



The French Eyes of the Berkeley Club of France

#1

October-December 2010



BEARLIGHT

BERKELEY VIDEO & FILM
FESTIVAL "MARATHON"

A FEW WORDS WITH
JACK TURNER ON
"MODUS OPERANDI"

VOX BERKELEY

MAD ABOUT TV SERIES
MAD ABOUT PARIS

BANQUET

A BRIEF HISTORY OF...
NETWORKING WITH THE
BERKELEY CLUB OF
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BEAR IN MIND

START YOUR CAREER &
EXPAND YOUR BUSINESS

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CAPTION THIS!

EDITO



BRINGING DINNER BACK...

Les Gens de Berkeley is the latest initiative of The Berkeley Club of France to bring together alumni, students, staff and friends of UC Berkeley.

Les Gens de Berkeley is a reference to James Joyce's "Dubliners", or at least, its French translation, "Les Gens de Dublin". The idea is to engage in a conversation with practical information as well as lively stories.

This was the essence of the "month of dinners", an event orchestrated by the Berkeley Club of France early this year. The process - a "host alumnus" books a restaurant and "guest alumni" sign up and join the dinner - might pass as random or serendipitous, depending on which side of the valley of the moon you stand....

Les Gens de Berkeley is a proxy dinner of sorts, with special features, profiles, interviews, updates on the Berkeley Club of France agenda and career information.

On the menu of this first edition, you will discover six sections: special features in **BearLight**, profiles and interviews in **Vox**

Berkeley, past and future Berkeley Club of France events in **Banquet**, career development and business promotion from members of the Berkeley Club of France in **Bear in Mind**, readers' comments, suggestions and contributions in **Your Vox** and last but not least, a caption contest in **The Bear Truth About Students**.

Les Gens de Berkeley opens with a close-up on the 2010 Berkeley Video & Film Festival (BVFF), and its Grand Feature Award winner "Modus Operandi". This was the opportunity to chat with indie film producer and distributor Jack Turner. Our camera will then turn to French journalist Pierre Langlais who graduated from UC Berkeley School of Journalism and Ali Ezzatyar, a Boalt graduate who works as a lawyer in Paris.

One last "Bear" statement, Les Gens de Berkeley welcomes your contributions and suggestions to make this online magazine better.

Let the "moving feast" continue...

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BERKELEY VIDEO & FILM MARATHON FESTIVAL

Let us go through the Three Days of the Condor, no...wait, the three days of the Berkeley Video & Film Festival, from 24 to 26 September 2010.

The 19th edition of the Berkeley Video & Film Festival is also its biggest, offering not less than 68 screenings across a wide range of short, animation, documentary, experimental and arthouse features. Variety is of the essence of this west coast celebration of independent filmmaking. Indeed, you may come across a 1-minute short film, animation from the students of the USC School of Cinematic Arts or world premiere "Kick

Me Down", directed by Canadian filmmaker Mathew Bennett.

Michelangelo Antonioni once said that "Hollywood is like being nowhere and talking to nobody about nothing". Well, the Berkeley Video & Film Festival is nothing like this judging by its prize winners list.

Case in point: the Grand Festival Best Documentary Award went to Tao Ruspoli's "Being in the World", a choral interview of philosophers, jazz musicians, artists and craftsmen examining self-expression and art. And the Grand Festival Experimental Award was given to Nitzan and Daphna Cohen Ben Shaul's "Turbulence ", an interactive romantic drama about the lives of Israelis in Israel and New York.

As underlined by Mel Vapour, co-director with Paul Blake at the Berkeley Video & Film Festival, benefits greatly from being in the vicinity of artistry hotbeds such as the Berkeley Repertory Theater, Freight and Salvage, the Aurora Theater Company or the Jazz café.

Waiting for the 20th Berkeley Video & Film Festival for even more compelling screenings...and runs.

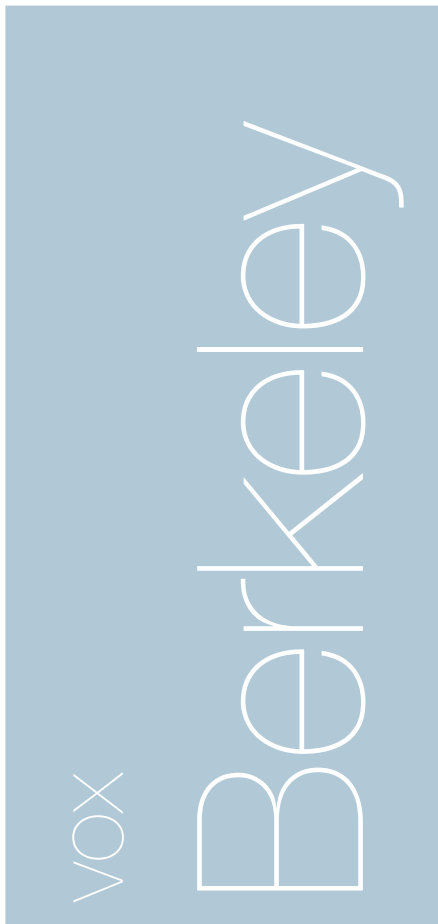
**FOR A TASTE OF THE SELECTION,
PLEASE VISIT:**

