2019 SNF CONFERENCE
JUNE 23 - 26 · SNFCC · ATHENS
PROGRAM
Summer Nostos Festival
OVER THE PAST SEVEN YEARS, THE STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION (SNF) HAS ORGANIZED THE ANNUAL STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CONFERENCE AT THE STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CULTURAL CENTER (SNFCC), IN ATHENS.

What we have tried to do during these annual gatherings is to provide a platform for participants from around the globe that encourages, promotes and allows for an open debate and in-depth examination of critical and complex topics. Participants have had to consider subjects such as recent economic crises, the emergence of a social welfare society, ethics and philanthropic practices, the significance of creative assets, sustainability, the refugee crisis and its local and global impact, the importance of ethical and open public spaces, the dangers of polarization, and disruption.

Although we have always alluded to the fact that the conference intended primarily to raise as many uncomfortable and challenging questions as possible rather than to provide definitive answers, we were hoping, at the same time, for tangible insights in relation to some of the complex issues addressed. In tandem, however, with what is happening around us the complexity of the issues we face is of such magnitude that defies expert solutions and answers, and reality ends up smacking us in the face, time and time again.

It is widely acknowledged that creating positive social change and trying to address seemingly intractable problems require upending conventional patterns of thought, and opening up to possibilities. What does it mean, though, to put this idea into action? We invite you to explore this question with us at the 2019 Stavros Niarchos Foundation Conference. Our goal is to bring together innovative thinkers and doers from a wide variety of areas, approaches, and backgrounds and provide an experimental framework that invites unconventional thinking.

What motivates our approach this year is a belief that we need to follow paths that diverge from grand theories, all-encompassing solutions, standard models, and accepted laws and theories. We want to create a platform that embraces possibilities, and uncertainties, and encourages the use of the imagination to consider combinations built on atypical, aberrant, and inverted assumptions.

Taking a cocktail shaker to standard discussion structures, the conference will explore what it means to transcend discipline. Each conversation’s format will aim to engage participants in cross-disciplinary thinking. The collective range of setups will itself serve as an experiment in how best to do this. Example of approaches may include the following:

• Participants with different areas of expertise will come together to discuss topics as broad as borders, identity, polarization, the environment, science, ethics, philanthropy and media.
• Speakers with multiple areas of expertise will apply each to topics of discussion.
• Panels will engage individuals whose areas of expertise often do not bring them around the same table.
• Groups will have mini-discussions sparked by randomized pairings of concepts, drawn on stage.
• Back-to-back panels composed of experts in related fields – A first panel will share the most underrated trends or under-considered challenges in a particular area. A second panel will then use that dialogue as the starting point for their discussion.

The 2018 SNF Conference included among its distinguished speakers Ford Foundation President Darren Walker, Chairman of Special Olympics Timothy Shriver, Yale Law School Dean Heather Gerken, Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics founder Mike Lazaridis, and chess grandmaster Garry Kasparov. The event drew more than 1,000 attendees.

The 2019 conference, titled “[Untitled],” will take place from June 24-25 at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center in Athens.

At the aftermath of the conference, The SNF Agora Institute at Johns Hopkins University will organize its second workshop on June 26. Both events are part of SNF’s annual Summer Nostos Festival, an imaginatively curated, eclectic mix of music, dance, sports, original performances, discussions, games, and contemporary art.
TASH AW - AUTHOR

Tash Aw was born in Taipei to Malaysian parents. He grew up in Kuala Lumpur before moving to Britain to attend university. He is the author of three critically acclaimed novels – The Harmony Silk Factory (2005), which won the Whitbread First Novel Award and a regional Commonwealth Writers’ Prize, Map of the Invisible World (2009) and Five Star Billionaire (2013) – and a work of non-fiction, The Face: Straingers on a Pier (2016), finalist for the LA Times Book Prize. His novels have been longlisted for the Man Booker prize and been translated into 23 languages. His work has won an O. Henry Prize and been published in The New Yorker, the London Review of Books, A Public Space and the landmark Granta 100, amongst others. He is also a contributing opinion writer for the New York Times.

