

Yale Department of Classics

Summer 2021

Greetings from the Chair



CSK in festive dress at the virtual 2020 Graduation Party

to “press.” We are a little later than usual this year, but that gives me the opportunity to welcome our two new faculty members, **James Patterson** from UT Austin, who as our inaugural Language Program Director will bring new perspectives and training to our classical language pedagogy; and **Erika Valdivieso**, from Brown via Princeton, a specialist on the reception of the Classics in colonial Latin America, who joins the ranks as assistant professor. You can read about both of them later in the Newsletter (page 6). Inevitably, there have been some bumps in the road—and none bumpier than the loss of three of our beloved colleagues, happily not to the virus, but to greener pastures (page 5). But our students and faculty alike combatted the continuing isolation with remote lectures, parties, meetings, reading groups, workshops, and classes—oh, how we Zoomed!—and I am again pleased to be able to report that all things considered, Yale Classics had a very good year. Though we could not celebrate our degree recipients in person, we had a lively Zoom session—and once again, thanks to the magic of the remote feed, we could invite parents and other far-flung friends to celebrate with us the achievements and bright futures of our graduating seniors, **Robert Crystal**, **Samir Al-Ali**, **Sam Katz**, **Alex DiMeglio**, **Dayrin Jones**, and **Daniel Blatt**. We are also happy to report that three continuing students have won summer grants to fund their study and research: **Elizabeth Raab** ’23 (for German immersion at Middlebury Language School), **Daniel Qin** ’23 (for CUNY intensive upper-level Greek), and **Ethan Fogarty** ’22 (for self-directed museum visits in U.S.). On the graduate level, during the course of this year **Erynn Kim** ’18 Grad, **Francesca Beretta** ’18 Grad, **Emily Helm** ’17 Grad, **Elizabeth Lavender**, ’18 Grad, **Meghan Poplacean**, ’17 Grad, and **Nazim Can Serbest**, ’18 Grad all passed their prospectus defenses. Our

ranks were augmented by five new graduate students in fall of 2021: in Classics, **Maria (Jiaqi) Ma** and **Sydney Chavez**; in the combined program in Classics and Ancient History, **Alejandro Quintana** and **Rafail Zoulis**; in the combined program in Philosophy and Classics, **Angela Yeo**. All have been vibrant participants in classes and workshops this year. Finally, in the fall we will be joined by five accomplished students beginning their graduate careers: **Elizabeth Davis** (Classics and Philosophy), **Leonardo Serafini** (Philosophy and Classics), **Jasmine Sahu-Hough** (Classics and Ancient History), **Frederico Maviglia** and **Catherine Saterson** (both Classics), while **Chris Atkins** ’20 Grad is now a member of our community, pursuing an *ad hoc* degree in Religious Studies and Classics. An exciting year ahead!

We look forward to welcoming our indefatigable staff, **Diana Plascencia**, **Linda Dickey-Saucier**, and **Jasmine Williams** back to Phelps in the fall, where they will help **Kirk Freudenburg** and **Egbert Bakker** as they take up again their well-practiced roles as Chair and Director of Graduate Studies. One of the things we look forward to working on in 2021-22 (and beyond) is a rethinking of both the undergraduate and graduate curricula, to take account of the deep and continuing self-analysis that Classics programs all over the world have been engaged in. I am grateful to all our colleagues and students for their tending of our classical garden.

Christina S. Kraus

Thacher Professor of Latin and Chair



The mountain laurel came out anyway.... Yale campus spring 2021

The Yale Digital Dura-Europos Archive



Continuing Yale's commitment to the broad accessibility of its collections, Archaia postdoc **Anne Hunnell Chen** (left) and Yale Alumni Fellow **Kyle Conrau-Lewis** '20 Ph.D. have been hard at work over the last year developing a new digital initiative:

[The Yale Digital Dura-Europos Archive](#) (YDEA), in response to the

upcoming 100th anniversary of the discovery and excavation of the ancient city. Thanks to some unique circumstances of preservation, the site of Dura-Europos (Syria) is a rare archaeological resource. Its well-preserved and juxtaposed Jewish, Christian, and pagan sanctuaries, textual remains in a variety of languages, and artifacts made of organic materials that infrequently survive in the archaeological record provide critical insight into the vibrant multiculturalism of ancient daily life. As one of the partners in the early excavations at the site, Yale became steward to over

15,000 artifacts from the site (in three separate collections: the Art Gallery, the Beinecke, and the Peabody), as well as a trove of archival materials. But additional artifacts and other documentary resources are contained in at least six additional domestic and international collections. Since dispersal of these materials complicates efforts to use the site for research and teaching purposes, YDEA was founded to improve the global accessibility and comprehensibility of archaeological data from this important cultural heritage site. The team is currently developing a web application that will aggregate data from multiple international collections and online resources, allow users to search content in multiple languages, and visualize artifact findspots. Anne has found time also to publish a co-edited volume, *Late-Antique Studies in Memory of Alan Cameron* (Leiden 2021), in which **Noel Lenski** and **Ed Watts** '02 Ph.D. also have chapters, while **Kyle** illuminates "The Index in the Premodern and Modern World" in the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Literature*.

Yale Digital Dura-Europos Archive (YDEA)

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Thank you!



Keep the news coming!
Anyone with news is invited to write to linda.dickey-saucier@yale.edu

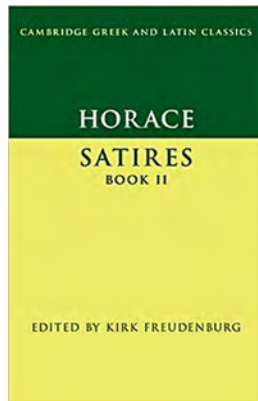
Faculty News

Kirk Freudenburg spent many months of Covid isolation putting the final touches on his Green and Yellow commentary on Horace's second book of *Satires*. He is happy to report that, as of mid-April, the book is, at long last, out. Though it may be garishly colored, it is not too horribly expensive (so be sure to buy multiple copies for friends and family). During his sabbatical last fall he managed to draft another book, this time on Virgil's *Aeneid*, and he is currently writing a commentary on *Aeneid* XII for a new series forthcoming from Lorenzo Valla. This past spring he taught Virgil's *Aeneid* to some extremely talented students, both undergrad and grad, and he taught a Covid-inflected version of his "Ecocultures of Antiquity" class, mostly to seniors, but sadly not in-person (no milling of einkorn, no fermentation seminar, no trips to the Yale farm, and so on). His vegetable garden currently thrives. After teaching a



Classical Mythologies course for the Yale Summer Session in June, he looks forward to 1) climbing rocks somewhere remote, then 2) heading off to Greece in August, where he will help teach a ten-day "Everscholar" seminar led by **Emily Greenwood**, on the topic of "Ancient Greece, Complex Histories." Then it's back to Yale for another stint as department chair, and all that entails.