[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/35AAJGZ](http://tinyurl.com/35AAJGZ)

ALTERNATIVE FILM AND VIDEO AT THE BERKELEY ART MUSEUM

[OCTOBER 6, 2010 – APRIL 3, 2011]

THE EXHIBIT "ALTERNATIVE FILM AND VIDEO IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA" SHOWCASES ARCHIVAL MATERIALS (POSTERS, NEWSLETTERS, PRODUCTION STILLS, HISTORICAL CORRESPONDENCE) DATING BACK TO THE 40S FROM THE PROMINENT FILM AND VIDEO MAKING COMMUNITY NESTED IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA.



GDB: You are wearing a “How to make it in America” T-Shirt, could you tell us a bit about this TV series?

“How to make it in America” is a TV show broadcast on HBO (and soon to be broadcast in France) centering around two friends in their thirties who want to make it in New York...by selling jeans!

GDB: You come back from San Diego where you covered Comic Con International. How big is it on the festival circuit?

It is the largest comic book and popular arts convention in the world. It's the third time in a row that I covered it, this time as a TV journalist for a French TV channel. I was the only journalist reporting for a French TV! I did red carpet interviews and chain interviews of cast and crew of current hit TV series in the US. The rule was 2 minutes per person interviewed, which comes close to “speed interviewing”. This was gold material for *L'Hebdo Séries* and my daily report on *télérama.fr*, especially the interviews with TV screenwriters and producers JJ Abrahams, (“Lost” creator), Chuck Lorre (“The Big Bang Theory”) and Ryan Murphy (“Glee” creator).

Interview With... Pierre Langlais

MAD ABOUT TV SERIES!

A French journalist specialized in TV series, Pierre Langlais writes for *Télérama* and *slate.fr*. He is also the editor in chief of *L'Hebdo Séries*, a 7-minute online program broadcast on TPS Star, CinéStar and Canalplus.fr. Pierre told Les Gens de Berkeley about spending some time in the dark room of the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism and interviewing star TV series writers at International Comic Con in San Diego.

GDB: Let's go North California now... How did you get enrolled at the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism?

I graduated from University Panthéon-Sorbonne Paris III in literature and studied at the French Press Institute (*Institut France Presse*). At the IFP, I met Marlowe Hood, my English teacher, who introduced me to the International Visiting Scholars Program at UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism. As a practicing journalist, I applied for a 6-month program and got accepted.

GDB: What did you learn at the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism?

After auditing courses at the journalism school and using the extensive resources of UC Berkeley, I elected classes in photography and writing. I had an outstanding photography teacher, Mimi Chakarova, who received her BFA in photography from the San Francisco Art Institute and her MA in visual studies from UC Berkeley. She taught us in very small classes (7 people on average) how to work on photos in the dark room and how to develop our creativity. I also learnt, in writing classes, to search and hone a personal style. This was very different from French classes where the emphasis is put on structure. All in all, I really appreciated the community life of UC Berkeley, how you interact with students and professionals alike, and the

informal way you learn about other cultures.

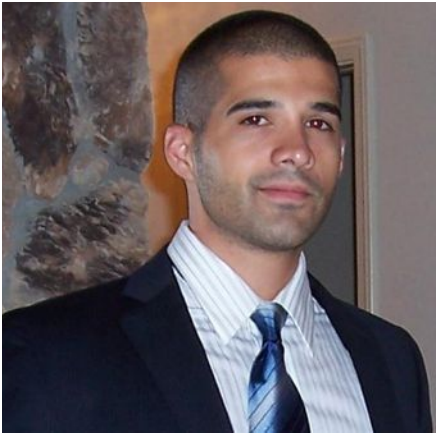
GDB: Tell us about the transformational power of Berkeley!

Very strong...I started traveling a lot and visit friends from Berkeley, hopping from Germany to Holland to Japan and Australia. At Berkeley, I tried many different things, such as getting my movie reviews published in the *San Francisco Chronicle* or my pictures exhibited at the International House.

GDB: What can you do for the Berkeley Club of France?

Besides joining BCF events, I would be keen on participating as a panelist in an event dedicated to TV series.

