

Subject:
AHSN September 2011 E-newsletter
From:
Jessica Davis <jessmd@bigpond.net.au>
Date:
7/09/2011 4:25 PM
To:
AHSN-members <ahsn-members@mail.usyd.edu.au>

AHSN WEB-SITE: <http://www.sydney.edu.au/humourstudies>

(Please note: this is NOT a hot-link; cut and paste it into your web browser.)
(Please also note: replies/comments should be sent to the email address at bottom of this page. This e-list is NOT interactive.)

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR 18th AHSN COLLOQUIUM,
3-4 FEBRUARY 2012, ANU, CANBERRA, ON "VARIETIES OF HUMOUR"

Registration for the Colloquium for both presenters and attendees has opened, with a concessional rate for students and the unwaged. Please visit the Events Page of the AHSN website (see above) and click on the Registration side-bar link to download the Registration Form. Follow the instructions to fill it out and make your payment to the University of Sydney by cheque or credit card.

Please return completed forms by email or mail (NOT by fax: we found these were likely to go astray) to the School address given on the form. Receipts issue some 2-3 weeks after processing and will be addressed to the name and contact address of the person registering.

Accommodation information and booking advice is also available on the Events page of the website (click on Information sidebar) and for more information contact Dr Jan Lloyd Jones, Colloquium Convenor, at ANU:
jan.lloyd-jones@anu.edu.au

Thanks to Jan, and to the College of Arts and Social Sciences, ANU, for making this event possible.

HOLD THE DATE!
LECTURE BY DR BARAK KUSHNER, CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE,
CAMBRIDGE, AT SYDNEY UNIVERSITY, MONDAY 13 DECEMBER 2011

Visiting Scholar Barak Kushner (Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge), will give a Guest Lecture for members and guests of AHSN, and of The Oriental Society of Australia (OSA), in The Refectory Room (H113) Main Quad (S-W corner, basement level), University of Sydney, on 13 December 2011, 4.15pm Refreshments, Lecture 5.00-6.00pm. His topic is:

"Nothing to laugh at: Chinese humor and the image of Japan"
Humour is as much a cultural force in China as it is in other East Asian regions, although in the English-speaking world we might not always regard the offerings as ôfunnyö, in the strict laugh-out-loud sense. As a deep-seated barometer of social attitudes, humour is an informative historical set of values through which to examine the last century of

Sino-Japan relations. Wartime and post-war layers of Chinese humour shaped an enduring motif of the guizi or ôdevilö image of Japanese soldiers. However, on the eve of the twenty-first century, these accumulated layers of representations of Japan have given rise to a marked change û Japanese depicted not only as humorous ôdevilsö but also as corruptible human entities.

Barak Kushner received his PhD in history from Princeton University and works on wartime propaganda, humour and media as well as the history of Sino-Japanese relations. He is a Senior Lecturer in modern Japanese history at the University of Cambridge. His many publications include a parallel study to the present topic û of Japanese propaganda cartoons against the Chinese, ôLaughter as materiel: The mobilization of comedy in JapanÆs fifteen-year warö, *The International History Review* 26, no. 2 (June 2004): 300-330. He is a contributor to a forthcoming book with Hong Kong University Press, "Humour in Chinese Life and Letters: Modern and Traditional Approaches" (eds. J. Milner Davis and J. Chey).

ISHS BIENNIAL ELECTIONS: 2 AHSN MEMBERS STANDING AS
CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD

AHSN Review Panel member, Dr Bruce Findlay (Psychology, Swinburne University of Technology) and Prof. Goh Abe (Tokushima Bunri University, Japan) have both accepted nomination from the Nominating Committee of the International Society for Humor Studies to stand for election as members of the ISHS Executive Board in upcoming elections later this year. A new President will also be elected as well as 2 new Board members.

If you would like to e-vote in these elections, please ensure you have renewed your ISHS membership. Unless you wish to add a subscription to the ISHS Journal, *Humor: International Journal of Humor Research*, the annual fee is only \$US30 (forms and info at: <http://www.hnu.edu/ishs/MembersCenter.htm> or email Exec. Sec. Dr Martin Lampert, Holy Names University, Oakland, Calif.: ishs@hnu.edu)

In January 2012, Prof Giseline Kuipers, Norbert Elias Professor of Sociology at Erasmus University, Rotterdam, and University of Amsterdam, will take office as the new Editor of the Journal, *H:IJHR*. She is the author of *Good Humor, Bad Taste: A Sociology of the Joke* (Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter, 2006), a study of the taste-cultures of humour in supposedly class-free Netherlands.