Milette Gaifman's *Art and Myth in Greek Antiquity* was the largest Humanities course at Yale in the fall of 2020. One hundred eighty-nine undergraduate students enrolled in the class, and 24 graduate students served as Teaching Fellows. Instead of weekly lectures at the auditorium of the Yale University Art Gallery, the virtual class was delivered via Zoom. It comprised four pre-recorded mini-lectures of about 20 minutes weekly, and synchronous sections that made ample of use EdTech solutions in creative ways. As was reported in [Yale News](#), the course was received with great enthusiasm across campus. Alongside her teaching, Prof. Gaifman continued her scholarly work. In the summer of 2020, her article "Animals in Ancient Greek Dedications" appeared in *Animals in Ancient Greek Religion* (London), edited by Julia Kindt, and in November 2020, she delivered via Zoom the Jill and John Avery Distinguished Lecture in the History of Art, at the University of Pennsylvania. Throughout the year, Prof. Gaifman continued her work as the Coeditor-In-Chief of the *Art Bulletin* the flagship journal of art history globally, together with Lillian Tseng (ISAW, NYU), a position she



will hold until July 2022. In April 2021 President Salovey announced that Professor Gaifman will serve as the Chair of History of Art, starting in July 2021.

Brad Inwood writes: "The pandemic has given us all an uncannily quiet year, but it has been livened up by teaching – even in online mode, it has been a delight to be in touch with students again. The absence of research travel has been a blessing in disguise – I have finally sent my long overdue book manuscript in to Cambridge University Press (*Later Stoicism 155 BC to 200 AD: An Introduction and Collection of Sources in Translation*) and have revised a couple of papers. But somehow my main accomplishment this year has been getting vaccinated! We are all looking forward to a return to normality, if we can remember what that is!"

In a year when so much else ground to a halt, **Andrew Johnston** was profoundly grateful to be surrounded by resilient people who kept (him) moving forward, like the wonderful students he had the good fortune to work with as DUS and to teach this year in intermediate Latin, "The Roman World of the Plinys," and a graduate seminar on Roman inscriptions. But he will remember this especially as a year of bonus time with his kids: full of hikes, gardening, blanket forts, cardboard-box-and-duct-tape castles, an introduction to the world of Nintendo, and their not infrequent companionship while Zooming from his "home office." An article on the early Republican history of Gabii appeared in the *Journal of Roman Studies*, and he continues to work on his book on Roman attitudes toward kingship.



Andrew and Sawyer Johnston hard at work

Like most everyone this past year, **Jessica Lamont** developed her Zoom skills in a variety of ways, all of which now feel rather routine: teaching, giving talks, and keeping up with friends and family. She enjoyed co-teaching a new graduate seminar with **Joe Manning** this spring, "The Long Fourth Century: 404-272 BCE", which introduced students to the often-neglected period from the end of the Atheno-Peloponnesian War to the death of Pyrrhus, and spanned much of the eastern and central Mediterranean (and beyond!) A lecture course on "Medicine and Disease in Antiquity" transpired in a truly experimental Zoom format: a weekly combination of live

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lectures (M), pre-recorded lectures (T), non-mandatory discussions with students looking to engage further with their virtual professor (W), and TF-led discussion sections thoughtfully run by **Emily Helm** '17 Grad and **Nazim Serbest** '18 Grad (W/F). Jessica gave remote talks this year at Cornell, Oberlin, Princeton, Fairfield, and Randolph-Macon College, and published articles relating to ancient Greek magic, religion, and social history. She immensely enjoyed spending the entire (exhausting, sleepless) year with her 1-year-old son, writing, "Jaime's official second word was 'Mama,' losing out only to 'Roomba,' the name of our robotic vacuum cleaner."



Jaime ready to Roomba.

Noel Lenski writes: "Plague is not unique to our times, as Thucydides reminds us, but it had been unique to my experience before 'the long 2020'. I now feel much better qualified to discuss the sufferings of pandemic disease in the Antonine, Decian, and Justinianic periods from the deep understanding afforded by autopsy (autopathy?). Reduced to research aporia in the early days of library closures, I combatted idleness by rewiring my house, but as things improved over the summer, I made some progress on projects about Visigoths and slaves and completed a few articles. Four studies appeared, including a long-awaited survey article on 'Slavery in the Byzantine Empire' in *The Cambridge World History of Slavery*, Vol. 2, and another slavery piece on the theme of 'Monothéismes' in the handbook, *Les mondes de l'esclavage. Une histoire comparée*. My new translations of all documents related to slavery in the Visigothic Formulae can now be found online at the fabulous resource *Teaching Medieval Slavery and Captivity*, edited by Hannah Barker. Conference and lecture travel did not, of course, happen, but I did have the chance to deliver remote lectures hosted at Ghent, Bonn, Canisius College in Buffalo, and here at Yale's Ancient Societies Workshop. I am extremely proud of my student **Lester Stephens** '21 Ph.D., who is the first to complete his degree in Yale's Combined Degree Program in Classics and Ancient History with a dissertation on 'Res Novae and Radial Governmentality (112-72 BC)' (see page 7). I have also been proud, and somewhat overwhelmed, to serve since last summer as DGS to the c. 150 graduate students in the Department of History, a big job not made easier by COVID. My knowledge of history gives me optimism that we might expect a period of flourish in the aftermath of this devastating plague, but it also warns me to expect the unexpected. We'll know in a year's time which was correct."

Pauline LeVen spent her year of remote teaching in Vermont, tending chickens and getting accustomed to unmuting herself before speaking on Zoom. Her *Music and Metamorphosis in Graeco-Roman Thought* came out in January 2021 from Cambridge University Press—and was properly launched

with a joyful book celebration organized by **Ziming Liu** '19 Grad and other students (to whom PLV is very grateful). She finished editing, with Sean Gurd, the first volume of the *Cultural History of Western Music*, which should come out from Bloomsbury in 2022. She has started giving lectures on her new monograph, entitled *Posthuman Lyric: Greek Poetry and the Anthropocene*, and greatly benefited from her graduate students' insights and energy during her spring 21 "Posthuman Lyric" seminar, co-taught with her new colleague Jessica Peritz (Music). The highlight of her semester was probably the vernissage of the new virtual exhibit "Responding to Antiquity" that she curated with the help of a group of brilliant undergraduates (see page 14).



Above: Pauline and her new book.
Right: Hudson LeVen Parker gets ready for his summer in Brittany



Joe Manning says: "Much of this past year has been devoted to managing the US National Science Foundation funded Yale Nile Initiative Project, which has reached a full head of steam as we transition from data collection to analysis over the course of the next two years. Much progress has been made this year and I am looking forward to getting published results out to the world soon in various formats. In addition to our international team, including several post-docs, the project now employs a flock of Yale College students whose enthusiasm for the work keeps us going. You can follow the project on Twitter @NileHistory and on our [website](#). Look for our new documentary film about the project coming early next year on the Curiosity Stream in the US, and other distributors worldwide. Planning for our end-of-project major conference at the Peabody Museum's new lecture hall in the fall of 2023 is already underway." In addition to the project, Manning submitted two papers on law and administration in Ptolemaic Egypt and an overview of the period for a major new volume on the Septuagint. He is hard at work on his new book, tentatively entitled *Thin Ice. Science, History and the Fate of the Earth* for Liveright, an imprint of WW Norton. The book will examine the deep connections between the natural world, climate and human history since the ice age with a special focus on how science is changing every aspect of our understanding of the past. He is looking forward to the return of normal life on campus and teaching in person in the fall.

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“Not much to report”: that’s **Joe Solodow**’s report for the year past. One article is slated to appear later this year, and another is nearly finished and ready to be submitted to a journal; both are philological rather than literary. He enjoyed the familiar shape of his teaching schedule, a course of literature in the fall (it was “Roman Comedy” this year) balanced in the spring by “Latin Syntax and Stylistics.” In November he gave a talk to the Linguistics Club of Winchester College, in England. That

was done remotely of course, like all other forms of recent teaching. The fall, with its promise of a return to the classroom and blackboards and to the spectacle of students, beckons with special warmth. Enforced leisure last summer and fall led to lots of work in the garden, the results of which are now emerging from the soil, and no less rapidly and astonishingly than ever.

