



ETHICAL CULTURE

M O N T H L Y

VOLUME 39 NUMBER 8

www.essexethical.org

OCTOBER 2019

SUNDAY PROGRAMS

Programs are subject to change without notice. All are welcome. Programs begin at 11 a.m. 973-763-1905

Oct 6 Colloquy facilitated by Meredith Sue Willis and Alice Robinson-Gilman

Join us for the second event in “Living Ethical Culture in Our World,” the theme for the 2019-20 season’s platforms and educational experiences. This one is specifically a colloquy-style follow-up to Calvin Chatlos’s September 8 platform.



We expect to have approximately one event per month, either a presentation or workshop by a leader, a member panel or colloquy about issues raised in platforms and formal or informal conversations and workshops.

The format of a colloquy provides an opportunity to respond to a selected topic in a non-judgmental environment. There may be a very short reading provided to focus the discussion. There will be no debating, no correcting, and no negative arguments. Rather, quiet listening allows the participants to take in and reflect on one another’s statements. A period of group reflection follows with another go-around of individual responses.

In the spirit of hope that we come together as a congregation in an understanding of Ethical Culture and what living it in our daily lives means, please join us for the first of these colloquies on October 6, 2019.

We are open to other ideas for events and programs for this year’s venture into “Living Ethical Culture

in Our World.” For further information or suggestions, please contact Meredith Sue Willis (meredithsuewillis@gmail.com), Alice Robinson-Gilman (alicerogilman@gmail.com) or Elaine Durbach (durbachelaine@gmail.com) or leave a message with the office (973-763-1905).

Meredith Sue Willis and Alice Robinson-Gilman are both long-term members of the Essex Society. Both have served as trustees on the Board and Sue is a past-president of the Board. They have chosen this year’s theme for exploration, especially since we are currently a leaderless society.

In 1995 they created the Family Issues Platforms that served for over 10 years to provide a forum for members and friends to participate in panel discussions ranging over a wide variety of issues involving families. Later, Alice and Sue continued the panel series with discussions on books dealing with, among others, genocide in Rwanda, mountaintop removal in Appalachia, “The Known World” by Edward P. Jones, and “How Race is Lived in America”.

Sue is a professional writer who has published 22 books, most recently, “Their Houses”. She teaches novel writing at New York University’s School of Professional Studies.

Alice is a retired social worker and office manager. She participated in the first AEU Summer School in 1996.

Sue’s son, Joel Weinberger, and Alice’s daughter, Molly Gilman, both attended the Ethical Culture Sunday School and YES group.

Oct 13 Luisa McDougall, “The Importance of Being An Ally”

Luisa McDougall is a 22-year-old Lup-and-coming writer and recent Screenwriting/Playwriting graduate from SUNY Purchase.



“My entire career, and really my entire life have been centered around ‘unity’ and how we can achieve it. I predominantly write and focus on women’s rights, however my desire for unity is about everyone.”

This talk focuses on unity; specifically on the importance of being an ally to marginalized groups or communities. “First an introduction to get to know me and where my views on unity derive from. Then I’d like the audience to share some of their ethnic roots.” Luisa is interested in changing mindsets — the importance of unlearning toxic tendencies and making sure to open up and befriend people from different walks of life — and in institutional change: becoming involved in government matters, voicing your opinion, volunteering your services and “what else can we do to help?”



Oct 20 Marlow Taybron, “What About Our Children!”

Marlow Taybron will speak about our alienated youth, their anger with the system and the disaffection she sees in young people.

Ms. Taybron is a certified domestic violence advocate for South Orange and Maplewood. “I attended public safety meetings (Continued on page 2)

Ethical Culture Society of Essex County

516 Prospect St.,
Maplewood, NJ 07040
973-763-1905
ecsec.nj@gmail.com
www.essexethical.org

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Elaine Durbach
Graphics: Howard Gilman
Office Manager: Liz Cunningham



The Ethical Culture Society

is a religious and educational fellowship that seeks to achieve the ethical life without dogma; to develop the highest values in human relationships in ourselves, our families, and our community; and to elicit the best in others, thereby eliciting the best in ourselves.

