



2007: Class Notes Archives



TOP: Alessandra Bonetti;
BOTTOM: Amedeo Fasanella
d'Amore ('07)

----- From December 2014 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Adrian Landon** wrote: "Hey LFNY, I am still full on in metal sculpture, busier than ever trying to finish my newest and most awesome piece yet, a life-size, stainless-steel, suspended, mechanical galloping horse. Days, weeks and months are going into it and I'm almost done hopefully. Earlier this year in July, I installed my two Dung Beetle sculptures in the beautiful scenic sculpture park of Salem Art Works, Salem, NY, which can be seen on my website:www.adrianlandon.com. [\[Click here\]](#) My metal shop is in Gowanus, Brooklyn. My message to the kids is: Hold onto your dreams, as wild as they may be, for they are the most precious things you have. Don't let anyone take them away from you. One of your greatest missions on this earth is to fulfill them."

- **Vanessa Bamba** is "an actor and model based in East Sussex, United Kingdom."

- **Simon Van Zuylen Wood** is a staff writer at Philadelphia Magazine, and a contributing writer at National Journal.

- **Maya Catherine Popa** "is a writer, reviewer, and teacher. Her poems appear or are forthcoming from FIELD, Colorado Review, Kenyon Review, ASH, Oxford Poetry, Poetry London, Southword, Locuspoint, and elsewhere. She was a 2013 finalist for the Rona Jaffe Award and winner of the Oxford Poetry Society Martin Starkie Prize." (www.linkedin.com/pub/maya-catherine-popa/40/97a/878)

- **Luisa Conlon** "is an independent filmmaker and producer sharing her time between Los Angeles and New York. She is a graduate of the Tisch School of the Arts. She has produced



TOP: Cyrgue Dessauce ('07);
BOTTOM: Melhia Kyra Piot ('07)

video content for a varied roster of clients including Interscope Records and EMI, and has worked under renown filmmakers including Kenneth Branagh, Joe Berlinger and Samuel Pollard. Luisa served as Associate Producer on Gillian Robespierre's forthcoming feature comedy *Obvious Child*, produced by Elisabeth Holm and starring Jenny Slate. She most recently co-produced *Five Star*, directed by Keith Miller (*Welcome to Pine Hill*)."

(<http://www.luisaconlon.com/about/>)



TOP: Vanessa Bamba ('07);
BOTTOM: Simon van Zuylen Wood ('07)

● **Charlotte Henley's** "path began to flourish between France and India. Through fusing both worlds, the jeweler commenced her journey on the route of adornments. Once her passion revealed, she spent much time in Italy learning the arts of the craft. Now a Jewelry Designer, and founder of her jewelry line, she travels with her ideas, from the colorful saris of India to the incredible sights of France. The jewels narrate her stories, depicting the world's melting pot of beauty and energy, through gemstones her passion she draws her inspirations."

(<fr.linkedin.com/pub/charlotte-henley/38/6ab/58b>)

● **Alessandra Bonetti:** "I am an actress living in Los Feliz, Los Angeles, CA with four other college friends, and a chameleon. I practice Yoga, and pursue my acting career on a consistent basis. I am hungry for compelling stories, and strive to tell them with as much truth as possible. I received my BFA in Acting from the School of Dramatic Arts at the University of Southern California." (<https://plus.google.com/103470341978839954137/about>)

● **Amedeo Fasanella d'Amore** is Marketing and Product Manager at Hot Topics. "I'm an American, Italian, and German citizen with a strong cross-cultural sensitivity and a passion for making people aware about the amazing products and services that innovative companies create along with a track record of successfully driving engagement online. In addition to an MSc of Management, Organisations, and Governance from the LSE, I have experience working in marketing within both the non-for-profit and for-profit sectors, within developed (UK & USA) and developing (India) economies, and within established companies and fast growing startups." (<uk.linkedin.com/in/amedeodamore>)

● **Cyrgue Dessauce** is a graduate student at University of Paris I: Panthéon-Sorbonne (Master's degree, Philosophy, expected 2016)

Videos of LFNY alumni on the internet (Click on links below):

- [Vanessa Bamba's](#) showreel
- [Alessandra Bonetti](#) in an audition
- [Melhia Kyra Piot](#) auditioning for *Rent: the Musical*



TOP: Maya Catherine Popa ('07);
BOTTOM: Charlotte Henley ('07)

----- From December 2012 AALFNY Newsletter -----

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In Memoriam:

- **Patrick Karorero** († July 3, 2008)

(See In memoriam section of this newsletter for further details, or [click here](#))
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- **Adrian Landon** wrote to us after the hurricane: "I have recently been unable to sculpt in my metal shop due to the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. My shop, right off the Gowanus Canal, got 4 feet of water during the storm, and the power has yet to be restored. Luckily I am on the second floor and my equipment was untouched, but I was just in the middle of making a new horse sculpture for an upcoming event in Palm Beach, Florida, The Winter Equestrian festival, where I will be exhibiting 4 life-size horse sculptures for several months."