Faculty Departures

Emily Greenwood writes: “After twelve years at Yale, I have decided to take up a position at another university. At the beginning of July I will move to Princeton to begin a joint appointment in the department of Classics and the University Center for Human Values. While I will be sorry to leave, I hope to remain a colleague at large to everyone in our department. I am firmly and enthusiastically committed to the doctoral students with whom I am working and the dissertation committees on which I serve. We have been through a lot together, not least this past year, and I am grateful for the deep collegiality and friendship that you have given me.”



Emily Greenwood as Distinguished Visiting Lecturer, University of Texas Humanities Institute, 2019

Cleopatra and Rome, which opens a new perspective on one of the most intriguing women who ever lived. ... But beyond your valued research, you have made other significant contributions to Yale and to the wider world. As the deputy provost for the arts in the Office of the Provost from 1995 to 2003, you nurtured and cared for all the arts at Yale. But perhaps most importantly of all, as the founding director of Open Yale Courses, and a primary contributor to distance learning and media initiatives for a decade and a half, you pioneered Yale’s digital faculty presence and enabled dozens of Yale’s influential faculty to offer their courses online, and thousands of students and others to appreciate and learn from them.”

Irene Peirano Garrison took up the position of Pope Professor of the Latin Language and Literature at Harvard on January 1, 2021, and relocated with her family to Arlington, MA. The last two courses she taught at Yale were memorable despite Zoom and the pandemic. She taught Ovid’s *Heroides* to a large cohort of brilliant and enthusiastic students (largely freshmen) and co-taught a section of DS Literature with **Pauline LeVen**, from whom she learned much not just about Greek and Roman poetry but also about pedagogy, humor and the life worth living. While she misses Phelps and all her Classics friends, she is grateful to the students and friends who are staying in touch. She is especially looking forward to welcoming Yale’s **Charnice Hoegnifioh** ’24 to Boylston Hall (albeit virtually) for a summer research fellowship sponsored by the Leadership Alliance and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard.



IPG with sons Ulysse and Leonardo in their Arlington home



Diana Kleiner in her element

Faculty Arrivals



James Patterson is delighted to be joining the Department as Language Program Director this fall. He comes to Yale from the University of Texas at Austin, where he received a Ph.D. in 2015 and has since been a Lecturer in Classics and the Jefferson Center for the Study of Core Texts & Ideas. Before that, he received a BA (2003) and MAT (2006) from

the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He is interested in all things classical, especially late antique and North African, but it is the teaching he finds most rewarding. While at UT, he directed the Summer Intensive Greek program and wrote *Gareth Morgan's Lexis*, a textbook teaching Greek from a linguistics perspective. He is thrilled to start a new chapter at Yale, focusing his efforts on classical language pedagogy with eager students and wonderful colleagues back home in New England.



Erika Valdivieso is also delighted to join the Department of Classics this summer. She holds a Ph.D. in Classics from Brown University (2020) and returns to New England after a year at Princeton, where she was a Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow in the Classics department. Her research examines the intersection between classical education and colonialism in

Spanish America and Brazil, with a particular focus on Latin texts written in these regions during the early modern period. She has a special interest in book history, ancient literary criticism and Latin poetry, all of which inform her current book project on four Vergilian epics from colonial Latin America. Dr. Valdivieso has published on sixteenth-century Peru and poetic manuals from seventeenth-century Mexico and is a co-founder of *Hesperides*, a scholarly organization which studies Classics in the Luso-Hispanophone world.

Finishing Ph.D.s

We celebrate the three students who completed their Ph.D.s for a 2021 degree: **Dan Ferguson**, **Niek Janssen**, and **Lester Stevens**.

Dan Ferguson's dissertation, "*Eudaimonia* in the *Eudemian Ethics*," defends an "Intellectualist" reading of the *Eudemian Ethics* (EE). "According to this view, Aristotle identifies *eudaimonia* in the EE with the activity of 'God's contemplation,' subject to certain qualifications. In Chapter One I discuss Aristotle's argument in EE I.8 that *eudaimonia* is the *telos* of the practicable goods. Next, in Chapter Two I analyze the Eudemian *ergon* argument. This argument is often thought to show that Aristotle holds an 'inclusive' conception of *eudaimonia*, according to which *eudaimonia* is the combination of all forms of virtuous activity performed in a suitably long life. I argue that this reading is mistaken, and that the *ergon* argument is compatible with Intellectualism. Next, in Chapter Three I argue that Aristotle makes use of his result in EE I.8 at the very end of the EE and argues that the *telos* of the practicable goods is God's contemplation, suitably qualified. Chapters Four and Five discuss two important topics left in the wake of my argument in Chapters One through Three. In Chapter Four I offer an account of how God's contemplation, suitably qualified, could serve as the *telos* of the practicable goods. Finally, in Chapter Five I analyze Aristotle's argument at the end of the EE for his conclusion that God's contemplation, suitably qualified, is this *telos*."

Niek Janssen writes about "Appropriate Transgressions: Parody and Decorum in Ancient Greece and Rome": "Through the close analysis of Greek and Roman parodies and writings about parody, this dissertation seeks to defamiliarize the

process by which readers identify one text (or genre, image, action, body, and so on) as a parody of another. Parody differs from other modes of adaptation in that it introduces an incongruity that was not present in the original. To read a text as parody, then, is to claim that the parodying text lacks the decorous integrity, the appropriate fitting-together as a whole, possessed by its model. At the same time, however, parodies are not simply failed, incongruous imitations. The very function of the word 'parody' is to provide such texts with a justification in terms of decorum: parodies are texts for which it is appropriate to be inappropriate. This understanding of parody as an 'appropriate transgression' presents an opportunity for investigating the often implicit norms of decorum by which Greek and Roman communities

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A solitary walker on Hillhouse Avenue, late January 2021

Yale University, Dan Renzetti

operated. Decorum—that which counts as appropriate, fitting, suitable—is after all not a matter of fact. Decorum is a normative construct: a concept that justifies beliefs about how texts ought to be composed and how people ought to behave, speak, and look. From inside a community, however, norms of decorum often seem so self-evident that they are rarely explicitly addressed. Parodic texts, through their double relationship to norms of appropriateness (transgressing against the decorum of their model while justifying themselves through some other logic of propriety) thus create a space to explore, and identify the limits of, decorum as a norm-giving principle. The dissertation shows that parody, as a form of imitation deeply implicated in historically and contextually determined notions of decorum, is an unconventional but illuminating method of engaging with philosophical and literary-critical problems. As such, this project not only contributes to our understanding of ancient intellectual history and intertextuality in Greek and Roman literature, but it is of broad significance to scholars interested in the intersections between humor, literary adaptation, and normativity.”

