Writing About Video with Video: DLTS Makes it Possible  

p. 5

Coming Soon: A Trove of Persian-language Lithographs  

p. 3

Exhibition! Giuseppe Verdi: Words, Notes, Legacy  

p. 4

WELCOME, Bern Dibner Library
Library Expands Support of Science, Tech, Engineering

On January 1, 2014, with the merger of NYU and Polytechnic Institute in Brooklyn, the NYU Division of Libraries welcomed its newest library: the Bern Dibner Library at the NYU Polytechnic School of Engineering. With the merger come new opportunities for the Libraries. “We are very excited to have the opportunity to develop a new generation of interdisciplinary library support for the sciences, engineering, urban systems, and a range of related fields,” says Dean of Libraries Carol A. Mandel. “As these fields are extended to NYU’s portal campuses, as programs expand at NYU’s Brooklyn location, and as the Poly School of Engineering continues to grow and thrive, we are well positioned to ensure first-rate library service in science and engineering.” To that end, the Libraries has named Kara Whatley as Head, Science and Engineering, effective July 1, 2014. Whatley will oversee library collections, services, and programs for faculty and students in the fields of natural science, engineering, technology, and, in coordination with the Health Sciences Library, allied health. Head of the Coles Science Center in Bobst Library since 2006, Whatley joined NYU in 2004 as life sciences librarian.

Collections Update

The Dissent Archive

Dissent, the quarterly magazine of political and social criticism, has given its archive to Tamiment Library. Founded in 1954 by a group of professors and critics that included the author Irving Howe, Dissent identified with the founders’ democratic socialism, but published articles critiquing the political ideologies of the left and right. Contributors included Hannah Arendt, Norman Mailer, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, Ellen Willis, Richard Wright, George Packard, and many others. Howe served as Dissent’s first editor until his death in 1993. Its current editor is historian Michael Kazin. The Dissent finding aid is searchable on the Tamiment Library website.

A Trove of Persian Lithographs

A collection of 19th and early 20th century lithographs, some of which are available in no other library in the US, are being made accessible in Bobst Library in a cataloging project supported by a gift from the Violet Jabara Charitable Trust. The lithograph shown is of the fifth part of the famous Persian Sufi master, poet, jurist, and theologian Jalal al-Din al-Rumi (1207-1273).

Borrowing Just Got Better (and Faster)

“Once people start using it, they’re hooked,” says Kristina Rose, head of Access Services, describing E-Z Borrow, an expedited interlibrary loan service new to NYU. “Students love it because it’s so fast they can use it for course readings they might otherwise have to buy. Faculty love it because they can keep materials for up to 12 weeks, nearly an entire semester. And it draws from so many college and university libraries that users can often get new, in-demand items that have flown off the shelves in New York.” Participating libraries range from the University of Pennsylvania, Villanova University, and Rutgers University to dozens of smaller, specialized institutions throughout Pennsylvania and in New Jersey and West Virginia. E-Z Borrow is easy to use—no form required, and one click in the E-Z Borrow catalog submits the request. “Users can get not only scholarly material, but popular as well,” Rose continues. “I got Lean in when it was still on the best seller list.”
EXHIBITIONS

Verdi on View in Bobst Library This Summer

A new exhibition, “Giuseppe Verdi: Words, Notes, Legacy,” is on view in two locations in Bobst Library: the Mamdouha S. Bobst Gallery on the main floor, and the Avery Fisher Center (AFC) on the second floor. The exhibition is free and open to the public now through August 29.

Co-curated by Robin Preiss, collection development assistant, and Francesco Izzo of the American Institute for Verdi Studies, the exhibition includes scores, librettos, correspondence, and memorabilia from the archives of the AFC, the Institute, and Fales Library. The selections focus on Verdi’s international success; his relationships with publishers, singers, and political authorities; his creative process; and his reception.

The exhibit continues upstairs in the Avery Fisher Center, 2nd Floor.