RUSSELL BANKS - AUTHOR

Russell Banks, twice a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, is one of America’s most prestigious fiction writers, a past president of the International Parliament of Writers, and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His work has been translated into twenty languages and has received numerous prizes and awards, including the Common Wealth Award for Literature. He lives in upstate New York and Miami, Florida.

CARRIE REBORA BARRATT, PH.D. – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER & WILLIAM C. STEERE SR. PRESIDENT, NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

A native Chicagoan, Carrie Rebora Barratt, Ph.D., received her bachelor’s degree at the University of Illinois, a master’s in art history from UCLA, and a doctorate from the City University of New York. As a resident of New York City since 1984, she has made it her passion and her business to connect support and study nature, culture, and education in this great city; the three are inextricably linked at The New York Botanical Garden. In 2018, Dr. Barratt became the ninth CEO and President of The New York Botanical Garden and the first woman to hold the position. She came to the Garden following a distinguished 34-year career at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where she worked as a curator and transitioned from research and scholarship to governance and administration, most recently serving since 2009 as Deputy Director, lead- ing visitor-focused, mission-aligned initiatives for the institution during a transformational period in the Museum’s history.

BRYAN DOERRIES - FOUNDER AT THEATER OF WAR PRODUCTIONS, LLC AND CO-FOUNDER OF OUTSIDE THE WIRE

Bryan Doerries is a writer, director, and translator. A self-described evangelist for classical literature and its relevance to our lives today, Doerries uses age-old approaches to help individuals and communities heal from suffering and loss. He is the founder of Theater of War, a project that presents readings of ancient Greek plays to service members, veterans, caregivers, and families to help them initiate conversations about the visible and invisible wounds of war. He is also the co-founder and Artistic Director of Outside the Wire, a social impact company that uses theater and a variety of other media to address pressing public health and social issues. His book, The Theater of War: What Ancient Greek Tragedies Can Teach Us Today, was published by Alfred A. Knopf in September of 2015, along with a volume of his translations of ancient Greek tragedies, entitled All That You’ve Seen Here is God. His forthcoming graphic novel, The Odyssey of Sergeant Jack Brennan, an adaptation of Homer’s Odyssey as told by an infantry Marine to his squad, will be published by Pantheon in April of 2016. For more information about his work, please visit www.outsidethewirellc.com.

KATHERINE FLEMING - PROVOST, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Katherine E. Fleming was named Provost of NYU in April of 2016. She joined the NYU faculty in 1998. As NYU’s Deputy Provost (since 2013) and Vice Chancellor (Europe) (since 2007), she worked closely with the deans, directors, and schools on academic planning and also provided oversight of the Provost’s Global Research Initiatives program, which she created in 2011. A historian, she is the Alexander S. Onassis Professor of Hellenic Culture and Civilization in the Faculty of Arts and Science, and served for many years as the Associate Director and then Director of the Remarque Institute. Beyond NYU, Dr. Fleming has been an associate member of the History Department of the Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, and served as the president of the Board of the University of Piraeus, Greece. A specialist on modern Greece, the Balkans, and the Mediterranean, she is most recently author of Greece: A Jewish History, which won several prizes, among them the National Jewish Book Award and the Runciman Award. She holds a doctorate in history from the University of California, Berkeley and an M.A. (Chicago) and B.A. (Barnard/Columbia) in comparative religion.

Noam M. Elcott writes, teaches, and advises students in the history of modern art and media in Europe and North America, with an emphasis on interwar art, photography, and film. His research and teaching combine close visual analysis with media archaeology and critical theory. He also writes and teaches on contemporary art. Recent classes include graduate seminars on the Bauhaus, Dada, Surrealism, Futurism, media architecture, and the avant-garde cinematic imaginary as well as the undergraduate lectures: “Art, Media, and the Avant-Garde,” “Histories of Photography,” and “Art Humanities.”