In “*Res Novae* and Radial Governmentality (112-72 BCE),” **Lester Stephens** examines how the Romans “habituated themselves to increasing violence during the late Roman Republic and analyzes normative change within Rome and its effects beyond the city. The investigation subsumes the familiar names that dominate the period—Caesar, Pompey, Marius, and Sulla—under a long-term process of change that altered the citizens’ attitudes towards politics, Roman traditions, and *vis*. As the establishment of new precedents using violence led to more egregious manifestations of political conduct, changes in the Roman psychology towards institutions also shifted, and the changes in thinking and conduct following repeated violation of norms transformed Roman society in the late Roman Republic. The transformation did not inexorably lead to collapse, but it became more difficult to arrest the

process once Roman generals backed by formidable armies normalized the manipulation of the law to achieve political ends. Violence and force eventually supplanted the law, and Roman institutions still functioned though attended with growing malleability. The normative changes within Rome and their consequences have implications for not only what happened in Rome, but the lessons also apply to any society whose laws and institutions undergo constant alteration. Moreover, the events in Rome represent only one part of the story. A fluid institutional environment developed within Rome that also manifested outside of Rome. Sertorius, the Marsi, and formerly enslaved persons under Eunus and Salvius organized large-scale wars attuned to changing norms and institutional flux in Rome. The institutional conduct of the leaders and armies involved in these conflicts against Rome attests to the fluid social and political landscape of the region. Evidence from the wars offers insight into how authority was established and reveals various avenues for the expression of power in the late Republic. The three case studies of the dissertation challenge traditional notions of Roman hegemony and posit a different calculus for understanding authority and legitimation. The violence in the late Republic requires an explanation that illustrates how changing norms conditioned the Romans to new forms and levels of violence. Also, Rome was not the only power base on the Italian peninsula or in the ancient Mediterranean, and this circumstance necessitates an exploration of other sites of power in order to grasp how institutions and legitimation functioned in the region. A framework is currently nonexistent that juxtaposes the three Servile Wars, the Marsic War, and the Sertorian War and analyzes them as analogous representations of revolution and governance. In addition to explaining late Republican violence and demonstrating a relationship between laws and norms in Rome and institutional developments away from Rome, the dissertation seeks to reframe how we view legitimation, authority, and Roman hegemony in the late Republic.”

ESI Prep and Summer Study

This year the department welcomed Jay Lugardo (Princeton '20), a post-bac student in Yale's Post-baccalaureate Research Education Program (ESI Prep). After a summer studying intensive Greek, Jay spent the year taking courses and researching a project entitled “Incarceration in *Antigone*: The Underworld, Born from an Imprisoned Body,” advised by Emily Greenwood, Milette Gaifman, and Chris Kraus. She will enter the Stanford Classics Ph.D. program in the fall. This June, we will begin working with Niles Marthone

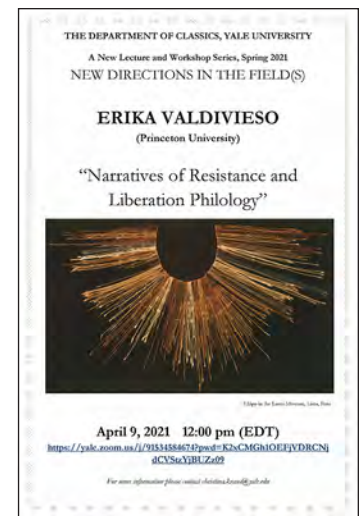
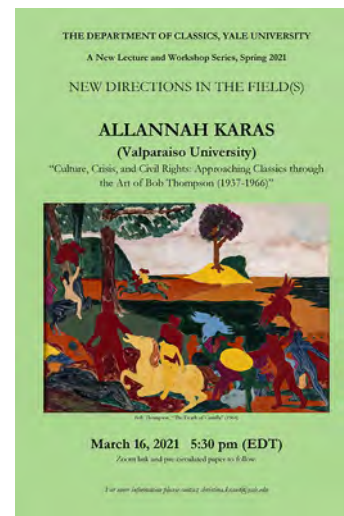
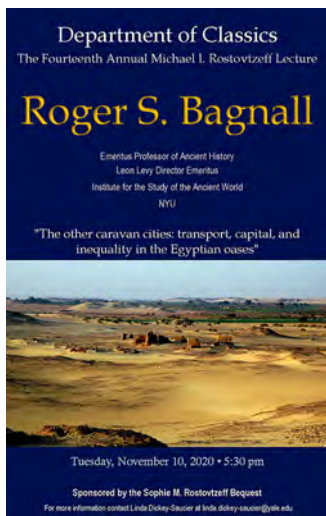


Jay Lugardo

(Brooklyn College '21) who will kick off her ESI year with the Greek Summer Workshop at UC Berkeley, funded by a scholarship from the Society for Classical Studies, before beginning a project exploring the imagery of myths and working with museum collections, advised primarily by Professor Gaifman. Last summer Pauline LeVen worked with Peeper Hersey-Powers (Pomona '21), a recipient of the Onassis Foundation USA – Leadership Alliance Diversity Fellowship in Hellenic Studies, on the reception of myths involving metamorphosis from queer and trans perspectives.



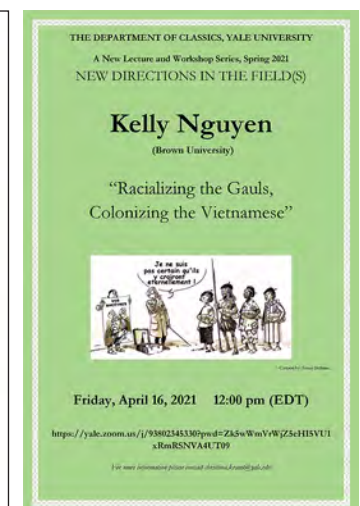
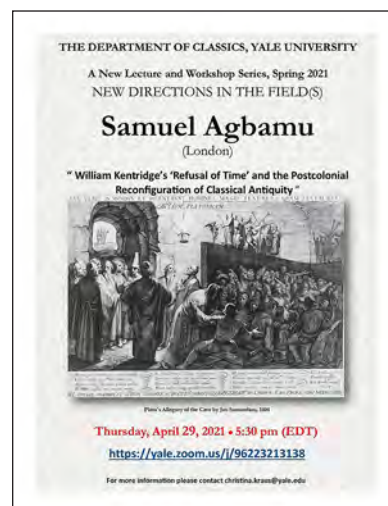
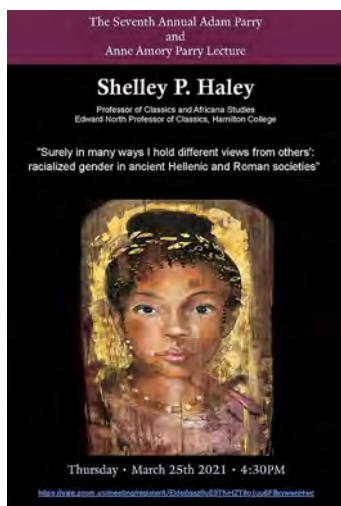
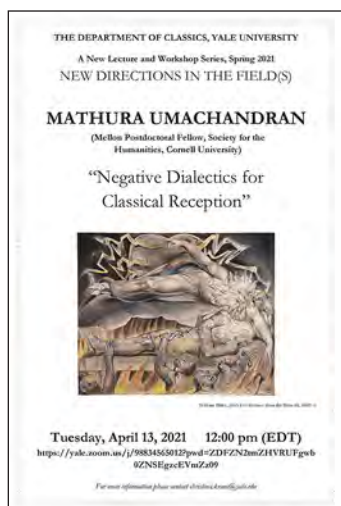
Peeper Hersey-Powers



