

# French Studies Library Group

## Annual Review

## *French Studies Library Group Annual Review*

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The *FSLG Annual Review* is an annual publication, produced for the members of the French Studies Library Group. The aims of the Group are:

- To act as a focus for librarians and other concerned with the provision of library resources and services in French studies;
- To facilitate cooperation in the provision, access, promotion and preservation of French printed and electronic resources;
- To provide a forum for the dissemination of information on these topics between libraries and the scholarly user community;
- To liaise with related library groups.

### **Membership**

Membership is open to any person or institution with an interest in the aims of the Group. Annual membership costs 15 pounds sterling. Please contact the Treasurer, Martin Hodgson (martin.hodgson@kcl.ac.uk).

### **Notes for contributors**

Contributions to future issues of the Review are always welcome. Submissions should be preferably in electronic form (rich text format (RTF)). Please send them to the editor at the above address.

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

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**FLSG on the web: <http://fslg.libr.port.ac.uk/>**

### **Electronic mailing lists**

FLSG has its own JISCmail list:

- **FSLG (<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/fslg.html>)**

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# *The best of the web for French studies*

**Shoshannah Holdom**, *Content Editor (Modern Languages), Intute: Arts and Humanities*

There is a wealth of material online for learning, teaching and research in French Studies. The French government, in particular, is responsible for some of the key online resources in this field, offering free access to full-text primary and secondary sources and much more. What follows is an overview of what may currently be considered the best of the Web for French Studies. This is clearly not an exhaustive list. Rather it has been compiled with the intention of bringing both various well-established websites and new, more unusual online resources, to the attention of readers.

All of these resources have been catalogued by Intute, <http://www.intute.ac.uk/artsandhumanities/> (formerly the RDN hubs, Humbul and Artifact), where readers will find more detailed descriptions and metadata.

## **Literature**

### **Archivox**

<http://www.archivox.com/>

An innovative Web site that offers audio files of readings from notable French texts. Users may listen to extracts from a range of literature in French including: autobiographies; short stories; novels; poetry; letters; and travel writing.

### **Gallica**

<http://gallica.bnf.fr/>

Part of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France website, Gallica provide access to a rich collection of texts, images, audio, and commentary, spanning the history of France from the fourth century to the end of the nineteenth century.

### **Gidiana.net**

<http://www.gidiana.net/>

Devoted to the life and works of Nobel Prize winning French writer, André Gide (1869-1951), this site provides a detailed biography of Gide, a substantial selection of notable critical studies of Gide's work and two extensive bibliographies. Audiovisual material related to Gide, a chronology of his journeys, a list of places associated with Gide and quotations are also featured.

### **Île en île**

<http://www.lehman.cuny.edu/ile.en.ile/>

This site offers a collection of online resources for the study of Francophone arts and cultures, and acts as a gateway to other electronic resources relevant to the field. Available here are dossiers of documentation related to specific Francophone writers, including biographies, bibliographies, electronic versions of their work, audio files of interviews and readings, and much more.

### **Labyrinthe**

<http://perso.wanadoo.fr/labyrinthe/>

This is an immense gateway to online resources for the study of contemporary French literature. It offers an index of contemporary French writers, with links to biographies located on other websites, or to text written by the site's author. The site features a further index of popular writers across the centuries; here the user will find links to specific resources (such as encyclopedia extracts and essays) useful for the study of these notable figures. A bibliography is also included.

### **Les écrits féminins non-fictionnels du moyen âge au XVIIIe siècle**

<http://aix1.uottawa.ca/~margirou/>

This website is the result of a collaborative research project between academics from Ottawa and Concordia Universities on non-fiction writing by women in France from the Middle Ages until the 18th century. As well as a database of writers from the Middle Ages, the site explores each of the four periods, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the 17th century, the 18th century, in turn and features short articles introducing the prominent French writers, issues facing these writers, and current popular areas of research.

### **Literature and culture of francophone Africa and the diaspora**

<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/francophone/>

This gateway to online resources on francophone Africa and the diaspora is an excellent first stop for research into the subject. Available in English and French, the site is structured as a database and aims to offer users access to online resources in the fields of literature, theatre, cinema, music and the visual arts.

### **Louise Labé**

<http://www2.ac-lyon.fr/enseigne/lettres/louise/>

This excellent site is dedicated to the 16th century French writer from Lyon, Louise Labé, and offers electronic versions of all her sonnets. Users may also access a facsimile of the sonnet manuscripts, a transcription in old French, a translation into modern French, and notes. Much useful secondary material is also provided.

### **Molière**

<http://www.toutmoliere.net/>

Devoted to the 17<sup>th</sup> century playwright Molière, this website features a detailed chronology of his life and the historical context of his work; the full-text of his complete works; and a glossary relating to this works. A bibliography of secondary material and a filmography of adaptations of the plays are also available.

### **Victor Hugo**

<http://www.victorhugo2002.culture.fr/>

This interactive and informative website devoted to the great French writer, Victor Hugo (1802-1885), offering an array of material related to his life, works and thought. This includes an extensive biography, a timeline and sections on the various places Hugo lived and people who influenced his life. With its quiz and extensive primary material, this is a great site for the student and teacher of Hugo.

## Language

### **L'ABC de la langue française**

<http://www.languefrancaise.net/>

Focusing on the French language, this site offers a range of online resources and news articles covering all aspects of the field including dialects, slang, rhetoric, defence of the language and Francophonie. The site also acts as a gateway to evaluated Web resources, and makes available texts and audio files for the study of the French language.

### **Base de données lexicographiques panfrancophones**

<http://www.tlfq.ulaval.ca/bdlp/>

This website, from the Trésor de la langue française au Québec, provides a freely accessible, online database of the linguistic differences throughout the francophone world. Users may conduct simple or complex searches for particular words, or browse through the region-specific 'dictionaries'. Full definitions, examples of usage, and variations are provided. Some entries are accompanied by sound files.

### **French Linguistics**

<http://www.french-linguistics.co.uk/>

This is a useful resource for the study of the French language. It offers a simple but highly effective online French-English and English-French dictionary, which contains approximately 36,000 headwords in French, 18,300 compounds and expressions, and 87,000 translations.

### **Langue du XIXe siècle**

<http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/epc/langueXIX/>

This key resource for anyone with an interest in the area of nineteenth-century French language and linguistics contains extracts from, amongst others: nineteenth-century dictionaries; grammar manuals; histories; and handbooks of philology and rhetoric. Much of the textual material contained in this resource derives from facsimile copies of the original volumes.

### **Langue française**

<http://www.langue-fr.net/>

This is a freely accessible online reference guide to French grammar, spelling and punctuation. It provides an extensive grammar manual which covers, in some detail, both the basics and more advanced aspects of the French language. The site also offers users the chance to test their knowledge of vocabulary and spelling.

## Area/Diaspora studies

### **Francophonies canadiennes : identités culturelles**

<http://www.francoidentitaire.ca/>

This substantial and complex website explores the evolution of francophone Canadian culture from the 16th century to the present day. Designed as a pedagogical resource, the site employs a range of primary and secondary sources and multimedia to illustrate the history of francophone culture in Canada.

### **New France - new horizons - on French soil in America**

<http://www.archivescanadafrance.org/>

This is an impressive and sophisticated online exhibition and database dealing with French colonial history in Canada, 1604-1763. The database of digitised archival documents, which are

in French, is searchable, and users can also access 350 of the documents through a themed exhibition. The themes cover departure, navigation, discovery, encounter, settlement, foundation, daily life, administration, trade, worship, warfare, and survival.

### **Association pour la diffusion de la pensée française**

<http://www.adpf.asso.fr/>

This is the website for ADPF, an organization which works on behalf of the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs and in partnership with the French cultural network abroad to promote the French language and Francophone culture. The site provides a vast range of primary and secondary material which will be of great use to the student and researcher of French literary and cultural studies, including dossiers, journals and author biographies.

### **Teaching**

#### **Civilisation française**

<http://www.cortland.edu/www/flteach/civ/>

This website, published by SUNY Cortland, is an excellent learning resource featuring images, video interviews, roleplay situations, a bibliography, a film list, and proverbs. Under topic headings such as cultural heritage, history, religion, the state, holidays, and Europe, users will find interactive exercises, texts on the selected subject, dialogues and other material. This is a good site for brushing up one's French or for intermediate students to supplement their courses.

#### **Cultura**

<http://web.mit.edu/french/culturaNEH/>

This is the website for Cultura, a course designed to make foreign culture the focus of the language class. It originated as a collaboration between the teachers and students of French at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and teachers and students of English at the École Supérieure d'Aéronautique in Toulouse. The materials developed are now available on this website for use and adaptation by any teacher at FE or HE level wishing to incorporate the study of culture within the language classroom.