WORDS, NOTES, LEGACY
Giuseppe Verdi:
70 WASHINGTON SQ SOUTH | NEW YORK, NY
ELMER HOLMES BOBST LIBRARY
ON DISPLAY

Writing About Video With Video: DLTS Makes it Possible

When MediaCommons, a digital scholarly network whose platform was designed by NYU’s Digital Library Technical Services (DLTS), and Cinema Journal decided to develop the first peer-reviewed academic periodical dedicated to video- graphic film and moving image studies, they turned again to DLTS. The result is [in]Transition, which enables practitioners of digital video forms to produce scholarship in those very forms, and promotes open peer review of the work. Carol Kassel, manager of digital library publication and access, headed the DLTS project team. See [in]Transition at mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/transi

Preserving Video Collections: Addressing a Growing Need, Just in Time

How easily could a library replace a videotape of, say, an obscure art film by a distributor no longer in business? What are the applicable copyright restrictions on reformatting? The Libraries and the Moving Image Archiving and Preservation (MIAP) program in Tisch School of the Arts recently completed a three-year project to find out, in partnership with the libraries of Loyola University New Orleans and the University of California, Berkeley. The project, “Video at Risk,” funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, explored the video marketplace to determine scarcity, and analyzed preservation issues faced by video collections today.

Two publications developed by the project are now available free of charge to the archival community. The first is a set of copyright guidelines that clarify exemptions for copying audio visual works under Section108(c) of the United States Copyright Act. The second, Digitizing Video for Long-term Preservation: An RFP Guide and Template, can help institutions work with preservation vendors. It outlines benchmarks, articulates technical specifications, and guides both sides through the reformatting process. Both publications are available here: library.nyu.edu/preservation/currentpreservationprojects.html

Verdi on View in Bobst Library This Summer

A new exhibition, “Giuseppe Verdi: Words, Notes, Legacy,” is on view in two locations in Bobst Library: the Mamdouha S. Bobst Gallery on the main floor, and the Avery Fisher Center (AFC) on the second floor. The exhibition is free and open to the public now through August 29.

Co-curated by Robin Preiss, collection development assistant, and Francesco Izzo of the American Institute for Verdi Studies, the exhibition includes scores, librettos, correspondence, and memorabilia from the archives of the AFC, the Institute, and Fales Library. The selections focus on Verdi’s international success; his relationships with publishers, singers, and political authorities; his creative process; and his reception.

EXHIBITIONS

Verdi on View in Bobst Library This Summer

A new exhibition, “Giuseppe Verdi: Words, Notes, Legacy,” is on view in two locations in Bobst Library: the Mamdouha S. Bobst Gallery on the main floor, and the Avery Fisher Center (AFC) on the second floor. The exhibition is free and open to the public now through August 29.

Co-curated by Robin Preiss, collection development assistant, and Francesco Izzo of the American Institute for Verdi Studies, the exhibition includes scores, librettos, correspondence, and memorabilia from the archives of the AFC, the Institute, and Fales Library. The selections focus on Verdi’s international success; his relationships with publishers, singers, and political authorities; his creative process; and his reception.

EXHIBITIONS

Verdi on View in Bobst Library This Summer

A new exhibition, “Giuseppe Verdi: Words, Notes, Legacy,” is on view in two locations in Bobst Library: the Mamdouha S. Bobst Gallery on the main floor, and the Avery Fisher Center (AFC) on the second floor. The exhibition is free and open to the public now through August 29.

Co-curated by Robin Preiss, collection development assistant, and Francesco Izzo of the American Institute for Verdi Studies, the exhibition includes scores, librettos, correspondence, and memorabilia from the archives of the AFC, the Institute, and Fales Library. The selections focus on Verdi’s international success; his relationships with publishers, singers, and political authorities; his creative process; and his reception.

Preserving Video Collections: Addressing a Growing Need, Just in Time

How easily could a library replace a videotape of, say, an obscure art film by a distributor no longer in business? What are the applicable copyright restrictions on reformatting? The Libraries and the Moving Image Archiving and Preservation (MIAP) program in Tisch School of the Arts recently completed a three-year project to find out, in partnership with the libraries of Loyola University New Orleans and the University of California, Berkeley. The project, “Video at Risk,” funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, explored the video marketplace to determine scarcity, and analyzed preservation issues faced by video collections today.