Lectures and Workshops

One silver lining of the pandemic cloud has been that Zoom meetings allow participation from all over the globe. We maintained an active series of lectures over the year with large audiences, of which we single out a few here: first, our flagship Parry and Rostovtzeff events – the former delivered by Shelley Haley (Hamilton College), the latter by **Roger Bagnall** '68 (ISAW). We hope that Professor Bagnall will be able to return to Yale in the upcoming year to run a workshop at the Beinecke on the topic of his lecture. Professor Haley also ran a workshop on Classics and Race in September, generously co-sponsored by the Yale Center for the Study of Race, Indigeneity, and Transnational Migration. An Ancient Societies series on "Law and Literature," hosted by Maria Doerfler and Travis Zadeh (both RLST), ran in parallel to this year's core seminar for Archaia, entitled "Law and History, Law in History: Premodern Civilizations through the Lens of Legal Historiography"; a second core seminar, taught by **Kevin van Bladel** '04 Ph.D. (NELC and Classics), examined "Historical Sociolinguistics of the Ancient World." In the spring, we listened to six talented young scholars speak on "New Directions in the Field(s)" with a special emphasis on reception studies. We had our COVID-postponed annual Philology Day on Zoom in the spring,

owing to the hard work of organizers **Fran Beretta** '18 Grad, **CJ Rice** '16 Grad, and **Sylvia Kroeber** '17 Grad, with speakers Shane Butler (JHU), Kristina Milnor (Barnard), and Sarah Levin Richardson (Washington) on the theme of gender and sexuality in the Greek and Roman worlds. The 2020-21 Departmental Colloquium, organized by **Chris Kraus** and **Ray Lahiri** '17 Grad, featured papers on the general topic of "Power, Violence, Vulnerability" by **CJ Rice** '16 Grad, Joy Connolly (ACLS), Nandini Pandey (Wisconsin/JHU), Bonnie Honig (Brown), **Treasa Bell** '15 Grad, and **Ray** himself; **Jessica Lamont**, President of the AIA's New Haven chapter, hosted Susanne Ebbinghaus (Harvard Art Museums) for the Hanfmann lecture "Feasts of Silver in the Persian Empire" in March. Finally, both the graduate-designed and run series American Classicisms (organized by **Chris Londa** '16 Grad, **Thomas Munro** '19 Grad, and **Francesca Beretta** '18 Grad), and the undergraduate-designed anti-racism reading group (stewarded by **Elizabeth Raab** '23, **Matt Watson** '22, and **Grace MacDonald** '22) went from strength to strength, keeping us plied with fascinating talks and engaging intellectual readings in the essential, related projects of understanding the history of our field(s), and of belonging.



Current Student News

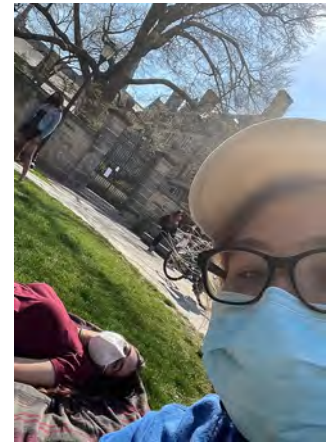
2020-2021 was a special year for **Niek Janssen** '21 Ph.D., first and foremost because he married the amazing Nica Siegel during a small (and socially distanced!) ceremony in New Haven. What's more, he successfully submitted his dissertation (see page 6), which was generously supported by an ACLS / Mellon Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship. Niek is incredibly grateful to his supervisor, **Irene Peirano Garrison**, as well as the other members of his dissertation committee, **Kirk Freudenburg** and **Pauline LeVen**. For the next two years, he will be continuing his research as a Banting Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto, where he will be working with Erik Gunderson. Niek is sad to leave the department, but thankful to all members of the Yale Classics community who have helped to make New Haven feel like home.

In the summer of 2020, **Chris Londa** '16 Grad found himself unexpectedly in Berkeley, CA, where the pandemic had turned a two-week spring-break trip into a four-month stay. Returning to the east coast in the fall, he organized the third semester of the American Classicisms working group and joined **Irene Peirano Garrison** in teaching the Latin bridge course "Verse Letters." He also presented versions of a paper on Phaedrus's fables and Catullus 64 at Yale, the University of Graz, and the SCS annual meeting—all over Zoom, of course. This spring, he was especially proud to collaborate with Yale colleagues **Lina Kapp** '20, **Elizabeth Raab** '23, and **Matt Watson** '22 on a presentation at the first biennial SPEAC conference "Now & Then: (In)equity and Marginalization in Ancient Mediterranean Studies." Now enjoying the quiet of his dissertation research year, Chris continues work on his project examining the tensions between paraliterary labor and Roman ideas about authorship. In the coming weeks, he looks forward to sharing his paper on *fidus Achates* at the Vergilian Society's

Symposium Cumanum—again, sadly, on Zoom. Other highlights of the past year include his first backpacking trip, a surprise whale sighting, and an appearance on the podcast Yale Talk, hosted by University President Peter Salovey.

CJ Rice '16 Grad (Classics and Ancient History track) was this year's winner of the Deborah Roberts Prize for excellence in undergraduate teaching, which is given annually to the teaching fellow nominated by their students: CJ won for his caring, innovative teaching of LATN 110 and 120. He also participated actively in the Premodern Language Pedagogy group, along with **Sylva Kroeber** '17 Grad and many other students from Classics and other departments. Related work on pedagogy in antiquity continued with a workshop sponsored by the Classics graduate students, whose elected speaker, Eleanor Dickey (Reading), gave three presentations over the course of a week, ably hosted by **Chris Londa** '16 Grad and the department TFs.

BREAKING NEWS: **Matt Watson** '22 Shows Up to his Morning Class. For the first time in recent memory, Matt woke up in time for his morning lecture this week. 10:30am is the crack of dawn for Matt, and we applaud him for this extraordinary achievement. Matt is usually so swamped with commitments that he can't go to bed at a reasonable hour or wake up at 10:30. For example, he has to spend at least 3 hours a night on TikTok and send



Matt Watson and Sydnie Chavez "studying"

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Innovating Premodern Language Pedagogy at Yale

The Classroom as a Building Block for Structural Change

Danielle Bostick
Handley High School

For centuries, Classics has asserted its value and relevance in the service of racism and oppression. John Calhoun used proficiency in ancient Greek as a way to measure the humanity of Black people. Classics has been deployed to justify the institution of slavery; promoted from within as a tool of assimilation, and used by White supremacists to legitimate hateful ideology.

In this context, it is impossible to solve systemic problems at the classroom level unless we view our programs as building blocks of larger field. My lecture will draw on my experience as a Latin teacher in a Title I school and provide practical ways to effect positive classroom-level change with an eye on creating a more just field.

Tuesday, February 23 4:00 pm EST Zoom ID: 928 9546 3892

Innovating Premodern Language Pedagogy is a new initiative supported by Archais, the Yale Program for the Study of Ancient and Premodern Civilizations, the Center for Language Study, the Yale Council on East Asian Studies, and GSAS.

Dani Bostick (Handley High School) ran a dynamic, thought-provoking workshop for Classicists and others in the Premodern Language Pedagogy group.

random emojis to Liz Raab at 2am. Showing up to class was not Matt's only achievement that day. He did not send ONE text during class, and gave his full and undivided attention for the entire 50 minutes! Yale students pride themselves on robust academic achievement and a constant commitment to the pursuit of knowledge. Matt, as an exemplary Yale student, embodies these values. (The only true statements here are about TikTok and texts to Liz at 2am. The rest is fake news, unconfirmed by third party sources.)

