Crossing Borders/Breaking Boundaries: 
A Multidisciplinary Summer Institute for Arts Educators

The Portuguese Empire in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries:
Artistic and Cultural Exchange
July 2007

Session Abstracts and Titles

Monday, July 16
10:00-11:30
Lisa Pegram
DC Writers Corps
“Conceptismo vs. Culteranismo: Poetry in the Everyday Classroom”

Poetry can be used as a tool to deepen a student’s grasp of virtually any subject matter. The creative process “connects a face with a name” so theories, formulas, concepts and events come alive. “For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.” There is physics. “The shortest distance between 2 points is a straight line.” There is math. “In 1492, Columbus sailed the ocean blue.” There is geography and history. They are all pure truths whose effects can be witnessed everyday. And the everyday is the meat of poetry. To master an idea, why not examine all its sides and then make it your own? This session will explore constructing supplementary lesson plans based on theme, form and literary tools. Participants will be introduced to Iberian Baroque poetry as a springboard into fun composition exercises that can be easily tailored to any classroom. A pen, paper and plenty of imagination is all you’ll need!

Monday, July 16
1:30-3:00
Daryle Williams
University of Maryland
“The Portuguese Empire--Trading Networks, Expansion, and Power”

Monday, July 16
3:15-5:00
Catherine Hays and Janel Brennan-Tillmann
University of Maryland
“The Wide World of Wikis: Exploring Pedagogical Applications of Collaborative Web Site Development”

WIKI software allows multiple users to easily add, edit and share Web site content. The ease of interaction and operation makes it possible to have multiple people collaborating to produce a final product in the form of a Web site. Faculty are often looking for ways for students to effectively collaborate. The wiki model is a natural fit to
meet these pedagogical objectives. We'll provide the opportunity for participants to get comfortable using Wiki software and discuss other options for collaboration and sharing such as delicious, blogs, flickr and zotero.

**Monday, July 16**

7:30-9:00
Victor Vicente  
*University of Maryland*  
“Musical Exchange along the Portuguese Trade Routes”

In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries Portugal embarked on a series of intrepid voyages of overseas discovery and quickly established a vast commercial empire based on lucrative trade with its newfound colonies. As its wealth accumulated, Portuguese culture flowered with countless achievements in the arts and sciences. This presentation explores the musical developments that this trade wealth engendered in Portugal beginning in the Renaissance and investigates the musical exchange that occurred along its many trade routes. It surveys various musical traditions from Europe, Africa, Brazil, and Asia and covers numerous genres of both historical and contemporary significance from sacred music and fado in Portugal to samba and capoeira in Brazil as well as a variety of folk song and dance traditions in India, Malaysia, Macau, and East Timor. During the course of the survey, we will consider the role that music plays in such processes as religious conversion, colonial resistance, acculturation, and affirmation of cultural identity.

**Tuesday, July 17**

9:30-11:00
Daryle Williams  
*University of Maryland*  
“The Crossroads of Atlantic Culture--Fine Arts in Brazil and Portugal”

**Tuesday, July 17**

11:15-12:45
Alison Sandman  
*James Madison University*  
“Cartography--Mapping the Hispanic Atlantic”

**Tuesday, July 17**

2:00-3:30
Quint Gregory  
*University of Maryland*  
“Arts and Culture of Colonial Macau”

**Tuesday, July 17**

3:45-5:15
Fabio Melo  
*International Angola Capoeira Foundation*
“Hands-on Workshop: Capoeira”

The International Capoeira Angola Foundation is a nonprofit organization based in DC that works promoting Capoeira Angola for kids and adults. Capoeira Angola is a mix of martial arts and dance that was developed in Brazil during the slave trade. In this workshop we are going to learn the basics movements of capoeira. Also, we will go over the history of capoeira and the social aspects behind this art form. We will also be working on the music side of it, learning how to play different instruments and how to sing in Portuguese. In another words, we are going to have fun!!!