ANOTHER AHSN SCHOLARSHIP WINNER - CONGRATULATIONS
ANGELINA HURLEY, 2011 FULBRIGHT INDIGENOUS SCHOLAR!

Angelina Hurley, doctoral candidate in Creative Arts at the University of Technology Sydney, and 2011 Fulbright Indigenous Scholar, is currently studying a Creative Writing program at New York University, and will gain further experience in comedy-writing for film and TV in both New York and San Francisco. Her doctoral topic, *Blak Comedy and Indigenous Cultural Perspectives on Humour*, is an investigation of the development of Australian Indigenous comedy and she says her dream goal is to write an Indigenous TV series/sitcom with potential to reach international audiences. Angelina took her B.Ed. (Secondary Teaching Art) from Kelvin Grove Teachers College, B.Ed. (Adult Education) from

UTS and an M.A.A. (Arts Management) from UNSW.

Bio-note: Angelina Yooleelar (means Butterfly) Hurley. Daughter to Aboriginal Artist Ronald Hurley (www.ronhurley.com) and Colleen Rose Kirk. Heritage: My father was born and spent his whole life in Brisbane. He is descended from the Gooreng Gooreng (Gladstone/Bundaberg), and Mununjali (Beaudesert/Mt Tambourine) nations. My mother was born in Cherbourg Queensland. She is descended from the Birri Gubbi (Burdekin River), and Kamilaroi (St George), says Angelina, who has some wonderfully funny and informative blogs at: <http://wombaworld09.blogspot.com/>

Congratulations and good luck, Angelina!

REPORT ON 2011 INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL ON HUMOR AND LAUGHTER, TARTU, ESTONIA

2011 Churchill Scholar and AHSN member, Alison O'Connor (UNSW), attended the International Summer School and Symposium on Humor and Laughter in Tartu, Estonia at the Estonian Literary Museum and reports:

4 planes, a bus, and 41 hours of travel later, I arrived. The conference was tightly packed, and included a series of seminars on methodological approaches to humour studies, and then lectures which focussed on particular topics such as television and social class, potential benefits of humour at work, national humours, and positive psychology and humour.

The Symposium included papers on topics as diverse as developing a grammar of humour in music to the use of humour among older populations in Malaysia. I presented a paper positioning political comedy in theories of deliberative democracy, with reference to 'The Big Society' on BBC Radio 4.

The local organisers, led by Dr. Liisi Laineste were fantastic. The social calendar was every bit as wonderful as the conference, culminating in a mid-night star-gazing cruise down the river.

Summer school is held annually, and is a grounding experience for students, and a great way to meet other students in relevant fields. The Summer School website is: <http://www.humoursummerschool.org/>

MEMBERS' NEW PUBLICATIONS

Brigid Maher (La Trobe University), "Recreation and Style: Translating Humorous Literature in Italian and English", John Benjamins, 2011. A study of the translation of humour, irony, parody, satire and the grotesque in a number of contemporary Italian and English literary texts.

Details at: <http://benjamins.com/#catalog/books/btl.90>

Mike Lloyd (Victoria University of Wellington), "Miss Grimshaw and the White Elephant: Categorisation in a risqu  humor competition", *Humor: IJHR* 24(1), 2011, at:
<http://www.reference-global.com/doi/abs/10.1515/HUMR.2011.004>
and "When Jemaine met Keitha: Flight of the Conchords tackle Australia", *Continuum: Journal of Media & Cultural Studies*, 25(3), 2011, at:
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10304312.2011.562966>
Material from both articles was presented at AHSN Colloquia.

Please feel free to email Jessica with details of your latest publications and papers (in above format, please). Hotlinks to published books can be added to the AHSN website.

NORTH EAST TEXAS HUMOR RESEARCH CONFERENCE, FALL 2011

The North East Texas Humor Research Conference, Fall 2011 will be held on the campus of Texas A&M University   Commerce from September 30th to October 1st, 2011.

Papers on all aspects of humor research, in all disciplines, are solicited. Presentations will be either 20 minutes papers or (invited) plenaries. Panels can be proposed in blocks of 3 or 6 papers. Posters are also accepted. For complete information, including the e-mail where to send abstracts, see the web site: <http://faculty.tamu-commerce.edu/sattardo/humorResearchConf.htm>
Hoping to see you in September!

