

spring 2008

# ARTS FOR THE CALENDAR BOSTON COLLEGE



"Tree of Paradise: Jewish Mosaics from the Roman Empire" from Hammam Lif, Tunisia, sixth century CE. Mosaic, 29 5/16 x 1 1/4 inches. Museum Collection Fund, Brooklyn Museum.

McMullen Museum of Art  
FROM THE ROMAN EMPIRE  
TREE OF PARADISE: JEWISH MOSAICS  
February 17 - June 8, 2008

www.bc.edu/arts

BOSTON COLLEGE CALENDAR FOR THE ARTS | SPRING 2008

BOSTON COLLEGE ARTS COUNCIL  
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## TREE OF PARADISE: JEWISH MOSAICS FROM THE ROMAN EMPIRE

February 17 - June 8, 2008



Mosaic of Date Palm Tree. From Hammam Lif, Tunisia, 6th century CE. Mosaic, 70 9/16 x 31 inches.

This exhibition presents the reconstruction of an ancient mosaic floor from a synagogue in Hammam Lif, Tunisia (the ancient town of Naro, later called Aquae Persianae 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 Julia, a resident of Naro in about 500 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 1883 by a French army captain, Ernest de Prudhomme, while preparing ground for gardening. In 1905, 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 statues, 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 this period, and the relationship between ancient

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* is organized by the Brooklyn Museum and made possible by the Martha A. and Robert S. Rubin Exhibition Fund. The presentation of this exhibition at the McMullen Museum is underwritten by Boston College with major support from the Lassar and Fanny Agoos Charity Fund.

A catalogue by the exhibition's curator, Edward Bleiberg, Associate Curator of Egyptian, Classical, and Ancient Middle Eastern Art at the Brooklyn Museum, accompanies the exhibition.

## NEW ONLINE MULTIMEDIA ARTS JOURNAL CREATES FORUM FOR DIALOGUE



The development of *Epicenters*, now the multimedia online arts journal of the Boston College Arts Council, was begun in 2005 by a group of BC undergraduates working in conjunction with the Office of Marketing Communications. What inspired the magazine's inception, and what continues to drive its operation today, was the desire to create a widely accessible space in which a multi-faceted interaction with the arts could occur. To this end, *Epicenters* has refused to limit its genres, and to date has presented original compositions in the areas of film, fiction, creative non-fiction, painting, cartooning, jazz and classical music, written poetry, recorded poetry, and sculpture. The presentation of featured works has also been supplemented with artist commentaries and interviews.

As they continue to present new work in a variety of forms, the *Epicenters* edi-

tors remain conscious of their role not only in connecting diverse media, but in creating potential dialogue between different artistic communities as well. While submissions to *Epicenters* are open to the general public, the journal has generated a strong interest among BC faculty, staff, and alumni artists. Recent issues have included photography by Robert Parker ('50), film by Lulu Wang ('05), jazz composition by Patrick Cronin ('07), creative non-fiction by Guggenheim grant recipient professor Carlo Rotella, painting by professor Andrew Tavarelli, and poetry by professors Kim Garcia, Elizabeth Kirschner, and 2007 Levis Poetry Prize finalist Susana Roberts. Those BC artists whose works have appeared in *Epicenters* have survived stiff competition with a talented and growing national and international submissions pool. The winter 2007 issue, for example, included poetry by recent Kinereth Gensler Award winner Ann Killough and fiction by Pushcart

Prize nominee Kevin P. Keating.

New issues of *Epicenters* are launched in the early winter and late spring of each year. In addition to the current installment, previous numbers of the magazine can be accessed in full through the online archive.

For further information about *Epicenters*, and its submission policies, please consult the website ([www.bc.edu/epicenters](http://www.bc.edu/epicenters)). To receive notification when new issues of the journal come out, visit [www.bc.edu/artssubscribe](http://www.bc.edu/artssubscribe).



Warsaw Reflection by Robert Parker.