Two publications developed by the project are now available free of charge to the archival community. The first is a set of copyright guidelines that clarify exemptions for copying audio visual works under Section108(c) of the United States Copyright Act. The second, Digitizing Video for Long-term Preservation: An RFP Guide and Template, can help institutions work with preservation vendors. It outlines benchmarks, articulates technical specifications, and guides both sides through the reformatting process. Both publications are available here: library.nyu.edu/preservation/currentpreservationprojects.html

Verdi on View in Bobst Library This Summer

A new exhibition, “Giuseppe Verdi: Words, Notes, Legacy,” is on view in two locations in Bobst Library: the Mamdouha S. Bobst Gallery on the main floor, and the Avery Fisher Center (AFC) on the second floor. The exhibition is free and open to the public now through August 29.

Co-curated by Robin Preiss, collection development assistant, and Francesco Izzo of the American Institute for Verdi Studies, the exhibition includes scores, librettos, correspondence, and memorabilia from the archives of the AFC, the Institute, and Fales Library. The selections focus on Verdi’s international success; his relationships with publishers, singers, and political authorities; his creative process; and his reception.
New Faces

KATHERINE BOSS Librarian for Journalism and Media, Culture, & Communication
Formerly: Reference and Instructional Librarian, Long Island University, Brooklyn Education MA, Media Studies, The New School, MLS, Palmer School of Library & Information Science, Long Island University; BS, Journalism, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI

As a former journalist, I am especially interested in how traditional news gathering and reporting methods are being disrupted by social media platforms like YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook. Crowd-sourced journalism has transformative potential, and one big theoretical focus of media studies has been how these new modes and platforms of communication influence our behavior. As I work with faculty and students to support their research, I will be helping them stay current of trends with new information tools and techniques.

ZACH COBLE Digital Scholarship Specialist
Formerly: Systems and Emerging Technologies Librarian, Gettysburg College, PA Education: MLS, University of Missouri; BA, History, Hendrix College, Conway, AR

As part of a new library unit, Digital Scholarship Services, I help students and faculty ask new research questions by incorporating digital tools into their work. Digital humanities, in particular, is a rapidly expanding research field and we are responding to an increasing demand for support. For example, I’m currently working with a faculty member at NYU Poly who wants to digitize volumes of the City Record from the 19th century, then use that data to track the money that went into and out of Tammany Hall.

DONALD MENNERICH Digital Archivist
Formerly: Digital Archivist, New York Public Library Education: MS, Information Systems, Pace University; MS, Library and Information Science, Simmons College, Boston; BM, Music Performance, New England Conservatory

Born-digital records have proven to be a challenge to the traditional practice of manuscript collecting. As libraries acquire more and more digital collections, it is critical for them to have the skills, infrastructure, and vision to properly manage them. It is an emerging field; the Wild West, you might say. So I am very excited to help lead the NYU Libraries effort to develop the strategies and the tools necessary to collect, preserve and provide access to born-digital records.

DANIEL PERKINS Global Services Librarian
Formerly: Adjunct Science Librarian, NYU Education: MLS, Queens College, New York City; BS, Biology, SUNY Oswego

I coordinate the expansion, delivery and promotion of library services that support research, teaching and learning at NYU’s eleven global academic centers. Based in New York, I might start my day sharing a link to streaming classical music via a video chat with a music student in Prague and end it by helping a faculty member in Sydney find e-resources for her biology class. Working with library colleagues and global academic staff, I ensure that students and faculty have access to the library materials and services they need, whenever they choose to study.

DAVID RATZAN Head, Library of the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World
Formerly: Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Greek and Roman Classics, Temple University; Philadelphia Curator of Papyri, Columbia University Rare Book and Manuscript Library Education: PhD and MPhil, Classical Studies, Columbia University; MA, Classics, Clare College, Cambridge University; BA, Greek Literature, Yale University

One of my key goals in the near term is to define and communicate a strong identity for our maturing collection, one which not only builds on our core strengths and supports our particular brand of interdisciplinary and comparative studies, but also fills a definite and useful niche in the resource ecology of the Libraries and the greater metropolitan area. That identity will reaffirm ISAW’s original and expansive view of what an ancient studies library can and should be in the 21st century.