#### **Lettres.net : étude et enseignement du français**

<http://www.lettres.net/>

This is a vast gateway to resources useful for French study at both Further and Higher education level. Aimed primarily at students and teachers of the French baccalaureate, there is nonetheless much material here to interest UK students and teachers. It offers guided readings, commentaries, criticisms, and other complementary resources for the study of canonical French writers including: Racine; Rousseau; Zola; Maupassant; and Hugo.

### **History**

#### **Dix-Neuf**

<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/dix-neuf/>

This web site provides a wide range of information on and a gateway to resources for the study of French and Francophone 19th Century in areas such as literature, language, culture, philosophy and history. Dix-Neuf also offers a multidisciplinary forum where scholars or other individuals can exchange ideas and materials on any aspect of the French 19th Century.

#### **L'histoire par l'image**

<http://www.histoire-image.com/>

This is an innovative online project which takes users through the history of 18th, 19th, and up to early 20th century France by means of presentation and analysis of works of art and iconographic documentation. With a thematic and chronological structure, users may browse or search a collection of images related not only to notable events from France's history but which are also representative of everyday society and culture. Each image is accompanied by a historical contextualization, as well as analysis of the image and general interpretation.

### **Paris: Capital of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/paris/>

This site offers digitized resources for the study of 19th century French history and culture. Beginning as a project aimed to assist students' engagement with this particular period and understanding of French civilization, this site now makes available a range of material including texts, images (including artworks and architectural drawings), maps and other documentation. The comparative study of such diverse material will, the project directors hope, illuminate the political events, cultural, philosophical and social movements during this period.

### **Culture**

#### **CESAR : calendrier électronique des spectacles sous l'ancien régime**

<http://www.cesar.org.uk/>

This is a freely available online database of information about French theatre - plays, people, productions and performance spaces - between 1600 and 1800, in other words, the time of the Ancien Régime and the revolution. Originally developed as part of an AHRC-funded project, the database has evolved into an international collaborative venture. Complementing the database is a collection of full-text secondary sources.

#### **Culture.fr**

<http://www.culture.fr/>

This website is a vast gateway and information service for all aspects of French culture. It offers a remarkable number of annotated links to quality resources in the fields of: archaeology; architecture; modern art; cinema; history; French language; literature; and the performing arts. Links are also provided to: national libraries; museums; archives; and study and research resources and the site acts as a news service for cultural events and the arts in France.

#### **Label France**

[http://www.france.diplomatie.fr/label\\_france/](http://www.france.diplomatie.fr/label_france/)

This is an outstanding online resource for students, teachers and researchers of French culture at any level, offering as it does a full-text electronic version of a magazine dedicated to all aspects of the field. Published by the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs and available in a variety of languages, it offers articles on a broad range of themes related to France, such as: tourism; business; society and the environment; media and multimedia; arts; science and technology; writing and literature; the humanities; France at the heart of Europe; international relations; and sport.



### **Le théâtre de la foire à Paris**

<http://foires.net/>

This is the website of the AHRC, British Academy and HEFCE supported research project into fairground theatre in Paris in the 17th and 18th centuries. The site offers a chronology of performances from 1668 onwards, which provides details of individuals involved, follows the movement of various performances between sites, and offers diagrams of some of the fairground spaces used. Extracts from original texts are provided. Cross-references in the form of hyperlinks to other parts of the site are available throughout: these lead to notes on theatre companies and troupes, individual performers and writers; maps of sites; and primary and secondary bibliographies.

### **E-journals**

#### **Érudit**

<http://www.erudit.org/>

Érudit is a Canadian portal to e-journals, reviews, conference proceedings and theses from Canadian institutions of higher education. The full-text of a broad range of research publications is freely available here.

#### **Equinoxes**

<http://www.brown.edu/Research/Equinoxes/>

Equinoxes is a peer-reviewed e-journal published bi-annually by graduate students of Brown University. Each issue focuses on a particular theme and articles span the fields of literature, art, film, drama, philosophy and critical theory.

#### **Marges linguistiques**

<http://www.marges-linguistiques.com/>

This is a scholarly electronic journal of linguistics, with a particular emphasis on French linguistics. Published bi-annually, the journal aims to bring together research from the traditional fields of linguistics (syntax, phonology and semantics for example), with what the editor considers to be more fragmented fields, such as analysis of social communication.

See <http://www.intute.ac.uk/artsandhumanities/ejournals.html> for an index of French studies e-journals.

## *Intute: the new era of online resource discovery*

**Shoshannah Holdom**, *Content Editor (Modern Languages), Intute: Arts and Humanities*

July 2006 saw the launch of Intute, representing a new era for the Resource Discovery Network, the JISC funded UK service which find, reviews and catalogues online resources for learning, teaching and research at HE and FE. Following extensive consultation, and with the approval of the RDN board of management and the JISC, the RDN has undergone a major restructure to streamline the service and better meet the needs of our users.

### **New subject groups**

The RDN comprised eight different subject gateways and eight different databases, all based at different institutions in the UK. The restructure has seen the merger of these eight gateways into four subject groups. Intute: Arts and Humanities has been formed by integrating the former RDN hubs, Humbul (humanities) and Artifact (creative arts), with teams based at the University of Oxford and Manchester Metropolitan University. Despite the new look and structure, the nature of the service has not changed: to facilitate and champion the effective use of the Internet in research, teaching and learning within the arts and humanities.

### **Technical integration**

Technical integration has been a further significant development with the creation of one single database containing all the Internet Resource Catalogue records from each of the RDN Hubs. The main benefit of this will be to make cross-disciplinary browsing and searching easier and more effective. Other benefits have been accrued in the process of creating and migrating records to this database, including a significant weeding of the data and a review of our collection management practice and policies so that relevance and currency is improved.

The new database is hosted by MIMAS at Manchester University, giving us the advantages of being part of a national data centre's technical infrastructure.

This technical integration gives us the potential for a national platform for subject-based development activity relating to Internet resource discovery and access. At the simplest level this means the extension of hub-specific valued-added services (for example, My Humbul personalisation tools) across all the subject areas and the efficient exploitation of our resources in the development of service-wide initiatives. At a more ambitious level, we are in discussions with a number of key organisations in the sector to provide expert services in line with our mission to advance education and research by promoting the best of the Web, through evaluation and collaboration.

### **What's in a name?**

Much lively discussion has been sparked as a result of choosing a new name and brand identity for the RDN. Rather than adopt another acronym, it was decided to find something more unique and memorable. The composite word *Intute* is derived from 'Internet' and 'tutorial' and intends to convey the experiences of guided learning and online resource discovery.

## **New Web interface**

In order to improve access to the best of the Web, a new website has been designed to permit more sophisticated searching and browsing. Search results can now be listed alphabetically or by relevance; resources can be browsed by sub-categories or keywords within each of the subject areas covered by Intute: Arts and Humanities. For French Studies, for example, you can now browse resources under the headings of literature, language, history, cultural studies, gender studies, area studies and much more. Many of the extra features offered by Humbul and Artifact remain, such as Topics, gathering together the best resources with commentary for specialist areas, and easy access to electronic journals and AHRC project websites, but users will also be able to take advantage of a range of new services. These include timelines - listing dozens of key events which have shaped the world as we know it, together with suggested searches for further information; a blog, bringing together subject news from the arts and humanities; and free, downloadable support materials such as worksheets and Powerpoint presentations which can be adapted by HE staff for course materials, hands-on teaching sessions or self-directed learning.

## **Feedback**

We are very keen to hear views on any aspect of the new service. Please contact us via email [artsandhumanities@intute.ac.uk](mailto:artsandhumanities@intute.ac.uk) or use our feedback form: <http://www.intute.ac.uk/feedback.html>.

## *A survey of recent French-based library initiatives*

**Teresa Vernon**, *Curator, French Collections, British Library*

### **Europe**

In March 2006 the European Commission announced plans to promote digital access to Europe's heritage via a European Digital Library. The EDL is a flagship project of the Commission's i2010 strategy for the European Information Society. By the end of 2006 the EDL should encompass full collaboration among the national libraries in the EU and be expanded in the years thereafter to archives and museums. "Two million books, films, photographs, manuscripts and other cultural works will be accessible through the European Digital Library by 2010".

The Commission intends to build upon the The TEL-infrastructure. The European Library (TEL) is the website of the 45-member Conference of European National Librarians (CENL) and provides access to the catalogue records and digital collections of currently 15 European national libraries.

