

RARE BOOK SCHOOL

Travel & Housing Guide

Fall 2010 Session at The Morgan Library & Museum

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A Message from the Director



Michael Suarez in UVA Special Collections, September 2009.

PHOTO: JANE HALEY

Roger Wieck, the staff of Rare Book School (RBS), and I are excited that you are coming to study with us this autumn at The Morgan Library and Museum. In collaboration with his colleagues and friends, my predecessor Terry Belanger—who founded RBS at Columbia University in 1983, moved it to the University of Virginia (UVA) in 1992, and developed it into the premier institution for the study of bibliography and book history—created and sustained a marvelous academy whose impact on the world of books is far-reaching indeed. For a quarter of a century, the bibliographical community has been supported and nourished by RBS. From its tentative beginnings in NYC, the School has educated two generations of librarians, collectors, academics, and booksellers, producing a network of loyal alumni, talented faculty, and dedicated friends around the globe. Terry’s creative vision, unremitting dedication, and sheer tenacity built an organization that is poised to have a highly significant and salutary impact on the community for many years to come. I am delighted that you will soon be part of our distinguished tradition and of our future filled with promise.

The RBS staff and its world-class faculty constantly aim to ensure that the School will continue to be a center of academic and professional excellence in the classroom and of enlivening conversation and genuine community during our social time together. This past summer, we’ve had record enrollments in our Charlottesville courses; now, we are pleased to afford you the opportunity-of-a-lifetime: to study illuminated MSS with Roger Wieck at The Morgan.

We’ve designed this *Travel & Housing Guide* to answer most of your questions about transportation, housing, and related matters. Upon arrival, you’ll also receive a copy of the *RBS Student’s Vade Mecum* with additional information to help ensure that your stay is

as productive and enjoyable as possible. Please bring this guide with you when you come to RBS; it contains information not repeated in the *Student's Vade Mecum*. Welcome!

MICHAEL F. SUAREZ, S.J.
10 September 2010

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The RBS Week



Terry Belanger poses in the RBS “mug shot hallway” for a 2005 publicity photo.

RARE BOOK SCHOOL attracts a professionally diverse community of students who tend to return to the school. Terry Belanger, founding director of RBS, used to estimate that more than half of the school’s students had attended RBS at least once before.

It’s nice to welcome old friends back, but we encourage returning and new students alike to read this guide in preparation for the course.

All RBS students are expected to be in attendance on time for all of the regularly scheduled classes, labs, and field trips of the courses that they are attending. This is to ensure the quality and community of RBS as a school, and we insist that participants attend all sessions of all courses, unless under the most extraordinary of circumstances. Practically speaking, this involves a full-time commitment of 9–5:30, Mon–Thur, and 9–4 on Friday. Please make your travel plans accordingly!

MONDAY, 9-9:15 am* **Student Registration**

The Morgan Library & Museum

Because The Morgan Library & Museum does not open to the public until 10:30 am (and is in any event closed to the public all day on Monday), students will need to use a special entrance to the building—the “Staff & Visitors Entrance” at 24 East 37th Street—all day on Monday and before opening hours (10 AM) during the rest of the week.

Students will register with Rare Book School in the Thaw Conservation Center Seminar Room, where they will receive the RBS *Student’s Vade Mecum*, a namebadge, and an elevator pass for use during the week. We will also take your picture for a bulletin board near the seminar room to help us all connect each other’s names and faces as quickly as possible.

Daily Breakfast

Students should have breakfast on their own before arriving at the Library’s 24 East 37th Street entrance just before 9 am each morning.

** Required activities are noted by asterisk*

MONDAY through THURSDAY

9:00–10:30 am* **First Period**

10:30–11:00 am **Morning Break**

Refreshments are available within a short walking distance from The Morgan Library & Museum. You can find coffee close by at Starbucks Café (corner of 36th and Madison) or the Golden Food Deli (at 200 Madison Avenue on the east side of the street, between 37th and 38th Streets).

11:00–12:30 am* **Second Period**

12:30–2:00 **Lunch**

There are several restaurants in the neighborhood. Students will find open restaurants listed in the RBS Student's Vade Mecum.

2:00–3:30 pm* **Third Period**

3:30–4:00 pm **Afternoon Break**

Refreshments available from local vendors.

4:00–5:30 pm* **Fourth Period**

FRIDAY

9:00–10:30 am* **First Period**

10:30–11 am **Morning Break**

Refreshments available from local vendors.

11–12:30 pm* **Second Period**

12:30–2:30 pm **Long Lunch**

Classes break for a long lunch. Students will find open restaurants listed in the *RBS Student's Vade Mecum*.

2:30–3:40 pm* **Third Period**

3:40 pm* **Course Evaluations**

Students receive course certificates and fill out RBS course evaluations. You will be asked to evaluate both course content and various elements of the organization of RBS as a whole. The remarks of your entire class will be gathered together and published on the RBS website. We're grateful for your comments, and we pay careful attention to them in planning future RBS sessions.

