



The Y's Women

March 2022

The Y's Women Newsletter

GENERAL MEETINGS

Open to members and their guests

Because of COVID concerns, the March 14th General Meeting will be broadcast on the Y's Women YouTube channel – <https://tinyurl.com/YsWomenCT> – and can be viewed live or at a future date. Click on the Videos tab, then click on the live video, which will not be available until 11:30 am on the meeting date.

March 14: Dr. Francis Coan – The Road to the 18th Amendment: Temperance and Prohibition in America, 1820-1920



Francis Michael Coan, PhD, of Tunxis Community College will discuss the ubiquity of alcohol production and consumption in early American history. He will introduce the genesis and evolution of the US temperance and prohibition movements as well as the

motivations, goals, and strategies of temperance and prohibition advocates. Key events, individuals, and groups, such as the Second Great Awakening, Neal Dow, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and the Anti-Saloon League, will be examined.

The great-grandson of Irish immigrants, Francis was born and raised in Bristol, Connecticut, where his family has resided since 1906. He grew up in a household full of books, toy soldiers, and plastic models of World War II aircraft and armored fighting vehicles (most of which he built). He holds a BA in Geography and an MA in History from Central Connecticut State University, and a PhD in History from the University of Connecticut. Primarily a military historian, he wrote his dissertation on the origins and early history of the Connecticut

National Guard and has published a number of encyclopedia entries and book reviews on military topics. Francis has taught history, American government, and geography at Tunxis Community College since 1991, chairing the Social Sciences and History Department from 2007 – 2019. He is currently President of the Tunxis Professional Staff Organization and the college's elected representative to the system-wide Faculty Advisory Committee.

In-Person Meeting:

Place Branson Hall, Christ and Holy Trinity Church, 75 Church Lane, Westport

10:45 am Conversation

11:30 am Meeting and Speaker

March 28: Richard Falco – The Power of the Image

Richard Falco, President of the Vision Project, has worked as a photographer, filmmaker, journalist, and educator for 40 years. He is currently Coordinator of Multimedia Journalism at Sacred Heart University's School of Communication, Media and the Arts. This presentation features photos and documentaries drawn from his assignments on four continents in some 35 countries. Richard will discuss the process of creating images that affect people and using the camera as a personal voice, reinforcing the social, cultural, and historical value documentary work contributes to society. He will also address the transition of photography toward multimedia and how technology is changing the way we work in the digital age. The presentation will introduce the work of the Vision Project (<http://www.visionproject.org>), an organization dedicated to the development of investigative



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journalism, documentary photography, video, multimedia, and education to encourage understanding and awareness.

Richard's photos have appeared in major publications throughout North America, Europe, and Asia, including *Time Magazine*, *Newsweek*, *Business Week*, *The New York Times*, and *National Geographic*, among many others. He is the author of four books, director of several films, winner of the International Media Award, and a three-time award winner for Excellence in Journalism from the Society of Professional Journalists.

SATELLITE GROUPS (Y's Women Members ONLY)

Book Group 2 will meet on Thursday, March 3 from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. The book to be discussed is *Virgil Wander* by Leif Enger, and the discussion will be led by Jill Meyer. For questions, contact Nancy Bloom at nancyerb@aol.com or Arlene Bloom at bloomah@sbcglobal.net.

Book Group 3 will meet virtually on Friday, March 11 at 10:30 am. We plan to discuss *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel García Márquez, led by Doris Levinson. The Zoom link will be sent the day before the meeting. Questions? Please contact Doris Levinson at drjlevinson@gmail.com.

The **Movie Club** will have a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, March 16, at 1:30 pm. We plan to discuss *Casablanca* and *Hillbilly Elegy*.

Casablanca was shown on February 19 at 9:00 pm on PBS Reel 13. The DVD of *Casablanca* may be available at local libraries. *Hillbilly Elegy* is available on Netflix.

Casablanca is a 1942 American romantic drama directed by Michael Curtiz and starring Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, and Paul Henreid. Filmed and set during World War II, it focuses on an American expatriate (Bogart) who must choose between his love for a woman (Bergman) or helping her and her husband (Henreid), a Czech resistance leader, escape from the Vichy-controlled city of Casablanca to continue his fight against the Germans. The screenplay

is based on "Everybody Comes to Rick's," an unproduced stage play by Murray Burnett and Joan Alison. The supporting cast features Claude Rains, Conrad Veidt, Sydney Greenstreet, Peter Lorre, and Dooley Wilson.