Tuesday, July 17
7:30-9:00
Phyllis Peres
University of Maryland
“The Literature of Portugal and Brazil”

Wednesday, July 18
9:30-11:00
Alfredo Ratinoff
“Hands-on Workshop: Tile-Making (Azulejos)”

Wednesday, July 18
1:00-2:30
Barbara Sommer
Gettysburg College
“Magic and the Supernatural”

Wednesday, July 18
7:00-8:30
Lenore Blank-Kelner
InterAct Story Theatre
“Exploring the Effects of Colonization through Drama”

This active and engaging workshop will focus on integrating drama into the curriculum. Participants will experience a variety of drama techniques that can be used to deepen students' comprehension of a text or of historical material. This particular session will focus on the effect of Portuguese colonization on indigenous peoples. The strategies presented in the session are based on Lenore Blank Kelner's newest book, co-authored by Rosalind M. Flynn entitled, A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension.

Thursday, July 19
9:30-11:00
Thomas Cohen
Catholic University, Oliveira Lima Library
“The Missionary Church in the Portuguese Empire, 1450-1800"
3:30-5:00
Letty Bonnell
Loyola College in Maryland
“Ivories”

In 1588, over one hundred years after the arrival of the first Portuguese traders in what is now the Bight of Biafra in Nigeria, the British sailor James Welsh made this observation about some of the material goods available in the Kingdom of Benin:
“…pretie fine mats and baskets that they make, and spoons of elephant teeth very curiously wrought with divers proportions of fowles and beasts made upon them.”
Carved ivories from the peoples of Sierra Leone, Nigeria, and Congo dating from the late 15th and early 16th centuries show two important aspects of African culture: not only was there a vibrant tradition of indigenous carving in these particular parts of the west and central African coast, but once contact with European cultures was made, African artists began to incorporate elements of these cultures into their carving. We know the Portuguese recognized the skill and creativity of these African artists because the carved ivories that survive ended up in the collections of European kings, popes, and financiers in the 16th century. In this session, we will see how the subject matter illustrated on some of these carved ivory spoons, horns and containers reflects the cultural interaction between Portuguese traders and African carvers.

Reading:

Thursday, July 19
7:30-9:00
Gilberto Campello
“Afro-Brazilian Percussion: Samba”

In this hands-on workshop, the audience will be introduced to a variety of Brazilian percussion instruments originary from different regions of the Portuguese empire. Participants will learn to play samba, the most well-known musical style from Brazil, in an escola de samba (samba school) ensemble. We will survey the most important rhythms and end the workshop with a parade.

Friday, July 20
10:15-10:45
Margaret Heiner
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery
“Encompassing the Globe: Portugal and the World in the 16th and 17th Centuries”

After an overview of the history, collections, and educational materials of the Freer and Sackler Galleries (which together form the national museum of Asian art at the
Smithsonian Institution), teachers will examine art from Portugal and the cultures it touched during the age of exploration.

**Friday, July 20**  
2:00-3:00  
Veronika Jenke  
*National African Museum of Art*  
“Portugal in Africa”

This presentation will focus on the Africa component of Encompassing the Globe and feature iconic works of African art history. Participants will also be shown the on-line resources available from the National Museum of African Art, such as curriculum resources and on-line collection database which allows teachers to create their own packets of images and share them with colleagues and students.

**Monday, July 23**  
9:30-11:00  
Steve Koziol  
*University of Maryland*  
“Teaching Workshop: Evaluation and Assessment”

This session will deal with assessing/determining arts integration in classroom instruction.

**Monday, July 23**  
7:30-9:00  
Valeska Popoluh  
“From Brazil to Macau: The Textile Trade of the Portuguese Empire”

This interactive workshop explores the role of the textile trade in the cultural exchange that flourished under the Portuguese Empire. Participants will learn about the significance of dye stuffs discovered in Brazil and the value of the silks and weaving techniques brought back from the East. Paintings from the time period will be utilized as historic documents to reveal vital information about the material culture of the time. Workshop participants will be introduced to – and experiment with - several fibers techniques, such as dyeing and weaving, and receive a packet of ideas for incorporating these media explorations into the classroom.