T his exhibition presents the reconstruction of an ancient mosaic floor from a synagogue in Harmattan (Gaza) contemporary with the ancient town of Naro, later called Aquae Piscinae by the Romans. A Latin inscription in one of the surviving panels records that the mosaic floor was a gift to the synagogue from a certain Lukas, a resident of Naro in about 50 C.E. Other mosaic panels in the exhibition, datable to the first or second century C.E., originated either in an earlier part of the same synagogue or in a nearby building.

The mosaics were discovered by chance in 1983 by a British army captain, Ernest de Prudhomme, while preparing ground for gardening. In 1995, the Brooklyn Museum acquired most of the panels. Prudhomme had owned and transported back to his home in Lyon. The mosaics, along with contemporary jewelry, coins, marble slabs, ritual objects, and textiles from the Brooklyn Museum’s collection, shed light on the role of synagogues in the Diaspora during Late Antiquity, the development of Jewish art in the Roman period, the importance of female patrons in the ancient Jewish community, connections among early Christian, Jewish, and pagan symbolism in the period, and the relationship between ancient art and modern understanding of the synagogue as an institution. The works of art in the exhibition reveal a society where Jews were more integrated and accepted than ancient texts would suggest.

Tree of Paradise: Jewish Mosaics from the Roman Empire
February 17 - June 8, 2008

This exhibition celebrates the 10th annual Boston College Arts Festival and the 20th anniversary of the Boston College Arts Council. The festival, which takes place February 20-24, will feature over 100 different events in arts, dance, music, film, and comedy. These events have been carefully selected to highlight the nature and scope of the arts at Boston College. The Arts Festival is the largest event of its kind on campus, and it is wonderful to see how the arts touch so many people in so many ways.

The real truth of traditions, however, is that they don’t run themselves—they rely on the dedication and hard work of many individuals who toil behind the scenes to make them happen. The setup and preparations are an unacknowledged part of the festival, but are visible to everyone each year. Part of the excitement is seeing the tents go up, and realizing that there are many roles that one could perform, with opportunities for everyone to take part over 10,000 students, faculty, and staff participate in the festival in one way or another—performing, exhibiting, or assisting with the promotion and management of the festival.

The Arts Festival is the largest event of its kind on campus, and it is wonderful to see how the arts touch so many people in so many ways. The Mass for the Arts to the annual music, from the art exhibits and performances of the student clubs, it is impossible not to find something to enjoy.
McMullen Museum of Art
Museum hours: M-Th 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; Fri 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Su 1:00-5:00 p.m. Closed March 21, April 21 and May 26. Information: 617-552-3938

THE BETRAYAL OF SREBRENICA: A COMMEMORATION January 29 – February 29
Photographic exhibition presented by visiting professor Lisa DeCiracy [Slavic & Baltic department], featuring the photographic work of Paul Allen. The exhibit comprises photographs of Srebrenica, Srebrenica survivors, and the July 11, 2005 ten-year commemoration of Srebrenica attended by over 15000 nationals and their supporters.

SPRING STUDENT ART EXHIBITION March 27 - April 18
Theme for the exhibition TBA. Opening reception March 27. 6:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3938

Portraits of Irish musicians in the Boston area March 1 – April 5
Artist: Skip Tiesmyer of Southie, Massachusetts

Event Key
• Dance
• Exhibition
• Lecture/Literary
• Music
• Film

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Exhibitions

36 Trees Project: Jewish Mosaics from the Roman Empire
February 17 - June 8
This exhibition presents the reconstruction of an ancient mosaic floor from a synagogue in Hamman Lil, Tunisia.

Bapst Student Art Gallery
Gallery hours: M-Th 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; Fri 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Su 1:00-6:00 p.m. Exhibition dates TBA. Information: 617-552-3938

THE RETREAT OF SREBRENICA

March

11 Tuesday
Music at St. Mary’s. The Seraphim Singers—Mary Lowden, alto; Dan Manahan, baritone; with special guest TBA. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

13 Thursday

15 Saturday
Lowell Humanities Series. Roy Foster, author of highly acclaimed two-volume biography of T. S. Eliot, will speak on the subject of writing biography. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

17 Monday
Lowell Humanities Series. Louise Glück, former U.S. Poet Laureate, author of ten volumes of poetry, most recently Anew, will read from her work. Murray Function Room, McElroy Commons. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

19 Wednesday
Lowell Humanities Series. Comet O'Brien Moran, uilleann piper. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

20 Thursday
BC Sing-Off Competition. GBC Sing-Off performs its final gig before competing in the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Mason, Ohio. Come support the band and vocalists before they compete Cabinet Room. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

22-24 Sunday-Wednesday
Molydi’s Purpose. Written and directed by Scott Cummins. Combining theatrical fantasy and documentary style, Molydi’s Purpose gathers writing from a variety of sources to create an original dramatic composition. Performing at Robinson Theater Arts Center, Born Studio; Wed-Sat 7:30 p.m.; Sun. 2:00 p.m. Admission Information: 617-552-3558.

24 Sunday
Spring Student Art Exhibition: Portraits of Srebrenica. Srebrenica survivors, and the July 11, 2005 ten-year commemoration of Srebrenica attended by over 15000 nationals and their supporters.

26 Tuesday

April

5 Tuesday
BC Sing-Off Competition. GBC Sing-Off performs its final gig before competing in the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Mason, Ohio. Come support the band and vocalists before they compete Cabinet Room. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

7 Thursday
Music at St. Mary’s. A Lenten Offering. Music of Gregorio Allegri with Margaret Felce, soprano; Brooke Latimer, mezzo-soprano; St. Mary’s Chapel. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

9 Saturday

11 Monday
Lowell Humanities Series. Roy Foster, author of highly acclaimed two-volume biography of T. S. Eliot, will speak on the subject of writing biography. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

13 Wednesday
Celtic Roots Music, Song, Dance, Workshop, and Lecture Series. Lecture: Dr. Maya Goodrich. “Ireland’s Magdalen Laundries and The Nation’s Architecture of Abandonment.” Gasson Hall, Room 100. 3:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

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30 Tuesday
BC Sing-Off Competition. GBC Sing-Off performs its final gig before competing in the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Mason, Ohio. Come support the band and vocalists before they compete Cabinet Room. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

May

1 Wednesday
Lowell Humanities Series. Comet O’Brien Moran, uilleann piper. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

3 Friday
Boston College Symphony Orchestra spring concert. John Finney, conductor. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

5 Saturday
Lowell Humanities Series. Comet O’Brien Moran, uilleann piper. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

7 Monday
Lowell Humanities Series. Comet O’Brien Moran, uilleann piper. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

9 Tuesday
Lowell Humanities Series. Comet O’Brien Moran, uilleann piper. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.

11 Thursday
Lowell Humanities Series. Comet O’Brien Moran, uilleann piper. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3558.