## TOM MCCARTHY, CLASS OF '88 FILMMAKER, RECIPIENT OF THE 6TH ANNUAL ARTS COUNCIL AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT

This year, the Boston College Arts Council has selected filmmaker Tom McCarthy to receive the annual Arts Council Alumni Award for Distinguished Achievement in the spring of 2008. He will make a Boston College appearance at the 10th annual Boston College Arts Festival (April 24-26). While on campus, Mr. McCarthy will participate in a career-related program, *Inside the BC Studio*, and will receive the Arts Council award at the annual *Alumni Evening at the Arts Festival* on Saturday, April 26.

Tom McCarthy is a filmmaker and actor. He graduated from Boston College in 1988 and went on to receive theatrical training at the Yale School of Drama. Tom has amassed an extensive list of theatrical, film, and television acting credits and has seen great success as a filmmaker.

*The Visitor*, Tom McCarthy's follow-up film to the critically acclaimed feature *The Station Agent*, premiered at the 2007 Toronto Film Festival and will be released in April by Overture Films. *The Station Agent*, released by Miramax in

2003, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival where it was bestowed The Audience Award and the Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award. It was also awarded the BAFTA for Best Screenplay and two Independent Spirit Awards. The National Board of Review named it third on their list of Ten Best Films of the Year and it was nominated for three Screen Actors Guild Awards, including Best Ensemble. The film also won awards at many film festivals including San Sebastian, Stockholm, Mexico City, and Aspen.

As an actor, some of McCarthy's feature credits include: *Flag of Our Fathers*, *Syrianna*, *Goodnight and Good Luck*, *The Year of the Dog*, and *Meet the Parents*. He will soon be seen in the final season of HBO's critically acclaimed series, *The Wire*. Tom just completed Peter Jackson's film *The Lovely Bones*, and is currently working on *Mammoth*, with Lukas Moodysson directing.



## STUDENTS WILL CREATE A NEW DRAMATIC WORK FROM AN INSPIRING TRUE STORY

A major experiment for the Theatre Department in creating new work from the ground up, *Ashley's Purpose* gathers writing from a variety of sources, including Boston College students, to create an original dramatic composition that raises questions about the ethics of broadcast journalism, the presence of God in everyday life, the possibility of starting your life over, and what it takes to be a mother. This performance is based on the compelling true story of Ashley Smith and her ordeal when a wanted criminal took her hostage in her own apartment late at night and how it was that he gave himself up to authorities the next morning. Her incredible story is

the springboard for an original piece of collage theater that combines images, actions, and vignettes in order to explore such themes as telling one's own story, crime as entertainment, privacy versus celebrity, the omnivorous appetite of the mass media, and finding one's purpose in life. The production will feature a multi-media design and an ensemble cast that will play a significant role in determining the ultimate content and final shape of the piece. Voices of Imani Gospel Choir will also perform as the chorus for this groundbreaking collaboration. The production will take place February 20-24 (see listing on next page).

## 10 YEARS AFTER

By Jeffery Howe; Chair, Arts Council

It is not often that one is privileged to be present at the birth of a tradition, but I was there ten years ago when Father Leahy gave his blessing to institute an Arts Festival to celebrate and promote the arts on campus. The Boston College Arts Festival is now solidly established, and is one of the highlights of the year—a fitting celebration of the achievements of the student artists and performers. The festival has grown in size and improved in quality each year, so that now it seems like a natural occurrence, like the return of swallows to Capistrano, or the budding of lilacs.

*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 1,000 students, faculty, and staff participate in the festival now in one aspect 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. From the Mass for the Arts to the annual musical, from the art exhibitions to the music and dance performances of the student clubs, it is impossible not to find something to enjoy.

## Event Key

- D** Dance
- E** Exhibition
- F** Film
- L** Lecture/Literary
- M** Music
- T** Theater



The University Wind Ensemble of Boston College performs in *Bands of the Beanpot* at Harvard University.

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE  
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

## Exhibitions

### McMullen Museum of Art

Museum hours: M-F 11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.; Sa-Su 12:00–5:00 p.m. Closed March 21, April 21 and 23, May 26. Information: 617-552-8100.

#### TREE OF PARADISE: JEWISH MOSAICS FROM THE ROMAN EMPIRE February 17 - June 8

This exhibition presents the reconstruction of an ancient mosaic floor from a synagogue in Hammam Lif, Tunisia.