Philip Balkan '24 won the Latin translation prize examination in the first-year cohort and **Andrew DeWeese** '24 the Greek (the Hurlbut Prizes); **Matt Thomas** '23 the Greek and Latin translation prize examinations in the sophomore cohort (the Bristed Prizes); and **Claire Saint-Amour** '22 the Greek and Latin translation prize examinations in the Junior/Senior cohort (the Buchanan Winthrop Prizes).

Charnice Hoegnifioh '24 is delighted to share that she delivered a talk entitled "Perceptions of Persona: Reconstructing the Tragedy of Dido and Aeneas Through Pseudepigraphic Epistles" at the Johns Hopkins' Richard Macksey National Undergraduate Humanities Research Symposium. Her original verse letter "*Heroides* 7.5: Aeneas to Dido" challenged the gendered power dynamics present in Ovid's *Heroides*. She would like to thank Professors **Peirano Garrison**, **Johnston, LeVen**, and **Gaifman** for taking the time to help her prepare for the conference and for all of the wonderful feedback they provided! You can watch a short explication and performance of "*Heroides* 7.5" in the virtual exhibit "Responding to Antiquity" on the Classics Department website (see page 14). Charnice also sang in the Muse Chorus and was the narrator of Kore, "an adaptation of the Persephone myth that explores the transformative nature of trauma, following Persephone's journey from being the maiden Kore to being the chaos-bringing Queen of the Underworld. Throughout the performance, Kore explores how grief is passed from generation to generation and who we become after traumatic experiences." The radio play can be streamed on [Spotify](#) and on [YouTube](#).

Helicon Returns

This semester, a lively team of undergraduate Classics students (**Esther Reichek** '23, **Alisia Pan** '23, and **Katie Painter** '23) worked together to re-introduce *Helicon: The Yale Undergraduate Journal of Classics*. *Helicon* will be a semesterly academic journal. It aims to foster scholarship in Classics by providing undergraduate students with a forum to publish their writings. The digital format of the journal, as well as its diverse content, which includes articles, thesis chapters, and creative work, emphasizes in equal part accessibility and rigor. *Helicon* also accepts submissions from students around the world in order to establish a network of support and a sense of community among undergraduate, graduate students, and faculty in Classics.

We look forward to sharing the spring 2021 issue with you soon – highlights include a paper on the *topos* of man-



hel-i-con
[/'helə,kān,'heləkən/] noun
1. large spiral bass tuba
2. a mountain that contained the site of two sacred springs and home of the Muses, the nine goddesses who inspire the arts, literature, & sciences (in Greek mythology)
3. Yale's Undergraduate Journal of Classics

to-man combat in Persian literature, a Latin translation of a Chinese poem, and much more! You can email us at helicon_publication@gmail.com to learn more and/or get involved.

Alumni News

Ben Jerue '16 Ph.D. writes from Spain that he has had two articles come out (one about *callidus* and the other about Gellius), and is revising a piece on Horace and *sermo merus*. But the big news is the birth to him and wife Celia of twins Pablo and Félix. He writes: "The boys are supposed to be identical, but for now look different: Pablo was born a pound heavier and then had to spend a week 'en la playa' (i.e. under a



At right: Pablo and Félix (or Félix and Pablo?)

lamp) because of vitamin D deficiency. But more amusingly, they each have 11 toes (probably a *prodigium*): Félix has a 6th toe on the right while Pablo has his 6th on the left. As long as the toes stick around, we can always tell them apart. I am lucky to still have the time to take them for a long walk in the park every morning, where we have befriended an alternating cast of elderly retirees."

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Jennifer Weintritt '19 Ph.D. finished her second year as an Assistant Professor at Northwestern University. This year she made the most of working remotely, delivering virtual talks at UCLA (where she caught up with **Bryant Kirkland** Ph.D. '16), UC San Diego, and a conference on Homer's continuators hosted by the Université de Tours as well as by the Classics Cluster at Northwestern. She taught classes on Roman Dining, Greek and Roman Religion, a first-year seminar on classicism, and a Latin course on translation. Best of all, she and her husband welcomed a healthy baby boy, Davis, in June.



Jennifer Weintritt's son Davis

Flora Lipsky '19 will be entering Duke Law School in the fall.

Graduates and former affiliates of the Department helped run a conversation on Careers in Classics in this year's first ever entirely remote SCS meeting.

Tom Beasley '13 Ph.D. (Humanities Washington), **Ralph Hexter** '82 CPLT (UC Davis), **Arum Park** '99 (University of Arizona), **Michèle Lowrie** '84 (University of Chicago), **Devondra Macmillan** '00 (Lawrenceville School), **Sarah Fente Derbew** '18 Ph.D. (Stanford University), and **Caroline Stark** '11 Ph.D. (Howard University) joined **Irene Peirano Garrison** and **Talia Boylan** '18 Grad, whose presentation on "Women Classical Scholars of Yale, 1895-1933" provided the jumping off point.

Alison Piñeros-Glasscock '18 Ph.D. has accepted a tenure track job as Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Georgia State University (in Atlanta), starting fall '21. She has a new article forthcoming in *Phronesis*: "Owning Virtue: The *Meno* on Virtue, Knowledge, and True Opinion."

After a couple of intense years teaching Classics at Deerfield Academy, **Geoff Moseley** '17 Ph.D. is beginning a career as an Assessment Specialist at ETS, where he will be one of two specialists

in Latin, but work also in French. Zut, alors! Caesar looms.

David Curtis '11 and his wife were blessed with a baby boy in February. They quickly discovered that Epictetus makes excellent bedtime reading.



David Curtis's new family

Emily Anhalt '89 Ph.D., who teaches at Sarah Lawrence College, has a new book due out in September: *Embattled:*

How Ancient Greek Myths Empower Us to Resist Tyranny (Stanford University Press, 2021).

Evan Rodriguez '16 Ph.D. (Philosophy and Classics) has been awarded a 2021/22 [Center for Hellenic Studies Fellowship](#) to work on his book manuscript *Rivals or Relatives? Tracking Truth and Ways of Knowing among Plato and the Sophists*. He will be in residence at the Center in fall 2021.

Kathryn Blenkinsop Hill '91 writes: "Although I have generally taught high school math during my thirty-year teaching career, I have periodically pulled out my other major (Classics) to help out with Latin teaching. I will be doing so again, as I will be teaching Latin 2 to help with the teaching load in the languages department. It's always so great to get back into the swing of things with Classical languages!"

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In Memoriam

W. Royal Stokes '65. Although he moved on from academia, Royal Stokes always treasured and spoke very highly of his experiences in that world and many of the people he encountered there. He comported himself as a sort of "professor without portfolio," always reading, learning, and mentoring anyone who showed interest in his areas of expertise. From the University of Washington, he earned a B.A. in History in 1958 and an M.A. in Classics in 1960, going on to complete a Ph.D.

in Classics at Yale University in 1965. Stokes taught Classics at the Universities of Pittsburg, Colorado, and Washington; Tufts University; and Brock University. Because he was an annual contributor to this *Newsletter*, we have followed his career in retirement with great interest; we link here to his [Washington Post obituary](#) and to an article, "[From Classics to Jazz](#)," describing his professional evolution from a Classics scholar into a jazz journalist and author.



