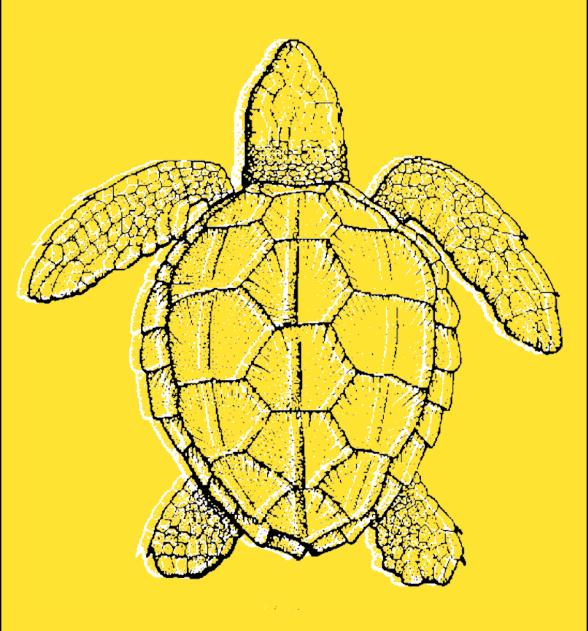


THE HOUSTON SEMINAR
Spring 2016





### THE HOUSTON SEMINAR

THE HOUSTON SEMINAR WAS FOUNDED IN 1977 FOR THE PURPOSE OF STIMULATING LEARNING AND CULTURAL AWARENESS. EACH SPRING AND FALL THE NONPROFIT GROUP OFFERS LECTURES AND STUDY TOURS FOCUSED ON VARIED TOPICS THAT MAY INCLUDE ART, ARCHITECTURE, LITERATURE, MUSIC, THEATER, HISTORY, POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY, PSYCHOLOGY, RELIGION, THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, AND CURRENT TRENDS AND EVENTS.



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### **COURSES**

STUDY TOURS	PAGE	CALENDAR LEGEND
A Winter Day on Galveston again		
Contemporary and Ancient Maya in Yucatan		
Galveston: Our Fragile, Beautiful Coast!		
DAYTIME		
A World of Displaced People		
Delicious Yucatan		
EVENING		
Springtime on Buffalo Bayou		
Siegfried: Wagner's Warrior Hero Finds Love		
Primarily Murray		
Houston's Women and the Blues		

### **CALENDAR**

		JA	NUA	RY			FEBRUARY							
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MARCH						APRIL								
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

# STUDY TOUR: A Galveston Double-Header

### **A Winter Day on Galveston**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016. Convene where and when?



Architect **ED EUBANKS** will engage us in a conversation on the families who made such an impact on early development on Galveston island, and on the people who have since risen to the challenge of maintaining that cultural ambition. Our day trip via motor coach will include a behind-the-scenes tour of The Moody Mansion, visits to the newly restored Galveston Arts Center and the recently inaugurated Bryan Museum as well as stops at the Harbor House theater to see Grant Mitchell's multi-image documentary, "The Great Storm," on the hurricane in 1900 that changed Galveston forever, and a tour of a private home designed by John Staub. We will stop for lunch at the Galveston Artillery Club.

Longtime Houston and Galveston architect **ED EUBANKS** is active with several organizations on the island, including the President's Cabinet and Development Board at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), the Development Board at the Galveston Historical Foundation, the Knights of Momus on Galveston, Grand 1894 Opera House on Galveston, the Galveston Arts Center, and the Ronald McDonald House on Galveston.

### **Galveston: Our Fragile, Beautiful Coast!**

SATURDAY, APRIL 2/9-SUNDAY, APRIL 3/10.



The Houston Seminar invites you to spend the day on Galveston with the Gulf Coast expert JIM BLACKBURN, whose credentials protecting the Texas Gulf coast are well known, to get a clearer view of sustainability issues that stand to enhance and preserve the island. We will tour the NOAA Sea Turtle Facility, located at the former officer's barracks of historic Fort Crockett and visit Artist Boat's Coastal Heritage Preserve. For lunch, we will move indoors at Galveston institution Gaido's Seafood restaurant.

The capstone of the day will be an afternoon visit to a privately-owned working cattle ranch. This property has been ranch land since the end of the 1800s. The current owners have twice built habitat for migratory birds, butterflies and hummingbirds, most recently as a consequence of severe hurricane lke damage.

