

IAU SPRING TROUBADOUR #6

"Everybody knows that the boat is leaking
Everybody knows that the captain lied
Everybody got this broken feeling
Like their father or their dog just died"
Leonard Cohen



Chers Etudiants,

Aujourd'hui on fait quotidiennement appel à notre fierté nationaliste. Que vous soyez français, américain, anglais, néerlandais, hongrois, etc. vous avez entendu parler de crise identitaire, comme si votre propre existence, votre propre raison d'être était menacée. The question of identity, whether through gender or nationality, has become a lightning rod and is currently being used to stoke fear and anger throughout Europe and the United States. Obviously, there are other places on the planet where political hysteria is a daily state of affairs, but we seem to be close to a tipping point on the issue in Europe and in the US and this looming uncertainty cannot be ignored. Next week, many of you will be visiting new places. We wish you safe and fruitful travels but admonish you all to keep your eyes open and attentive to today's political realities and what your peers are saying about current states of affairs. As you all know, elections will be coming up in both France and in Germany. Have any of you followed the coming elections in the Netherlands? Of course not. As Cas Mudde writes in The Guardian, "[f]or decades Dutch elections were the most boring in western Europe." Well, this time around these elections will signal what is to come. In France, the nationalist, extreme-right candidate Marine Le Pen is ahead in almost all polls. Angela Merkel's chancellorship in Germany, perhaps the most dependable leadership for a stable Europe right now, is also under threat. We should be watching everything closely. In any case, shortly after your return from next week's break, we will be holding a student conference (see below), a forum to speak openly about these questions. Our hope is you will have some pertinent observations and reflections to bring to the table.

Bonne chance cette semaine,
Leigh Smith
Dean

CEF Opening Hours this week, Library and Seminar Room Only
Monday-Thursday, 9am-9pm

Lecture:

Wednesday, 1 March, 6:30pm, CEF Main Hall

Harry Callahan: L'Expérience Photographique d'Aix (1957-58), Dr. Robert Pujade, Aix-Marseille Université

This lecture will be in English, exploring photographer Harry Callahan's photographic documentation of Aix around the time of IAU's founding. Reception to follow.

Conference :

International Student Conference on National Identity

Thursday, 16 March to Friday, 17 March, CEF Main Hall

Organized by graduate students in International Relations, this conference will feature expert speakers as well as student workshops. This will be a unique opportunity to develop a much broader perspective on a very complex phenomenon. Some of your classes may already be involved. If not, please contact leigh.smith@iaufrance.org about participating.

Travel Plans

It will be very important that ALL OF YOU register your travel plans for the week-long break. Please go to www.iaustudents.com to submit your itineraries before Friday.

Wellness Schedule:

Monday, February 27 : 1:30-5:30 pm
Tuesday, February 28 : 9-12 am 5-7 pm
Thursday, March 2 : 2-5 pm

Meetings are available by drop-in and by appointment :
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STAY CONNECTED:



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