

**Brown Foundation Fellows
Spring 2015**



Carolle Bénitah was born in Casablanca, Morocco. After graduating from the Ecole de la Chambre Syndicale de la Couture Parisienne (Paris, France), Carolle Benitah worked as a fashion designer for ten years. Her recent exhibitions include *Le Maroc raconté autrement*, Galerie 127, official selection of Month of Photography Paris, *Photos Souvenirs*, Sous les Étoiles Gallery New York, *10 Contemporary Moroccans Photographers* in Museum of Marrakech for Photography, *Tisser des liens*, Pavillon de Vendôme in Aix en Provence and J1 in the context of Marseille Cultural European Capital Provence 2013. Carolle Benitah's work is part of the collection of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Museum of Marrakech for Photography and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. *One month, June*



Maureen Cassidy-Geiger is a New Hampshire native living in the orbit of New York City. An internationally recognized curator, scholar and lecturer specializing in European decorative arts, Meissen porcelain and the court of Saxony/Poland under kings August II and August III, her time at the Dora Maar House will be devoted to completing the manuscript for *The Grand Cure*, an annotated edition of the travel diaries of the disabled Crown Prince of Saxony/Poland, Friedrich Christian (1722-63), who traveled *incognito* in Italy in 1738-40 (with an entourage of forty) for medical treatments and Catholic indoctrination during an improvised odyssey akin to a Grand Tour. Research on the unpublished diaries has thus far been supported by grants and fellowships from Wellesley College, DAAD, The Getty Museum and Parsons New School University. Cassidy-Geiger has been a Visiting Scholar at the American Academy in Rome and the Fondazione Cini in Venice. Maureen's book on the history of the Philip Johnson Glass House estate, a National Trust property with eleven structures and a landscape designed by the architect, will be published in 2016. *One month, April*



Angela Dalle Vacche is a Professor of Film Studies at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She has authored several books: *The Body in The Mirror: Shapes of History in Italian Cinema*, Princeton, 1992; *Cinema and Painting: How Art is Used in Film*, Texas, 1996; *Diva: Defiance and Passion in Early Italian Cinema*, Texas, 2008; she also produced a few anthologies: *The Visual Turn: Art History and Classical Film Theory*, Rutgers 2002; co-edited with Brian Price, *Color: A Film Reader*, Routledge, 2010; *Film, Art, New Media: Museum without Walls*, 2012. Dalle Vacche is currently working on a new book: *Andre Bazin's Cinema: Art, Science, Religion*. She has been the recipient of fellowships and grants from Fulbright Committee, and The Mellon, The Rockefeller, and The Leverhulme Foundations. *One month, June*



Yemane I. Demissie is an award winning independent filmmaker whose work includes two narrative feature films, *Tumult* and *Dead Weight* and a feature documentary, *Twilight Revelations: Episodes in the Life and Times of Emperor Haile Selassie*. Currently, Yemane is producing *The Quantum Leapers: Ethiopia 1930-1975*, a six-part social history documentary series about the Emperor Haile Selassie era. Yemane is an associate professor in the Undergraduate Department of Film &

Television at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. He has received numerous awards for his work including the John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, the Walter Mosley Award for Best Documentary, The Berlin Prize the American Film Institute's Filmmaker's Grant, the Paulin Vieyra Merit Award for Outstanding Work in the Cinema, the California Arts Council Artists Fellowship, and the Fonds Sud Writing Grant. He has also been awarded residencies at Bellagio, MacDowell, Yaddo and Bogliasco. *Two months, April and May*



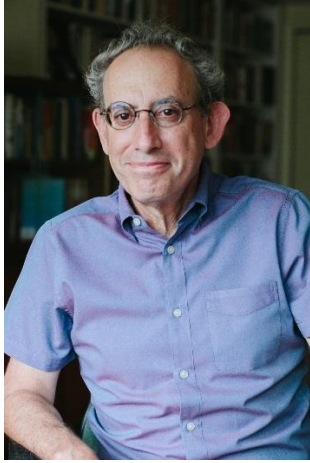
Richard Holeton is author of the critically-recognized hypertext novel *Figurski at Findhorn on Acid* (Eastgate Systems, 2001), other electronic and new media fiction, short stories, and college textbooks. His stories have appeared in *Indiana Review*, *Mississippi Review*, *ZYZZYVA*, *Black Ice*, and other journals. His electronic literature has been widely performed and exhibited and is anthologized in *The Electronic Literature Collection*, Vol. 1. Holeton has won fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the MacDowell Colony, and the California Arts Council. Previously he taught writing for 12 years at Stanford University,

where he currently serves as Director of Academic Computing Services. *One month, April*