#### Bapst Student Art Gallery

Gallery Hours: M-Th 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.; F-Sa 10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.; Su 1:00–6:00 p.m. Exhibition dates TBA. Information: 617-552-3200.

#### THE BETRAYAL OF SREBRENICA: A COMMEMORATION January 29 - February 29

Photographic exhibition presented by visiting professor Lisa DiCaprio (Slavic Studies department), featuring the photographic work of Paula Allen. The exhibit comprises photographs of Srebrenica, Srebrenica survivors, and the July 11, 2005 ten-year commemoration of Srebrenica attended by over 30,000 survivors and their supporters.

#### SPRING STUDENT ART EXHIBITION March 27 - April 18

Theme for the exhibition TBA. Opening reception March 27.

#### John J. Burns Library

Burns Library Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3938.

#### PORTRAITS OF IRISH MUSICIANS IN THE BOSTON AREA March 1 – March 31

Artist: Skip Toomey of Scituate, Massachusetts



Sampson and the Geisha by Andrew Taverelli, Fine Arts Department.

## January

### 16 Wednesday

**M D** Gaelic Roots Music, Song, Dance, Workshop, and Lecture Series. Irish dance and céilí directed by Meghan Allen, T.C.R.G. Live dance music by Séamus Connolly (Sullivan Artist-in-Residence), Larry Reynolds, and friends. Gasson Hall, Irish Room. Beginner instruction at 6:30 p.m.; dances taught at 6:45 p.m. (all levels). Information: 617-552-3938.

### 17-19 Thursday–Saturday

**T** *Getting Out*, by Marsha Norman. Directed by Jeff Augustin '08. This eloquent, moving, and exceptionally well-written play probes into the past and present of released prisoner Arlene Holsclaw's life. Robsham Theater Arts Center, Bonn Studio. 7:30 p.m. Admission \$10. Information: 617-552-4002.

### 29 Tuesday

**E** Opening Reception of *The Betrayal of Srebrenica: A Commemoration*. Bapst Student Art Gallery. 5:00–7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3200.

## February

### 4 Monday

**M** *HYPERPRISM*. Margaret McAllister, artistic director. Works by Bartok, Berio, Messiaen, and Pinkham, with Krista Reisner, violin; Scott Woolweaver, viola; Philip Staudlin, saxophone; Richard Shaughnessy, clarinet; Sandra Hebert and Linda Jiorle-Nagy, pianos; John Anderss, percussion; with special guests the Master Singers; Adam Grossman, conductor. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 5 Tuesday

**M** Triton Brass Quintet, Boston College Artists-in-Residence. New music for brass by Composers in Red Sneakers: Lansing McCloskey, Ken Ueno, Delvyn Case, and Howard Frazin. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

**L** *Writers Among Us: James Smith*. James Smith, associate professor of English, reads from *Ireland's Magdalen Laundries and The Nation's Architecture of Containment*, a study of the controversial workhouses where many Irish women and girls were confined throughout the 19th and 20th centuries in Ireland. Location TBA. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-4576.

### 6 Wednesday

**M L** Gaelic Roots Music, Song, Dance, Workshop, and Lecture Series. Lecture/Recital by Jimmy O'Brien Moran: "The Irish Music Manuscripts of Henry Hudson at the Boston Public Library." John J. Burns Library, Thompson Room. 6:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3938.

### 10 Sunday

**L** Lowell Humanities Series. Geraldine Brooks, author of the Pulitzer Prize winning novel *March*, will read from her work. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3705.

### 12 Tuesday

**M** JAM. A recital of new works by composers John McGinn, Andrew List, and Margaret McAllister, with Laurie Monahan, mezzo-soprano; Scott Woolweaver, viola; George Lopez, piano; Charles Dimmick and Sasha Callahan, violins; Rachel Braude, flute; Nat Farny, viola; Leo Eguchi, cello. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 16 Saturday

**M** University Wind Ensemble winter performance. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3018.

### 17 Sunday

**M** Boston College Symphony Orchestra, John Finney, Conductor. Featuring the winner of the Boston College Concerto Competition. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 3:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3018.

