

For Immediate Release



Upcoming Events at AUB

Beirut, Lebanon- 08/10/2015

“The Canonization of the European Form of Theater in the Arab World: The Case of Egypt”

The Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies (CAMES) presents a lecture in Arabic, "The Canonization of the European Form of Theater in the Arab World: The Case of Egypt," by Joseph Zeidan, Ohio State University, on Monday October 12, 2015, at 5:00 pm, in West Hall, Auditorium A. *This lecture will take place in Arabic* [Co-sponsored by the Margaret Weyerhaeuser Jewett Chair of Arabic].

“Tales of Trauma and Capital: The second generation of Lebanese post-civil war novelists”

The Department of English at the American University of Beirut cordially invites you to a lecture “Tales of Trauma and Capital: The second generation of Lebanese post-civil war novelists,” by Felix Lang (University of Marburg), on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, at 6:00 pm, in West Hall, Auditorium C.

About the lecture:

After the Lebanese Civil War, many of Lebanon's novelists committed themselves to building a "memory for the future." More than twenty years later, Elias Khoury's and Rashid al-Daif's post-war novels rank among the most important texts in contemporary Arabic literature and a new generation of authors has begun writing about the civil war. The role of collective and individual trauma seems to be central to this development. In this talk Lang will argue that the Lebanese post-civil war novel, and the specific forms it takes, is a response not only to trauma, but also to the forces at work in the literary field. Building on Pierre Bourdieu's theoretical concepts he will consider the work of Hala Kawtharani, Rabee Jaber, Hyam Yared, and Ramy Zein among others to show how a number of factors – from the book market to notions of literary value and the writers' biographies and socio-economic backgrounds – worked in favor of producing a meta-narrative of trauma which has come to define a significant part of contemporary Lebanese literature.

About the lecturer:

Felix Lang is a postdoctoral research fellow in the department of Arabic Literature and Culture at the University of Marburg and coordinator of the "Figures of Thought | Turning Points" research group (DFG-Leibniz). He holds an MA in Social Anthropology from the University of St. Andrews and a PhD in Arabic Literature and Culture from the University of Marburg. Lang's monograph "The Lebanese Post-Civil War Novel: Memory, Trauma, and Capital" will be published with Palgrave Macmillan in November 2015.

Piano concert

Kulturzentrum and Club "Les Amis de la Suisse" in coordination with the American University of Beirut, cordially invite you to a piano concert by Reto Reichenbach on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, at 8:00 pm, in Assembly Hall. All are welcome

About the pianist:

Born in 1974, Reto Reichenbach grew up near Gstaad, Switzerland. Studying with Tomasz Herbut at the Berne Conservatory, he graduated in 1996, receiving the Eduard-Tschumi Prize for the best performance of the year. Further studies led him to the United States, where he studied with Ann Schein at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore and with Boris Berman and Arié Vardi at Yale University. In his widespread musical activities as a soloist, chamber musician, vocal accompanist, and pedagogue, Reto Reichenbach has appeared in numerous European countries, the US, Canada, China, and Japan. He performed at the Menuhin Festival Gstaad, the Mozarteum Salzburg, the Salle Cortot in Paris, the Interlaken Music Festival, and the Orpheum Festival at the Tonhalle Zurich. As a soloist, Reto Reichenbach performed with the Orchestre National de Lille, the Berne Symphony Orchestra, the Zurich Chamber Orchestra, the Romanian "OLTENIA" Philharmonic Orchestra di Craiova, the Philharmonic Orchestra of Switzerland, and the Orchestra of the International Menuhin Music Academy.

Reto Reichenbach has been prize-winner at the international 20th century piano competition in Orléans, France (2nd overall prize and "Nadja Boulanger" prize for the best performance of a work from 1900 to 1950) and at the international piano competition of the city of Cantú, Italy. For his artistic accomplishments he was given the culture award by the Swiss Bank Corporation and the "Outstanding Young Person Award" by the Swiss Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Scholarship awards from the Stanley Johnson, Kiefer-Hablitzel, Ernst Göhner, and Josef Pembaur foundations have also furthered his career.

Since 2008, Mr. Reichenbach has been on the faculty of the International Crescendo Summer Institute in Sárospatak, Hungary. Furthermore, Yunnan Arts Institute in Kunming, China, has appointed him visiting professor. He also taught Master's classes at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver and the Levine School in Washington, DC. In 2010, the Swiss label VDE Gallo released his solo CD with spiritual works by Mendelssohn, Bach-Busoni, Liszt, and Messiaen.

ENDS

For more information please contact:

Office of Communications, information@aub.edu.lb, 01-75 96 85

Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 700 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the Bachelor's, Master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

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