The British Library's Chief Executive, Lynne Brindley, is a member of the High Level Group on the EDL chaired by the EU Information Commissioner, Viviane Reding. The Group, which brings together stakeholders from cultural institutions and industry, will address strategic issues such as copyright and public-private collaboration for digitisation. It met for the first time on 27 March.

Development of the new Franco-German search engine project Quaero (I search in Latin) continues. The plan is to create a multi-media search engine for the general public that can cope with images and sound as well as text. Some of the funding will come through the new Agence pour l'innovation industrielle (AII). Project partners include Thomson, Jouve (digitisation), Exalead (search engine) and France Télécom on the French side and, reportedly, Empolis (Bertelsmann), Deutsche Telekom and Siemens on the German side.

Meanwhile the BNF continues to lead on the French contribution to the European Digital Library. A steering committee comprising representatives from the private and public sectors has met several times (a summary of the "livre blanc" (blue book) issued in January is available on the BNF website). It seems the vision is centred on a digital library for the general public and it is hoped to include about 20% of texts still in copyright. In March 2006 Jean-Manuel Bourgois of the French Publishers Association was appointed as the third secretary general of the steering committee to join Alexandre Moatti from the CNRS and Valérie Tesnière from the BNF.

In February 2006 the national libraries of Belgium, Canada, France, Luxembourg, Québec and Switzerland announced the creation of a Francophone Network of National Digital Libraries (Réseau Francophone des Bibliothèques Nationales Numériques). The six partner libraries will meet twice a year.

French-speaking information professionals within IFLA have created a website (<http://bibliodoc.francophonie.org>) to provide an online hub within IFLA and the wider French-speaking world. The website includes a portal ("Portail") containing links to Francophone library and information resources. In order further to strengthen the Francophone presence

within the library and information professional community a formal association, the Association internationale francophone des bibliothécaires et documentalistes (AIFBBD), is being created.

## **France**

### **Legislation**

On 30 June 2006 the controversial DADVSI (Droit d'auteur et droits voisins dans la société de l'information) bill was finally adopted by both Houses of Parliament.

The Act implements the eponymous European Directive of 2001 and contains important provisions on other aspects of intellectual property. However at the time of writing the opposition has decided to refer the Act to the Conseil constitutionnel to check that it conforms to the Constitution, so there will be a further delay before the law becomes operative.

The new legal deposit Act (décret sur le dépôt légal) has been published in the Journal Officiel of 15 June 2006, the date on which the law came into force. This is decree no. 2006-696 of 13 June 2006 modifying decree no.93-1429 of 31 December 1993 on legal deposit. The two main provisions are the diminution of the number of copies to be deposited and the suppression of the obligation to send a copy to the Interior Ministry. The text of the new Act together with that of the Act of 1993 can be consulted on Legifrance ([www.legifrance.gouv.fr](http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr)).

The Bibliothèque nationale de France has posted practical information on the main changes for each category of material on its website :

<http://www.bnf.fr/pages/infopro/actualites/modifdl.htm>

### **Bibliothèque nationale de France**

#### *Staff changes*

Lucien Scotti, Director of administration and personnel since 2001, has been appointed Director of European and International affairs.

Through *Livres Hebdo* (no.651, 23/6/06) we learn of the following future staff changes. On 31 August 2006 Isabelle Dussert-Carbone, currently Deputy Head of the Bibliothèque publique d'information (BPI), will join the BNF as Director of Conservation. On 1 September 2006 Thierry Delcourt, currently Director of the BM Troyes, will succeed Monique Cohen who is retiring as Head of the Département des manuscrits.

#### *Catalogues*

As part of the planned closure of the special collections BN-OPALINE catalogue, the music records from the Département de la Musique including the Bibliothèque-Musée de l'Opéra have now migrated to BN-OPALE PLUS.

The BNF's Agence bibliographique nationale has started publication of a regular newsletter under the title *Actualités du catalogue: produits et services bibliographiques* (<http://www.bnf.fr> >Professionnels>Produits et services bibliographiques).

## *Digitisation*

Information on current and possible future projects is available on the BNF website (<http://www.bnf.fr>) and follow the path: Professionnels>Numérisation et données numériques. There is also a separate website *Espace professionnel sur le document numérique à la Bibliothèque nationale de France* (<http://bibnum.bnf.fr>), although when visited the latest update was October 2005.

Undoubtedly the biggest single project in the Gallica digital library programme is the ongoing digitisation of French newspapers. The first tranche of titles to be digitised comprises *Le Figaro*, *Le Temps*, *La Croix* and *L'Humanité* up to WW2. In addition, the monthly *Le Monde diplomatique*, following agreement with the BNF in 2006, is now included in the first tranche for the period 1954-1977.

## *Notable acquisitions*

The manuscript of Beckett's *En attendant Godot* has been donated by Annette Lindon, widow of Beckett's publisher Jérôme Lindon of Editions de Minuit.

From the Bérès sale the Library has acquired, inter alia, an autograph manuscript and an original edition annotated by the author of Stendhal's *La Chartreuse de Parme*, a set of corrected proofs of the 1898 edition of Mallarmé's *Un coup de dés jamais n'abolira le hasard*, Apollinaire's *Alcools* with the autograph manuscript of *Zone* and a copy of Calvin's *Institution de la religion chrétienne* (Geneva, 1562) annotated by Sully, formerly Henri IV's chief minister. The Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal has acquired the archives of Oulipo (Ouvroir de Littérature Potentielle). See "L'Oulipo: dossier" in *Revue de la Bibliothèque nationale de France*, no. 20, 2005.

## *Reference Service*

On 15 November 2006 the Library launched a virtual reference service called SINDBAD (Service d'Information Des Bibliothécaires A Distance) using OCL's QuestionPoint software. Users may ask a question in French or English by filling in a web-based form after first selecting a subject area; in most cases, a reply will be received within three days. <http://www.bnf.fr>> Poser une question à un bibliothécaire).

## **Other French libraries**

The new Centre des Archives nationales at Pierrefitte-sur-Seine near Paris, which will hold post-1790 archives, is due in 2010. Bernard Stirn's report on the administrative structure of the archives of December 2005 recommends reorganising the current five centres into three hubs (<http://www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/actualites/index-rapports.htm>). Meanwhile a bill proposing the suppression of the thirty-year rule (though certain exemptions will still apply) will be put before parliament in due course.

The Institut national de l'audiovisuel (INA) inaugurated a database of radio and TV programmes available through its website (<http://www.ina.fr/archivespour tous/>). The site has a search engine and information on downloading works in copyright is provided in the "télécharger" section. The project is ongoing and the current highlight is the complete Maurice Papon trial which was recorded on camera.

In December 2005 the Bibliothèque de Sciences Po in Paris and the International Bibliography of the Social Sciences (IBSS) based at the LSE launched a joint project to incorporate into IBSS French journal article records compiled at Sciences Po. The material from around 400 French-language journals is indexed in French. IBSS will add an English title translation and English keywords to all records.

According to *Livres Hebdo*, no.624, 2 décembre 2005, the Bibliothèque de la Sorbonne will close temporarily in 2008 for at least three years. The closure will be to enable work to be carried out to modernise the Sorbonne building and enhance the security of the collections.

The Bibliothèque Marguerite Durand is closed for renovation until autumn 2006.

The Bibliothèque publique d'information has posted its new collection development statement on its website (<http://www.bpi.fr/uploadfile/chartedocu2005.pdf>)

The BPI also relaunched its virtual reference service as a cooperative network with other French public libraries implementing OCLC's Question Point software under the name *Bibliosés@ame*. Beyond this and the BNF's SINDBAD service plans are afoot for a mooted virtual reference service for the French-speaking world.

Albert Poirot, Inspecteur general des bibliothèques, has been appointed the new director of the Bibliothèque nationale universitaire de Strasbourg (BNUS).

Anne-Marie Bertrand has succeeded François Dupuigrenet-Desroussilles as Director of Enssib (Ecole nationale supérieure des sciences de l'information et des bibliothèques). The *Bulletin des bibliothèques de France* is fifty years old in 2006. The website of the *BBF* now includes a blog and RSS feed (<http://bbf.enssib.fr>)

The Institut Mémoires de l'édition contemporaine (IMEC) has published the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (2006) of its *Répertoire des collections*. The new edition contains nearly 400 entries, as opposed to the 200 entries in the first edition (2000). The online version of the directory has become available again since January 2006 and is of course regularly updated (<http://www.imec-archives.com/fonds/>)

The Paris office closes on 30 June. It will reopen at a new address, 174 rue de Rivoli, on 1 September 2006.