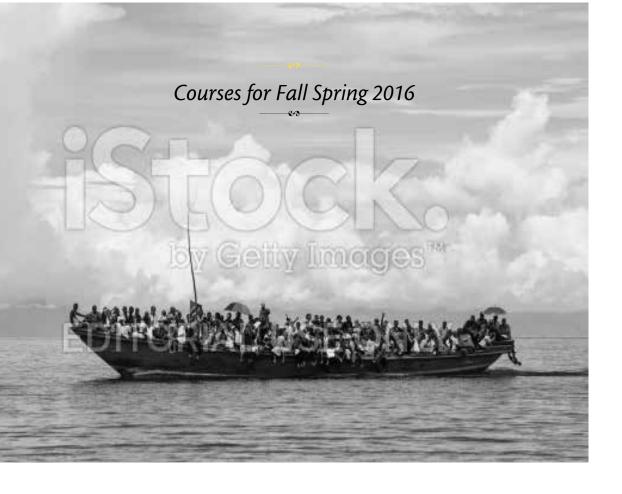
You will want to dress comfortably for a day spent outdoors. Bring a cap, comfortable shoes and your best binoculars. We will definitely be looking at birds!

Environmental attorney Jim Blackburn has been a tremendous advocate for the beauty and preservation of the Gulf Coast, as well as for the health and well-being of those who live there. A pioneer in environmental law and consulting in the 1970s, Blackburn has been long recognized as one of the experts in the field. He has been awarded the Bob Eckhardt Lifetime Achievement Award for Coastal Preservation Efforts from the General Land Office of the State of Texas, a National Conservation Achievement Award from the National Wildlife Federation, and Honorary Membership in the American Institute of Architects in 2003 for his legal work associated with urban quality of life issues.

### STUDY TOUR:

### **Contemporary and Ancient Maya in Yucatan**

FEBRUARY 27 TO MARCH 5, 2016. Four-night option and seven-night option. At time of printing, this tour has nearly filled. Please visit our web site, houstonseminar.org, for further details on the trip and registration, or call 713-666-9000.



## A World of Displaced People

TWO TUESDAYS, JANUARY 5 AND JANUARY 12, 12:00-1:30 P.M.

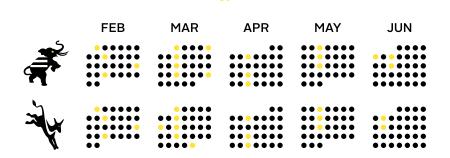
The Station Museum, 1502 Alabama at LaBranch, 77004



In the headlines on a near-daily basis, the worldwide refugee crisis will have longstanding impact on the world's politics and economics, and as well on our lives. In this course, two experts with professional as well as personal understanding of the crisis will address the topic to enrich our understanding of the underpinnings of the refugee crisis now and in the future, in the United States and around the world.

**DR. IDEAN SALEHYAN**, associate professor of political science at the University of Texas in Dallas, will talk about civil wars and migration issues around the world. As the son of émigrés from Iran when the Shah's government fell, he understands the problems close up. His book *Rebels Without Borders: Transnational Insurgencies in World Politics* was published by Cornell University Press in 2009. Dr. Salehyan has a Ph.D. degree from University of California, San Diego.

ELISSA STEGLICH, J.D., is clinical professor at the University of Texas School of Law, where she teaches immigration law and practice to students through hands-on learning. The Immigration Clinic represents immigrants and asylum seekers from around the world. Professor Steglich previously served as legal services director for the American Friends Service Committee's Immigrant Rights Program, where she represented unaccompanied children, victims of human trafficking and low-income immigrants facing deportation. She has widely spoken and published on immigrant children's rights, and in this course, she will address U.S. asylum and refugee law and policy. She graduated from Haverford College and University of Texas School of Law.



### **Primarily Murray**

THREE WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 20, FEBRUARY 17, AND MARCH 9, 6:30-8:00 P.M.

The Museum Printing History, 1324 West Clay near Waugh Drive, 77019



Despite national efforts to make the 2016 Presidential primary contests more straightforward, both major parties may find an unexpected twist this spring. The GOP rules designed to avoid divisive primary battles through early "winner take all" contests may actually benefit an insurgent candidate over establishment standard-bearers. Find out the implications in this timely course.

lowa kicks off the primary season on February 1st, and Texas has a treasure trove of delegates among the dozen states holding primaries on Super Tuesday, March 1st. This will be the first-ever Texas Democratic primary election since the DNC forced the state party to revise its hybrid primary process known as "The Texas Two-Step," created in 1976, when a primary was added to the existing caucus. With expert perspective and an insider's insight, **Dr. Richard Murray** will again guide Seminar subscribers through the season. Come caucus with us!

