

IT1340B. The Panorama and 19th-century Visual Culture
Prof. Massimo Riva and Peter Harrington
(curator of the Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection)
TTH 1:00-2:20, Digital Scholarly Lab, Rockefeller Library
OH: TTH 12-1 or by appt

Description. Invented in the late 18th-century, the Panorama was a wildly popular 'vision machine' that became the model for many later attractions, from theme park rides to pavilions at world's fairs and immersive educational spectacles like IMAX movies. In this course, we will use 21st-century vision technology to study the power of these optical media in the shaping of 19th-century "virtual realism." After discussing the history and evolution of the (moving) panorama in general, we will focus on three case studies, three moving panoramas representative of popular 19th-century typologies:

1) the Garibaldi panorama at the Brown library (<http://library.brown.edu/cds/garibaldi/>);

2) the panorama of the Pilgrim's Progress at the Saco, Maine museum

(<http://www.sacomuseum.org/panorama/>)

3) the Grand panorama of the Whaling Voyage 'round the world, at the New Bedford, Mass., Whaling Museum

(<http://www.whalingmuseum.org/explore/collections/panorama>)

We will study these panoramas from various points of view: as artifacts, representative of mid-19th-century material culture; as storytelling and performing devices; as media embedded in the commercial infotainment industry of their time. Students will be able to use an application developed at Brown, Touch Art Gallery

(<http://cs.brown.edu/research/ptc/tag/>) to explore digital images of the panorama

Garibaldi (and hopefully of the other panoramas as well) and produce their own projects using this application. In doing so, we will also have an opportunity to discuss 21st-century developments of the panorama, from photography to other similar immersive and narrative formats...

Assessment: Class participation (30%); Midterm short paper, approx. 1,500 words, due on Oct. 16 (30%); Final project (TAG tour, 40%). Final Project Proposal due on Nov. 11. Final projects due on December 11 (Class presentation).

Reference textbook: Huhtamo, Erkki, *Illusions in Motion. Media Archeology of the Moving Panorama and Related Spectacles*, MIT Press, 2013 (available at Brown Bookstore). All additional reading materials available on OCRA and Canvas.

Weekly program

Week One, September 4: Introduction to the Course [DSL].

Week Two. The Moving Panorama: Archeology of Modern Media.

September 9: Class will be held in the Bopp room of the John Hay Library (we will meet in the DSL lab and go together to the Hay). Readings: Schwartz, Vanessa and Przyblysky, Jeannene, "Visual Culture's History. Twenty-first Century Interdisciplinarity and Its Nineteenth-century Objects"; Ralph Hyde, "Panoromania: Precursors."

September 11: Readings: Huhtamo, chapters 1-2: "The Moving Panorama: a Missing Medium of the 19th Century"; "Antecedents and Anticipations." TAG demo: "Life Along

the Bian River" (A Twelve-century Chinese Scroll). See:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Along_the_River_During_the_Qingming_Festival
<http://www.chinaonlinemuseum.com/painting-along-the-river.php>

Week Three. The Panorama as Spectacle. Introduction to the Garibaldi Panorama.

September 16: Readings: Huhtamo, chapters 3-4, "The Peristrepthic Panorama," "The Moving Panorama and the Theater." The Garibaldi Panorama web site:
<http://library.brown.edu/cds/garibaldi/>

September 18: Readings: Ralph Hyde, "The Campaigns of Garibaldi: A Look at a Surviving Panorama."

Week Four. Moving Panorama or Diorama? Exploring the GP, side 1, scenes 1-12: the Hero of Two Worlds; the Hunters of the Alps.

September 23: Readings: Huhtamo, chapters 5-6, "The Diorama and the 'Dioramas'"; "The Mid-Century Moving Panorama Craze."

September 25: Readings: Lucy Riall, "Rethinking Garibaldi"; "A South American Romance"; The GP manuscript:
<http://library.brown.edu/cds/garibaldi/resources/manuscript.php>

Week Five. Researching the GP, side 1, scenes 13-27. Rome, Death of Anita.

September 30. Readings: L. Riall, "Revolution"; Dietrich Neumann, "Instead of the Grand Tour. Travel Replacement in the 19th-century."