Noam M. Elcott is the author of Artificial Darkness: An Obscure History of Modern Art and Media (University of Chicago Press), winner of the 2017 Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS) Anne Friedberg Innovative Scholarship Award. Elcott is currently at work on Art in the First Screen Age. Laszlo Moholy-Nagy and the Cinefabrik at the Arts (University of Chicago Press), which traverses interwar painting, architecture, photography, film, theater, and exhibition design in the age of cinema.

Elcott is an editor of the journal Grey Room which brings together scholarly and theoretical articles from the fields of architecture, art, media, and politics. He is the director (with Sarah H. Meister) of The August Sander Project (MoMa/ Columbia), a five-year initiative exploring Sander’s epic photo portrait of German society People of the Twentieth Century. His articles have appeared in leading journals like Grey Room, October, and Aperture, as well as in many museum catalogues and scholarly volumes, including monographic essays on Anthony McCall, Stan Douglas, James Welling, the London Film-Makers’ Co-op, and other contemporary artists. He has lectured widely in North America, Europe, and also in South America.

Elcott was educated at Columbia University (B.A. summa cum laude 2000) and Princeton University (PhD, 2009) and is the recipient of Fulbright, Mellon, DAAD, and other fellowships. He was recently a fellow at the Internationales Kolleg für Kulturtechnikforschung und Medienphilosophie (IKKM) at the Bauhaus-Universitat Weimar and will soon be a fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies Bieleven, History and Aesthetics at the Freie Universität in Berlin.

MARSHALL GANZ – SENIOR LECTURER IN PUBLIC POLICY, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Marshall Ganz entered Harvard College in the fall of 1960. He left a year before graduating to volunteer with the 1964 Mississippi Summer Project. In the fall of 1965, he joined Cesar Chavez in his effort to unionize California farm workers. During 16 years with the United Farm Workers he became Director of Organizing, and was elected to the national executive board on which he served for 8 years. During the 1980s, he worked with grassroots groups to develop new organizing programs and designed innovative voter mobilization strategies for local, state, and national electoral campaigns. In 1991, in order to deepen his intellectual understanding of his work, he returned to Harvard College and, after a 28-year “leave of absence,” completed his undergraduate degree in history and government. He was awarded an MPA by the Kennedy School in 1993 and completed his PhD in sociology in 2000. His newest book, Why David Sometimes...
Golden has connected the process of muralism to a multitude of community and public outcomes. In partnership with a co-chair of the Trustees Emeriti of the Asia Society, member of the Board of Directors of Japan Society, the board of the vice-chair of the faculty steering committee of the Columbia Global Center | Europe. She is a member of the National Institute, Weatherhead Books on Asia, and Asia Perspectives. She is the Columbia coordinator of the international She is a founding member and now the chair of Columbia’s Committee on Global Thought, and co-directs the WEAI the country, including a four-year $2-million project on Expanding East Asian Studies (www.exeas.org). Her PhD students At Columbia she has taught undergraduates, graduate students, and students in the School of International and Public Tucker Memorial Lecture at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington. She also moderated seminars for the Aspen Institute in Colorado and Berlin. She directs the transnational project on The Politics of Memory in Global Context, which this past year held workshops and symposia in Paris and at the Columbia Global Center | East Asia in Beijing. At Columbia she has taught undergraduates, graduate students, and students in the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) for forty years. She has contributed to innovations in undergraduate education at Columbia and around the country, including a four-year $2-million project on Expanding East Asian Studies (www.exeas.org). Her PhD students in Japanese history now teach in universities across the United States, Asia, and Europe. She is a founding member and now the chair of Columbia’s Committee on Global Thought, and co-directs the WEAI publications program, working with Ross Yelsey and others to produce the Studies of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Weatherhead Books on Asia, and Asia Perspectives. She is the Columbia coordinator of the international Consortium on Asian and African Studies (CAAS), a member of the Provost Advisory Committee on the Libraries, and vice-chair of the faculty steering committee of the Columbia Global Center | Europe. She is a member of the National Commission on Language Learning, an elected member of the Council of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, co-chair of the Trustees Emeriti of the Asia Society, member of the Board of Directors of Japan Society, the board of the Weatherhead Foundation, and numerous editorial boards and national and international committees.