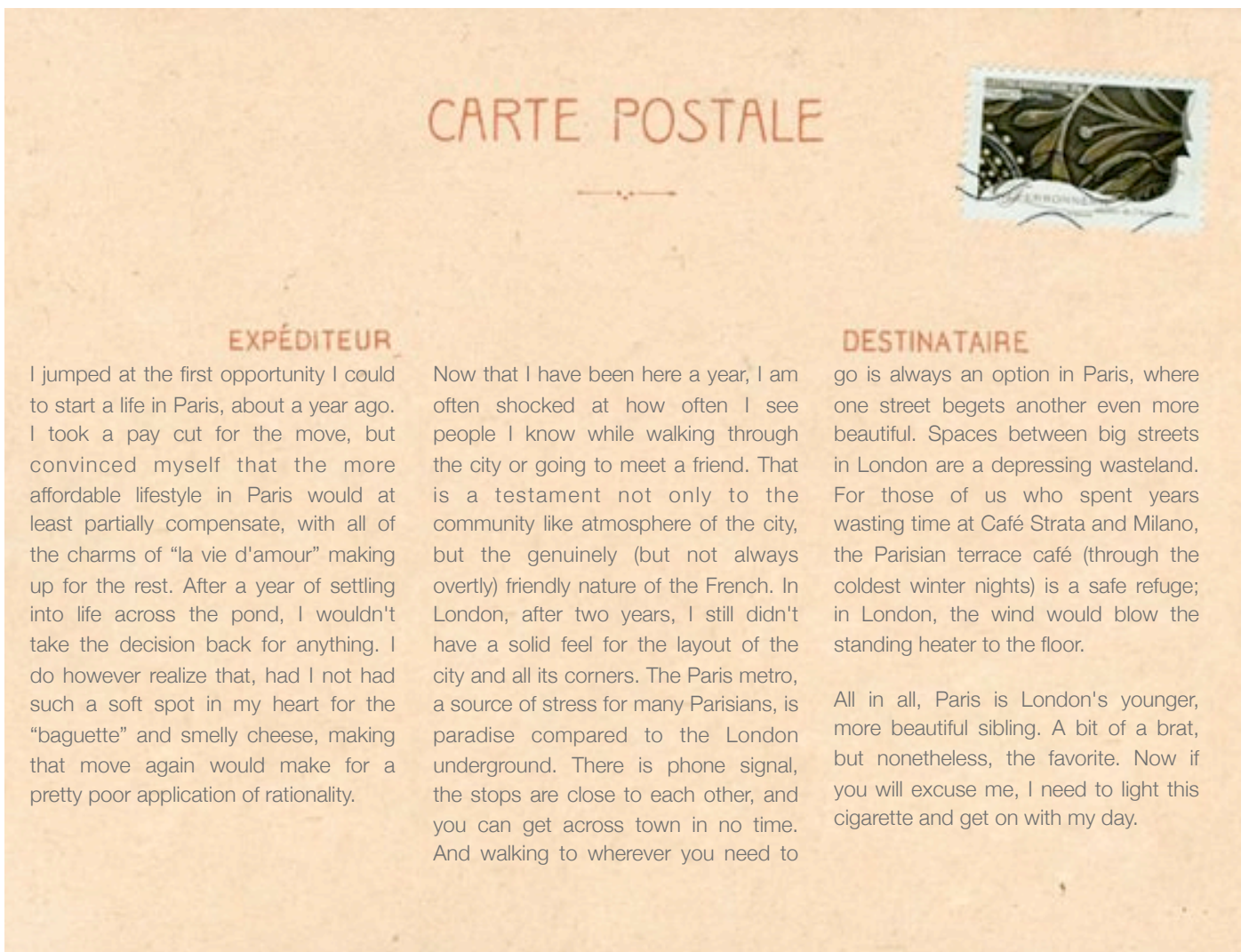




Postcard from... Ali Ezzatyar

MAD ABOUT PARIS?

Ali Ezzatyar graduated from UC Berkeley in 2002 and from Boalt in 2007. After two years in London, he has been working as a corporate lawyer at Gide Loyrette Nouel for one year. Here he muses about the expat life in Paris.



Banquet

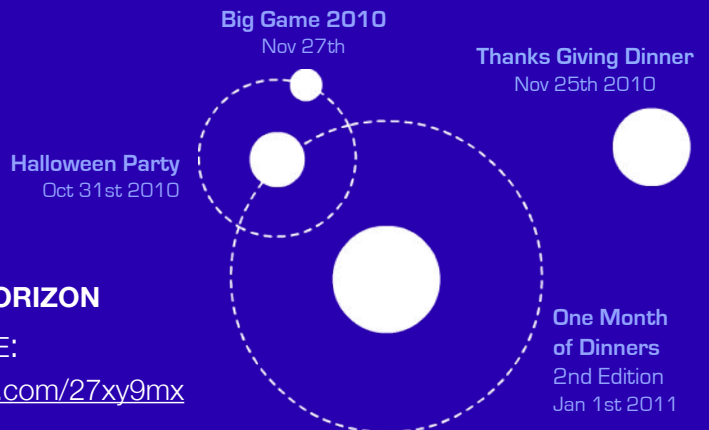
A BRIEF HISTORY OF... NETWORKING

WITH THE BERKELEY CLUB OF FRANCE

In 2009-2010, the Berkeley Club of France mapped a constellation of events including receptions, monthly dinners, galas, classic concerts, conferences, museum visits, happy hours, mixers, launch parties, and reunions. We had fun and there are more events on the horizon.