**DR. RICHARD MURRAY** is the Bob Lanier Professor of Urban Public Policy and director of surveying for the Center for Public Policy at the University of Houston, where an endowed scholarship in his name was established in 2008.



Photo by Nick de la Torre

### **Delicious Yucatan**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 12:00 PM.** Caracol Restaurant, 2200 Post Oak Blvd. near Westheimer, 77056



The Yucatan peninsula has engendered one of the world's most fascinating cuisines. Sharing the pantry and culinary processes of its Mexican neighbors, yet isolated from the great Poblano, Oaxacan and Pacific coast cookery, Yucatecan cuisine developed on a solid foundation of native Maya dishes made from fresh, local ingredients like sour orange and *achiote*, and influenced by the flavors of far-flung cities in Spain, Portugal, the Caribbean, Africa and Arabia to create something completely new.

Join us at Caracol in a culinary nod to The Seminar's study tour to the Yucatan. Award-winning chef Hugo Ortega and his staff are creating a special tasting menu featuring the flavors and bright colors of the Yucatan. Caracol's *chef du cuisine* will give a lively and informative explanation of the various dishes served. Discover what Executive Chef Hugo passionately believes: "Mexican coastal cuisine is a source of endless study and enjoyment" at what he calls his "beach getaway."



Courtesy of Buffalo Bayou Partnership, photo by Katya Horner

### **Springtime on Buffalo Bayou**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 6:30-8:00 P.M.** The Dunlavy, 3422 Allen Parkway at Taft, 77019. Valet parking will be provided.



In a reprise of our extremely popular fall course, we will explore the amazing transformation of 160 acres along Buffalo Bayou between Shepherd and Sabine Streets with the planners and designers who created it. Our outing will begin with light bites and refreshments at The Dunlavy, the park's new special events space, and an introduction, overview, and current updates, followed by a springtime stroll with our guides **Anne Olson**, **Guy Hagstette**, and **Scott McCready**.

Over more than 20 years, BBP president Anne Olson and the BBP board have raised and leveraged over \$150 million in private and public funds for the waterway's redevelopment. During her tenure Ms. Olson has developed and implemented a comprehensive bayou-enhancement program which includes land acquisition, trail and park development, public programming, and permanent and temporary public art along Buffalo Bayou from Shepherd Drive to the Port of Houston Turning Basin.

In mid-2010, project director **GUY HAGSTETTE**, FAIA, began overseeing the ambitious plan for Houston's historic waterway. From 2006 until 2010, he served as president and park director for Discovery Green.

**SCOTT McCready**, **ASLA**, is SWA Group's lead designer for Buffalo Bayou Park. Over the past thirteen years he has engaged in a number of projects along Houston's waterways, including the Sabine Promenade, Rosemont Bridge, and Brays Bayou.

### **Siegfried: Wagner's Warrior Hero Finds Love**

THREE MONDAYS, MARCH 21, 28, AND APRIL 4, 6:30-8:00 AND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, TIME TO BE DETERMINED. Private residences for the first three sessions; addresses will be provided to subscribers. Full course participants are invited to be guests of the Houston Grand Opera at the dress rehearsal which will be held at Brown Theater, Wortham Center, 501 Texas Avenue, 77002. Limited enrollment. Need confirmation on all info here.

