

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Thomas V. Lento
302-731-4348 *or*
news@princetonfestival.org

Free Princeton Festival Lectures, Film for June 13-25

“Nixon in China” Inspires Talks on Diplomacy, Musical Minimalism, Harmonic Structure; Multimedia Reading by Chinese Poet, Screening of Classic Film Also on Schedule

PRINCETON, NJ (June 10, 2019) – The annual Princeton Festival (www.princetonfestival.org) program of free events continues through Tuesday, June 25. The final two weeks include several talks related to the 2019 Festival opera, John Adams’ *Nixon in China*; a multimedia, bilingual reading by award-winning poet Xue D; and a showing of “The Shop Around the Corner,” the movie that helped inspire the Festival’s 2019 musical *She Loves Me*. More information is available at <https://princetonfestival.org/event/>.

Exhibit of Music-Inspired Art by A-TEAM

June 23 and 30, Lobby of McCarter Matthews Theatre.

Paintings by A-TEAM artists, affiliated with the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, will be displayed for sale during performances of *Nixon in China*.

<https://princetonfestival.org/event/2019-ateam/>

Lecture | Ping Pong Diplomacy

June 13 at 7 pm, Princeton Public Library, 65 Witherspoon St, Princeton

June 20 at 7 pm, Lawrence Public Library, 2751 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville

Marianne Grey will review and illustrate events leading up to Nixon’s unprecedented 1972 trip to China. She will also introduce the nearly one billion Chinese living under Mao’s authority.

<https://princetonfestival.org/event/2019-lecture-grey/>

Lecture | *Nixon in China*: Much More Than Minimalism

June 15 at 2 pm, West Windsor Public Library, 333 North Post Road, Princeton Junction

June 21 at 7 pm, Princeton Public Library, 65 Witherspoon Street, Princeton

Prof. Timothy Urban will demonstrate how John Adams’ eclectic style, which mixes 1930’s big band, neo-classicism, electronic synthesizer sounds, minimalism, and lush late-romanticism, adds local color while propelling the drama forward.

<https://princetonfestival.org/event/2019-lecture-urban/>

Lecture | How Harmonic Structure Shapes Characterization in John Adams’ *Nixon in China*

June 18 at 7 pm, Princeton Public Library

65 Witherspoon Street, Princeton

Professor Timothy Johnson, a published authority on *Nixon in China*, will show how Adams uses underlying harmonies to depict the aspirations and motivations of President Nixon, Madame Mao, and Premier Chou in the opera's three most memorable arias.

<https://princetonfestival.org/event/2019-lecture-johnson/>

Poetry Reading | Xue Di: Across Borders

June 23 at Noon, Princeton Public Library

65 Witherspoon Street, Princeton

Award-winning poet Xue Di, who witnessed the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests against the Chinese government, will give a bilingual, multimedia presentation of his poetry. American poet Jonathan Wells will read the English translations. Casual Q&A to follow. Refreshments will be served.

<https://princetonfestival.org/event/2019-poetry-xue-di/>

Film | The Shop Around the Corner

June 25 at 7 pm, Princeton Public Library

65 Witherspoon Street, Princeton

A beloved romantic comedy from 1940 starring Margaret Sullivan and James Stewart, this film and the play it was based on were the inspiration for the Judy Garland vehicle *In the Good Old Summertime*, the Tom Hanks/Megan Ryan movie *You've Got Mail*, and this year's Princeton Festival musical *She Loves Me*.

<https://princetonfestival.org/event/2019-film-the-shop-around-the-corner/>

For ticket information and a complete listing of events in the Princeton Festival 2019 season, visit www.princetonfestival.org or call 609.258.ARTS (2787).