2010 Football Season

Opening, Sep 11, 2010
The Great Canadian Pub



EVENTS HORIZON

RSVP HERE:

<http://tinyurl.com/27xy9mx>

Bear in Mind



BUILD YOUR CAREER AND EXPAND YOUR BUSINESS

If you seek to expand your career, launch your business, or pitch your product, please stop here. You may also ponder the meaning of the hidden bear graph below...

Please send us your job offers at:

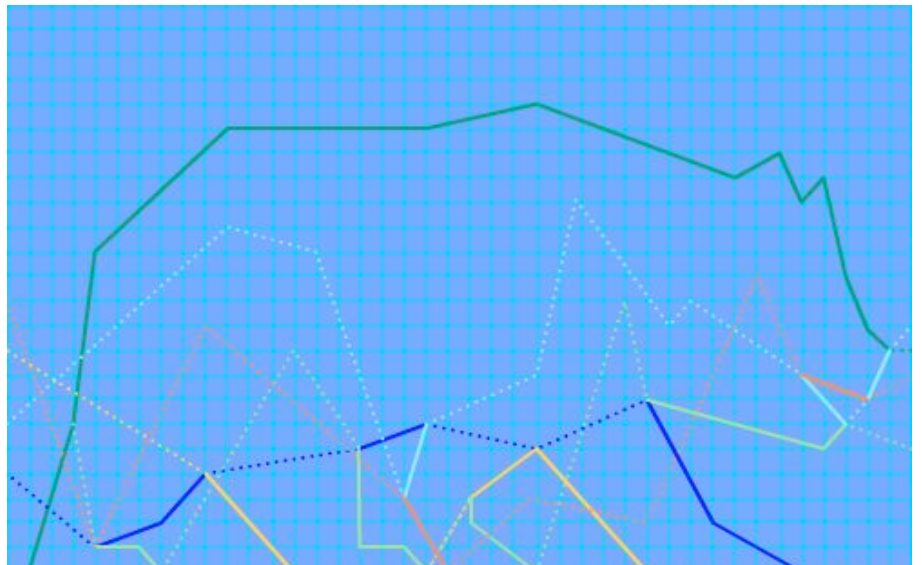
<http://tinyurl.com/39dwuog>

All postings and announcements will appear here:

<http://tinyurl.com/35744f3>

YOUR VOX is welcome! Please send us your comments, suggestions, stories at:

gdbmag@gmail.com



The
Bear
 Truth
 About Students

CAPTION THIS!

Each issue of Les Gens de Berkeley will feature comics with French language text. We will ask a non-French speaker to decipher their meaning. This is to see whether or not humour is universal or, in Rashomon-style, how many interpretations may arise from the same cartoon. Here to open the ball and give his caption and story: Alasdair McEwan, a digital project manager from London

Salut, Je m'appelle Al... and thanks to my apathetic French teacher at school this phrase represents the sum total of the language I'm prepared to speak in public. As such the cartoons below represent the same academic challenge to me as explaining the plot of inception to someone in a coma. Anyway, having established that Asterisk is nowhere to be seen I think I've cracked the meaning of L'Elite de Demain... Here goes:

6 sailors on a Roman trireme are on their way to Egypt and are being given a brief talk, possibly by the guy who normally bangs the drum. This seems to be about the wonderful sights that await there hence the "Pyramide" reference in the first frame. However, the old rumors about sailors must be true as "Hommes d'action" is mentioned, which is very probably a nightclub the drummer chap went to on a previous trip. This doesn't go down too well with the rest of the crew and as I've seen the film "Monsieur Hulots Bicycle" I'm familiar with the phrase "Putain Enorme" - Enormous Whore!... actually was that M Hulots Holiday? Maybe it was some other film? Anyway Mr. Purple suggests they find an enormous whore instead but the guy in the blue shirt has fallen asleep and as he's the only one with any money Mr. Yellow rues their lack of luck and they go back to rowing towards Egypt.

L'ELITE DE DEMAIN



UN MENTAL D'ACIER



Thank you
Beary much



Les Gens de Berkeley #1 was made thanks to:

Editorial Team : Carole Chabat, Al McEwan, Claire Chabat.

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