4 pm **Farewell Reception**

Friday afternoon class will break by 4 PM for complimentary refreshments at the Whaler Bar at the Jolly Hotel Madison (22 East 38th Street).

* *Required activities are noted by asterisk*

Before You Arrive



The Morgan Library & Museum

PHOTO: GRAHAM HABER

Reading Lists

All RBS courses have advance reading lists or other assignments that RBS instructors expect their students to complete before they arrive for class. The reading lists for most courses are available on the RBS website: www.rarebookschool.org/reading.

Students should come to class prepared. Students who have trouble locating required readings might obtain them through a variety of sources, including inter-library loan (ILL), used and antiquarian booksellers, through the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America (ABAA) at www.abaa.org, or via online books services like www.bookfinder.com and www.vialibri.net. If you discover as your course approaches that you are going to be unable to get to the advance reading, please consider withdrawing from the course and reapplying in another session when your schedule eases.

Logistics

When thinking about and working on your transportation arrangements, please remember that staying over Friday night after your last day of class is an excellent idea, if you can possibly swing it. NYC early-evening ground and air travel on Fridays is seldom much fun. First-timers at RBS are often surprised at the intensity of the experience. Get some sleep before you come, if you can.

The Morgan Library & Museum

The Morgan Library & Museum is located at 225 Madison Ave (one-way northbound) between 36th Street (eastbound) and 37th Street (westbound), New York, NY 10016; phone 212-685-0008. See the Morgan's website for information about the most convenient subway and bus stops (www.themorgan.org/visit/directions.asp).

Transportation to New York City

New York City is well served by its three airports. You may find that flying into Newark (EWR) is so much cheaper than into LaGuardia (LGA) or Kennedy (JFK) that the savings justifies the sometimes tedious business of taking ground transportation between Newark or Jamaica Bay and midtown Manhattan.

Hotels

The Morgan Library & Museum is in Murray Hill. There are no genuinely cheap hotels in midtown New York City. If you need hotel accommodation, your best bet is to go onto one of the many websites specializing in competitively priced travel arrangements and to see what you can turn up. You should inquire about weekly rates at your hotel of choice: it may well be cheaper to spend seven nights in New York rather than six. For a long general list of NYC hotels arranged by location, see www.nyc.com/hotels/.

Bed-and-Breakfasts

If you prefer bed-and-breakfast accommodations, look online at sites such as <http://www.bedandbreakfast.com/new-york.html/>.

Advance Advices

Here follows general advice and comfort about Rare Book School courses at The Morgan Library & Museum in New York.

Incoming Phone Messages and Mail

Phone messages can probably be left for you most easily at your hotel or bed-and-breakfast, but messages may also be left at the Events Office at The Morgan (212-590-0326). Mail and non-emergency telephone messages coming into The Morgan Library & Museum will be delivered to students in class.

Outgoing Phone Calls

There are public telephones in the main lobby of the building.

Email and the Internet

Bringing laptops to class is discouraged. Please note that there is no Wi-Fi access on the Morgan campus.

Guests

You are welcome to invite guests to attend the Friday afternoon reception.

Privacy

RBS publishes a list of its participating students in the *RBS Student's Vade Mecum*. If you do not want your address information to appear in the *Vade Mecum*, please contact RBS Program Director, Amanda Nelsen, a week in advance of the course.

What to Bring

At RBS, dress is business casual for all events. Fall and winter temperatures fluctuate widely in NYC: it can be 60°F one week and 20°F the next. The rooms we will be using at The Morgan Library

& Museum tend to be maintained at a cool temperature; if you chill easily under refrigeration, bring a sweater.

RBS participants are encouraged to come to class prepared, and they are required to be on time. Bring a watch. If you wish to take notes, plan accordingly. Pencils, paper, and other supplies are available nearby. While RBS faculty may occasionally assign homework, it is unnecessary to bring a computer. Before leaving home check, both your course homepage and reading lists for specific instructions on what to bring. It is not always necessary to bring copies of your advance reading, so be sure to refer to the course information on the RBS website. Additionally, you may find it helpful to read previous course evaluations online for information about what to bring. In general, a light rain jacket (and/or umbrella) is useful.

Pharmacies & Medical Facilities

A conveniently located pharmacy is the Duane Reade branch at 358 Fifth Avenue (at 34th Street). The branch phone number is 212-244-4026, and it is open 24/7. The hospital emergency room most convenient to The Morgan Library & Museum is at the NYU Tisch Medical Center, 560 First Avenue at 33rd Street (non-emergency telephone: 212-263-5550).

Problems

If you encounter problems with tuition, please contact Danielle Culpepper using the information on the inside front cover of this Travel & Guide. During class, please bring any concerns or questions you have to the faculty.

Lost and Found

Consult Eileen Curran, The Morgan Library & Museum's Director of Events, for lost items at 212-590-0326.

