

# BOOKS AND SHELVES

Mark Arctander

Stephanie Brooks

Gary Cannone

Bill Davenport

Anthony Elms

Nicholas Frank

Michelle Grabner and Brad Killam

Rashid Johnson

Deva Maitland and Robyn O'Neil

Michael Piazza

Karen Reimer

Joe Scanlan

Buzz Spector



College of DuPage

## A Reading List

by 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 Frohnmayer

*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, *Compact Edition of the O.E.D.*,  
2002, poplar, acrylic, 14" x 8.5" x 10"

## 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

## 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"



Bill Davenport, *Shelf of Books*, 1999,  
acrylic on canvas, 14" x 18"

## Bill Davenport

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."

*Web of Life*, John H. Storer. "Nice introduction to ecology."

*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 Longworth. "Junior high library fodder"

*What Kinda Cactus Izzat?*, Reg Manning. "A remarkable book. The only book of its kind I know of. A cartoon nature guide to the common cacti of the Southwest. Unique, a gem!"

*The Success and Failure of Picasso*, John Berger. "Haven't read it yet."

*536 Puzzles and Curious Problems*, Henry Ernest Dudeney. "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."

*Deep Blue Goodbye*, by John D. Macdonald. A vivid slice of the sleazy, depressing 1970s. "Very good."

*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 Guttman

*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 timidity, 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-enfreshments, 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 Painlevé*

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:

*One Market Under God: Extreme Capitalism,  
Market Populism, and the End of Economic  
Democracy*, Frank, Thomas, Doubleday Press

*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, *Contemporary Black Male Literature Starter Kit*, 2003, shrink-wrapped books on pallet

## 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

## 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 Bestly Murder* by Patricia Highsmith

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



Deva Maitland and Robyn O'Neil, *A Garbage Dump and girls who will want to eat you up whole*, 2002, written by Deva Maitland, pictures by Robyn O'Neil, edition of six books with original graphite drawings on cover, 6.5" x 6.5"



Michael Piazza, *Illuminated* (detail),  
2004, electrical cord with books

## Michael Piazza

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

*Watt*, Samuel Beckett . Grove Press: London 1959.

*Death on the Installment Plan*, Louis-Ferdinand  
Céline. New Directions: New York 1966.

*The Foundation Pit*, Andrey Platonov. Northwestern  
University: Evanston 1994.

*Dreamworld and Catastrophe: The Passing of Mass  
Utopia in East and West.*, Susan Buck-Morss MIT  
Press: Cambridge 2002.

*Dead Cities*, Mike Davis. The New Press:  
New York 2002.

*The Pig and the Skyscraper: Chicago: A History of  
Our Future*, Marco d'Eramo. Verso: New York 2002.

*The Ballade of Ana Sage*, Mary Jo Marchnight.  
Somnambulist Press 1999.

*Stars of the New Curfew*, Ben Okri. Penguin:  
New York 1988.

*Silencing Political Dissent*, Nancy Chang. Seven  
Stories Press: New York 2002.

*9-11*, Noam Chomsky. Seven Stories Press:  
New York 2001.

*Non-Places: Introduction to an Anthropology of  
Supermodernity*, Marc Augé. Verso: New York 1995.

*The Practice of Everyday Life*, Michel de Certeau.  
University of California Press: Berkeley 1988.

*62: A Model Kit*, Julio Cortázar. New Directions:  
New York 1972.

*The Wreck of the Whaleship Essex*, Owen Chase,  
first mate. Harcourt Brace: New York 1965

## 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, *DIY or HOW TO KILL YOURSELF ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD FOR UNDER \$399*, 2002 (installation detail), mixed media**

## **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*



Buzz Spector, *Conaway's Shakespeare*, 2001, Polaroid, 31" x 23.5". From the collection of Roxanna and Matthew Goebel.

The Gahlberg Gallery/McAninch Arts Center would like to thank Roxanna and Matthew Goebel, Zolla/Lieberman Gallery and all the exhibiting artists in making this publication and exhibition possible.

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Director and Curator  
Gahlberg Gallery

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## BOOKS AND SHELVES

*Thursday, June 24, to Saturday, Aug. 21, 2004*



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