MFO
MAISON FRANÇAISE D'OXFORD

HILARY TERM 2026
18 January-14 March

'Photolanguage' Exhibition (Nigel Green & Robin Wilson),
Maison Française d'Oxford, 19 January-14 March 2026

Director: Stéphane Van Damme

2-10 Norham Road, OX2 6SE | www.mfo.ac.uk
communications@mfo.ac.uk

MINISTÈRE DE L'EUROPE ET DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES
Liberté Égalité Fraternité

cnrs

UNIVERSITÉS LA SORBONNE PARIS

History of Science

22 & 23 January, Maison Française d'Oxford
Symposium *'Between Techniques, Politics, and Memory: The Identification of Dead Bodies of Mass Violence (19th–20th Century)'*
Convened by Benoît Pouget (Sciences Po Aix),
Taline Garibian (Université de Genève),
and Erica Charters (University of Oxford)

4 February, 2.00-6.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'*Tschirnhaus: Invention, Logic, and Medicine of the Mind'*
Convened by Mogens Laerke and Michael Jaworzyn (CNRS, IHRIM/MFO)
As part of the NOTCOM ERC Project

6 February, 12.30-2.30pm, Online
'*Astrology before the courts: legal debates and contested knowledge in modern France (1560–1628)***'**
Agnès Parmentier (Paris-Saclay/Harvard Univesity, CHCSC)
& Jean Sanchez (CRIGEN)
As part of the 'Céleste. Savoirs et cultures du ciel' Seminar

9 April, 5.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Michel Serres, historian of science despite himself'
Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne)

10 April, 9.30am-5.20pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry (SHAC) Meeting
'Remembering Bill Brock: Chemistry and Culture'
Convened by Frank A.J.L. James (UCL)

History

20 January, 4.30pm, St Edmund Hall
'*Sovereignty, Spirituality, and the Subsoil in the Duchy of Savoy'*
Caroline Callard (EHESS)
Joint session with the Early Modern Italian World Seminar

9 February, 5.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'*Judges before history/Les juges devant l'histoire'*
Jean-Paul Jean (Président de chambre honoraire à la Cour de cassation)
Lise Jaulin (Liaison Judge, French Embassy in London)
Chair: Anne Simonin (EHESS-CESPRA)

16 February, 5.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Legal humanism across nationalisms and transnational history. Presentation of the ISTHisFrench project (ERC-2024-COG 101170233)'
Xavier Prévost (Université de Bordeaux, IUF)
Chair: Ian Williams (St. John's College)

18 February, 5.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
As part of the 'Perspectives from the MFO' Lecture Series
'Is medieval biblical exegesis a form of totemism?
An examination of analogical-social thinking in Moralised Bibles'
Antoine Destemberg (MFO)

23 February, 9.30am-5.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
Workshop *'Beyond the Body of the Church: Formalisations of Social Ideas in Medieval Christianity'*
Convened by Carlo Emilio Biuzzi (EPHE)

5 March, 5.15pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Memory and oblivion of financial crisis'
Youssef Cassis (European University Institute)
With Pierre Chabrol (French Embassy)
Moderator: Patrice Baubeau (MFO)

20 March, 12.30pm-2.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'*The Renaissance on Board, Really? Revisiting Jean and Raoul Parmentier's Mythified Voyage to Sumatra in 1529'*
Romain Bertrand (Sciences Po/CERi)

Classics

23-27 March, Maison Française d'Oxford
Spring School *'Les Fabriques de l'Antique'*
'Making Antiquity: Constructions and Representations of Times Past'
Convened by Olivier Delouis (CNRS)

Literature

Medieval French Research Seminar
Convened by Daron Burrows (St Peter's College), Sophie Marnette (Balliol College), and Helen Swift (St Hilda's College)

3 February, 5.15pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
*'"Nothing Of Thine Own": Fandom, Devilry, and Rewriting Holy Tales***'**
Cat Watts (St Anne's College, Oxford)

17 February, 5.15pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Trans Studies and Medieval Literatures'
Joint seminar with Medieval English
Fran Charmaille (Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge)
and Gareth Evans (St John's College, Oxford)

3 March, 5.15pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Sens et sensibilité. Pour une lecture multimédiale de la Dame à la Licorne'
Nathalie Koble (ENS Paris)

Early Modern French Seminar
Convened by Jess Goodman (St Catherine's College), Rachel Hindmarsh (St Catherine's College), Marina Perkins (The Queen's College)

22 January, 12.30-2.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'L'enfant en voyage à l'époque moderne : voir et être vu'
Gabor Gelleri (Aberystwyth University)

5 February, 12.15-1.45pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
Title tbc
Sophie Turner (Estonian Academy of Arts)

19 February, 12.30-2.00pm, Venue tbc
Postgrad symposium

5 March, 12.30-2.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Stones, Starlings, Self:
Activities of Fortification in Rabelais and Montaigne'
Jenny Oliver (Harvard University)

Modern French Research Seminar
Convened by by Andrew Counter (New College), Katherine Lunn-Rockliffe (Hertford College), and Matthew Phillips (Trinity College)

29 January, 5.15pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Translating Senghor: A Humanist for the Twenty-First Century?'
Doyle Calhoun (University of Cambridge)

12 February, 1.00-2.00pm, Taylor Institution
'Georges Navel and the Legacies of Proletarian Literature'
Holly Langstaff (St Edmund Hall, Oxford)