Sunday Restaurant Guide



Rare Bar & Grill, 2010.

PHOTO: [HTTP://AFFINA.COM](http://affina.com)

There are any number of good and/or interesting restaurants in New York City. For a detailed discussion of local restaurants, purchase a copy of the latest Zagat survey of New York City restaurants (also very much worth purchasing is the separately published Zagat map of NYC restaurants), or visit one of the many internet sites concerned with dining in NYC. Consult your *Student's Vade Mecum* for a discussion of restaurants within walking distance of the Morgan Library. Note that in October, both the Morgan Café and the Morgan Dining Room are open W-F for lunch, 11-3 pm. The following reviews are from the restaurant listings found on <http://nycgo.com> (NYG) and <http://nymag.com> (NYM)

Within Walking Distance of the Morgan

Barking Dog. 150 East 34th Street, near Lexington Avenue. With a fun canine theme, these comfort-food eateries appeal to the stroller set as well as to older kids (NYM). \$\$

Berger's On the Go. 2 East 39th Street, near Fifth Avenue. A classic Midtown deli for franks, sour pickles, and pastrami-on-rye, hold the schmaltz (NYM). \$

Bhatti Indian Grill. 100 Lexington Avenue, 212-683-4228. Day or night, you will find some of the best North Indian food in the City. The refined, exposed-brick space in Curry Hill employs a knowledgeable staff that can explain the nuances of gilauti kebabs, with both lamb and vegetarian versions available. The extensive menu holds other delicious curiosities, as well as plenty of recognizable curries, stir-fries and breads (NYG). \$

Better Burger. 561 Third Avenue, near 37th Street. Snappy fast-food stand that both carnivores and quasi-vegetarians will like (NYM). \$

Chado

4 East 36th Street, 212-532-2210. Spring rolls with shrimp, crab, baby leeks, wood ear mushrooms and spicy, citrusy kalamansi nectar dip—here’s a clue you’re not in an average Japanese restaurant. The sleek, serene space has a glossy, white bar, a series of enormous black booths and a sushi bar positioned in back like a well-lit stage. Choose from an encyclopedic à la carte list of sushi, sashimi, and hand rolls. Or go omakase-style, trusting Chef Lim to make the call (NYG).

Chipotle. 350 Fifth Avenue at 34th Street. Award-winning decor and a fetish for freshness only add to the draw of that famous foil-wrapped burrito (NYM). \$

Delectica. 564 Third Avenue, near 38th Street. A small health-conscious café with a big catering business (NYM). \$

Food Merchants Cafe & Market. 26 East 40th Street, near Madison Avenue. A Café Metro counterpart that looks and feels like an upscale cafeteria (NYM). \$

Franchia. 12 Park Avenue, near 34th Street. Equipped with a tea bar, a vegetarian-Korean-fusion kitchen, and a traditional tearoom (NYM). \$\$

KyoChon

319 Fifth Avenue, 212-725-9292. “Chicken like you’ve never had before!” is the tagline emblazoned on KyoChon’s slick facade. They may be right—that is, if you haven’t yet had the pleasure of twice-fried birds with crisp, paper-thin skin basted in sticky soy-garlic sauce or hot sauce with a real kick. The chicken is cooked to order, so don’t expect fast-food speed. The menu is similar to that of their

Queens locations, with good, salty fries, coleslaw, and pickled radish, plus a few new items like rice balls, salads, and a chicken sandwich (NYG).

Mandoo Bar. 2 West 32nd Street, near Fifth Avenue. It’s all about the dumplings at Mandoo. Korean style (NYM). \$

Mendy’s. 61 E. 34th Street, near Madison Avenue. Fress on Jewish comfort food, avoid goyish extras at this kosher deli in Murray Hill (NYM). \$\$

Rare Bar & Grill. 303 Lexington Avenue, near 38th Street. An upscale burger joint offering truffle butter and foie gras toppings (NYM). \$-\$\$\$

Rossini’s. 108 East 38th Street, near Park Avenue. Northern Italian cuisine, live music, and competent pastas (NYM). \$\$\$

Toledo. 6 East 36th Street, near Fifth Avenue. Iberian cuisine at a sedate Spanish stalwart that has aged just as gracefully as its earthy red wines (NYM). \$\$\$

Villa Berulia. 107 East 34th Street, near Park Avenue. Come for the meat, stay for the pasta at this Midtown Italian throwback (NYM). \$\$\$

Zorzi NYC. 1 East 35th Street, near Fifth Avenue. Standout Northern Italian food at the intersection of Koreatown and Murray Hill (NYM). \$\$\$

Useful Sites

Amtrak

www.amtrak.com

Airports

LaGuardia (with links to other airports)

www.panynj.gov/aviation/lgaframe.htm

City of New York

www.nyc.org

New York City Visitors Bureau

www.nyctourist.com

Rare Book School

www.rarebookschool.org

State of New York

www.nyc.gov