Hillbilly Elegy is a 2020 American drama directed by Ron Howard from a screenplay by Vanessa Taylor. It is based on the 2016 memoir of the same name by J. D. Vance, played as an adult by Gabriel Basso and as a youngster by Owen Asztalos. The film also stars Amy Adams, Glenn Close, Haley Bennett, Freida Pinto, and Bo Hopkins. The story begins when a Yale law student must return to his family in Ohio after a family emergency, and it follows his memories growing up there and in Kentucky. The title, *Hillbilly Elegy*, suggests a serious and somewhat reverent treatment of an otherwise looked-down-upon population.

A Zoom link for the meeting will be emailed to Movie Club members before the March meeting. If you wish to be added to the email list for future events, please contact Margaret Mitchell at 255-9094 or margaret06824@yahoo.com.

Newstalk: Attention all news junkies! Join our Newstalk group on the fourth Thursday of each month at 10:00 am to stay on top of the issues affecting us all. Our March meeting will be held on the 24th. Call Doris Skutch for further information at 247-3656.

Solos: Because of continuing concerns about Covid, Solos has not scheduled any functions for March. Things do seem to be getting better, and we are hoping to meet again in April.

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Mercy Learning Center Grateful for Donations

"The Y's Women's ongoing support has helped enable the Mercy Learning Center to serve and stabilize its entire community of students and children throughout the COVID-19 pandemic," writes Jane Ferreira, President and CEO. "Students use our food pantry daily, and your Friday-morning donations have been a wonderful help to us. Though the pandemic forecast is becoming more optimistic, we are still in need of your generosity. Nonperishable food and toiletries continue to help Mercy Learning Center's families."

SATELLITE GROUPS

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Wisest Investment Group: Consider joining nine members of the Wisest Investment Group as we try to buy/sell/hold/cogitate on our joint stock portfolio. If you have a crystal ball, that would be a plus! We meet on the fourth Thursday of the month. For more information, contact our President, Louise Demakis, at 254-6424 or lwdemakis@optonline.net.

The **Lunch & Trivia** group will meet at noon on March 17, the third Thursday of the month, at Organic Krush, which is located in Compo Shopping Center a few doors down from Trader Joe's. We will have sole occupancy of the restaurant, and the cost of lunch is \$20. Please call Ann Lloyd at 226-4145 or Arlene Bloom at 254-9096 if you are interested in attending.

Memoirs has been meeting online on the third Tuesday of the month. We hope we will begin meeting in person again in a few months.

Carpool and Go!

On Wednesday, March 23, **Carpool & Go** will visit **The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum** in Ridgefield, CT. We will have a docent-led tour of their three current shows at 10:50 am, and then have lunch in the Village at Tequila Escape, 439 Main Street.

Always on the cutting edge, the Aldrich shows this month are:

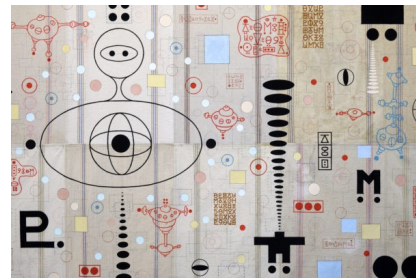
- **“Milano Chow: Prima Facie,”** featuring two- and three-dimensional monochromatic works on paper showing influences of architectural drawings, fashion photography, and surrealism.



- **“Duane Slick: The Coyote Makes the Sunset Better,”** combining secular and modernist abstraction with sacred beliefs and traditions of the artist's Native American heritage, this show is his first solo exhibit with a body of new work created specifically for The Aldrich.



- **“Karla Knight: Navigator,”** which includes large paintings inspired by themes of space travel and the paranormal.



We will meet at Trader Joe's / Wells Fargo parking lot at 9:45 am for a 10:00 departure. Please contact Lydia Menendez (lydiamnndz12@gmail.com or 319-1110) to reserve your spot. Send a check for \$15 (\$8 for the docent tour and \$7 for Senior museum admission), made out to Lydia, to 388 Oldfield Road, Fairfield, CT 06824. The cash reimbursement for drivers is \$6; parking is free. Please indicate if you are willing to drive – drivers are always appreciated!