### 18 Monday

**E** Opening Reception of *Tree of Paradise: Jewish Mosaics from the Roman Empire*. McMullen Museum of Art, Devlin Hall. 7:00–9:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-8587.

**L** *Take Heart: Catholic Writers on Hope in Our Time*. A public forum on the meaning of hope led by prominent Catholic writers Ann Wroe of *The Economist*; Rev. Robert P. Imbelli, BC associate professor of Theology; and Kevin Cullen of the *Boston Globe*. Ben Birnbaum, *Take Heart* editor and special assistant to the BC President, will moderate. Devlin Hall 008. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-4576.

### 19 Tuesday

**M** Music at St. Mary's. Adaskin String Trio. Works of Mozart and Beethoven. St. Mary's Chapel. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

**M** BC bOp! Pre-Competition Gig. BC bOp! performs its final gig before competing in the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Moscow, Idaho. Come support the band and vocalists before they compete! Cabaret Room. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3018.

### 20-24 Wednesday–Sunday

**T** *Ashley's Purpose*. Written and directed by Scott Cummings. Combining theatrical fantasy and documentary realism, *Ashley's Purpose* gathers writing from a variety of sources to create an original dramatic composition (see article). Robsham Theater Arts Center, Bonn Studio. Wed–Sat 7:30 p.m.; Sun. 2:00 p.m. Admission \$10. Information: 617-552-4002.

### 24 Sunday

**M** From the Poetry of Paul Verlaine. Songs of Debussy, Chausson, Fauré, Delius, and Hahn. Mary Hubbell '97, soprano; Susan McAdoo, piano. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 3:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 26 Tuesday

**M** *Music in the Afternoon*. Boston College Chamber Music Society. Sandra Hebert, director. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 4:15 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 26 Tuesday

**M** Music at St. Mary's. *A Lenten Offering*. Music of Pergolesi with Margaret Felice, soprano; Brooke Larimer, mezzo-soprano. St. Mary's Chapel. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 28 Thursday

**M L** Gaelic Roots Music, Song, Dance, Workshop, and Lecture Series. Lecture by Jimmy O'Brien Moran on Séamus Ennis' Gaelic song translations; Songs performed by Bridget Fitzgerald and Mary Lee Partington, with uilleann piper Jimmy O'Brien Moran. Connolly House. 6:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3938.

## March

### 11 Tuesday

**M** Music at St. Mary's. The Seraphim Singers—Marian Music for Lent. St. Mary's Chapel. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

**E M** Gaelic Roots Music, Song, Dance, Workshop, and Lecture Series. Exhibit Opening: *Portraits of Boston Irish Musicians* by Skip Toomey; reception with live music. John J. Burns Library. 4:30–6:30 p.m. RSVP: 617-552-3282.

### 13 Thursday

**M** Music in the Afternoon. John Muratore, classical guitarist. Works by Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Moreno-Torroba, William Walton, and Frederic Hand. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 4:15 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 13-15 Thursday–Saturday

**T** *Wintertime*, by Charles Mee. Directed by Amanda Engborg '08. A magical, snow-covered family retreat is the scene to which young Jonathan and Ariel try to escape to be alone for New Year's, only to find that Jonathan's mother and father and their respective lovers have the same idea. Robsham Theater Arts Center, Bonn Studio. 7:30 p.m. Admission \$10. Information: 617-552-4002.

### 16 Sunday

**M** Faculty Recital. Sandra Hebert, piano, with guest artists Kirsi Perttuli, violin, and Junko Simons, cello. Works by Bach, Brahms, and Whitman Brown; and Beethoven's "Archduke" Trio. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 4:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 17 Monday

**L** Lowell Humanities Series. Roy Foster, author of highly acclaimed two volume biography of W.B. Yeats will speak on the subject of writing biography. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3705.

### 25 Tuesday

**L** Laureate, author of ten volumes of poetry, most recently *Averno*, will read from her work. Murray Function Room, McElroy Commons 4:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3705.