The Library (Médiathèque) of the new Musée du quai Branly opened on 27 June 2006. Its holdings bring together existing collections from the Musée de l'homme, the Musée national des arts africains et océaniens (MAAO) and new recent acquisitions. The online catalogue is accessible via the Quai Branly website: <http://www.quaibranly.fr/> > Documentation scientifique and the records for books and periodicals are also included in the Système universitaire de documentation (SUDOC) union catalogue. The iconothèque (picture library) holds some 700 000 images, mainly photographs, from the close of the 19<sup>th</sup> c. onwards.

## Websites

As of March 2006 the Anglo-Norman Dictionary is freely available online <http://www.anglo-norman.net/>

The Artamène website (<http://www.artamene.org/>) which gives online access to the full text of Madeleine de Scudéry's *Artamène ou le Grand Cyrus* (1649-1653), notoriously the longest novel in the French language, has been enhanced by new features such as an index of characters and places and plot synopses. The text is fully searchable via ARTFL's PhiloLogic search engine.

The French Book News website from the French Embassy, Cultural Department, has been relaunched. It presents new French publications, as well as French books translated into English or books in English about France and also produces regular newsletters. A directory of translators, bookshops and libraries has been added and a database of French books translated into English is forthcoming.

The website is produced jointly by the French Book Office UK and USA. The UK editors are the Cultural Attaché, Hervé Ferrage and the Book Attachée, Sophie Cauchy (<http://www.frenchbooknews.com/>).

The University of Sheffield team responsible for GidianArchives, the André Gide online press archive, has received funding to add material previously not included in the database (<http://www.gidiana.net/GA.htm>)

The Institut géographique national (IGN) has developed Géoportail (<http://www.geoportail.fr/>)

*Livres Hebdo*, the French book trade journal, launched its website in June 2006 <http://www.livreshebdo.com/>

The Ouvroir de Littérature Potentielle (Oulipo) has developed a website to explore the challenges of constraints in an online environment (<http://www.oulipe.net/>)

The Société Octave Mirbeau announced its website <http://membres.lycos.fr/octavemirbeau/>

A new site devoted to Alexis de Tocqueville has been added to the Célébrations nationales website (<http://www.tocqueville.culture.fr/en/>)

The Association pour la diffusion de la pensée française has started to publish its quarterly periodical *Vient de paraître* online in English as well as in French <http://adpf.deleg.oxymium.net/adpf-publi/vdp/index.html>

## Catalogues

The website address of the Catalogue Collectif de France has changed to <http://ccfr.bnf.fr/> The period late 2006-2007 should see a rolling programme of adding new catalogues to the CCFr.

A list of the libraries included as of June 2006 in the Système universitaire de documentation (French universities union catalogue) is on the ABES website: <http://www.abes.fr/> > Réseau Sudoc> Etablissements participants.



The seven institutions which joined in 2006 include the Ecole normale supérieure (Ulm), the Ecole française d'Athènes and the Maison des sciences de l'Homme in Paris founded by Fernand Braudel.

The Agence bibliographique de l'enseignement supérieur (ABES) and the Bibliothèque nationale de France are collaborating on the digitisation of the *Catalogue Général des Manuscrits*.

Raymond Bérard was appointed Director of ABES for a three-year period with effect from 1 January 2006.

The retroconversion of the catalogues of the special libraries of the Ville de Paris is ongoing and should be completed in 2007. Since January 2006 the online catalogue of the special libraries is accessible on the Paris.fr portal

([www.paris.fr](http://www.paris.fr) > Culture > Bibliothèques > Bibliothèques spécialisées)

Note that it is still necessary to consult the manual catalogues onsite for a complete record of holdings or if the desired material does not yet appear online. Periodical titles (except for those of the Bibliothèque administrative which are already online) and the collections of the Bibliothèque de la Ville de Paris should be added in the second semester of 2006. (As noted last year the catalogues of the Bibliothèque des arts graphiques, the Bibliothèque Forney and the Bibliothèque Marguerite Durand were partially automated in 1997 and included in the CCFr).

The catalogue of the Bibliothèque des arts décoratifs has been added to the Virtual Catalogue for Art History (VKK), a meta-catalogue similar to KVK (<http://www.ubka.uni-karlsruhe.de/kvk/vkk/>). The catalogue collectif des musées nationaux is already accessible via VKK.

## Digital libraries

As the French contribution to the European Michael project, the Ministry of Culture has replaced its directory of digitised collections of archives, libraries and museums with a new database "Patrimoine numérique: catalogue des collections numérisées" (<http://www.numerique.culture.fr/mpf/pub-fr/index.html>)

The Institut national d'histoire de l'art Library has launched a major new digital library for art history covering the following categories of material: archives and manuscripts, prints and drawings, printed books and photographs. The printed books collection includes 367 history of art classics from the early modern period and the nineteenth century (e.g. old guides to Paris, festival books, etc) and a collection of pre-1920 catalogues of the Louvre. Material will be added on an ongoing basis. (<http://bibliotheque-numerique.inha.fr/>)

The bibliothèque électronique de Lisieux, a collection of mainly 19<sup>th</sup> century French texts digitised by the municipal library of Lisieux in Normandy, is now ten years old. The texts are fully searchable by interrogating the LexoTor database developed by Russon Wooldridge in Toronto in collaboration with Olivier Bogros, Director of the municipal library (Médiathèque André Malraux) of Lisieux and chief webmaster of its electronic library (<http://www.bmlisieux.com/>)

The Base de Français Médiéval (BFM) database developed since 1989 at the Ecole Normale Supérieure Lettres & Sciences Humaines in Lyon currently comprises seventy four complete Old and Middle French texts in different genres (literature, history, hagiography, law, etc). However, as the database is designed to serve the academic community, access is reserved to scholars, teachers and students via password provided on registration. (<http://bfm.ens-lsh.fr/>)

The Centre d'Etudes Supérieures de la Renaissance, University of Tours, is developing a website, ARCHITECTURA, Architecture, textes et images du XVIe-XVIIe siècles. The site consists of three databases that (will) provide on an incremental basis access to page images and searchable modernised transcriptions of the full text of architectural works, a bibliography and extracts of works about French architecture and a bibliography of manuscripts and printed texts documenting Gallo-Roman antiquities, all published during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries (<http://www.cesr.univ-tours.fr/architectura/>)

### Francophone collections of electronic journals

Persée (<http://www.persee.fr>), launched in 2005, has added three more journals to its existing list of ten titles.

*Archives de sciences sociales des religions*: issues from 1980 to 1999 are freely accessible via Persée, while recent issues are accessible via [revues.org](http://assr.revues.org) (<http://assr.revues.org/>)

*Mélanges de l'Ecole française de Rome* (Publications de l'Ecole française de Rome): Persée provides free access to issues from 1881-1890, with recent issues available via Casalini (<http://digital.casalini.it/efr>).

*Revue internationale de droit comparé*: Persée provides free access to issues from 1949 to 1999. Fifteen more journals are being processed in 2006. They are: *Actes de la recherche en sciences sociales*, *Annales de géographie*, *Année psychologique*, *Bulletin de correspondance hellénique*, *Cahiers d'études africaines*, *Cahiers du monde russe*, *Critique internationale*, *Langages*, *Langue française*, *Politique étrangère*, *Politix*, *Revue de l'OFCE*, *Revue d'économie industrielle*, *Revue du Louvre* and *Romantisme*.

There will be a moving wall of between three or five years depending on the title.

In order to promote greater visibility on the web of French publications in the humanities and the social sciences the CNRS set up in November 2004 a Centre d'édition numérique scientifique (Cens) based at the Ecole normale supérieure Lettres et Sciences Humaines in Lyon (<http://www.cens.cnrs.fr/>).

Cens launched a website for e-journals in December 2005 (<http://edition.cens.cnrs.fr/revue/>). Currently there are twelve titles, but at present in most cases only one issue per title has been mounted, but they are freely accessible and are searchable. The journals are *Anthropology of Food*, *Biométrie humaine et anthropologie*, *Bulletin du centre de recherche français de Jérusalem*, *Cahiers Charles V*, *European Review of Philosophy*, *Géomorphologie:relief, processus, environnement*, *L'homme et la société*, *Libertinage et philosophie au XVIIe siècle*, *Métropoles*, *Mots, les langages du politique*, *Nouveaux Cahiers d'Allemand*, *Revue d'archéologie du Centre de la France*, *Revue géographique de l'Est*. Back in summer 2005 Cens stated that it was in discussion with c.60 journals and was looking at a mixed model of free access for older issues and charged access for current issues, so it remains to be seen how this project will develop.