You might know the colleague by name; you might even know his or her title. But in the ever-evolving library enterprise of serving a major research institution, it is unlikely you are familiar with the details of every department’s creative work. NYU Libraries employs nearly 400 full-time faculty and staff from Manhattan to Shanghai and Abu Dhabi, but mostly based in Bobst Library or a few blocks east at Cooper Square. And for a midafternoon hour and a half during spring break on March 19, most of the New York staff could be found in the Kimmel Center at a meeting convened to open windows onto one another’s projects.

Attendees chose to sit at one of 19 tables, each featuring a presenter on a different topic. Twenty minutes later, the crowd rose, switched tables, and sat down for a second session. Choices included Preserving Non-traditional Materials (like textiles and artworks), Presenting Digital Collections (what are we doing to streamline image, book, and A/V publishing?), New Opportunities in Digital Video (a huge menu of streaming video is now available on the library’s website), Web Archiving (collecting important but impermanent born digital content, such as web pages by African American bloggers reacting to the reelection of President Obama), and Bobst Library Renovation (what does it take to design truly user-centered spaces?).

Attendee feedback indicates that the view from those open windows was appreciated. “Exciting how many projects dovetail with others: renovation & streaming & digital collections, for example.” “The talks I heard are informing my career plans.” “Great to know that new digital tools are coming to help simplify my work process while increasing its impact.” “I can be a better resource for our users now.”

L: Library staff gathers to learn from one another
R: Conservation Librarian Laura McCorm and Preservation Archivist Fletcher Dowell describe a current project with Dean Carol A. Mundel looking on at right.

Photos: Andrew Rang

In a Learning Organization, Learning from One Another

So That’s How We Do That!

You might know the colleague by name; you might even know his or her title. But in the ever-evolving library enterprise of serving a major research institution, it is unlikely you are familiar with the details of every department’s creative work. NYU Libraries employs nearly 400 full-time faculty and staff from Manhattan to Shanghai and Abu Dhabi, but mostly based in Bobst Library or a few blocks east at Cooper Square. And for a midafternoon hour and a half during spring break on March 19, most of the New York staff could be found in the Kimmel Center at a meeting convened to open windows onto one another’s projects.

Attendees chose to sit at one of 19 tables, each featuring a presenter on a different topic. Twenty minutes later, the crowd rose, switched tables, and sat down for a second session. Choices included Preserving Non-traditional Materials (like textiles and artworks), Presenting Digital Collections (what are we doing to streamline image, book, and A/V publishing?), New Opportunities in Digital Video (a huge menu of streaming video is now available on the library’s website), Web Archiving (collecting important but impermanent born digital content, such as web pages by African American bloggers reacting to the reelection of President Obama), and Bobst Library Renovation (what does it take to design truly user-centered spaces?).

Attendee feedback indicates that the view from those open windows was appreciated. “Exciting how many projects dovetail with others: renovation & streaming & digital collections, for example.” “The talks I heard are informing my career plans.” “Great to know that new digital tools are coming to help simplify my work process while increasing its impact.” “I can be a better resource for our users now.”

L: Library staff gathers to learn from one another
R: Conservation Librarian Laura McCorm and Preservation Archivist Fletcher Dowell describe a current project with Dean Carol A. Mundel looking on at right.

Photos: Andrew Rang
An exhibition in Tamiment Library through August 21 uses the lens of the Irish campaign for independence to explore how the story of a revolution is told and how it changes over time. Drawn mainly from the Ernie O’Malley Papers, with additional material from the Archives of Irish America, the exhibits examine the evolution of the historical narrative and how individuals and societies choose to remember their own histories. The show’s title comes from O’Malley’s memoir of the 1919-1921 War of Independence, *On Another Man’s Wound*.

“And so ended for us what we called the scrap; the people later on, the trouble; and others, fond of labels, the Revolution.”