

UC SAN DIEGO DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE ANNOUNCES:

The Annual Robert C. Elliott Lecture

Dudley Andrew:

Jean Renoir and the Writers in his Father's Circle

Born before it closed, Jean Renoir always kept one foot in the 19th c. thanks to the books and paintings he grew up around. The impressionist paintings we are familiar with. So let's imagine browsing his father's library shelves to feel the literary anchor that would steady his long voyage in cinema. This includes the trio of writers Renoir famously adapted—Flaubert, Maupassant, and Zola. But it includes a couple other figures less often talked about. Altogether these authors gave Renoir several approaches to cinema that he tried out as he sought to express his own moment in history as these novelists had expressed theirs. Far more than sources for adaptation, writers were models of authorship and composition that inspired Renoir and made this auteur, an author himself.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 8, 2017

4:00 P.M.

LITERATURE BUILDING, ROOM 155 (DE CERTEAU)



Dudley Andrew is the R. Selden Rose Professor of Film and Comparative Literature at Yale. He studied English and Philosophy, then learned filmmaking before getting in on the ground floor as Film Studies was taking off in the USA. His dissertation on film theorist André Bazin has funded several of his books, and has taken him frequently to France where he wrote two histories of 1930s culture during the Popular Front era. Andrew taught Comparative Literature and Cinema Studies at Iowa for many years, directing the dissertations of many of today's leaders in Film. Coming to Yale in 2000, he chaired Comp Lit from 2009-2013 and will do so again in 2018. In Comp Lit he works with graduate students primarily on 20th c. French literary and philosophical culture, and on issues that cross between Cinema and Literature (aesthetics, translation, hermeneutics, critical

theory). He teaches undergraduate courses in World Cinema and in adaptation, as well as seminars related to the work of Bazin, whose complete works he curates in a dedicated archive at Yale. Andrew provides a link to French film history from personal encounters with Truffaut, Renoir, Resnais, Rohmer and other key figures. He is an "officier de l'ordre des arts et des lettres" and received the Lifetime Achievement award from the Society for Cinema and Media Studies.

*The Elliott Memorial Lecture is presented annually by the UC San Diego Department of Literature, with the support of the Robert C. Elliott Memorial Fund, which was established at the time of Professor Elliott's death in April 1981. A founding member of the Department of Literature, Robert Elliott authored *The Power of Satire* (1968), *The Shape of Utopia* (1970) and *The Literary Persona* (1982).*



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