JANE GOLDEN – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MURAL ARTS PHILADELPHIA

Jane Golden has been the driving force of Mural Arts Philadelphia (Mural Arts), overseeing its growth from a small city agency into the nation’s largest public art program and a model for community development and restorative justice across the country and around the globe. Under Golden’s direction, Mural Arts has created over 4,000 works of public art through innovative collaborations with community-based organizations, city agencies, nonprofit organizations, schools, the private sector, and philanthropies. Golden has connected the process of muralism to a multitude of community and public outcomes. In partnership with a range of city agencies, she has developed groundbreaking and rigorous art education, restorative justice, and behavioral health programs that serve young people, youth and adult offenders at area prisons and detention centers, and individuals suffering from trauma, mental illness, and addiction, respectively. These programs have made it possible for thousands to experience and witness the power of art to connect young people to their communities and to future opportunities, to break the cycle of crime and violence, and to bring about healing in individuals and communities. Golden is referenced in publications around the world, and is an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania. She holds a Master of Fine Arts from the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University, and degrees in Fine Arts and Political Science from Stanford University. In addition, Golden has received honorary PhDs from Swarthmore College, Philadelphia’s University of the Arts, Widener University, Arcadia University, LaSalle College, Haverford College, and most recently, Rosemont College, Villanova University, St. Joseph’s University, and Drexel University.

BECCA HELLER – DIRECTOR AND CO-FOUNDER, INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROJECT

Becca is the director and co-founder of the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), an innovative non-profit “virtual public interest law firm” that works to save refugees’ lives, assure their passage to safe destination countries, shape thought and practice in the United States and around the globe, and train the next generation of international human rights advocates. Becca Heller is the director and co-founder of IRAP and visiting clinical lecturer in law at Yale Law School. She has received numerous awards in recognition of her work with IRAP, including the Charles Bronfman Prize, the American Constitutional Society David Carliner Public Interest Award, a Skadden Fellowship, a Drapper Richards Kaplan Fellowship, a Echoing Green Rising Fellowship, a Gruber Human Rights Fellowship, a Boston College Center for International Studies Annual Community Service Award and a Dartmouth College Martin Luther King Jr. Emerging Leader in Social Justice Award. She was also named Foreign Policy’s Citizen Diplomat of the Year, Politico’s Women Rule Summit Ambassador, one of the Christian Science Monitor’s “30 under 30” change makers, and is a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Becca has also been honored as an ILSA Family Program for Leadership Development in Public Service Lecturer at Cornell University and as a speaker at the Chicago Ideas Week Ed Wickman Talk.

Becca’s interest in the legal challenges facing refugees began on a trip to Jordan during the summer after her first year in law school. During her stay, she visited with six different refugee families, each of them identified legal assistance as their most urgent need. Having just completed her first semester in Yale Law School’s Immigration Legal Services clinic doing asylum work, Becca believed that law students could assist refugees applying for resettlement. She returned to Yale and, together with Jon Finer, Mike Breen, Steve Posnail, and Kate Brubacher, founded IRAP in 2008. Becca received her J.D. from Yale Law School in May 2010. During law school, she participated in the Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy Clinic, the Immigration Legal Services Clinic, and the Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic. She served as an Articles Editor for the Yale Journal of International Law, and received a Coker Fellowship to teach legal writing to first year law students. She also received the Charles G. Albom Prize for excellence in the area of judicial and administrative aptitude in connection with an on-campus workshop. Prior to graduating from law school, Becca lived and worked in Sub-Saharan Africa for two years, including one year as a U.S. Student Fulbright Scholar in Malawi. She graduated summa cum laude from Dartmouth College in 2005. While in college, she was also the recipient of Campus Compact’s National Student Humanitarian Award.

