

The Foreign Languages Newsletter

Clark University · Worcester, Massachusetts

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“Talk to Him:”

PEDRO ALMODÓVAR

Professors of Spanish MARVIN D’LUGO and CAROL D’LUGO have just returned from Cuenca, Spain, where they attended the first international conference on the work of the Oscar-winning filmmaker Pedro Almodóvar.

Marvin delivered an invited paper entitled “Genealogía de las sórdidas comedias neo-surrealistas almodovarianas” (‘Genealogy of Almodóvar’s Sordid Neo-Surrealist Comedies’), a historical tracing of the origins and structure of Almodóvar’s work, which, as he says, derive from the tradition of “black” comedies of the 1950s.

The Spanish press has often argued that this director’s style is for foreign audiences, with little connection to Spanish arts. Marvin’s view is quite the opposite, as readers will discover in a book he is currently finishing on Almodóvar’s cinema, to be published by the University of Illinois Press.

The conference officially ended with a conversation between Almodóvar and seven of his actresses, including Geraldine Chaplin, Marisa Paredes, and Cecilia Roth. Photos of the D’Lugos with Pedro will be available soon on our website.

FACULTY NOTES

On December 2nd, Dorothy Kaufmann gave a presentation for the Humanities Scholars Collaborative, an initiative that brings together over a hundred students from Worcester area high schools with three college faculty members.

This year the faculty members were from Clark and the theme was “America Seen from Abroad.”

Professor Kaufmann's talk focused on the responses of students in a French lycée to these questions: "If you could have a conversation with President Bush, what would you say to him?" "Who is the American you admire the most?" "In which country, France or the U.S., do you think people of different cultures and backgrounds get along better?" "Do you think the American dream corresponds to a reality?" Worcester students gave their responses to the same questions.

STUDENTS TO STUDY IN CHINA

The 2004 CET program in Beijing has accepted two students of MINXIA LI, Instructor of Chinese. Congratulations to CALVIN W. KWONG and GREGORY M. DE GUNZBURG, who will leave for Beijing at the end of December.

ALUMNI/AE NOTES

JAMES DYMOND (German '01) is studying for an MBA in international marketing and management at the University of Pforzheim.

KIMBERLY EZOLD (German '02) is a financial advisor for American Express here in Worcester.

WILSON AYBAR (2000) teaches Spanish at the Burncoat Middle School and is swimming coach at both Clark and Holy Cross College.

TECH NOTES

Students of foreign languages have been enjoying the convenience of online files via Blackboard. Digital files of materials for French in Action, Puntos de Partida, Integrated Chinese, and Yookoso are available for students via the Blackboard sites for Spanish 101, Japanese 101, Chinese 101, and French 101. Constance Montross, Anthony Helm and the faculty of the Department will work to expand this "virtual" language lab. Patrons may also complete work using the more traditional analog technology at the Language Arts Resource Center.

For patrons wishing to brush up on Italian or view a number of recently acquired foreign videos/DVD's, the Language Arts Resource Center has added numerous titles to its collection. A sampling of these new holdings:

Life is All You Get / Das Lieben ist eine Baustelle

Run Lola Run

The Grand Illusion

The Umbrellas of Cherbourg

Café au Lait

Hiroshima, Mon Amour

Le Père Noel est une Ordure

Ikiru

Daimyo VCD

L'amour a la française

Afrique dominée, Afrique liberée

Les Beurettes

Miel Para Oshun/ Honey For Oshun

Romero

El Cochecito

Mambo Mouth

Memoires d'Immigrés

Burnt by the Sun

Lo Mejor de Danny

Molière, une vie pour le théâtre

Nuevos Destinos

Learn German Now

Spanish for Everyone

Instant Immersion Language Lab

Who is Oscar Lake?

Learn to Speak Spanish

Triple Play Plus Spanish

Ouvertures: Cours intermédiaire de français

Writing Assistant for Spanish Atajo 3.0

Yookoso! An Invitation to Contemporary Japanese
Yookoso! Continuing with Contemporary Japanese
Japanese: The Spoken Language

Tampopo

Bye Bye

St. Petersburg (Leningrad)

Born in East L.A.

The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez

Mambo Mouth

Wie Geht's, 6th edition

Ouvertures, 3rd edition

WordAce! Talking Translation Dictionary

English to/from German

Gente

Gente de la calle, volume 2

Nueba Yol

Chaos

The Closet

Chocolat

French Twist

L'Age D'or / The Golden Age

Testament of Orpheus

Blood of a Poet

Orpheus

Cast a Giant Shadow

Lamerica

Cinema Paradiso

Il Postino/ The Postman

Life is Beautiful

Bread and Tulips

Talk to Her

Like Water for Chocolate

Italia Contemporánea

A Sus Ordenes Mi Senador

Frida

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