Ethical Culture is a humanist religion.
Come and visit!

Newsletter

Opinions offered in this publication are those of the authors.

Newsletter items must be received by the eighth of the month for inclusion in the following month's edition, preferably via email: gilman.howard@gmail.com.

Editor may edit for length, clarity and content. Members submitting for publication time-sensitive items in the EC office's mail slot or in the mail, please also email or call Elaine Durbach or Howard Gilman.

as the civilian liaison for the South Orange Maplewood Domestic Violence Response Team," a 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week program created to assist victims of domestic abuse. Team members are specially trained volunteers who will be called upon by the Police Departments to assist victims at the police station by providing them with support and information. The goal of the program is to provide victims with the knowledge to make informed decisions based upon the options available to them.

"I was recruited by the Babyland organization, of Newark, NJ, to become a Domestic Violence Advocate. After required background, fingerprinting and a 40-hour course, in 2009, I received my certification. As a resident of South Orange, I volunteered as a Domestic Violence responder. My goal was to help victims in crisis. When the SO/Maplewood police would receive a Domestic Violence call, one of the members would be called to provide round the clock assistance with support, information about restraining orders, shelters, counseling and more."

"My focus has always been abused children. I was verbally, physically and sexually abused as a child most of my childhood. In today's world, as a mother of five children and five grandchildren, all I can do is share information that may help them in this not so pretty world. We as adults must remember, with many abused kids, violence begins in childhood and ends in adulthood." — *Marlow Taybron*

Oct 27 Barbara Lipton, "Life, Art, Religion in Tibet"

Tibet is an alluring and mysterious country to many of us in the West. We have all heard of the Dalai Lama but how many know how he became who he is or what he does. It is the fabled storybook of Shangri-La that intrigues us. However, Tibet is real.

Barbara Lipton, who was for many years the Director and Curator of the Tibetan Museum on Staten Island, NY, will show pictures and discuss aspects of life, religion and art to introduce us to this country and its people and place in the world today.

ECS Friend Barbara Lipton previously



"Life, Art, Religion in Tibet" Oct 27. Photos by Barbara Lipton.

worked at the Newark Museum as Library Director and Special Projects Director: curator of *Whaling Days in NJ*, *SURVIVAL: Life and Art of the Alaskan Eskimo*; Adjunct Professor of Art History, The New School, SUNY Purchase, Drew University, Montclair University. Currently Chair, Exhibitions Committee, Atlantic Highlands Arts Council; Speakers Bureau, the Newark Museum. She has exhibited her photographs and has spoken at ECS a number of times, on "Masks, Art and Ceremony" (Oct. 2013) and, with Zia Durrani, on the handcrafts they saw on a trip to Gujarat, India (Apr. 2012) and on a trip to Fes, Morocco — illustrating their descriptions with Barbara's photographs and with CDs, they shared their experience there of the annual celebration of sacred music from around the world (May 2015).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Folk Friday Oct 11

Sing-Along & Jam — Bring acoustic string and rhythm instruments. Join in playing, singing or listening with us. Bring some refreshments to share. Everyone is invited! Folk Friday is second Friday of the month, 7:30-10:30 pm. lnovemsky@comcast.net, (973) 763-8293

Friday Oct 18 Birgit Matzerath, "J.S. Bach, 'The Well-Tempered Clavier,' A Listening Journey"

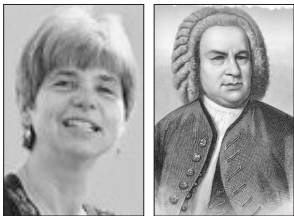
Experience the joy of listening to music together, discover balance in your life through music and share your experience with others. Join Birgit Matzerath on a listening journey through *The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1* by Johann Sebastian Bach.

The Bach piano series is part of this year's theme, "Living Ethical Culture in Our World".