CLAIRE KATZ – PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY, TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY

Claire Katz works on contemporary continental philosophy, philosophy of education, ethics, philosophy of religion, and modern Jewish thought. Her work focuses on the intersection of philosophy and religion, with specific interests in contemporary French philosophy and French feminist theory. She is the author of Levinas, Judaism, and the Feminine: The Silent Footsteps of Rebecca (Indiana 2005) and the editor of Emmanuel Levinas: Critical Assessments vol. 1 (Routledge, 2005). She regularly teaches courses in Gender and Religion and Feminist theory and she has written extensively on feminist theory, philosophy of religion, philosophy of education, and Emmanuel Levinas’s ethical project. Her 2012 book, Levinas and the Crisis of Humanism (Indiana), explores and responds to the theories of education as they emerged in the history of philosophy (e.g., Plato, Locke, Rousseau, Dewey). Her most recent book, An Introduction to Modern Jewish Philosophy (I.B. Tauris, 2014), provides academics and non-academics an introduction to some of the primary Jewish philosophers in the modern period. Her current project involves a return to her early work in teaching philosophy to pre-college students. Working with the Public Partnership and Outreach office (Office of the Provost), she has been leading workshops for K-12 teachers to help think consider how to introduce philosophy into their classroom.

WILLIAM KENTRIDGE – ARTIST

William Kentridge is a filmmaker, draughtsman, and sculptor, and the son of Sydney Kentridge, one of South Africa’s foremost anti-apartheid lawyers. After studying politics and African history at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg from 1973 until 1979, Kentridge studied Fine Art at the Johannesburg Art Foundation (1976–1978) and the École Jacques Lecoq in Paris. His interest in theater—specifically in acting and design—influenced his artistic style and inspired a desire to connect film and drawing. Kentridge’s drawings, usually rendered using pastels and charcoal, were often created as studies for animated films.
His work was further inspired by artistic satirists, including Honoré Daumier (French, 1808–1879), Francisco de Goya (Spanish, 1746–1828), and William Hogarth (British, 1697–1764). By the 1990s, Kentridge had established an international audience and reputation. His works have been exhibited in solo shows at many museums, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Albertina Museum in Vienna, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Since the 1980s, Kentridge has been awarded various prizes, such as the Kaiserring Prize, the Carnegie Prize, the Standard Bank Young Artist Award, and the Red Ribbon Award for Short Fiction. He currently lives and works in Johannesburg, South Africa.

SUNITA KRISHNAN - CHIEF FUNCTIONARY & CO-FOUNDER, PRAJWALA

One of India’s most passionate human rights activist who has committed her life to end sex slavery globally. Working as a full-time volunteer for the mission, Ms. Krishnan is the brain behind Prajwala’s evolution. For the last two decades her contributions to the anti-human trafficking sector has gained national and international attention. As the founding Chief Functionary and General Secretary of Prajwala she is responsible for strategic planning of all interventions. Sunita Krishnan is the head of all Prajwala Operations and continues to expand its interventions. Ms. Krishnan is an advisor to several State Governments to develop holistic victim services and also plays an important role in the Inter-Ministerial Committee at the national level to draft comprehensive legislation on human trafficking. She was honored with the fourth highest civilian honor “Padmashree” in the year 2016. Ms. Krishnan was also declared the Tallberg Global Leader for the year 2016.

MICHAEL J. MURRAY, PH.D. - SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMS, THE JOHN TEMPLETON FOUNDATION

Michael Murray oversees the Philosophy & Theology, Natural Sciences, Communications, Public Engagement, and Philanthropic Outreach areas of the John Templeton Foundation. Before joining the Foundation, he was the Arthur and Katherine Shadek Humanities Professor of Philosophy at Franklin and Marshall College. Dr. Murray received his B.A. in philosophy from Franklin and Marshall and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame. He is the author of Philosophy of Religion: The Big Questions (with Eleonore Stump), Reason for the Hope Within, Philosophy of Religion (with Michael Rea), Nature Red in Tooth and Claw: Theism and the Problem of Animal Suffering, The Believing Primate: Scientific, Philosophical, and Theological Reflections on the Origin of Religion (with Jeffrey Schloss), Divine Evil?: The Character of the God of the Hebrew Bible (with Michael Rea and Michael Bergmann), and On Predestination and Election.