26 February, 5.15pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Balzac and Totality: Reading Les Paysans Today'
Michael Lucey (University of California, Berkeley)

---

11 February, 3.30-6.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
Film Screening and Roundtable on Rousseau
Stephen Leach and Stephen Hilyard (University of Wisconsin Madison)
• *'Remember a Poor Hermit': A Reconstruction of 'Rousseau's Cave'*
(including showing of short film about Rousseau's Cave at Wootton Hall in Staffordshire). Discussion led by Jenny Mander (Newnham College, Cambridge) with tea and coffee.
• *Roundtable on Rousseau's Politics of Taste (2024)*
by Jared Holley (University of Edinburgh)
Discussants: Jane Cooper (All Souls College, Oxford), Holly Rowe (Lincoln College, Oxford), and Olivier Higgins (New College, Oxford)

This term, we will also conduct interviews with the Goncourt UK shortlisted authors. They will be posted on the MFO YouTube channel.

Social & Political Sciences

21 January, 5.15pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
Book presentation
'Reflections on the Imperial Despotism of Russia' (Payot, 2025)
Sabine Dullin (Sciences Po, Paris)
Chair: Andrew Khan (St Edmund Hall, Oxford)
PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS EVENT IS CANCELLED

22 January, 5.15pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
As part of the 'Perspectives from the MFO' Lecture Series
'*Satisficing equilibrium'*
Bary Pradelski (MFO)

29 & 30 January, Maison Française d'Oxford
Workshop with the Delphine Lévy Chair
'Pour l'accès à l'art et au patrimoine : outils et recherches'
('For access to art and heritage: tools and research')
29 January, Time tbc, Maison Française d'Oxford
Book Launch *'Every Monument Will Fall'* (Penguin, 2025)
With author Dan Hicks (Pitt Rivers Museum/St Cross College)
Convened by Martine Drozdz (MFO)
& Yaël Kreplak (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne)

3 March, 4pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
Book presentation 'Cultural expertise.
Theories, Laws and Practices' (Routledge, 2025)
Livia Holden (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne/CNRS)
Dina Hadad (Université Paris Nanterre)

Children's Week
In collaboration with the Centre for the History of Childhood

9 March, 5.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'*The infant mind : a view from within'*
Maya Gratier (Nanterre, Babylab)

10 March, 2.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Enfants au Moyen Âge'
Didier Lett (Université Paris Cité)

10 March, 7.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
Film Screening *'Pupille'*
Jeanne Herry, 2018, 1h50min
As part of the Children's Week

11 March, 5.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Too young to vote? The history of school mock elections in Britain'
Helen Sunderland (Oxford's Centre for the History of Childhood)

12 March, 5.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Towards an anthropology of babies'
Natacha Collomb (CNRS)

Interdisciplinary events

14 & 15 January, Maison Française d'Oxford
Closed event *'Seed meeting – Franco-British meeting on nuclear instrumentation and measurement'*

28 January, 5.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'AI in Quebec Newsrooms: Prudence Over Hype'
Colette Brin (Université Laval/Reuters Institute for Journalism)

5 February, 5.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
As part of 'French Sciences in Oxford: Cross-Channel Conversations'
:'*How the space of the brain shapes the mind*'
Daniel Margulies (MFO)
Chair: William James (Brasenose College, Oxford)

6 February, 9.30am-2.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
Workshop on Women's Health
Clarisse Berthezène (Université Paris Cité)
Krina Zondervan (Nuffield College)

9 & 10 February, Maison Française d'Oxford
Closed event *'Strategic partnership: Université Paris Cité, Institut Pasteur, Synchrotrons SOLEIL & Diamond, and the University of Oxford'*
Consortium meeting convened by Philippe Guerin (Uni. of Oxford)

Research & Creativity

19 January-14 March, Maison Française d'Oxford
Exhibition 'Brutalist Imaginaries:
Radical Architectures of Oxford and Paris'
Photolanguage (Nigel Green & Robin Wilson)
Special opening at 6.00pm on 23 January

25 February, 5.00-6.30pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
Talk '*What's on a Vase? When French Feminism Meets Chinese Art'*
Manhua Li (Royal Holloway College, University of London)
Discussants: Nicholas Bunnin (China Centre, University of Oxford), Frances Wood (Chinese Collections, British Library), and Michelle Castelletti (Oxford Festival of the Arts)
Host: Zoe Y. Zhong (University of Oxford)

6 March, 5.15pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'From Utopia to Politics: Brutalist Architecture in France's Working-Class Neighbourhoods'
Joint book presentation of *'Brutalist Paris'* (Nigel Green & Robin Wilson) & *'Streetologie'* (Ulysse Rabaté)

Cinema

Film & Money Series

27 January, 7.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
Documentary Series Screening
'La fabuleuse histoire de l'argent (1/4) Et l'Homme créa la monnaie'
'The Fabulous History of Money (1/4) A Revolutionary Idea'
Frédéric Wilner 2025, 52min

10 February, 7.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Crésus'
Jean Giono, 1960, 1h40min

24 February, 7.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'La Banquière'
Francis Girod, 1980, 1h71min

---

3 March, 7.00pm, Maison Française d'Oxford
'Le dernier Canadien français'
Jill lefaive, 2024, 51min
Organised as part of Francophonie Month, in collaboration with the Québec Government Office and the Alliance Française d'Oxford