Photo by Amy Banowitz Stokes

Left: W. Royal Stokes during his hippie period, Reston, VA, Dec. 1970, shortly after leaving Yale. Right: W. Royal Stokes at his 90th Birthday Party, 2020, with grandchildren Coen and Maya.

Graduate Classics Alumni *in Memoriam*

Stewart G. Flory, '64, '69 Ph.D., died in Minneapolis on November 27, 2020. After teaching at Amherst College for eight years, he and his first wife Marleen Boudreau Flory, whom he met at Yale and who predeceased him, joined the Gustavus Adolphus Classics Department in 1978, with Stewart as its first chair.

Stewart was a beloved and influential classroom teacher, teaching a wide range of courses including Greek, Latin, Greek History, and Myth. He was also a distinguished scholar, who won two research fellowships from the NEH and authored numerous reviews, conference papers, and journal articles, as well as an important and highly regarded book on Herodotus's Histories titled *The Archaic Smile of Herodotus* (1987).

In 2010 Stewart was honored by the creation of a named fellowship at Gustavus Adolphus, the Flory-Freiert Fellowship, named in honor of the Florys and Patricia and William Freiert, the four distinguished classicists who built the College's Classics department.

Along with his love of Classics, Stewart enjoyed watching tennis, reading fiction and *The New York Times*, traveling in Italy and Greece, and cooking. He is survived by his second wife Ellie (Gustavus '99) and three young children.

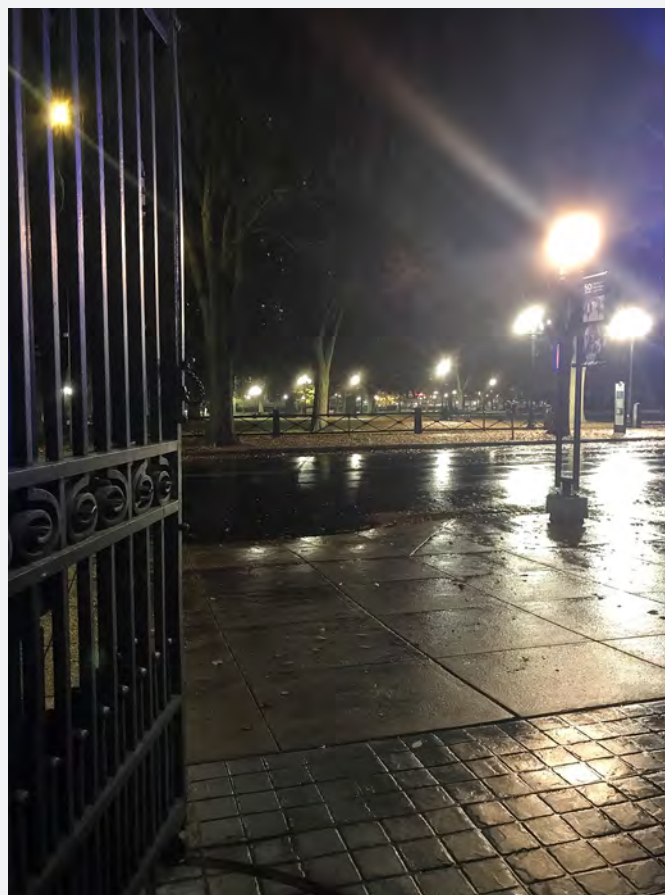
Henry R. Schwab, '63, '72 M.Phil., died on January 14, 2021. He was a long-time friend of the Classics department. He and his wife Susan (DRA '76) opened Book Haven on York Street in 1978 as an academic bookstore; its closure in 2005 marked the end of an era. Henry was a member of the Elizabethan Club and a frequent presence at University events. His New Haven publishing house brought out books by Cyrus Hamlin and Harold Bloom, and in 2001 a Festschrift for **Gordon Williams**, edited by **Elizabeth Tylawsky** '91 Ph.D. and **Charles Weiss** '98 Ph.D.

Martha Heath Wiencke, '57 Ph.D., passed away on December 7, 2020, in Hanover, New Hampshire at the age of 90. After completing her Ph.D. in archaeology at Yale, Martha studied at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Greece, as a Fulbright scholar. She taught Latin, German, and French at Thetford Academy and Latin at Dartmouth; during the 16 years she lived at Kendal of Hanover, she tutored a student in Homeric Greek and Latin every Wednesday.

She married Matthew I. Wiencke in 1958. They moved to Thetford Center, VT, in 1960, raised four children there, and traveled widely. Early in her career, Martha joined a team of archaeologists working at Lerna, one of the most important prehistoric sites in Greece and said to be the place that Hercules slew the 9-headed Hydra. Excavations at the House of the Tiles at Lerna, where an unusual collection of Bronze Age seals was discovered, became her life's scholarship. She served as editor of publications for the project and wrote *The Architecture, Stratification, and Pottery of Lerna III*, published in 2000.

An avid reader, Martha also loved flower gardening, music, and art and sketched throughout her life. She enjoyed concerts at Tanglewood and played violin in string quartets, in the Kendal orchestra, and at Our Savior Lutheran Church, where she was a member and sang in the choir.

Alfred "Eliot" Youman '55 B.A., '59 Ph.D., died on April 4, 2020 in Macon, Georgia. For many years he was a faculty member of Mercer University where he taught Latin and Classical Literature. Achim Kopp, the current director of Mercer's Classical Studies program, posted this memory: "I will always be grateful to Eliot for the support he gave me when I became his successor in Latin and Classical Literature at Mercer University in 1997. Not only did he leave me an office full of books, but also invaluable advice on how to conduct my classes at Mercer. He even took me around the state of Georgia to meet our colleagues in the Classics at other universities. In addition to the Classics, we shared one other common interest: tennis. For many years, we had a standing arrangement for a game of tennis after class on Friday afternoon. Those who have ever played with Eliot know that he was a master of the game, well into his late seventies. His drop shot was legendary! I will fondly remember all my interactions with Eliot, both on and off the court."



A rainy late afternoon at Phelps gate, November 2020

Amidst the ongoing *loimós*, **Kyle Khellaf** '18 Ph.D. is nevertheless immensely grateful for his first two years as Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature and Classics at UC Riverside, where he has taught a variety of large lecture courses ("Early Greece and the Mediterranean"; "The Hellenistic World" with a guest lecture by **Andy Hogan** '18 Ph.D.), smaller undergraduate courses ("Imperialisms: Ancient and Modern"; "Gender and Sexuality in Antiquity"; "Ovid"; "Comparative Ancient Historical Writing"), and a graduate seminar ("History of Criticism: The Ancient Precursor"). This year saw published an edited special volume of the journal *Ramus* (*Deterritorializing Classics: Deleuze, Guattari and Antiquity*), including an article, "Classical Nomadologies"; another article entitled "Migration and Mobile Memory in the Roman Historical Digression" (in *Usages of the Past in Roman Historiography*, along with **Chris Kraus** and **Rachel Lilley Love** '19 Ph.D.); as well as a review essay ("Do Philologists Dream of Oedipus Rex?") as part of a Syndicate symposium (<https://syndicate.network>) on **Vered Lev Kenaan**'s '95 Ph.D. most recent monograph, *The Ancient Unconscious*.

Yukai Li '17 Ph.D. has been promoted to Assistant Professor at Carleton University.

