BOOKS AND SHELVES

Mark Arctander
Stephanie Brooks
Gary Cannone
Bill Davenport
Anthony Elms
Nicholas Frank
Michelle Grabner and Brad Killam
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Deva Maitland and Robyn O’Neil
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Buzz Spector
Several students and colleagues have asked me for a reading list, or rather, for several reading lists since each request carried with it some expectation of an individualized selection of texts. Why have I been asked? What is meant by such a request?

I refer to many books, articles, catalogs and letters in the course of my teaching, and have never encountered a student who was familiar with my every citation. This is neither evidence of a superlative pedagogy on my part nor (necessarily) of a deficiency in the reading experiences of my peers. I have not read any significant portion of texts available in the field of even my most specific intellectual interest. No one's read everything, for that matter, and other issues, of economies of collecting, of diverse literary taste, of local access to specific books, further complicates things. I will claim to be reasonably well read for the responsibilities of my profession, but it isn’t “required readings” that comprise the kind of syllabus which is my subject here.

Reading means very much to me and I know that some of the enjoyment I take from the activity itself, which is distinct from mastery of given subject matter, comes through in my academic method. The request for a reading list arises more, I believe, from a certain engagement between persons than from recognitions of a thematic ignorance of facts. What is being solicited is a kind of map by which to follow the cognitive terrain covered by the other in the course of his/her reading. But since maps are a means of finding places, what is the place being sought by a reading list?

We share our reading experiences with others, in part, because we wish to know what that other thought or felt while reading passages which most moved us in the experience of a given volume. In asking for a list of books to read one is asking, in some way, to partake of the pleasures (intellectual and emotional) to be encountered through such reading. It is in how the evidence of these pleasures is already demonstrated in aptitudes of thought and feeling by the other, that one is motivated to make such a request.
Mark Arctander

Currently on the floor next to my bed is a short tower that consists of:

Free Exchange by Pierre Bourdieu and Hans Haacke
Continuous Project Altered Daily — The Writings of Robert Morris by Robert Morris
Leaving Town Alive — Confessions of an Art Warrior by John Frohnmayr
Naked by the Window — The Fatal Marriage of Carl Andre and Ana Mendieta by Robert Katz
The Lecturer’s Tale by James Hynes
The Civilizing Process by Norbert Elias
Lullaby by Chuck Palahniuk
The Human Stain by Philip Roth
Stonehenge Decoded by Gerald S. Hawkins
Proficient Motorcycling — The Ultimate Guide to Riding Well by David L. Hough
Christian Boltanski by Lynn Gumpert
Imagists Poetry — An Anthology by Bob Blaisdell (editor)
Yertle the Turtle and Other Stories by Dr. Seuss
Basics of Investing — It’s Just What You Need to Know by Marc Robinson
Fodor’s, Exploring Italy
Silence — Lectures and Writings by John Cage by Wesleyan University Press

Mark Arctander, World of Marcel Duchamp, 2002, books, oak, pigment, 12.5” x 14.5” x 9.75”
Stephanie Brooks

Summer reading list:

*Eats, Shoots and Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation* by Lynne Truss

*Winter World: The Ingenuity of Animal Survival* by Bernd Heinrich

*The Gift: Imagination and the Erotic Life of Property* by Lewis Hyde

*Lost in A Good Book* by Jasper Fforde

*A Song I Knew by Heart* by Bret Lott

*The Whole Story and Other Stories* by Ali Smith

*The Ethics of Memory* by Avishai Margalit

*The Philosophy of the Marquis de Sade* by Timo Airaksinen

Stephanie Brooks, *Compact Edition of the O.E.D.*, 2002, poplar, acrylic, 14” x 8.5” x 10”
Gary Cannone

My reading list:

Ozu’s Anti-Cinema by Yoshishige Yoshida

The Art of Styling Sentences by Ann Longknife, K.D. Sullivan

D.W. Griffith and the Origins of American Narrative Film: The Early Years at Biograph by Tom Gunning