The Franco-Belgian portal Cairn (<http://www.cairn.info/>) was launched at the end of 2005. The project, a joint initiative of four publishers, Belin, De Boeck, Erès and La Découverte, currently

provides online access to 66 francophone journals in the humanities and social sciences. In general access to the full text is available free of charge to the back files of journals according to the moving wall principle (fixed at three years in most cases), while access to the full text of current and recent issues is on a subscription or pay-as-you-go basis. In February 2006 the Bibliothèque nationale de France joined the Cairn project as a partner. Note that the BNF's digital library, Gallica, includes out-of-copyright digitised periodicals (<http://gallica.bnf.fr/periosListe.htm>), although they are not fully searchable.

The Belgian portal, E-Montaigne, an initiative of academics at the Université catholique de Louvain and based in Louvain-la-Neuve, aims to disseminate digital versions of e-journals in the humanities and social sciences (<http://www.e-montaigne.com/>). The texts are searchable via a search engine.

Revue.org (<http://www.revues.org>), founded in 1999, currently offers the e-version of circa 50 journals and continues to add new titles on an ongoing basis: e.g. *Archives des sciences sociales des religions* (also added to Persée), *Histoire & Mesure*, *Journal de la Société des Américanistes* and *Médiévales*. Access policy varies according to title from no restriction to a moving wall of between one and five years

Erudit, (<http://www.erudit.org/>), a consortium of three Québec universities, provides digital versions of academic journals in the humanities and social and natural sciences regardless of country of origin, though in practice from Québec. Full text access is according to a two-year moving wall; the older texts are freely accessible, while the current issues are available on subscription.

## **Belgium**

The Belgian Newspapers digitisation project 1830-1950 is to go ahead as one of the projects funded under the federal digitisation programme (“plan de numérisation du patrimoine fédéral”). The project partners are the Royal Library, the Centre for Historical Research and Documentation on War and Contemporary Society (CEGES/SOMA), and the Belgian Royal Cinémathèque. The project is seen as a future contribution to the European National Library.

An online catalogue of Belgian newspapers is being developed with eighty partners. This tool is being developed as part of the collaborative conservation of Belgian newspapers project launched in 2003. One aim of the project is to centralise information on material which has already been microfilmed and/or digitised to avoid unnecessary duplication. At this stage the database is an internal management tool and is not accessible to the public.

The creation of a Centre fédéral d'histoire de la presse belge has been announced to facilitate coordination and cooperation at the national level.

The Royal Library's Réserve précieuse has embarked on a project to catalogue all its post-incunables (1501-1540), with special attention to ex-libris and bindings.

It is now possible to access the Belgian Union Catalogue of Belgian Research Libraries CD-ROM for monographs (CCB) by emulation from the website of the Royal Library ([www.kbr.be](http://www.kbr.be)). Follow the path Catalogues/Autres catalogues/Catalogues belges.

The catalogue of the Library of the Musée royal de Mariemont is now available online (<http://www.musee-mariemont.be/>). The online catalogue does not yet contain all the holdings

but does include, inter alia, the printed holdings from the Charles Bertin and Charles Plisnier collections and part of the manuscripts and archives from the Plisnier collection.

From an article in *Le Monde* (23/06/06) we learn of the existence of a collection of tens of thousands of photographs taken from 1906 into the 1980s by companies operating in the mineral-rich province of Katanga in what is now the Democratic Republic of Congo. The collection constitutes a unique treasure trove for Francophone Africa and is particularly rich in photos from the colonial period. Unfortunately, it is currently at risk of dispersal. However, thousands of photos and negatives have been donated to the Espace francophone de Lumumbashi (the provincial capital) by the Belgian Forrest Group.

The inventory of the Stanley Archive held at the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren (Brussels) consisting of more than 7 000 records relating to Stanley's correspondence, diaries, accounts, pictures, etc, is available online for searching and downloading at: <<http://www.metafro.be/stanley> or via the RMCA website <http://www.africamuseum.be/museum>>.

The Bibliothèque des Chiroux municipal library used to be managed jointly by the Province and the City of Liège, but the City of Liège which is heavily in debt agreed to the transfer of ownership of the library- except for the prestigious heritage collections of the salle Ulysse Capitaine- to the Province. The salle Ulysse Capitaine collections have been moved out of the Chiroux building and are currently in storage and not accessible to researchers.

Recently created living Belgian author websites include the playwright Jean-Marie Piemme (<http://www.jeanmariepiemme.be/>) and the novelist Alain Berenboom (<http://www.berenboom.com/>). Websites about living authors include Henry Bauchau (<http://bauchau.fltr.ucl.ac.be>) created by the Centre de recherche sur l'imaginaire, Université catholique de Louvain and Jean-Philippe Toussaint (<http://www.jean-philippe-toussaint.de/>), a single-authored and partially updated German-based site. Pour mémoire websites about well-known Belgian authors include: André Baillon (<http://www.andrebaillon.net/>), Michel de Ghelderode (<http://www.ghelderode.be/>), Jean Ray (<http://www.noosphere.com/heberg/Jeanray/>), Georges Rodenbach (<http://users.skynet.be/fa007429/>) and Georges Simenon (<http://www.libnet.ulg.ac.be/simenon.htm>)

## **Luxembourg**

An article in the Luxemburgensia section of the *LëtzebuurgerLand* provides an overview of online materials from Luxembourg ([http://www.land.lu/html/dossiers/dossier\\_luxemburgensia/indexbiblionumeri.html](http://www.land.lu/html/dossiers/dossier_luxemburgensia/indexbiblionumeri.html))

The Dramata festiva website is devoted to the plays performed at the Jesuit Collège de Luxembourg between 1603-1717. The site includes digitised periochae (programmes), that is synopses and guides to help French speakers (one periocha is in German) to follow the Latin action ([http://www.restena.lu/cul/PRAEFATIO/T\\_001\\_Titre.html](http://www.restena.lu/cul/PRAEFATIO/T_001_Titre.html))

Note that this site has been fully catalogued in Humbul (now Intute: Arts and Humanities).

## Québec

In January 2006 the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec (BNQ) and the Archives nationales du Québec announced the operational regrouping of their activities in a new institution, the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ) (<http://www.banq.qc.ca/>).

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) already combines the former National Library of Canada and National Archives of Canada.

## Switzerland

The Head of the Swiss Literary Archives, Thomas Feitknecht, and the Head of the Services to the Public Department, Jean-Marc Rod, have left the Swiss National Library. Their successors are respectively Irmgard Wirz Ebyl and Liliane Regamey.

The Swiss Literary Archives has acquired the archives of the critic Jean Starobinski. The archive includes his enormous multilingual correspondence with intellectuals and artists worldwide, the manuscripts of all his published works and personal documents such as drafts for his lectures at the University of Geneva. Work is due to start on the Gonzague de Reynold Archive.

Despite all the work that has gone into updating the four specialised subject bibliographies as recorded last year it has been decided to suspend publication of three out of the four including the *Bibliographie annuelle des lettres romandes*, probably with effect from 2006. However publication of the *Bibliographie der Schweizergeschichte/Bibliographie de l'histoire suisse* will continue.

The Swiss Book (national bibliography) is now available online at [www.helvetica.ch/swissbook](http://www.helvetica.ch/swissbook) beginning with issue 01/2001. The search template is integrated into the Library's Helveticat catalogue. Searching is by Dewey classification, form or content. The bibliography will continue to be published in hard copy and in PDF format.

A new page on Swiss cantonal and regional bibliographies is now available on the SNL website under the heading "Services". Bibliographic information on each title together with a link to the online version if this exists has been provided; the link for fuller information on the website of the Swiss Library Association (BBS) is to pages in German only.

Jean-Philippe Accart's paper at IFLA 2005 on SwissInfoDesk (Guichet virtuel Suisse), the SNL's information portal, is available on the IFLA website (<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/Programme.htm>). Since then an informal network of participating libraries within Switzerland has been set up (the list is on the SNL website). In addition SwissInfoDesk also participates in the Deutsche Internet Bibliothek project and to a project on virtual reference for French-speaking libraries launched by the Bibliothèque nationale de France and the Bibliothèque publique d'information in Paris.

The collaborative digitisation of Swiss posters continues. The posters cover such themes as tourism, advertising, cultural activities, sport, etc from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards. The posters are listed in the Swiss posters collection database hosted on the SNL website ([www.snl.ch](http://www.snl.ch)); other partners are the Bibliothèque publique et universitaire (Geneva), the Médiathèque Valais and the Swiss Museum of Transport.

The Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries has launched a pilot e-archiving service for Swiss academic journals digitised from printed originals (<http://retro.seals.ch>). The first project is a Swiss Digital Mathematics Library and currently only two journals have been digitised, but it should be interesting to see how the project develops.

The Library Network of Western Switzerland (RERO) is developing its digital library, RERO DOC (<http://doc.rero.ch>). It provides access to the digitised collections of RERO libraries and also acts as an open-access repository for the electronic theses, dissertations and e-prints produced by the institutions participating in the project.

Owing to budget cuts the Swiss Federal Archives ([www.bar.admin.ch/](http://www.bar.admin.ch/)) now only opens three days a week (Tuesday-Thursday) and staff professional assistance to researchers has been restricted to two hours per day.

## *British Library news*

**Teresa Vernon**, *Curator, French Collections, British Library*

The Renaissance Festival Books website, a joint British Library and University of Warwick digitisation project funded by the AHRC, has been launched. Festival books describe public displays at royal marriages and funerals, stately entries into cities, and other similar grand events. The site comprises complete digital copies of a selection of 253 festival books in the British Library, including books from France and the Southern Low Countries, many illustrated, which have been catalogued, indexed and photographed. The site contains over 14000 images and the texts are fully searchable

(<http://www.bl.uk/treasures/festivalbooks/homepage.html>)

The scope of the British Library's much talked about strategic partnership with Microsoft to digitise and make available the contents of approximately 100 000 out-of-copyright books is to be British 19<sup>th</sup> c. printed books. The first content is due to appear in late 2006.

John Tuck, Head of British Collections, presented a paper on Digitisation in the British Library: strategy and partnerships at the annual conference of the Association des bibliothécaires français (ABF) on 9 June 2006.

Morna Daniels has published "Little Red Riding-Hood", *British Library Electronic Journal* (2006), art.5. (<http://www.bl.uk/collections/eblj/2006/article5.html>)

Morna Daniels and Teresa Vernon attended the Paris Book Fair in March 2006. Teresa also visited the Royal Library of Belgium in Brussels. Teresa gave presentations on the Library's French collections and bibliographical tools for French studies for French research students from the Universities of Birmingham, Sheffield and King's College London as part of the AHRC National Research Training Network in Modern Languages.

## *University of London Research Library Services*

**Ian Snowley**, *Director of Academic Services, University of London Research Library Services*

Restructuring and forward planning: the restructuring exercise which commenced in 2005 has been followed through and the new ULRSLS structure implemented with effect from early 2006. Three new senior appointments have been made to fill the posts of Director of Academic Services (Ian Snowley), Technical Services (Paul McLaughlin) and User Services (Christine Muller). Key next steps in the process are now in progress, including the development of a new strategic plan for ULRSLS

Work has also begun to reorganise staff structures and subject responsibilities into groups which take into account the convergence within ULRSLS and the opportunities afforded by greater coordination between Senate House Library (SHL) and Institute libraries.

Space planning: plans are proceeding for the refurbishment and rewiring of Senate House and the associated moves of Institute libraries. Work on the first phase covering the conversion of part of the 3rd floor to library space, and the rewiring/refurbishment of parts of the 4th floor SHL space (Goldsmiths' Library, Middlesex South Reading Room, offices, Membership Hall), is due to start late 2006/early 2007

IT infrastructure improvements: following a successful bid to the Vice-Chancellor's Development Fund, it has been agreed that funding will be made available to create a digital resource centre in SHL, by converting one of the reading rooms into an area dedicated to PCs for users, with internet access and word/data processing software available. It has also been agreed that wireless networking will be introduced into the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies and Warburg Institute libraries, as pilots for developing wifi access across all the ULRSLS libraries. These very welcome developments will bring a significant and much needed upgrade to the IT infrastructure of the libraries, for the benefit of all their users.

SHL access arrangements/federal subscriptions: the new arrangements for giving automatic full access to SHL for current members of the University of London came into effect in August 2005 and have proved to be successful and workable. The move was broadly welcomed across the University and while there has been an increase in registration and use these have not proved unmanageable.

The pattern varies from college to college; in some cases there has been a substantial rise, more than doubling or even quadrupling the previous full-year numbers, in others it has been moderate, while in some it has been more steady-state. Membership registrations alone do not reflect the full pattern of use, which should also take into account numbers of visits, time spent, loans and renewals made, and use of e-resources.



## *Early French purchasing at the British Library – policy and practice*

**Des McTernan**, *Curator, French Language Imprints 1501-1850*

Below is a list of the books which I purchased in financial year 2005-2006 for addition to the British Library's collections of early printed books in French. My current acquisitions grant usually allows me to purchase about 25-30 monographs each year.

The works below are arranged in order of date of publication. They are slightly exceptional in that I am rarely able to acquire so many 16th-century imprints in one year because of their scarcity and consequent high cost.

I am responsible for selecting French works published from 1501 to 1850 inclusive. This is a very broad remit and does require a knowledge of French history which is always being extended as I read the book dealers' catalogues which are continually sent to me. However, the British Library's early French collections are already extremely extensive so it is almost impossible for me to break new subject ground. Instead, my purpose is to build on what has already been created and fill in gaps where I can.

I do have a selections policy which is to enhance our collections concerning the evolution and spread of the French language but, in attempting to implement this, I am very constrained by what is available on the antiquarian market at any one time and also by the permanent requirement to consider how other parts of the collections can be enriched. The list below shows how the framework within which I work has played out in the last financial year. I am very pleased to have finally been able to obtain both the Latin and the French editions of Gilles Bourdin's commentaries on King François I's edict of 1539 making French the language of French legal courts and I hope that my colleagues in other institutions think that the works below are all worthwhile additions to the UK's national collection.

On a concluding and technical note, I use the rules laid down in ISBD(A) (2nd revised edition) for cataloguing purposes and this will explain the absence of accents where it seems there should be one as well as the fullness of detail in various cataloguing fields.

### 1) HERODIAN

Herodiani Historiae de imperio post Marcum: vel, de suis temporibus, / Angelo Politiano interprete. - Lugduni apud Haered... 1559. - 237, [1]p (16o); 12cm.

Shelfmark            C.188.a.109

### 2) BOURDIN, Gilles, 1515-1570

Paraphrasis in constitutiones regias, de litibus brevi compendio decidendis, anno Domini 1539. / promulgatas, à clarissimo viro D Aegidio Burdino, in supremo Parisiorum Senatu regio & publico cognitore aedita. - Parisiis apud Galeotum à Prato... 1573. - [8], 128 leaves (8o); 17cm

Shelfmark            RB.23.a.28436

3) BOURDIN, Gilles, 1515-1570

La paraphrase de M. Gilles Bourdin procureur general en la Cour de Parlement de Paris, sur l'ordonnance de l'an mil cinq cens trente neuf. / Traduite de latin en françois, & illustrée par le traducteur de nouvelles additions sur chacun article. - A Paris chez Ieen Borel libraire... 1578. - [8], 402p (8o); 17cm

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28387

4) BORDES, Jean de 1560-1620

Les vrais abus des pretendus abus de la messe, pour respondre à B. de Loque ministre de Castelgeloux... / Par Jean de Bordes.. - A Bourdeaux par S. Millanges, imprimeur ordinaire du Roy 1598. - [16], 423, [17]p (8o); 16cm

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28426

5) RÉMOND, Florimond de, ca. 1540-1602.

L'antichrist et l'antipapesse: / par Florimond de Raemond... - Edition seconde revue, corrigee, & de beaucoup augmentee par l'auteur. - A Paris chez Abel L'Angelier... 1599. - [13], 485, [17] leaves (4o); 23cm

Shelfmark RB.23.b.5279

6) ROULLIARD, Sébastien, d. 1639

Traicté, de l'Antiquité, veneration et privileges de la Sainte Chappelle, du Palais Royal de Paris. / Par M. Seb. R.. - A Paris chez Thomas de La Ruelle... 1606. - 68p (8o); 15cm

Shelfmark RB.23.a.29284

7) HENNEQUIN, Jean, 16th cent.