Robert Ulery '66, '71 Ph.D. is happy to announce the publication of *AVERRUNCI or The Skowrers: Ponderous and new considerations upon the first six books of the Annals of CORNELIUS TACITUS concerning TIBERIUS CAESAR* (Genoa, Biblioteca Durazzo, MS A IV 5) by Edmund Bolton, edited with Introduction and Commentary by Patricia J. Osmond and Robert W. Ulery, Jr. (Renaissance English Text Society, Volume 38; Medieval and Renaissance Texts and Studies, Volume 508.) Tempe, Arizona, 2017. The work was written by Bolton in the 1640s and never published. Ulery and Osmond discovered it in a private library in Genoa, identified the author and prepared it for its first publication.

Meghan C. Freeman '19 Ph.D. is moving on from Creighton University to a Chicago-based ed-tech company called Black Spectacles, that works with architects to showcase their work and further their careers through continuing education. She will be in charge of teaching professional architects how to teach other architects, and of shaping educational content. She and her husband welcomed their son Peter Joseph Porter in October 2020.

Noreen Sit (now Kupernik) '19 Ph.D. finished her second year of teaching Latin at Thaden School in Bentonville, AR. This year, her stalwart *discipuli* composed and recorded Latin skits on Zoom, created Minecraft house tours as Roman realtors, presented on works of art as Latin docents, and collaborated in an exchange of *epistulae* with students at a partner school. Noreen is excited to step into a 3-year role as SCS Legate for Arkansas, a liaison position that connects K-12 and college-level classics programs around the state. She is hopeful that the world reopening will provide more chances to travel and reconnect with colleagues in the Northeast.

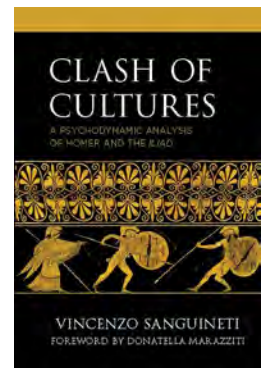
Thomas W. Gilbert '80 writes: "My new book on the origins of baseball (*How Baseball Happened*) from David

R. Godine Pub. in Boston won the Casey Award for best baseball book of 2020. It. The Wall Street Journal called it "A delightful look at a young nation creating a pastime that was love from the first crack of the bat." For more, see: <https://howbaseballhappened.com/> It's about baseball, obviously, but Nestor of Pylos, Achilles and the Olympic games all get a mention!"

Vincent Sanguinetti '76 has finished *Clash of Cultures*, a psychodynamic approach to the understanding of Homer and his work. The book is published by Lexington. It is an accurately researched and documented non-trade book, directed to departments of classics and psychiatry/psychology. Commentators and reviewers describe it as an original and unique approach to Homer and to the *Iliad* and its content.

Rachel Meyers '99 received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor of Classical Studies at Iowa State University in April 2021. Her work has focused on the activities of benefactors in the Roman world, and she is now preparing a sourcebook with translations of Latin inscriptions that record a range of gifts in Roman Hispania. She has also recently joined a collaborative project investigating issues connected to food safety in the Roman Empire. She looks forward to resuming her study abroad trip to Rome in May 2022 and to traveling in general after so many months in the same place.

Jessica McCutcheon '12 Ph.D. is living and working in Aarhus, Denmark, with son Ezra and husband Ben Purzycki. She starts a new position this summer as project manager at World Translation.



Yale University, Lee Faulkner



Handsome Dan XIX

Please send news to
linda.dickey-saucier@yale.edu

Online Exhibit

“[Responding to Antiquity](#)” is curated by Classics undergraduates **Grace Blaxill** ’22, **Charnice Hoegnifioh** ’24, **Grace MacDonald** ’22, **Elizabeth Raab** ’23, and **Claire Saint-Amour** ’22, with **Pauline LeVen**’s guidance. This exhibit features responses to Antiquity in a variety of media, created by Yale undergraduate and graduate artists over the course of three “Covid semesters” (2020–2021). These strange times called for alternative forms of scholarly engagement. Ranging from tongue-in-cheek to passionate, the works featured here illustrate that

scholarship can take experimental and daring forms, and that various artistic media (comics, song, poetry) provide fruitful opportunities to experience, and take a stance towards, the past. Viewers are invited to reevaluate the intersections of past and present by entering in dialogue with some ancient works (from Archaic epigrams to Ovid), institutions (the symposium) and practices (pseudepigraphic writing) through the perspectives of modern Yale students.

Responding to antiquity with poetry:



Charnice Hoegnifioh ’24, *Heroides* 7.5

Phraskleia in Footnotes, or Twelve Notes on Death and Grammar

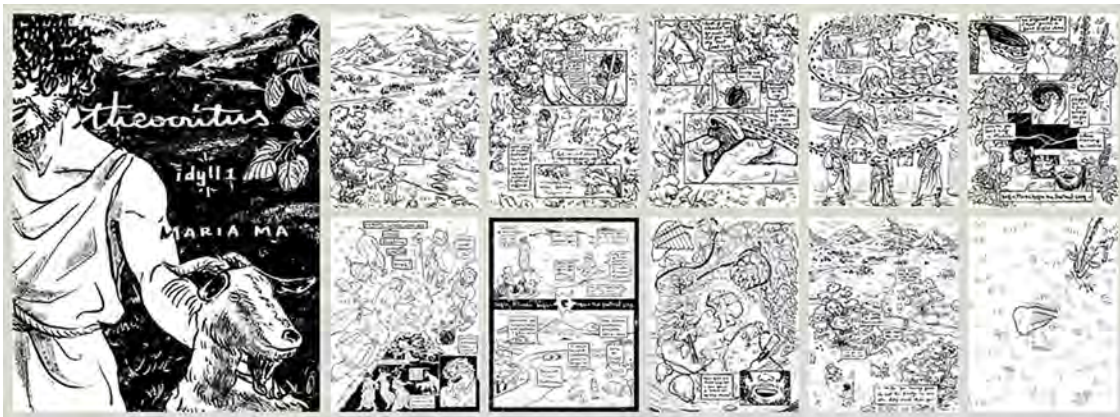
Σῆμα¹ Φρασικλέας² κούρη³ κεκλήσομαι⁴ αἰεὶ,⁵
ἀντὶ⁶ γάμου⁷ παρὰ⁸ θεῶν⁹ τοῦτο¹⁰ λαχοῦς¹¹ ὄνομα.¹²

I am the grave of Phrasikleia – maiden, I will always be called
This name I am allotted by the gods, instead of wife.

¹ What is a σῆμα? A sign, that which represents the signified....

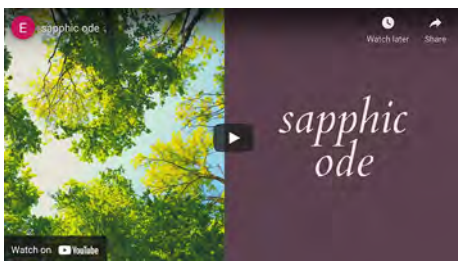
Savannah Marquardt, ’20 Grad (History of Art), *Phraskleia in footnotes*

Responding to antiquity with comics:



Maria Ma, ’20 Grad (Classics), *Theocritus: Idyll 1*

Responding to antiquity with music:



Griffin Botts, Yale School of Music ’20 M.M., ’21M.M.A. (Horn), *Sapphic Ode*, reimagined for two horns



David Keim, ’19 Grad (YSM), *Ode to Music and Wine Video*



Samuel Walter, Yale School of Music ’21 M.M.A. (Cello), *A symptotic poem*