### 27 Thursday

**M** Gaelic Roots Music, Song, Dance, Workshop, and Lecture Series. Concert: Jimmy O'Brien Moran, uilleann pipes. Connolly House. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3938.

### 28 Friday

**F** Boston College's 4th Annual Baldwin Awards. At a red-carpet ceremony, the Baldwin Awards celebrate excellence in student filmmaking at Boston College. Heights Room, Corcoran Commons. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-4576.

### 31 Monday

**M** Music in the Afternoon. Music of Brahms. Songs for Alto, Clarinet Trio. Cynthia Bravo, voice; James Chubert, piano; Frances Rios, viola; Richard Shaughnessy, clarinet; Nancy Hair, cello. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 4:15 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 2 Wednesday

**M** Hawthorne String Quartet, Boston College Artists-in-Residence. Works by Mozart, Viktor Kalabis, and Dominique Gesseney-Rappo (world premiere performance). Gasson Hall, Room 100. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 5 Saturday

**M** *faceOp!* BC bOp!'s annual spring concert. Sebastian Bonaiuto, director. Robsham Theater. 8:00 p.m. Admission \$15; BC/ID \$10. Information: 617-552-3018.

### 8 Tuesday

**M** Symphonic Band spring performance. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3018.

### 9 Wednesday

**L** Lowell Humanities Series. Edward P. Jones, author of the Pulitzer Prize winning novel, *A Known World*, will read from his work. Location TBA. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3705.

### 11 Friday

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

### 12 Saturday

**M** Boston College Flute Choir. Judy Grant, director. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 15 Tuesday

**M** Gaelic Roots Music, Song, Dance, Workshop, and Lecture Series. Len Graham—songs from the Ulster tradition. Connolly House. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3938.

### 16 Wednesday

**M** Music in the Afternoon. *The Solar Winds*. Jill Dreeben, flute; Charlyn Bethell, oboe; Mark Margolies, clarinet; Dan Shaud, horn; Neil Fairbairn, bassoon. Works by Irving Fine and Francine Trester. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 4:15 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 19 Saturday

**M** University Chorale of Boston College. John Finney, conductor. Works by Vivaldi and Schubert. Trinity Chapel, Newton Campus. 8:00 p.m. Admission \$10; BC/ID \$5. Information: 617-552-6004.

### 23-27 Wednesday–Sunday

**T** *Urinetown*. Book by Greg Kotis. Music and lyrics by Mark Hollman and Greg Kotis. Directed by Paul Daigneault '87, producing artistic director of the SpeakEasy Stage Company. *Urinetown* is a hilarious tale of greed, corruption, love, and revolution in a time when water is worth its weight in gold. Robsham Theater Arts Center. Wed-Fri 7:30 p.m.; Sat 8:00 p.m.; Sun. 2:00 p.m. Admission \$15; senior or BC/ID \$10. Information: 617-552-4002.

### 24-26 Thursday–Saturday

**D E F L M T** 10th Annual Boston College Arts Festival. Performing, Visual, and Literary Arts Events and Exhibitions. Saturday afternoon features children's activities. O'Neill Plaza. Noon–10:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-ARTS. Saturday evening features *Alumni Evening at the Arts Festival*—a complete evening of entertainment, including dinner, cash bar, and a choice of concert or theater. Call 617-552-4700 for ticket prices and information.

### 25 Friday

**M** University Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band Performance. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3018.

### 30 Wednesday

**M** Boston College Chamber Music Society. Sandra Hebert, director. Gasson Hall, Room 100. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-6004.



## CELEBRATE THE 10TH BIRTHDAY OF THE

## BOSTON COLLEGE ARTS FESTIVAL

THURSDAY-SATURDAY, APRIL 24-26, 2008

WWW.BC.EDU/ARTSFESTIVAL

617-552-ARTS

## April

### 1 Tuesday

**M** Gaelic Roots Music, Song, Dance, Workshop and Lecture Series. Concert: Cillian Vallely and Kevin Crawford, uilleann pipes and Irish flute. Connolly House. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3938.

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VISIT WWW.BC.EDU/ARTSSUBSCRIBE