Deborah Levy is a novelist and playwright. The author of six works of literature and two works of memoir, Things I Don’t Want to Know, and The Cost of Living, she was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize for her novels, Swimming Home and Hot Milk. Her plays have been staged by the Royal Shakespeare Company. Her acclaimed dramatizations of two of Freud’s most iconic case histories on the subject of hysteria and infantile neurosis, “Dora and The Wolfman,” were broadcast on BBC Radio 4. She is a Fellow of The Royal Society of Literature.
MIKE NICONCHUK - SENIOR RESEARCHER, BEYOND CONFLICT
Mike Niconchuk is an Innovation Lab Senior Researcher who spent five years in the Middle East designing neuroscience-informed programs for violence reduction and psychosocial support. At Beyond Conflict, Mike leads several initiatives in the U.S., Germany, Jordan, and Lebanon, focusing on two major themes: the link between neuroscience and participation in group violence (e.g., gangs, extremist groups, etc.), and the mind-body effects of conflict and violence on youth and adults. Mike has degrees from Tufts University and University College London.

JIM PITOFSKY - MANAGING DIRECTOR, STRATEGIC ALLIANCES, THE JOHN TEMPLETON FOUNDATION
Prior to joining the John Templeton Foundation, Jim Pitofsky was chief strategy officer at the Arizona Community Foundation (ACF). Before that, he served as the ACF’s director of education where he led education grant making and advised high net-worth donors on their education grant making. Mr. Pitofsky has also served as the vice president and acting president of the Echoing Green Foundation, supporting hundreds of social entrepreneurs around the world; the deputy director of the National Youth Leadership Council, one of the leading service-learning organizations in the U.S. and the world; and the executive director for Hands on Bay Area, the leading manager of corporate volunteerism in the Bay Area. Additionally, Mr. Pitofsky founded and directed an organization that worked internationally to create school/community and business/education partnerships and was adopted by the National Association of Partners in Education. Mr. Pitofsky has been a speaker at the World Economic Forum (Davos), FORTUNE Magazine CEO Forum, the White House Conference on Philanthropy, the Milken Institute, and hundreds of other convenings of corporate, philanthropic, and nonprofit leaders. Mr. Pitofsky earned his B.A. from Stanford University and his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center where he was a Public Interest Law Scholar.

STEVEN SHAPIN - FRANKLIN L. FORD RESEARCH PROFESSOR OF THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
Steven Shapin joined Harvard in 2004 after previous appointments as Professor of Sociology at the University of California, San Diego, and at the Sciences Studies Unit, Edinburgh University. His books include Leviathan and the Air-Pump, Hobbes, Boyle, and the Experimental Life (Princeton University Press, 1985; new ed. 2011), with Simon Schaffer, A Social History of Truth: Civility and Science in Seventeenth-Century England (University of Chicago Press, 1994), and The Scientific Revolution (University of Chicago Press, 1996; translated into 16 languages). Wettenschap is cultuur (Science is Culture) (Amsterdam Balans, 2005), with Simon Schaffer, The Scientific Life: A Moral History of a Late Modern Vocation (University of Chicago Press, 2008), Never Pure: Historical Studies of Science as if It Was Produced by People with Bodies, Situated in Time, Space, Culture and Society, and Struggling for Credibility and Authority (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010), and several edited books.

ALAN STOGA - CHAIRMAN, TALLBERG FOUNDATION
Alan Stoga is a strategist and entrepreneur, he is executive chairman of the Tallberg Foundation and serves as senior adviser at Kissinger Associates, the international consulting firm chaired by Dr. Henry Kissinger. In addition, Mr. Stoga is president of Zem Communications, LLC and non-executive chairman of the Tinker Foundation. Earlier in his career, Mr. Stoga founded and published an award winning, online digital magazine (2007-2009), founded a private equity firm (1995-96), was managing director of Kissinger Associates (1984-95), served as chief economist for the Bipartisan National Commission on Central America, created by President Reagan (1982-3), established and managed the country risk management activities for the First National Bank of Chicago (1977-84), a large global bank, and served as an international economist in the U.S. Treasury (1975-7). Capital’s international mutual funds. Mr. Stoga is currently vice chairman of the board of the Americas Society, a member of the board of Deusto Business School, Spain; and a member of the New York Council on Foreign Relations. He has economics and international relations degrees from Michigan State and Yale University, respectively, and is a frequent lecturer and writer on international, Latin American and U.S. politics and economics.