Graphic Organizers (Grades K-8) by Karen D’Angelo Bromley

The Social Context of Nonverbal Behavior by Pierre Philippot (editor)

Understanding Cinema: A Psychological Theory of Moving Imagery by Per Persson

Thinking is Child’s Play by Evelyn Sharp

The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic and Madness at the Fair that Changed America by Erik Larson

What Video Games Have to Teach Us About Learning and Literacy by James Paul Gee

Money and the Modern Mind: George Simmel’s Philosophy of Money by Gianfranco Poggi

Gary Cannone, 93% of Frank Lloyd Wright’s Documented Private Library in My Apartment, 1994, photograph, 19” x 22”
Here’s a downstairs bookshelf, with comments:

**The Private Life of Henry VIII**, Nancy Brysson Morrison. “Very, very bad, not even juicy.”

**Siblings Without Rivalry**, Adele Faber and Elaine Mazlish. “Good luck!”

**Curious George Flies a Kite**, Margret Rey (pictures by H.A. Rey). “I like the first two Curious George books written by H.A. Rey, where George smokes and vandalizes things. Margret was a prude.”


**The Brothers Karamazov**, Fyodor Dostoevsky. “Still haven’t gotten past the first hundred pages.”

**How to Make a Texas Will**, Karen Ann Rolcik and Mark Warda. “I did it, and you can too.”

**Archaeology of Michigan**, James E. Fitting. “Lots of arrowhead pictures. It’s amazing how out of date a book on archaeology can get in 30 years.”

**Exploring Caves**, Polly Longsworth. “Junior high library fodder”


**The Success and Failure of Picasso**, John Berger. “Haven’t read it yet.”

**536 Puzzles and Curious Problems**, Henry Ernest Dudeny. “I used to be annoyed by brain teasers, but now that I have children, I actually enjoy the way they give you something pointless and irrelevant to chew over for a while.”

**Texas Flags**, by Robert Maberry Jr., Peter C. Marzio. “Pretty.”


**All Color Book of Horses**, by Elizabeth Johnson. “Pretty.”

Upstairs, at my bedside, I have a stack of bedtime stories borrowed from my mother: I’ve already finished 11 novels by Nevil Shute, which have a creepy 1950s militarism, and the last four Harry Potters, which are clunky, but I’m getting used to it.

A summer reading list possibly reflecting a sense of optimism more than a sense of realism.
Anthony Elms
A summer reading list possibly reflecting a sense of optimism more than a sense of realism.

Finish *Postmodern Fables* by Jean-Francois Lyotard
Keep up with my subscription to *The Nation Noon*, 2004

*Voice Transmissions With the Deceased* by Friedrich Jürgenson

*Jack Goldstein and the CalArts Mafia* by Richard Hertz

*More Brilliant Than the Sun: Adventures in Sonic Fiction* by Kodwo Eshun

*My Life in the Nineties* by Lyn Hejinian

*The Planetarium* by Nathalie Sarraute

*The Rova Improvisations* by Clark Coolidge

*Work Ethic* by Helen Molesworth

*Falsa Prospettiva: Reflections on Claustrophobia, Paranoia and Conspiracy Theory* by Michael Clegg and Martin Guttmann

*The Chirologic Tragedies and Grisly Notes and Tones* by Catherine Sullivan

Anthony Elms, *The Shoals of Distribution are Lurking to Wreck the Careless Mariner* (detail), 2004, pen on paper, 22.75” x 14.75”
Nicholas Frank, Nicholas Frank Public Library (NFPL), 2002-04 (installation detail)

Nicholas Frank
Summer reading list:

The Candlemaker by Giordano Bruno. “I’ve already read this, but it’s tops on my list of read-agains. A rollicking romp that puts Monty Python to shame for timidness, this book will make you think the 1600s were much more about bawdy gay sex euphemisms and the slandering of idiot politicians than you ever thought possible.”

Independent People by Halldór Laxness. “Friend Jessica, researching before an Iceland trip, found this Nobel laureate author and passed along the recommendation. A book with so many deep lightning-blast sentences your eyes will turn inside out. As vivid a picture as you’ll find of a time and place you never knew.”