The struggle for justice, human rights and preservation of the environment (*Continues*)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 9am - Tai Chi Chuan	30	1 11am - Chair Yoga	2	3	4	5
October 2019	6	7	8	9	10	11
9am - Tai Chi Chuan 12pm - Social Action 11am - Colloquy, "Living Ethical Culture in Our World"		11am - Chair Yoga	1pm - ECSEC Board 7:30pm - Grannie		Folk Friday 7:30-10:30 pm	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9am - Tai Chi Chuan 11am - Luisa McDougall, "The Importance of Being An Ally"		11am - Chair Yoga			Matzerath/Bach 7 - 8pm Well-Tempered Clavier No 3-4 BWV 848-849	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9am - Tai Chi Chuan 11am - Marlow Taybron, "What About Our Children!"		11am - Chair Yoga				
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
9am - Tai Chi Chuan 11am - Barbara Lipton, "Life, Art, Religion in Tibet"		11am - Chair Yoga				
Bach Sessions Fridays 7-8 pm: 9/20/19 No 1-2 BWV 846-847 3/20/20 No 13-14 BWV 858-859 10/18/19 No 3-4 BWV 848-849 4/24/20 No 15-16 BWV 860-861 11/15/19 No 5-6 BWV 850-851 5/15/20 No 17-18 BWV 862-863 12/20/19 No 7-8 BWV 852-853 6/19/20 No 19-20 BWV 864-865 1/17/20 No 9-10 BWV 854-855 7/17/20 No 21-22 BWV 866-867 2/21/20 No 11-12 BWV 856-857 8/14/20 No 23-24 BWV 868-869						

has become more urgent than ever. As we near the elections, it requires even more of our energy. In this situation, the journey through Bach's *Well-Tempered Clavier 1* is meant to create a space where people can come together, listen to the music, take a break, re-fuel and be inspired. The Preludes and Fugues are particularly appropriate, because the contrapuntal style of Bach's compositions represents in music what we encounter in life: a network where everything hangs together. What happens in one voice has an impact on the entire system of independent, but not self-sufficient voices that share responsibilities in a common task.



The monthly sessions are Fridays at 7-8 pm (see calendar for schedule). The series culminates with a complete performance on Friday 9/11/20 at 7:30 pm. Suggested donations: \$10 per ses-

sion; final concert \$25. Admission for students is free. Proceeds to benefit the Ethical Culture Society and Interfaith Hospitality Network of Essex County.

Jim White to Present Workshop Saturday Nov 9 10 am to 2 pm at the Society

In continuing our explorations into this year's theme, "Living Ethical Culture in Our World," Jim White, former leader at the Essex Society will return to moderate a workshop here on November 9. The Focus will be "Helping Each Other Change, for a World of Justice and Peace". We will explore how we are personally connected to what we experience globally. **Jim would like ideas and suggestions from participants, well beforehand, to help frame the substance of the workshop.** Please RSVP and offer any discussion ideas to the Society by phone (973-763-1905) or email (ecsec.nj@gmail.com). The workshop will be



held from 10 am to 2 pm at the Society. There is no charge to attend. Bring your lunch and beverages will be supplied.

Jim was born and raised on a farm in Virginia. He attended Harvard, earned a master's at Teacher's College in New York and spent five years teaching emotionally disturbed children in Manhattan and the Bronx before studying law at New York Law School. As a lawyer, Jim espoused social justice and civil liberties. He started a mental health practice in Manhattan that handles cases for psychiatric patients. In 1989, he was certified as an Ethical Leader, and he led the Ethical Culture Society of Essex County in New Jersey for eight years (now *Leader Emeritus* at the Society) before going to the Bronx Riverdale Society in 2010 as Leader, now retired. Currently, in addition to co-chairing the Congregations for Justice in Harlem, Jim is co-founder of Bronx Climate Justice North.

— Jeanine Rosh
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ETHICAL CULTURE SOCIETY OF ESSEX COUNTY

516 Prospect Street
Maplewood, New Jersey 07040

For information, call 973-763-1905; visit our web
site: www.essexethical.org; email: ecsec.nj@gmail.com

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ETHICAL CULTURE SOCIETY OF ESSEX COUNTY NEWSLETTER · OCTOBER 2019

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