor find the balance between a

Kids and teens

Attention teens!

Friday 17 May
19h00-21h00 (ages 12-18)

Writing from the Heart: Flash Fiction with Jane Mobbille

Flash fiction is a complete story, written



in 6-1000 words. It contains the four elements of short story, but sometimes they remain unwritten and are just implied. Writer Jane Mobbille will host this event.

[Sign-up is required.](#)

Saturday
18 May 15h00-16h00 (ages 6+)

Crow: A reading and visit with author Barbara Wright

Join Barbara Wright, author of the historical



straight-up imitation and creating more of a poetic suggestion of the real person? These are the kinds of questions that Barr will explore as he discusses his own appreciation and perspective on Kerouac.

Art on View: Homage to Daniel Buren

by Serene Wise

Tuesday 21 May to Sunday 7 July



This [exhibition](#) presents paintings, maquettes and drawings by Serene Wise from her series, *Homage to Daniel Buren*, which began during the artist's 2011 residency at the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris. Daniel Buren is famous for painting vertical bands or stripes always at 8.7 centimeters wide – the width of stripes used in commercial awning material in France – and always oriented at 90°, making them straight up and down.



With a sense of play, Wise began her homage to Buren with his 8.7 centimeter bands which, after much experimentation, she placed at 78°. She felt that this 78° angle worked well with the 8.7

centimeter bands. The numbers are a nice juxtaposition: 8.7 centimeters @ 78°.

You can hear the artist talk more about Daniel Buren and the inspirations behind her artwork when she speaks on Saturday [8 June](#) at 14h00 at the Library.

An invitation to the Gala with Joyce Carol Oates

fiction novel, *Crow*, for a talk about the research and writing process, how she comes up with her ideas and the historical context of this story. No sign-up necessary! Parents welcome!

Attention teens!

Saturday 18 May

17h00-18h30 (ages 12-18)

Finding Your Voice for College

Application Essays

Finding your own unique voice for



college essays will not only help your application rise to the top, it will improve your writing overall. Cathy Altman Nocquet leads this workshop. [Sign-up is required.](#)

Sunday 25 May

15h00-16h30 (ages 6+)

Art in the Making

Join illustrator

Jeanne B. de Sainte Marie



for an afternoon of artistic discovery as

Invitations to the Annual Gala dinner on **Thursday 6 June** have been sent out, and the positive responses are flowing back at a heartening rate. We are very pleased to have award-winning author Joyce Carol Oates as our guest of honor.



Everyone, member or not, is invited to support this glittering soiree at the Four Seasons Hotel George V, the Library's principal fundraiser of the year. For Gala and ticket information, visit our [website](#). More on Joyce Carol Oates can be found on our [Pinterest board](#).

Annual General Meeting of the Library



Every year in June the American Library holds its annual meeting. The trustees and director review the previous year and new trustees are elected to the board. The meeting is open to the membership – and to interested non-members – and takes place this year on **Tuesday 11 June at 19h30-21h00**.

Upcoming Events and Programs

Tuesday 14 May 19h30

Evenings with an Author: Ben Fountain presents *Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk*, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award.

Wednesday 15 May 19h30

Evenings with an Author: Nancy Kricorian reveals the Armenian immigrant experience in Paris in *All the Light There Was*.

Tuesday 21 May 19h30

Evenings with an Author: Jerome Charyn tells a tale of Emily Dickinson in *The Secret Life of Emily Dickinson*.

Wednesday 22 May 19h30

Evenings with an Author: Ann Saul presents and discusses the

she guides you in creating your own illustration for a poem from her iPad poetry app. No sign-up necessary! Parents welcome!

Attention teens!

**Saturday 25 May
17h00-18h30 (ages
12-18)**

Master Shot Film Club

Aspiring
filmmakers
are invited to



join the new film club led by Paris-based filmmaker and writer Clarence Tokley. The purpose of this club is to allow budding filmmakers the opportunity to produce high-quality short films. [Sign-up is required](#).

And always...

**Mother Goose Lap
Sit**

**10h30 & 17h00 (ages
1-3)**

23 May (10h30 full)
Rhymes, songs, and stories in English on Thursdays. All children must be accompanied by an adult lap and

work of Danish-French artist Camille Pissarro in *Pissarro's Places*.

Tuesday 28 May 19h30

A special evening with French-American actor Jean-Marc Barr, who will talk about being Jack Kerouac in the upcoming film *Big Sur*.

Wednesday 29 May 19h30

Evenings with an Author: Fanny Howe reads poetry from her latest collection *Come and See*.

Saturday 1 June 10h00-19h00

Sunday 2 June 13h00-19h00

Used Book Sale at the Library on both days of the first weekend of the month.

Program dates and speakers are subject to change. Please check the website for updates, see the [Events and Programs](#) page.

All evening events at the Library are free and open to the public. We are grateful to the Annenberg Foundation for its continuing support of Evenings with an Author.

[registration is required.](#)

Wednesday Story Hour

10h30 & 14h30 (ages 3-5)

15, 22 & 29 May
Drop-in sessions on Wednesdays. Spend an hour with friends and some good books. No sign-up necessary!

Unless otherwise stated, all children and teen programs are free for Library members and 10 euros for non-members. Find out how to [become a member](#).

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