Coming to Slaughter by Michael Ondaatje. “I never saw or read The English Patient, OK? I came to Ondaatje through Elimination Dance, a brilliant long poem, and found my way to “The Collected Works of Billy the Kid”. I really dig these proto-historical re-enfleshments, and though much more succinct than genre master Paul Metcalf, Ondaatje is a ringer.”

The Burnt Orange Heresy by Charles Willeford. “A little light reading given to me by my friend Lyz, who promises my eyeballs will be turned inside out with disbelief at how perverse the human imagination can become. Will I survive with innocence intact? That Lyz painted the cover blazing red should answer that question.”

The Complete Fairy Tales and Stories (Trans. by Erik Christian Haugaard, Hans Christian Anderson). “Friend Anne gifted this to me, unable to find the Bookforum-lauded, psychologically ‘dark’ new scholarly translations by Jeffrey and Diana Frank. Well, turns out this (unmentioned in the Bookforum review) 1977 edition features a cover endorsement by Psychology Today. Oh well, so much for scholarship. Anyway, at a glance it reads much truer to the original intent of the author, and I don’t speak a stitch of Danish. Or scholarish.”

Flesh Inferno: Atrocities of Torquemada and the Spanish Inquisition (The Blood History Series, 3) by Simon Whitechapel. “Alright, I probably won’t read this whole book. A half-hour with it in a bookstore aisle was enough. But I list it here as a necessary counter to the recent inundation of pop culture with religious zealotry.”
Michelle Grabner
Reading list:

Field Guides

*Science is Fiction: The Films of Jean Painleve*  
by Andy M. Bellows, Marina McDougall,  
Brigitte Berg (editors)

*Being Good: A Short Introduction to Ethics*  
by Simon Blackburn

All the paperback mysteries my friend Annika has given me since February

Brad Killam
Book list:


*Frank Lloyd Wright versus America: The 1930s*,  
Johnson, Donald Leslie, MIT Press

*In Sam We Trust: The Untold Story of Sam Walton and How Wal-Mart is Devouring the World*,  
Ortega, Bob, Random House

Michelle Grabner and Brad Killam,  
*Figure 2 (Sam Walton)*, 2004,  
books, paint can, 16” x 13” x 14”
Rashid Johnson

Reading list:

*The White Boy Shuffle: A Novel* by Paul Beatty

*Black, White and Jewish: Autobiography of a Shifting Self* by Rebecca Walker

*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

*Alex Haley’s Queen: The Story of an American Family* by Alex Haley

*The Crisis of the Negro Intellectual* by Harold Cruse

*The Dead Lecturer: Poems* by Imamu, LeRoi Jones

*The Stranger* by Albert Camus

Rashid Johnson, *Contemporary Black Male Literature Starter Kit*, 2003, shrink-wrapped books on palette
Deva Maitland
Summer reading list (nonfiction):

Mesmerism: A Translation of the Original Medical and Scientific Writings of F.A. Mesmer by Franz Anton Mesmer, 1734-1815. Translated and compiled by George Bloch; with an introduction by E.R. Hilgard

From Mesmer to Freud: Magnetic Sleep and the Roots of Psychological Healing by Adam Crabtree

Visual Analogy: Consciousness as the Art of Connecting by Barbara Maria Stafford

The Artificial Kingdom: A Treasury of the Kitsch Experience by Celeste Olalquiaga

The Power of Display: A History of Exhibition Installations at the Museum of Modern Art by Mary Anne Staniszewski

Foul Perfection: Essays and Criticism by Mike Kelley, John C. Welchman (editor)

Robyn O’Neil
My list:

The Cry of the Owl by Patricia Highsmith

The Autobiography of Martin Luther King Jr. by Martin Luther King Jr., Clayborne Carson

