Guide to the Entitled Opinions (About Life and Literature) with Robert Harrison
SC1089

Daniel Hartwig
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October 2010
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Date (inclusive): 2005-2017
Abstract: The materials consist of program audiorecordings of Robert Harrison's show "Entitled opinions (about life and literature)" broadcast on KZSU 90.1 Wednesdays from 2-3PM.
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Cite As
Entitled Opinions (About Life and Literature) with Robert Harrison (SC1089). Dept. of Special Collections and University Archives, Stanford University Libraries, Stanford, Calif.
Biographical/Historical Sketch
Robert Pogue Harrison, the Rosina Pierotti Professor in Italian Literature at Stanford, hosts a weekly literary talk show on KZSU (Stanford's radio station), typically a one-on-one conversation with a special guest.
Description of the Collection
The materials consist of program audiorecordings of Robert Harrison's show "Entitled Opions (about life and literature)" broadcast on KZSU 90.1 Wednesdays from 2-3PM, in which Professor Robert Harrison interviews guests about issues that range from literature and philosophy to politics and sports. Past guests have included Nobel laureate Orhan Pamuk, Paul R. Ehrlich, Richard Rorty, Vinton Cerf, Shirley Hazzard, Colm Toibin, Andrei Linde, Marjorie Perloff, Rene Girard, Michel Serres, Kathleen Sullivan, Gwyneth Lewis, Tobias Wolff and many others.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
American literature -- 20th century.
Comparative literature -- Study and teaching.
Art and literature
European literature -- Study and teaching.
English literature -- Study and teaching.
French literature -- Study and teaching
German literature -- Study and teaching.
Literature, Modern -- History and criticism
Modernism (Literature)
Art and literature -- United States -- History -- 20th century
Art -- Study and teaching.
Art criticism
Art, Modern
Harrison, Robert Pogue.
Perloff, Marjorie.
Serres, Michel.
Program Audio

Michel Tournier’s Friday 2005-09-14
Mimetic desire 2005-09-17
Sports and Athletic Beauty 2005-09-17
The Enlightenment 2005-09-28
Ritual, myth, and religion 2005-10-04
Francophonie 2005-10-11
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Marcel Proust 2005-11-01
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The Poetry and Politics of Ezra Pound 2005-11-15
American Philosopher Richard Rorty 2005-11-22
crowds 2005-11-29
Albert Camus 2005-12-06
Vladimir Nabakov 2005-12-13
Michel Serres 2005-12-20
Shirley Hazzard 2006-01-10
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A post-avian epilogue on consumerism and the earthly paradise 2006-06-20
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dante (part 3) 2007-04-17
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Ancient Athenian Democracy 2007-05-01
Tom Thomson in Purgatory 2007-05-08
Hannah Arendt (part 1) 2007-05-15
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Indian Politics: Mohandas Gandhi 2016-04-06
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KQED 88.5 "Forum with Michael Krazny" 2005-09-20
Sam Ginn on the Singularity 2017-05-27

Scope and Content Note

In this show Sam discusses the Singularity, and the importance of Martin Heidegger in thinking about Artificial Intelligence.

Hiatus Announcement 2017-07-20
Michaela Hulstyn on Drugs in Literature 2017-06-07

Scope and Content Note
In this interview Michaela discusses Charles Baudelaire, Thomas De Quincey, Henri Michaux, and Timothy Leary on drugs.

William Hurlbut on gene editing 2017-07-07

Eric McLuhan on Marshall McLuhan 2017-07-05

Andrea Nightingale and Robert Harrison on Thoreau's Walden 2017-07-12

Richard Rorty on the future of philosophy 2017-09-22

Scope and Content Note
"Richard Rorty is considered one of the greatest philosophers of the twentieth century. He is credited with reviving the philosophical school of American pragmatism and challenging the accepted pieties of analytic philosophy. He championed "quietism," which he says attempts "to dissolve, rather than solve" sets of problems that should now be considered obsolete. This November 23, 2005, interview is among his last; he died in 2007. Rorty came to Stanford as a fellow at the Humanities Center in 1996 and then joined the faculty of the Comparative Literature Department in 1998. Beginning in the 1970s, he challenged the notion of philosophy as a discipline that could discern timeless truths about the world. Such attempts were motivated by western philosophy's misguided reliance on Platonic metaphysics, the notion that there are underlying structures, realities or truths that stand firm against the vagaries of history and social mores. Rorty insisted that we have only a linguistic and causal relationship with the world, so any attempt to find some kind of transcendent, unmediated knowledge about it is futile. He famously urged that intellectuals shift their focus from "the problems of philosophy" to "the problems of men." His Entitled Opinions conversation with Harrison moves to the limits of philosophy in describing the nature of reality, and then whether philosophy should tackle human aspirations for greatness or stick to maximizing human happiness. In an occasionally testy exchange with Harrison, Rorty makes a controversial defense of bourgeois liberal democracy, arguing that the rest of the world should be more like America, and America should be more like Norway. The potential cost for cultural diversity? "That's the price we pay for history," he says. He takes a number of provocative positions in the conversation. Does he stand alone? As he notes, loneliness is the lot of mankind: "If you don't have any sense of loneliness you probably won't be interested in religion or philosophy; if you do, you will.""

Great albums of 1967 with Jay Kadis and Thomas Harrison 2017-06-20

Hans Sluga on Trump's "Empire of Disorientation" 2017-05-20

Scope and Content Note
"Who is Donald Trump, and what does he stand for? Do we know? Does he himself know? Or is he caught in that precarious state of disorientation that characterizes our current political predicament? The public discourse is heated, the language inflammatory. Philosopher Hans Sluga of the University of California, Berkeley, brings a cool head and rational thinking to his interview about our 45th president, Donald Trump, with Entitled Opinions host Robert Harrison. Trump has been a real estate developer, a reality TV star, a prolific tweeter, a politician, and has changed his party affiliation seven or eight times. Is he a fascist? Sluga, author of Wittgenstein and Heidegger's Crisis, warns against easy tags: "We've drained this word of much of its specific meaning." Fascism, he says, "is a form of statism quite different from what we have in America today." Is he a populist? That's not clear, either. "Plutocrat," the term Aristotle used to describe the rule of the rich, might be a more precise characterization. Sluga says we might turn to the world of real estate to understand Trump's worldview."

Website 2012 Jun 13

Physical Description: 1812.48 megabyte(s)441 files in 10 directories