

Lectures: Sundays, September 18 – December 4 (no courses October 2 and November 27)

Time: 12:00 – 12:45 pm

Location: John Jay College, 524 West 59th Street, New York City

Spinster: Making a Life of One's Own

November 6 • Lecturer: Kate Bolick



This illustrated talk introduces a cast of pioneering women from the last century whose genius, tenacity, and flair for drama have encouraged journalist and cultural critic Kate Bolick to fashion her life on her own terms. She discusses the joys and discomforts of unmarried life, the underrated pleasures of solitude, the legacy of her literary “awakeners,” and one of the central questions of her book: “Are women people yet?” Bolick is a contributing editor for *The Atlantic*, whose work has appeared in *Elle*, *Vogue*, and *The New York Times*.

Hollywood Homicides

November 13 • Lecturer: Beth Karas



Beth Karas spent nearly two decades covering trials for Court TV including many of the biggest crime stories at the time. Actor Robert Blake was charged with murdering his wife, Bonny Lee Bakley, in May 2001. Two years later, music producer Phil Spector was charged with murdering actress Lana Clarkson at his home. What was the evidence against Blake and Spector? Why is one a free man today and the other in prison? Karas is a former Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan and currently an investigative journalist, consultant, and speaker who operates the website, KarasonCrime.com.

Battle Cry of Seniors: Maintaining Dignity and Pride in our March Toward the Final Sunset

November 20 • Lecturer: Michael Lissner



Elder Law attorney Michael Lissner tackles the issue we all want to know about, but are often afraid to face: end-of-life. He will take us through the ins and outs of the minefields of advance directives (medical proxy, care, and procedures), estate planning, and charitable giving. Lissner received his JD from Brooklyn Law School. He is admitted and qualified as an Attorney and Counsellor of the Supreme Court of the United States and licensed in New York and Florida. He is a member of the New York County Lawyers' Association and the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. He serves as Chairman of The Blue Card, Inc. and is on the National Advisory Council of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and their Descendants.

JUDAIC STUDIES

Hustling Hitler: The Jewish Vaudevillian Who Fooled Hitler

December 4 • Lecturer: Walter Shapiro



From acclaimed journalist Walter Shapiro comes the true life story of how his great-uncle – a Jewish Vaudeville impresario and exuberant con man – managed to cheat Hitler's agents in the run-up to WWII. Freeman Bernstein was a master of exuberant excess and no stranger to the hard hand of the law. In 1937 he was arrested in Hollywood on a charge by Adolf Hitler that he committed fraud against the German government. Shapiro embarked on a fascinating exploration of Bernstein's life to find he may have changed the course of history. Shapiro is a fellow at the Brennan Center for Justice at the NYU School of Law and a lecturer in political science at Yale. He has covered nine presidential campaigns and served in the Carter administration as a presidential speechwriter.