Dr. Salvatore Attardo, Interim Dean Texas A&M University - Commerce
College of Humanities, Social Sciences and Arts
Editor-in-Chief, HUMOR: International Journal of Humor Research
sattardo@gmail.com

MICHAEL LEUNIG'S CARTOONS ON EXHIBIT IN KERALA

Sundar Ramanathaiyer, AHSN member based in Sydney, Australia, reports that a Michael Leunig cartoon exhibition took place in Ernakulam, Kerala, India, on 6 September 2011.

"Celebrations ~ Appreciating the little things in life" is a poetic cartoon exhibition, and part of a Mental Health Campaign. It will be addressed by Gopul Gopalakrishnan, Trustee of the Centre for Comic Arts, and by Dr Chitra Venkateswaran, Clinical Director of the MEHAC Foundation for mental health in Kerala. For more information, contact Gopul at <http://centreforcomicart.wordpress.com> or e-mail: centreforcomicarts@gmail.com

SILENT FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS WITH COMEDY GREATS

Ronnie and Sharon of The Silent Film Festival announce that tickets are now available (Festival Gold and Silver Passes by arrangement via email). Celebrated Australian musicians provide musical accompaniment for a number of Australian premieres, all restored films. Book online via website or email (details below).

Sat., Sept. 10 College Hall PLC Sydney, Boundary Street, Croydon @4pm

Laughter is the Best Medicine - Taken Silently accompanied by Maria

Okunev A choice selection of the Kings of Comedy at their funniest and full throttle!

Four short comedies averaging 20 minutes in length with Charlie Chaplin causing chaos in The Pawnshop (1916); Buster Keaton at his deadpan best in The High Sign (1921) Fay Tincher, one tough cowgirl, as Rowdy Ann (1919); and Max Sennett's Lizzies of the Field (1924) û a classic of car racing comedy. See the Australia-born star, Billy Bevan, driving his Snoozenburg!

Sat., Sept. 17 Epping Baptist Church, 1-5 Ray Road, Epping

Harold Lloyd - Comic Genius @1pm accompanied by John D'Arcy

Alongside Chaplin and Keaton, another popular pioneer of silent comedy, Harold Lloyd, played a straight, average guy with glasses who finds himself in hilarious situations. Two fine examples are the feature-length film, Grandma's Boy (1922), and the popular short comedy, Haunted Spooks (1920)

The Peach Girl (1931)@3pm accompanied by John D'Arcy

This elegant classic Chinese silent film stars Ruan Lingyu, the Greta Garbo of Shanghai cinema, in a moving drama full of tradition, romance and the

inevitable heartache. Have plenty of tissues handy!

Silents Are Golden with The Kings of Comedy@5pm with the mighty
theatre organ accompanied by Cliff Bingham

An outstanding selection of the Kings of Comedy at their best in three
entertaining short films: Charlie Chaplin in the delightful love story of
The Immigrant (1917); not one but two comedy giants, Buster Keaton
and Roscoe Arbuckle, showing off their best physical comedy feats and
gags in The Cook (1918); and comic strip characters like Harry Hairbreadth
come to life in the action-packed Danger Ahead (1926) full of unpredictable
effects and amazing stunts!

Sat. Sept. 24 Wesley Conference Centre, 220 Pitt Street, Sydney.

The Lodger (1927)@2pm accompanied by Greg Smith

Alfred Hitchcock's restored silent masterpiece is based on the Jack the
Ripper murders in foggy London, with all the famous Hitchcock trademarks,
as well as strong influences of Expressionist cinema and a strong lead played
by enigmatic Welsh actor, Ivor Novello.

Bed and Sofa (1927)@4pm accompanied by Sharolyn Kimmorley AM

A beautiful example of intimate Russian cinema as it explores a love triangle
that develops when an old Army buddy becomes a couple's lodger, sleeping
on the sofa in a small flat in Moscow. Full of striking images that capture the
time, place and lives of people.

Lucky Star (1929)@6pm accompanied by Mauro Colombis

Oscar-winning Janet Gaynor stars with Charles Farrell in another Frank
Borzage masterpiece, full of artistic settings and backdrops in soft lighting
giving a magical effect, like entering a living classical painting. A touching
love story transforms lives and adds a touch of the miraculous.

FESTIVAL IN MELBOURNE, NEWCASTLE, MITTAGONG LATER 2011

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