EFFY VAYENA, PH.D. - PROFESSOR OF BIOETHICS, SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Effy Vayena, PhD, studied Medical History and Bioethics at the University of Minnesota (USA) and completed her habilitation in Bioethics and Health Policy at the University of Zurich. From 2000-2007 she worked at the World Health Organization (WHO). In 2007, she joined the Institute of Biomedical Ethics and History of Medicine at the University of Zurich, with which she remains affiliated. She is a consultant to WHO on several projects, and visiting faculty at the Harvard Center for Bioethics, Harvard Medical School. In 2015 she was named a Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) Professor of Health Policy and leads the newly-established Health Ethics and Policy Lab in the Department of Public Health at the EBPI, University of Zurich. Her current research focus is on ethical and policy questions in personalized medicine and digital health. At the intersection of multiple fields, she relies on narrative analyses and empirical methods to explore how values such as freedom of choice, participation and privacy are affected by recent developments in personalized medicine and in digital health. She is particularly interested in the issues of ethical oversight of research uses of big data, ethical uses of big data for global health, as well as the ethics of citizen science. Using the ethics lens in innovative ways, her work aims to provide concrete policy recommendations and frameworks that facilitate the use of new technologies for a better and more just health.

MICHAEL WISHNIE - WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF LAW AND COUNSELOR TO THE DEAN, YALE LAW SCHOOL
Michael J. Wishnie is William O. Douglas Clinical Professor of Law and Counselor to the Dean at Yale Law School. Professor Wishnie’s teaching, scholarship, and law practice have focused on immigration, labor and employment, habeas corpus, civil rights, government transparency, and veterans law. For years, Professor Wishnie and his students have represented low-wage workers, immigrants, and veterans in federal, state, and administrative litigation. He and his students have also represented unions, churches, veterans’ groups, and grassroots organizations in a range of legislative, media, and community education matters. From 1998-2006, Professor Wishnie taught at New York University School of Law. Previously, he worked at the American Civil Liberties Union Immigrants’ Rights Project as a Skadden Fellow; in the Brooklyn Neighborhood Office of The Legal Aid Society, as a law clerk to Judge H. Lee Sarokin of the District Court of New Jersey and U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and as a clerk for Justice Harry A. Blackmun, retired, working in the chambers of Associate Justice Stephen G. Breyer of the Supreme Court of the United States. Before earning his J.D. from Yale Law School in 1993, Professor Wishnie spent two years teaching in the People’s Republic of China.

RAFAEL YUSTE - PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES AND NEUROSCIENCE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Rafael Yuste is Professor of Biological Sciences and Neuroscience at Columbia University. He was born and educated in Madrid, where he obtained his MD at the Universidad Autonoma in the late 1970s. From 1998-2006, he joined the Department of Biological Sciences at Columbia University. In 2005 he became HHMI Investigator and Co-Director of the Kavli Institute for Brain Science at Columbia. He is a visiting researcher in Javier DeFelipe’s laboratory at Rockefeller University in New York. He then moved to Bell Labs, where he is a postdoctoral student of David Tank and Winfried Denk.

In 1996 he joined the Department of Neurosciences at the University of California. In 1998 he became HHMI Investigator and Co-Director of the Kavli Institute for Brain Science at Columbia. He is a visiting researcher in Javier DeFelipe’s laboratory at the Cajal Institute/UPM in Madrid since 1997, and since 2012 at the Allen Institute for Brain Science in Seattle. Yuste is interested in the structure and function of cortical circuits, the biophysical properties of dendritic spines and the pathophysiology of epilepsy. To study these questions, Yuste has pioneered the application of imaging techniques,
such as calcium imaging of neuronal circuits, two-photon imaging, photostimulation using caged compounds and holographic spatial light modulation microscopy. These technical developments have resulted in several patents, two of which are commercially licensed.

