

## Saturday Night Movies at the Library

Join us on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm as we kick off our Saturday Night Movies series with the film *The Pirate*, starring Judy Garland and Gene Kelly. This delightful film from 1948 features music and lyrics by Cole Porter and was directed by Vincente Minnelli. It tells the tale of a 19th Century Caribbean islander who's madly in love with a fantasy figure - an infamous pirate named Mack the Black. Such an appropriate way to celebrate Valentine's Day, including sweet treats for all!

On Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm The Library will be showing the documentary *The Anatomy of Hate: Beyond Hate with Bill Moyers*. Join Catherine Tatge and Dominique Lasseur as they introduce their film chronicling the impact of hate on its victims. Moyers interviews world figures such as Nelson Mandela, Jimmy Carter, Elie Wiesel as well as gang leaders and young people trying to cope with violence in their lives.

For each of the Saturday Night Movies series there is a suggested donation of \$6 per person and \$10 per couple.

## Poetry "Un-Slam"

Enjoy a Poetry "Un-Slam" at the Library on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Cornwall poets are invited to read their own, original work for up to 3 minutes on the first round of readings. Not a poet? Come to listen and hear emerging talents and established writers. This "Un-Slam" is not a competition, but promises to be entertaining.

## February Fun for Children

The Parent/Child Book group for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders met on Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss the latest book read, "Okay for Now." Please call Amy Buck at the Library if you would like to read the next book, which will be decided on at the meeting.

Hot Chocolate Hour starts February 8<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm and runs for six weeks, through March 14<sup>th</sup>. It is open to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders, who can take the bus to the Library after school with a signed permission slip. Mrs. Buck will read C.S. Lewis' "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" while the students snack on hot chocolate and cookies. Flyers and permission slips were be distributed through the school. The group is now full.

Story Hour for ages 4-7 will take place on Friday February 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. Kindergarteners and 2nd graders will be bussed from CCS, but preschoolers are invited to join too.

A Valentine card-making workshop will be held at the Library on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> from 1- 3 pm. Children can drop in between 1 and 3 pm to make cards for family and friends with an assortment of papers, doilies, rubber stamps, stickers and markers. Children under 9 should be accompanied by an adult. Please call the Library to sign up so we will have enough supplies for everyone.

## Call for “Local” Ephemera with Marc Simont Artwork

Beginning March 6<sup>th</sup> The Cornwall Library will exhibit a number of Marc Simont’s original works in a celebration of The World of Marc Simont. The Library asks anyone who has any ephemera (*definition: anything short-lived or transitory – i.e. artwork on paper*) of Marc’s – such as a card, illustrated letter, drawing, painting or poster – to make a color Xerox of the piece and bring it in to The Library by February 15<sup>th</sup> for possible inclusion in a montage. The color Xeroxes should be directed to the attention of Roxana Laughlin. Questions? Call her at 860-672-6430. Note: please, no originals and no Memorial Day portraits of your children – wonderful as they are, there are too many!

## Collection of Books on Aging

The Cornwall Library, in conjunction with the Town Committee on Aging, is developing a wide ranging reference collection of interest to anyone dealing with problems specific to the elderly such as Alzheimer’s Disease, caring for aging parents or spouses, health and exercise, housing and residential services, financial advice, and workbooks on every aspect of senior care. You will find the books and handouts in the reference section at the Library. These items are identified by the green dot on the books’ spines. Staff and volunteers will be happy to assist you. If you know of a book or program that would benefit the collection, please let us know.

## Art at The Library

Erica Prud’homme’s work, *Paintings: Some Old, Some New-Landscapes and Seascapes* will be on exhibit January 31<sup>st</sup> through March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## Notes From the Book Selection Committee

In anticipation of Valentine’s Day, the Book Selection Committee was reflecting on love and its mysteries. The first fine careless rapture. The frenzy, the loss of appetite, the wild swings of mood and energy. The eventual merging of bodies, souls, life-plans and libraries.

That last item is not a frivolous addition; for many of us, it’s of cardinal importance. There are of course some attendant questions. In the search for love, should One consider the reading list of the Other? Is it likely that readers who are passionate about very different genres – say, science fiction and Bloomsbury memoirs – will ever find happiness together? If One takes a suggestion from the Other and reads a book that One finds impenetrable or even repellent, will One’s feeling for the Other be affected? Is there hope for the union of a reader and a non-reader? Do we take our life-partners in sickness and in health, for better and for worse, and regardless of their indifference to Jane Austen?

Oh, don’t be silly. Love has no syllabus and no required reading list. When One exchanges a love-token with the Other, a biography of Groucho Marx may be charged with just as much meaning as the sonnets of Elizabeth Barrett Browning. Lovers live, at least initially, on their own planet and

make their own unchallengeable rules. None of which can prevent the Book Selection Committee from telling you about some interesting books that have recently come to the Library; you may or may not wish to share them with your Beloved.

## FICTION

Diana Gabaldon, *The Scottish Prisoner* It's the 18<sup>th</sup> century, it's the aftermath of the Jacobite Rising, it's about as romantic as a historical novel gets.

Penelope Lively, *How It All Began* If you need a civilized light novel, Lively is the doyenne of the genre. This one weaves several plot strands in various shadings of life and love.

Peter Orner, *Love and Shame and Love* Not exactly a political novel, but the story of a family whose members care about politics. Though Chicago is the general setting, Orner's airy structure keeps things from getting too gritty.

Jesmyn Ward, *Salvage the Bones* Winner of the National Book Award, "a taut, wily novel, smartly plotted and voluptuously written. It feels fresh and urgent, but it's an ancient, archetypal tale." So saith the NY Times reviewer.

## NON-FICTION

Robert Hughes, *Rome* All roads lead there; what a privilege to travel to Rome in the company of Robert Hughes, who has never had a dull thought or written a dull word.

Geoffrey Kabaservice, *Rule and Ruin: The Downfall of Moderation and the Destruction of the Republican Party, From Eisenhower to the Tea Party* Surely this is the most eloquent subtitle of the year. Need we say more?

Richard Seaver, *The Tender Hour of Twilight* This memoir of a great American publisher shows us Grove Press in the 50s and 60s, when it published *Lady Chatterley's Lover* and *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*. The former may have been read by Mad Men; the latter, not.

## Meetings

The Board of Trustees will meet Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm.