Today in HISTORY!

1510 - Henry VIII of England, then 18 years old, appears incognito in the lists at Richmond, and is applauded for his jousting before he reveals his identity.

1737 - John Hancock is born.

1941 - Charles Lindbergh testifies before the U.S. Congress and recommends that the United States negotiate a neutrality pact with Adolf Hitler.

2005 - Johnny Carson dies.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, January 24, 2009 – Columbia East Asia Review – Deadline for papers, no longer than 40 pages. Send to submissions@eastasiareview.org

Monday, January 26, 2009 - ACM OPPORTUNITIES! Dave Amrein, Director of the Chicago Arts Program, Robyne Hart, Director of the business Entrepreneurship & Society Program, Mary Scott Boria, Director of the Urban Studies program, and Sally Noble, the Executive Director of the ACM Chicago Programs, www.acm.edu/chicago will be on campus for an information meeting at 4:30 p.m. in Sayles Hill 251.

Monday, January 26 – Arabic Candidate Lecture - Ziad Bentahar, PhD candidate, The Pennsylvania State University, will present "Why a Writer Made a Film: Assia Djebar's 'La Nouba des femmes du Mont Chenoua'" at 7:30PM in LDC 330.

Thursday January 29- Green Corps information session- Green Corps runs a year-long paid training program in environmental advocacy for recent college graduates. For more info, email Bessie Schwarz: Bessie@greencorps.org

Senior Interview:

Robert Hildebrandt

TF: What are you writing your comps about?

RH: I am analyzing the writings of the contemporary Iranian religious intellectual Abdolkarim Sorouh, comparing his understanding of the relation between Islam, democracy, Iranian culture, and Western culture to that of his religious intellectual predecessors in the 1960s. I am especially interested in how Sorouh and his predecessors attempt to harmonize their native identity with modernity and how the Iranian conception of each of these has transformed over the last half-century.

TF: As your time at Carleton winds down, do you have any advice to dispense to underclassmen?

RH: Don't put off all your distros until the last minute! At the same time, experiment as much as possible. Try to get a general sense of what your comps topic might be before
fall term or you’ll end up changing your proposal multiple
times.

Also, make sure you explore all the forgotten gems of
Carleton: the Japanese garden, the boondocks of the Arb
(such as kettle hole marsh), student interest houses, the
sauna in the girl’s locker room, the monkeys in the
basement of Olin, the record libe. It’s easy to forget that
we have these cool things around.

TF: What is something unusual about yourself that I
wouldn't think to ask?
RH: For someone who studies so much history, I have
pretty strong science origins. I went to a biology high
school at the Los Angeles zoo and had a job cleaning out
the hippo cages. I also do a lot of art and musical
performance.

TF: What was your favorite history class at Carleton?
RH: Maybe my Israeli/Palestinian history class with Louis
Fishman. It was my first class in Middle East history and
made me realize that I wanted to A) be a history major
and B) focus on the Middle East. Or possibly my Muslims
in Modernity class with Adeeb Khalid which got me
interested in religious intellectual history.

TF: How many times do the words "discourse" and
"Foucault" appear in the current draft of your comps?
RH: So far, and the draft is still fairly short, the score is
Discourse - 6, Foucault -3. I think discourse should pull
ahead by a long shot as phrases like "religious intellectual
discourse," "Third Worldist discourse," and "reformist
discourse" become mind-numbingly common.

Also, the REAL question should be how many times does
"Edward Said" appear in my comps draft. For many, he is
to Middle Eastern history what Foucault is to European
history.

(Ed. Note: Stay tuned, we’ll be tracking Robert’s word
counts for the rest of the term, because you care.)

Note: The History Department no longer subscribes to
the print edition of The Public Historian. Access is easily
available to it via JSTOR (1978-2004) or ProQuest (2002–)
on the Gould Library website.