Yuste has obtained many awards for his work, including New York City Mayor’s and the Society for Neuroscience’s Young Investigator Awards. Finally, he has been recently involved in launching the Brain Activity Map, an large-scale scientific project that aims to develop tools to systematically record and manipulate the activity of complete neural circuits. This initiative (now termed “Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies: BRAIN”) has been recently endorsed by President Obama.

ADAM TOOZE - KATHRYN AND SHELBY CULLOM DAVIS PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Adam was born in London. He grew up between England and Heidelberg Germany. Having received his BA in Economics from King’s College Cambridge in the summer of 1989, he had the good fortune to witness the end of the Cold War in Berlin, where he began his postgraduate studies. He went on to take his PhD from the London School of Economics. From 1996 to 2009 Adam taught at the University of Cambridge, where he was Reader in Modern History and Gurnee Hart fellow in History at Jesus College. After Cambridge, Adam was appointed to the Barton M. Biggs Professorship at Yale University, where he succeeded Paul Kennedy as the Director of International Security Studies. Adam joined Columbia’s history department in the summer of 2015. In February 2011 Adam served as Thomas Hawkins Johnson Visiting Professor in Military History at West Point.


For these books Adam won the Leverhulme prize fellowship, the H-Soz-Kult Historisches Buch Prize, the Longman History Today Prize, the Wolfson Prize and the LA Times History Prize. He was shortlisted for the Kirkus review, Duff Cooper and Hessel Tiltman prize and his books have featured in the book of the year lists of the Financial Times, LA History Today Prize, the Wolfson Prize and the LA Times History Prize. He was shortlisted for the Kirkus review, Duff Cooper and Hessel Tiltman prize and his books have featured in the book of the year lists of the Financial Times, LA Times, Kirkus Review, Foreign Affairs and the Economist.

Adam’s books have been translated into eleven languages. He has written and reviewed for the Financial Times, the Guardian, the Sunday Telegraph, the TLS, the LRB, the New Statesman, the WSJ, the New York Times, the New York Review of books, Dissent, Die Zeit, Spiegel, TAZ and the Sueddeutsche Zeitung.

CHASE TWICHELL - POET

Chase Twichell was born in New Haven, Connecticut. She earned her BA from Trinity College and MFA from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop. A practicing Buddhist, she is the author of several books of poetry, and her work often reflects her spiritual practice.


Twichell’s work has received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Artists’ Foundation, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters. She has taught at Princeton University, Goddard College, Warren Wilson College, the University of Alabama, and Hampshire College. In 1999 she left teaching to form Ausable Press, a nonprofit, independent literary press that she operated until it was acquired by Copper Canyon Press in 2009. Twichell has lived for many years in the Adirondacks with her husband, the novelist Russell Banks.

ALEXANDER ZELDIN - WRITER / DIRECTOR

Alexander Zeldin is a writer and director for theatre. Alexander made work in Russia, South Korea and the Middle East as well as at the Naples Festival, before, between 2011-2014, developing a number of his own works as a teacher at East 15 Acting School, where he met several of the actors and creative team that collaborate with him today. At this time, he also worked as an assistant director to Peter Brook and Marie-Helene Estienne. His critically acclaimed play, Beyond Caring, which told the story of several temporary workers meeting on a night shift in a meat factory, had its World Premiere at the Yard Theatre in Hackney in 2014, before transferring to the Temporary Theatre at the National Theatre in 2015. In 2015 Alexander was the recipient of the Quercus Trust Award and was appointed as Associate Director at Birmingham Repertory Theatre. Beyond Caring toured the UK and a new US production, re-developed for the US by Alexander and produced by Lookingglass Theater in conjunction with David Schwimmer’s company Dark Harbour Stories, opened in Chicago in April 2017.

Alexander’s most recent play LOVE opened at the National Theatre in December 2016, before transferring to Birmingham Rep. A European tour is planned for 2018 and LOVE is also being made into a film by the BBC and Cuba Pictures. In 2017, he was named Artist in Residence at the National Theatre and in 2018, was the winner of the Arts Foundation twenty-fifth anniversary Fellowship for Literature.