Le guidon general des finances, / avec les annotations de M. Vincent Gelée.. - Le tout nouvellement reueu, corrigé & augmenté par M. Sebastian Hardy... Plus vne instruction pour les recipiendaires qui subissent l'examen en ladite Chambre. - A Paris chez Henry Le Gras... 1644. - [12], 872, [14]p, (8o); 17cm. - Anonymous: the author is Jean Hennequin. - References: Barbier: Dictionnaire des ouvrages anonymes

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28379

8) REFUGE, Eustache de, d. 1617

Traité de la cour ou Instruction des courtisans. / Par Mr. Du Refuge. - Derniere edition. - A Paris chez Estienne Loyson... 1658. - [4], 380p (12o); 14cm

Shelfmark RB.23.a.29368

9) ARROY, Bésian

Le prince instruit en la philosophie en françois, contenant ses quatre parties: avec une metaphysique historique... / Par messire Besian Arroy.. - Premiere edition. - A Lyon chez Pierre Guillimin... 1671. - [24], 470p (2o); 29cm. -  
Title on half-title page: La philosophie en françois

Shelfmark RB.23.b.5225

10) COÛTUMES du duché, bailliage et siege presidial de Chartres, pays chartrain, Perche-Gouët, baronies & chastellenies d'Alluye, Brou, Mommiral, Auton, & la Bazoche-Gouët, dites les cinq Baronies. / Commentées par M. J. Couart.. - Seconde édition. Augmentée des notes de M. C. du Molin, de a traduction des passages latins, & du procez verbal de la Coûtume de Chartres. -A Chartres de l'imprimerie d'Estienne Massot, imprimeur & marchand libraire... 1687. - [8], 592p (8o); 18cm

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28758

11) NICOLE, Pierre, 1625-1695

De l'unité de l'Église, ou Refutation d'un nouveau systeme de M. Jurieu. - A Paris chez Bordelet..., 1729. - [16], 462, [2]p (12o); 16cm. - The author is named in the Aprobation [sic] des docteurs

Shelfmark RB.23.a.29383

12) BOUGEANT, G.-H. (Guillaume-Hyacinthe), 1690-1743

Voyage merveilleux du prince Fan-Férédin dans la romancie; contenant plusieurs observations historiques: géographiques, physiques, critiques & morales. - A Paris chez P. G. Le Mercier... 1735. - [4], vj, [6], 275, [1]p (12o); 17cm. - Satirical fiction. - Anonymous: the author is G.-H. Bougeant. - References: Barbier: Dictionnaire des ouvrages anonymes

Shelfmark RB.23.a.29479

13) IRAIL, Augustin-Simon 1719-1794

Histoire de la réunion de la Bretagne à la France. Où l'on trouve des anecdotes sur la princesse Anne, fille de François II dernier duc de Bretagne, femme des rois Charles VIII & Louis XII. / Par M. l'abbé Irail. - A Paris chez P. et Ger. Durand, neveu... 1764. - 2 v. (12o); 16cm

Shelfmark RB.23.a.29498

14) MOY, Charles-Alexandre de, 1750-1834

Le parfait alphabet, ou Alphabet analytique et raisonnée des sons articulés, au moyen duquel on peut peindre la parole humaine; avec figures en taille-douce. - A Paris chez Crapart, libraire... 1787. - viij, 335, [1]p (8o); 20cm. - Anonymous: the author is Charles-Alexandre de Mo. - References: Barbier: Dictionnaire des ouvrages anonymes, 3rd ed

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28769

15) RÉVÉRONI SAINT-CYR, Jacques Antoine, 1767-1829

Nos folies ou Mémoires d'un musulman connu à Paris en 1798. Orné de gravures. / Recueillis [sic] et publiés par l'auteur de Sabina, d'Herfeld, de Pauliska; etc.etc. - A Paris chez Lemierre, libraire... 1799 Paris impr. d'Emm. Brosselard... - 2 v. ill. (12o); 18cm. - A novel. - Anonymous: the author is Jacques Antoine Révéroni Saint Cyr. - References: Barbier: Dictionnaire des ouvrages anonymes

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28812

16) PISSOT, Noël-Laurent d.1815

Vocabulaire pour l'intelligence de l'histoire moderne... Ouvrage nécessaire aux personnes qui veulent lire avec fruit l'histoire et les auteurs modernes. - A Paris chez Le Normant, libraire, imprimeur du Journal des Débats... an XI-1803. - [4], iv, 633, [1], 6p (8o); 29cm. - On the final 6 pages: Notice de livres de fonds et d'assortimens, qui se trouvent chez Le Normant, libraire.. - Anonymous: the author is Noël-Laurent Pissot. - References: Barbier: Dictionnaire des ouvrages anonymes, 3rd ed

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28772

17) SICARD, M. l'abbé (Roch Ambroise Cucurron), 1742-1822

Théorie des signes, ou Introduction à l'étude des langues, où le sens des mots, au lieu d'être défini, est mis en action. Ouvrage élémentaire, absolument neuf, indispensable pour l'enseignement des sourds-muets... / Par M. l'abbé Sicard..- A Paris chez Dentu, imprimeur-libraire... Delalain, imprimeur-libraire... 1808 Paris de l'imprimerie de l'Institution des sourds-muets.. - 2 v. (8o); 20cm

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28397

18) DESQUIRON DE SAINT-AGNAN, A.-T. (Antoine-Toussaint), 1779-1855

Le nouveau Furgole, ou Traité des testamens, des donations entre-vifs et de toutes autres dispositions à titre gratuit, mis en rapport avec les principes du Code Napoléon, et dans lequel la théorie est étayée de l'autorité des arrêts de la Cour de cassation, et appliquée à des formules générales... / Par M. A. T Desquiron.. - Paris aux Archives du droit français, chez Clament frères, libraires-éditeurs... 1810. - 2 v. (4o); 27cm

Shelfmark RB.23.b.5232

19) DARD, H. (Henri), 1779-1840

Observations sur le droit de souveraineté de la France sur Saint-Domingue, et sur les droits des colons propriétaires de cette île. / Par M. Dard.. - Paris librairie de Gide fils... A. Égron, imprimeur-libraire... 1823 Paris de l'imprimerie d'Égron - xii, 94p (8o); 22cm. - Extraire du Conservateur, tom. II, 23e livraison, mars 1819

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28811

20) CAMPESTRE, Marie-Josèphe-Adélaïde Millot de  
Mémoires de Madame de Campestre. - Paris chez l'éditeur M. Antenor de Campestre... et chez  
les marchands de nouveautés 1827 Paris imprimerie de Gaultier-Laguionie. - 2 v. (8o); 21cm

Shelfmark RB.23.a.2876

21) MEMBRE DE L'ASSOCIATION CATHOLIQUE

Conjectures sur la fin prochaine du monde, pour servir d'antidote contre les séductions du  
temps./ Par un membre de l'Association catholique. - Paris Le Clère, imprimeur-libraire...  
Toulouse Senac, libraire... 1828 Toulouse imprimerie d'Augustin Manavit, imprimeur du Roi. -  
vj, [2], 118, [2]p (8o); 22cm. - Anonymous

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28830

22) HUBER-SALADIN, Jean-Marie

Lettre sur la colonisation des possessions françaises dans le nord de l'Afrique. Adressée au  
Directoire de la Confédération suisse / par M. Huber-Saladin. - Genève imprimerie de Lador et  
Ramboz... 1837. -118, [2]p (8o); 21cm

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28398

23) SECONDS, Jean-Louis, 1742-1819

Le Sensitisme, ou La pensée et la connaissance des choses replacées dans les sens, traitées  
historiquement dans l'ordre de nos sensations, et réduites à l'histoire naturelle de l'homme  
sentant et du monde sensible...; / par J.-L. Seconds.. - Paris [se vend chez Gabbon, libraire...  
Delaunay... les marchands de nouveautés] 1815, Paris: de l'imprimerie de Gillé. - xij, 303, [1]p  
(8o); 21cm

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28822

24) DESTUTT DE TRACY, Antoine Louis Claude, comte, 1754-1836

Commentaire sur l'Esprit des lois de Montesquieu, / par M. le Cte. Destutt de Tracy... Suivi  
d'observations inédites de Condorcet, sur le vingt-neuvième livre du même ouvrage, et d'un  
mémoire sur cette question: Quels sont les moyens de fonder la morale d'un peuple? Écrit et  
publié par l'auteur du Commentaire de l'Esprit des lois en 1798 (an VI). - A Paris chez  
Théodore Desoer, libraire... juillet 1819, Paris de l'imprimerie de Firmin Didot, imprimeur du  
Roi et de l'Institut... - xv, [1], 480p (8o); 21cm

Shelfmark RB.23.a.28799

## *French Illuminated Manuscripts Online*

**Peter Kidd**, *Curator of Medieval and Earlier Manuscripts, Manuscripts, The British Library*

The British Library has started to create an online catalogue of its illuminated manuscripts, thanks to three years' funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council, in association with the University of London. At present the site represents about 1,200 manuscripts altogether, and by Spring 2007 this figure will rise to 2,000; funding to continue the project from 2007 to 2010 is currently being sought.

The BL has probably the finest collection of French illuminated manuscripts outside the Bibliothèque nationale de France, and of the manuscripts already available on the website, about 280 are attributed to France as the place of origin; about 130 are in, or contain, French (including Anglo-Norman French, legal French, etc.); and scores of others have French provenance (including a dozen formerly owned by the famous transvestite the Chevalier(e) d'Éon de Beaumont).