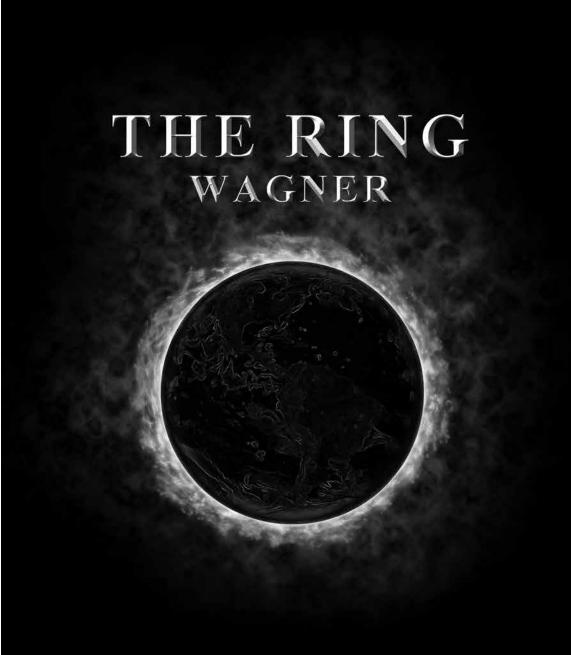


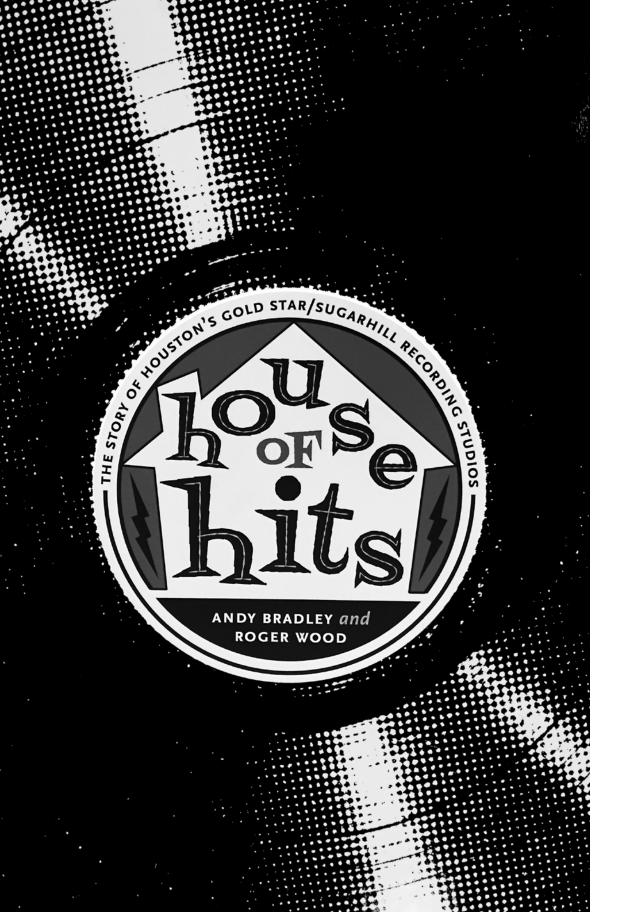
Houston Grand Opera (HGO) has passed the half way mark in its first staging of Wagner's four opera Ring cycle – a truly historic event for the city of Houston. Join HGO dramaturg Paul Hopper to learn about third installment, Siegfried, the opera that inspired the entire cycle.

In Siegfried, we finally meet the hero destined to find Wotan's sword. With it, he is able to slay the dragon Fafner, collect the all-powerful ring, and awaken the now mortal Brünnhilde from her magic slumber.

Enrich your enjoyment of Wagner's monumental saga over three course sessions, where participants will learn about the mythological roots of the epic tale, key musical moments to listen for, and the massive technical demands a Ring cycle puts on an opera house. The course culminates in a fourth session at the final dress rehearsal of *Siegfried* at Houston Grand Opera, a benefit of full course participation

**PAUL HOPPER** became HGO's dramaturg in December 2014. As such, he manages research and development for HGO's operas, translates and designs surtitles for all productions, and is the resident opera information source. Mr. Hopper holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music and the University of Houston.





### **Houston's Women and the Blues**

TWO TUESDAYS, APRIL 5 AND APRIL 19, 6:30-8:00 P.M.

MATCH, 3400 Main Street at Holman, 77002.



For over a century, the African American music known as the blues formed the root for the flowering of jazz, R&B, country, rock and other musical genres. It is the source of foundational musical structures and sonic flourishes as well as a powerful aesthetic of heartfelt self-expression and improvisation. Almost since the advent of recording, Houston has played a key role in the evolution of blues music. This two-part course, led by author **ROGER WOOD**, will provide an overview and analysis of local blues history with special focus on the role of women.

In the first session, Dr. Wood will present an introductory lecture, accompanied by audio and video. In the second session, Dr. Wood will interview a guest blues artist to be followed by an intimate performance by that artist. Participants will gain a deeper appreciation of the blues in relation to Houston social history as well as witness the talents and compelling personalities of some extraordinary homegrown blues women.

ROGER WOOD is best known for three books on music history published by the University of Texas Press: Down in Houston: Bayou City Blues (2003), Texas Zydeco (2006), and House of Hits: The Story of Houston's Gold Star/SugarHill Recording Studios (2010) (co-authored with Andy Bradley). He is also a longtime writer for Living Blues magazine (published by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, University of Mississippi), and a contributor to Texas Highways. Wood recently retired as professor of English at Houston Community College.