Birds of Texas: A Field Guide

Eyewitness Handbooks 7: Dogs by David Alderton

Summer by Edith Wharton

Who’s Who in the Bible by Ronald Brownrigg, Joan Comay

Skin Shows: Gothic Horror and the Technology of Monsters by Judith Halberstam

The Animal-Lover’s Book of Beastly Murder by Patricia Highsmith

Straw Dogs: Thoughts on Humans and Other Animals by John Gray
Michael Piazza

*Reelings ... Readings ... Re-readings (in no particular order)*


Karen Reimer

OK, these books are the ones actually sitting in my house waiting to be read. Either because I bought them myself thinking they looked interesting or because they were given to me by friends to read. This isn’t a recommended reading list. After all, I haven’t read them and have no idea if they’re good. Some of them have been in my house waiting for quite a long time. The greater proportion of non-fiction on this list is an indication of my tendency to read mostly fiction, i.e., fiction books don’t sit around in my house waiting to be read.

One Market Under God by Thomas Frank
Gramophone, Film, Typewriter by Friedrich Kittler
Sex, Art and the Dow Jones by Jean-Charles Massera
The Shadow of the Sun by Ryszard Kapuscinski
Magical Urbanism by Mike Davis
All Tomorrow’s Parties by William Gibson
Le Mariage by Diane Johnson
Embodied Utopias: Gender, Social Change and the Modern Metropolis, Eds. Amy Bingaman, Lise Sanders and Rebecca Zorach
Running in the Family by Michael Ondaatje
The Unconsoled by Kazuo Ishiguro
Dust Bowl: The Southern Plains in the 1930s by Donald Worster
Salt: A World History by Mark Kurlansky
Envisioning Information by Edward R. Tufte
Sorting Things Out: Classification and Its Consequences by Geoffrey C. Bowker and Susan Leigh Star
The Man Without Qualities by Robert Musil

Karen Reimer, Awkwardness and Obscurity, 1999, embroidery, 7.875” x 5.25”
Joe Scanlan

Reading list:

**How It Is**
Samuel Beckett

**The Dirt: Confessions of the World’s Most Notorious Rock Band (Mötley Crüe)**
Tommy Lee, Vince Neil

**Paco’s Story**
Larry Heinemann

**The Final Unfettering**
Jay Chung

**Art and Labor**
Eileen Boris

**Orientalism**
Edward Said

**Empire**
Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri

**Portraits and Prayers**
Gertrude Stein

**Herzog**
Saul Bellow

**The American Way of Death**
Jessica Mitford
Buzz Spector

Buzz Spector’s plans for summer reading:

Almost through with:
Paul Berman, *Terror and Liberalism* “Thoughtful, chilling essay relating Islamic fundamentalism to a modern litany of totalitarian movements.”

A few pages into so far:
Julian Barnes, *Something to Declare* “A favorite of mine since I read “Flaubert’s Parrot.” These are essays covering the history of his affection for things French.”

Giving up on:
Peter Ackroyd, *Milton in America* “I’m too close to old to enjoy historicist fiction about old men in exile. Ackroyd’s *Chatterton* was a much better novel.”

Looking forward to:
The Hansjorg Mayer editions of *Dieter Roth: Books + Multiples* and *Dieter Roth: Graphic Works*. “Two very large volumes detailing aspects of Roth’s extraordinary artistic production. His MoMA retrospective was breathtaking.”

Ann Reynolds, *Learning from New Jersey and Elsewhere* “I attended a lecture on Robert Smithson by Reynolds at LACMA 10 years ago, and am looking forward to her critical study of one of my favorite artists.”

The two volumes of the exhibition catalog to the 2004 Whitney Biennial.

Joel Brouwer’s, *Exactly What Happened* “Brouwer gave me another book of his poems, *Centuries*, during my visit in April to Tuscaloosa, AL, where he teaches. I enjoyed them.”

More fiction:
Umberto Eco, *Baudolino*, and Orhan Pamuk, *The Black Book*

More poetry:
Susan Howe, *Kidnapped*; Barry Schwabsky, *Opera*; and Susan Stewart, *Columbarium*
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Barbara Wiesen
Director and Curator
Gahlberg Gallery

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Glen Ellyn, IL
(630) 942-2321
www.cod.edu/ArtsCntr.gallery.htm

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