By Spring 2007 each of the 2,000 manuscripts will be illustrated by at least one online image, and in some cases with several hundred images: to take two currently available examples, Burney MS 257, a Parisian copy of Statius, has about 140 images; while Stowe MS 54, a copy of the *Histoire ancienne jusqu'à César*, has more than 30 images. The catalogue is at [www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/](http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/)

## *Michel Saint-Denis (1897-1971) archive*

**Jamie Andrews**, *Curator of Modern Literary Manuscripts, The British Library*

The British Library Manuscripts Department has recently completed the arrangement and cataloguing of the Michel Saint-Denis archive. The archive brings together 185 volumes of professional correspondence, papers, and other ephemera relating to Saint-Denis's work in the theatre, as well as his personal letters and diaries.

Although Saint-Denis was born in Beauvais, and spent his formative years in France, he is remembered today for his influence on the English stage, and for his collaboration with the London Theatre Studio and the Old Vic during the years immediately preceding and succeeding the Second World War. That he should have devoted his life to the theatre comes as no surprise, for Saint-Denis was the maternal nephew of Jacques Copeau, and it was with his uncle's troupe - *Les Copiaus* - that he started his career as an actor and administrator in 1924.

When *Les Copiaus* disbanded in 1929, many of its members reformed as the *Compagnie des Quinze*, led by Saint-Denis. Their first production was André Obey's *Noé*, staged in January 1931 at the Vieux-Colombier Theatre, Paris, and subsequently performed around France and Europe. It was the success of the production at London's Arts Theatre Club (in which Saint-Denis himself played The Elephant) that convinced Saint-Denis to settle in London after the *Compagnie* dissolved in 1934. His directing work in the years leading up to the Second World War was prodigious and dazzling- John Gielgud in a translation of *Noé* in 1935, and an acclaimed *Three Sisters* with Laurence Olivier, Michael Redgrave, Peggy Ashcroft, Alec Guinness and Gielgud in 1938 at the Queen's Theatre. During the same period, and in collaboration with George Devine (who would go on to found the English Stage Company at the Royal Court in 1956), Saint-Denis established the London Theatre Studio in Islington to train actors and designers, in often innovative and novel methods.

Saint-Denis's work was interrupted by the War, but from 1945 he returned to the theatre, taking charge of the Old Vic Theatre Centre, along with George Devine and Glen Byam Shaw. As well as training the young actors and (this a rarity in England at the time) directors of the future, Saint-Denis also directed several productions by the Old Vic company, headed by Olivier and Ralph Richardson. However, in 1951, after supervising the renovation of the stage and auditorium, Saint-Denis parted ways with the Old Vic, and returned to France to lead the recently created *Centre dramatique de l'Est* in Strasbourg. His departure from Strasbourg was followed by peripatetic years teaching in Montreal, New York, and Brussels, before returning to England to work with Peter Hall at the nascent Royal Shakespeare Company as general artistic adviser and co-director.

Saint-Denis's work in English theatre- from the first touring performance of the *Compagnie* in 1931, to his 1965 RSC production of Brecht's *Squire Puntilla and his Servant Matti* - is fully represented in the archive. Annotated play-scripts, research notes and casting minutes, together with unpublished photographs and theatrical programmes, make it possible to follow the development of each of Saint-Denis's stage productions, and letters from audience members and fellow actors and directors comment on their reception. His post-War work with the Old Vic is documented in particular detail. Large-scale plans and drawings, together with correspondence with architect Pierre Sonrel, chart the renovation of the theatre following war-time bomb damage, while a variety of papers, timetables, and financial documents relate to the

day to day practicalities of the running of the theatre school. Extensive (several hundred letters) correspondence with George Devine, written in both French and English, chart Saint-Denis's work (and eventual disillusionment) at the Old Vic, as well as their earlier collaboration at the London Theatre Studio during the 1930s.

Such material complements and expands the Library's considerable collection of twentieth-century British theatrical manuscripts, and the initial sorting of this collection was undertaken as part of the collaborative Theatre Archives Project, in partnership with Sheffield University (a preliminary sorting list for the archive is accessible at <http://www.bl.uk/projects/theatrearchive/archives.html>, although the arrangement has been considerably modified as part of cataloguing to British Library standards). Yet while the collection is naturally dominated by theatrical material, one section that may well be of especial interest to French studies scholars relates to Saint-Denis's work during the Second World War.

In 1939, Saint-Denis gave up his work for the stage (abandoning rehearsals for *The Cherry Orchard*), and was mobilized as liaison officer with the British Expeditionary Force, only to return to England after the Dunkirk evacuation. In the Summer of 1940, still in London, Saint-Denis was asked to head a daily French-language BBC radio programme, broadcasting back to Occupied France with news, commentary, and, later, coded messages for Resistance groups. Under the pseudonym Jacques Duchesne, his programme- *Les Français parlent aux Français*- ran throughout the years of the Occupation; in October 1940, it even featured Winston Churchill's first broadcast to Occupied France in French ('C'est moi, Churchill, qui vous parle...'), Saint-Denis introducing the Prime Minister while – he claimed- perched on his knees.

The volumes covering this work illuminate the role of Saint-Denis- and French language radio broadcasts in general- in the War effort. Annotated scripts and preparatory notes for many of his broadcasts survive, but perhaps of most interest are the internal briefings and memos circulated – in confidence- by the BBC. Policy documents reveal the thinking behind the creation of the programmes, as well as detailed consideration of the exact content of the scheduling (much discussion as to the frequency and desirability of repetition – or 'plugging' - of salient points). One volume in particular stands out from this period: from 1941, listeners began to write to the BBC, commenting on the programmes. This incredible cache of listener responses- including a few from clandestine listeners in *La Zone libre* - is extremely revealing, often exceptionally moving, and sometimes even amusing. 'Une famille libre de Bron' write in 1941 to express their joy at being able to listen to the programmes, and the daughter has enclosed a drawing and scrawled next to it: 'faire passer au Général de Gaulle'; later, in September 1944, a man from Verquin writes to Duchesne asking for help as his daughters, who had worked as cleaners at the *Kommandantur* in Béthune during the early years of the Occupation, have been falsely accused of 'des actes contraires à leur honneur de Françaises'.

The material relating to Saint-Denis's broadcasts- on their own outside the scope of Literary Manuscript acquisitions- are an enthralling, and in many ways unexpected, addition to this predominately theatrical collection. It is certain that further work can, and should, be done on this hitherto mostly unseen and unpublished collection, but it is to be hoped that this brief introduction at least alerts colleagues to the presence of this new addition to our Manuscripts Collections.



## *Chair's report to the FSLG, 2004-2005*

**Teresa Vernon**, *Curator, French Collections, British Library*

This year has seen the introduction of an annual membership fee of £15 to help fund the Group's future activities and we have just reached the end of our first subscription year which ran from August 2004 to July 2005.

This September we launch the Group's annual newsletter, the *Annual Review*. The Review contains an informative and lively mix of in-depth articles and news round-up. The first issue will soon be available on the FSLG (<http://fslg.libr.port.ac.uk/>) and WESLINE (<http://www.ulrls.lon.ac.uk/wesline/>) websites. Future contributions are always welcome and should be addressed to the editors, Antony Loveland and David Lowe.

In February 2005 the Group responded to the consultation on the proposed restructuring of the Library provision at the University of Wales Bangor since one of our members was affected. The response drafted by the Committee has been mounted on the FSLG website (<http://fslg.libr.port.ac.uk/bangor.pdf>)

Collaboration with other groups continues. The FSLG and the GSLG combined mini-conference 2004 was held at the Goethe- Institut and the Institut Français. The conference, entitled *Changing identities in Europe & European Studies*, was jointly and most efficiently organised by Rachel Kirkwood of the GSLG and Isabel Fernandez of the FSLG. The Group continues actively to support the development of WESLINE (West European Studies Library and Information Network) which now has its own website. FSLG members are invited to contribute to the site and to submit their details for inclusion in the Directory of Language Specialists.

FSLG members attended the one-day conference supported by CURL on Collaborative Collection Management and Foreign Language Collections held at the British Library on 11 April 2005. As Chair I gave a brief presentation on the FSLG and took part in the wrap-up panel. The conference provided an opportunity to gather together all those engaged in foreign-language collecting in the UK. The event also saw the formal launch of WESLINE. The main outcome of the Conference is to set up a Steering Group involving representatives of all interested organisations: Antony Loveland will represent the FSLG.

Thanks to all on the Committee, especially Martin Hodgson, our Treasurer, for piloting the introduction of an annual membership fee and to Antony Loveland and David Lowe, the editors of the FSLG's *Annual Review*. Special thanks to Ruth Darton who is stepping down as the GSLG representative on the FSLG Committee.

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