Alex Jimenez Ruanova's more recent compositions reveal folkloric influences from Latin America, and have been performed in several international forums and concert halls. He has received important commissions from music ensembles and orchestras, as well as numerous prizes and recognition. Ruanova has done extensive work producing, organizing and leading projects, conferences and master classes. Most recently he received a grant from the minister of culture FONCA -

CONACYT in Mexico and he was awarded a doctorate in composition at the Akademia Muzyczna w Krakowie, in Poland. During his time at the Dora Maar House, he will work on a composition for a small ensemble based on the play "El HombreReloj" (The-Clock-Man) by the Mexican-American dramatist Juan Trigos Synister. *One month, May*



Ken Kalfus is the author of three novels, *Equilateral* (2013), *The Commissariat of Enlightenment* (2003) and *A Disorder Peculiar to the Country*, which was a finalist for the 2006 National Book Award and appeared in French as *Un désordre américain*. He has also published two collections of stories, *Thirst* (1998) and *Pu-239 and Other Russian Fantasies* (1999), a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award. Ken has received a Pew Fellowship in the Arts award and a fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. He's written for *Harper's*, *The New York Review of Books*, and *The New York Times*. A film adaptation of his short story, "Pu-239," aired on HBO in 2007. His new collection, *Coup de Foudre: A Novella and Stories*, will be published in May 2015. *One month, March*



Gavin Morrison is a curator, and writer based in Scotland and the south of France from where he runs the project gallery, IFF. He is also a director of Atopia Projects, a curatorial and publishing initiative. In 2015-6 he will be the Artistic Director of Skaftfell Centre for Visual Art, Seyðisfjörður, Iceland and previously (2007-9) he was the inaugural curator of Fort Worth Contemporary Arts, USA. Currently he is developing a monographic exhibition on the modernist architect Berthold Lubetkin for Tbilisi, Georgia and is writing a book concerning cultural continuities between Scotland and Corsica related to historical connections between those two places. *One*

month, March



Brenda Marie Osbey, a New Orleans native, is an author of poetry and prose nonfiction in English and French. Her books include *History and Other Poems* (Time Being Books, 2013); *All Saints: New and Selected Poems* (LSU Press, 1997), which received the American Book Award; *Desperate Circumstance, Dangerous Woman* (Story Line Press, 1991); *In These Houses* (Wesleyan University Press, 1988); and *Ceremony for Minneconjoux* (Callaloo Poetry Series, 1983; University Press of Virginia, 1985). She has been a resident fellow of the MacDowell Colony, the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, the Camargo Foundation and others. She also has received fellowships and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Louisiana Division of the Arts, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation, the Langston Hughes Society and others. In 2005–2007, she served as the first peer-selected poet laureate of Louisiana. Osbey is currently Distinguished Visiting Professor of Africana Studies at Brown University. *One month, June*



Seamus Scanlon is a writer from Galway, Ireland and currently based in New York where he is a Carnegie Corporation/ *New York Times* award winning librarian at the Center for Worker Education (City College). His short fiction collection *As Close As You'll Ever Be* (Cairn Press, 2012) established the character of Victor M. McGowan who was the protagonist in the 2014 production of *The McGowan Trilogy* at the Cell Theatre in New York. The trilogy (published by Arlen House, 2014) won awards for Best Actress, Best Director and Best Design at the annual 1st Irish Theatre Festival in New York. It will also be produced in Galway in June 2015 by Wolf Meets World. The Spanish translation of his collection (*Irlanda en el corazón*) is due in 2015 from Artepoética Press. At Maison Dora Maar he is working on his novel in progress - *Black Coelacanth*. Seamus is a graduate of the City College of New York, the University of West London and the National University of Ireland, Galway. *One month, March*



Justin Spring, a writer on 20th-century American art and culture, is the author of two interdisciplinary biographies, *Fairfield Porter: A Life in Art*, and *Secret Historian: The Life and Times of Samuel Steward, Professor, Tattoo Artist and Sexual Renegade*. Both biographies examine the lives of artists whose work combined the practice of visual art with literature, poetry, criticism, and social and political activism. *Secret Historian* was a National Book Award Finalist and the recipient of many other prizes. Spring received the Guggenheim and Leon Levy Biography Fellowships. In addition to his work as a biographer, Spring is an award-winning curator who has published many monographs and museum catalogues, most recently *Andy Warhol: Fame and Misfortune*. His current biography project, tentatively entitled *American Gourmands in Paris*, looks at the lives of seven American writers who learned about French food and wine during 1945–75, the period remembered in France as *les trentes glorieuses*. *One month, May*