Luvenia Lewis, Ashton Savoy, Faye Robinson, Carolyn Blanchard, Trudy Lynn, Mickie Moseley. Living Blues Bash, Billy Blues, 1997. Photograph by James Fraher.

**Enrollment:** All classes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Confirmation of enrollment will be sent. It is possible to attend a single session of multi-session courses for a pro-rated fee. You may enroll by mail, fax, or online; those enrolling by fax may wish to copy the enrollment form on regular paper before sending it through a fax machine.

**Discounts:** Any individual or couple signing up for more than three courses on the same registration form may discount the total fee by 10 percent. However, calculations of total costs eligible for the discount cannot include out-of-town trips or excursions. Teachers and students at accredited institutions may attend classes for a discounted fee of \$10 per session with school or student I.D.

**Refunds:** You will receive a partial refund if you cancel at least two weeks before a course begins; a 20% cancellation fee will be charged. If your enrollment has caused others to be turned away from a limited-enrollment class, no refund will be issued unless your place can be filled. Refund policies for courses involving travel may differ.

**Gift certificates:** These are available for a single session, a specific course, or a dollar amount, which the recipient may apply toward any course(s). Notification will be mailed to the donor and the designated recipient. Please call for more information, or send request and payment with this form.

For further information telephone or fax 713-666-9000, or consult www.houstonseminar.org

The Houston Seminar P.O. Box 22764, Houston, TX 77227-2764



### course list and reservation form

### PLEASE ENROLL ME/US IN THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

STUDY TOUR: A WINTER DAY ON GALVESTON SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016	□\$XX single session
STUDY TOUR: CONTEMPORARY AND ANCIENT MAYA IN YUCATAN FEBRUARY 27 TO MARCH 5, 2016	
For trip price and further information, please call 713-666-9000 or email registrar@h	oustonseminar.org
STUDY TOUR: GALVESTON: OUR FRAGILE, BEAUTIFUL COAST! SATURDAY, APRIL 2/9-SUNDAY, APRIL 3/10	\$XX single session
A WORLD OF DISPLACED PEOPLE TWO TUESDAYS, JANUARY 5 AND JANUARY 12, 12:00–1:30 P.M.	□ \$70 all sessions □ \$35 single sessio
DELICIOUS YUCATAN TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 12:00 NOON	\$65 singles session
PRIMARILY MURRAY THREE WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 20, FEBRUARY 17, MARCH 9, 6:30–8:00 P.M.	\$XX all sessions \$XX single session
SPRINGTIME ON BUFFALO BAYOU TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 6:30–8:00 P.M.	\$XX all sessions \$XX single session
SIEGFRIED: WAGNER'S WARRIOR HERO FINDS LOVE THREE MONDAYS, MARCH 21, 28, AND APRIL 4, 6:30–8:00 AND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13,TIME TO BE DETERMINED Invitation to dress rehearsal is a benefit of full course participation	☐\$60 singles session
HOUSTON'S WOMEN AND THE BLUES	\$75 all sessions
TWO TUESDAYS, APRIL 5 AND APRIL 19, 6:30–8:00 P.M.	□\$30 single session
TOTAL FEE:	
LESS DISCOUNT (SEE ENROLLMENT INFO):	
AMOUNT ENCLOSED:	
NAME CITY/ZIP	
TELEPHONE HOME OFFICE	
(VERY IMPORTANT)	
EMAIL (WE DO NOT SHARE OR SELL EMAIL ADDRESSES OR ANY OTHER ENROLLMENT INFORMATION.	)
PROVIDING AN EMAIL ADDRESS ALLOWS US TO ADVISE YOU OF CHANGES A INFORMATION REGARDING COURSES.  PLEASE SEND RESERVATION FORM AND PAYMENT TO THE HOUSTON SEMINAR, P.O. BOX 22764, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77227-2764, OR VISA, MASTERCARD, AND AMERICAN EXPRESS ACCEPTE	FAX TO 713-666-9000
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Siegfried: Wagner's Warrior Hero Finds Love Springtime on Buffalo Bayou

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**STUDY TOURS** 

Contemporary and Ancient Maya in Yucatan A Winter Day on Galveston

Galveston: Our Fragile, Beautiful Coast!

BIRDS, BEES, BATS AND WINE: SPELUNKING IN THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY **★** COMING IN FALL 2016 STUDY TOUR

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