October 2: TAG Lab. Gathering materials from the Brown Digital Repository and other sites. The Harvard Risorgimento Collection. Prints, illustrated newspapers and magazines, the popular press. Annotating a scene: importing and linking documents. Creating a Tour.

Week Six. Researching the GP, side 2, scenes 28-54.

October 7. Scenes 28-40. The Expedition to Sicily, Caprera, Torture Scenes. Readings: L. Riall, "An Imaginary Life"; "Making Italian Heroes."

October 9. Scenes 41-54. The Sicilian Campaign and the 1862 added scenes. Readings: L. Riall, "Aspromonte"; Marcella Sutcliffe, "Marketing Garibaldi Panoramas in Britain, 1860-1864."

Week Seven. Virtual Travel. From the Mississippi Valley to Whaling 'round the World.

October 14. Readings: Huhtamo, chapter 7 and 8: "Albert Smith and His Moving Panoramas"; "The Moving Panorama Performance"; Ted Hovet, "America on Display: Constructing and Containing Images of the United States" (<http://www.19.bbk.ac.uk/index.php/19/article/view/508/462>, the section on the Banvard panorama of the Mississippi). The Monumental Grandeur of the Mississippi Valley (the John Banvard and Samuel Adams Hudson moving panoramas):
<http://archive.artsimia.org/currents-of-change/panorama.cfm>

October 16. Mid-term papers due. Russell and Purrington's Panorama. Samuel Eliot Morison, Introduction to *Whaler out of New Bedford: A Film Based on the Purrington-Russell Panorama* (<http://www.whalingmuseum.org/explore/collections/panorama>).

Week Eight. Exploring the R&P's Panorama. Yankee Baleeiros! Whaling, Empire and Literature.

October 21. The Boston handbill. *Yankee Baleeiros: An Exhibit*

(<http://www.whalingmuseum.org/explore/exhibitions/traveling/yankee-baleeiros>).

Readings: Michael P. Dyer, "Revisiting the Content and Context of Russell and Purrington's Grand Panorama...", in *The Panorama in the Old World and the New* (Amberg, 2010), pp. 52-57.

October 23. Readings: Robert L. Carothers and John L. Marsh. "The Whale and the Panorama," *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, Vol. 26, No. 3 (Dec., 1971), pp. 319-328; Kevin J. Avery. "Whaling Voyage Round the World: Russell and Purrington's Moving Panorama and Herman Melville's *Mighty Book*." *American Art Journal*, Vol. 22, No. 1 (Spring, 1990), pp. 50-78.

Week Nine. Researching R&P's Panorama

October 28. TAG Lab

October 30. TAG Lab

Week Ten. The Panorama of The Pilgrim's Progress. Playing with The Pilgrim's Progress.

November 4. The Moving Panorama of Pilgrim's Progress, gallery talk by Jessica Skwire Routhier (<http://sacomuseum.org/panorama/learnmore.shtml>). Readings: Thomas Hardiman, "The Panorama's Progress: The History of Kyle & Dallas's Moving Panorama of Pilgrim's Progress (<http://www.tfaoi.com/aa/3aa/3aa70.htm>); Peter Morelli and Julia Morelli, "The Moving Panorama of Pilgrim's Progress: The Hudson River School's Moving Exhibition," in *The Panorama in the Old World and New*, pp. 58-62; Nathalie Collé-Bak, "Bunyan's Pilgrims on Canvas, on Stage, in the Cellar, and in the Art Gallery," *Bunyan Studies* 15 (2011), 112-128.

November 6. Life, Life, Eternal Life: Uncle Wiggily Meets the Pilgrim's Progress.

Special Guest: Book artist Angela Lorenz

(<http://www.angelalorenzartistsbooks.com/opere/pilgrim.htm>)

Week Eleven

November 11. Final projects brainstorming

November 13. TAG Lab (Final projects proposal due).

Week Twelve

November 18-20. 21st-century panoramas: with guest lecturer Roderick Coover (Temple University)

Week Thirteenth

November 25. No Class. DSL open to students to work on their projects.

November 27. No Class. Thanksgiving

December 2-4-9. Work on final projects - Final projects progress report.

December 11. Final projects presentation in the DSL.