- "New York City singer/songwriter **Tora Fisher** found her voice – and salvation – through heartache and loss. After all, it's not many people who like Tora, walk away as the sole survivor of a tragic plane crash. In her debut CD, *SPILLING OVER*, a passionate ode to these very themes, Tora explores these feelings track by track and word by word, having written or co-written all the songs on the album, and delivering something that is nothing short of highly personal and intensely moving.....With a powerful voice and edgy, eclectic style (not to mention those wordsmith prowesses).....twenty-two year old Tora Fisher is a musical force to be reckoned with. As the daughter of Broadway producers, Fisher spent her early years surrounded by music

and the arts, her days filled with singing and dance lessons.....Life took an unexpected and cruel turn when Tora was in an accident at thirteen years of age. A plane carrying Tora, her father, stepmother and four others crashed into the back of a sheet metal factory building Tora was the only survivor. Miraculously she walked herself out of the plane, and when Rescue arrived they found her standing in the snow nearly unscratched.....To avoid being surrounded by the life she once shared with those she had lost, Tora left New York for Connecticut, where she began studying at the illustrious Choate Rosemary Hall college-preparatory school[and]



TOP: Tora Fisher ('07) sings at the Citi Military Appreciation Day event to honor U.S. veterans and current service members in Bryant Park (NYC) on November 11, 2011; BOTTOM: Guillaume Lavin ('07)



TOP: Gwen Madeline ('07);
BOTTOM: Margaux Michel ('07)

graduate with Cum Laude Society Honors. After graduation.....Tora enrolled in Columbia University. Feeling artistically constricted, she took a leave from studies to focus on her music career. Within two short years she was signed with Chris Keaton Presents and began working on her new album. She has since performed aboard the USS Intrepid, had shows in New York and released her first single, *Man of Steel*, proceeds of which benefit veterans and their families (philanthropy being another of Tora's passions)." (*officialtora.com*)



- **Andre Lorenceau** is a student at the University of Texas at Austin, and expects to graduate in 2013 with a BBA in Finance.

- **Guillaume Lavin** est Officier Élève à l'École Navale de Brest.

----- From December 2011 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- "Hello, **Adrian Landon** the artist metal sculptor here. I brought two life-size horse sculptures to France this summer: One to St. Tropez, the other to Deauville." ([Click here](#) to access Adrian's website)

----- From November 2010 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Alban Bressand** wrote: "I seize this opportunity to say hi and let everyone know, for what it's worth, that I am currently doing an exchange in Buenos Aires for the semester, and will keep helping **Jessica Schinazi** and the new vice-president of our association -the FAA(French-American Alliance)- which will strive to receive this year other interesting guests and promote the French culture through various themed events around Columbia campus. Students who live or work in NY and are interested to join should contact Jessica or Alienor ."

Videos of LFNY alumni on the internet:

- **Tora Fisher** performed at her first live gig at Don Hills, Sept. 3, 2010 ([Click here](#) for another video of Tora performing)

----- From December 2009 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Adrian Landon** wrote: "I am having a piece of my art in an exhibition at the Art Student League, opening on the 4th of December."



TOP: Olivia Pei ('07); BOTTOM:
Andre Lorenceau ('07)



TOP: Mathieu Chamlou-
Foroughi ('07); BOTTOM:
Carlotta Morteo ('07)



Marcos Eliades, ('07) at the October 5, 2011 reunion in Paris, organized by the LFNy

● **Alban Bressand** wrote: "Here is some information about the association I created a year ago and have been running jointly with **Jessica Schinazi ('07)** since then, called the French-American Alliance. I am a junior at Columbia College majoring in Philosophy and Economics. Jessica is also a junior at CC and is majoring in Economics and Hispanic studies.

About a year ago, a friend came to me with the idea of organizing in the Columbia University setting a student association where students from both the French community and those with an interest in the broader French-American community would be able to meet each other and discuss contemporary issues in a comfortable environment. Our main objective was to welcome world class guest-speakers from a variety of domains each semester who would discuss and share with us the lessons they learned during their international careers. Outlining the challenges of what intellectually crossing borders represents, our guests help us better comprehend diverging views on a given subject and distill the essential compromises that can exist beyond these often cultural differences. Events take place with a limited number of people and with a strong interactive component so as to establish an informal, privileged relationship between our guests and our members.

We decided not to be directly affiliated with Columbia (though we now organize our speaker events at the Maison Française of Columbia) and we also organize social events that are aimed at having fun and exchanging ideas in a setting where French culture is most manifest in the form of good wine and cheese. Although we pride ourselves in having a growing number of members who were alumni of the LFNy, our appeal is not limited to the Columbia community, and motivated students and young professionals who live in the NY area in general are actively present at our events....."

----- **From January 2009 AALFNy Newsletter** -----

● **Guillaume Pfistner** wrote: "I pushed back my graduation a year (to 2011) in order to pursue a double major in Accounting and Finance and I started giving tutoring lessons in accounting. I was also invited into the Golden Key International Honour Society and am working on volunteering at a local school."

Adrian Landon wrote: "I graduated in '07. after that i went to africa for 2 months, doing volunteer work in the bush, then did a year of college in san francisco, had fun being creative and artistic (industrial design major) then i decided to take some time off from schooling



**TOP: Amedeo d'Amore ('07) & Eleonora d'Amore ('09);
BOTTOM: Jessica Schinazi ('07)**

because i've already been in school for 14 years and i wanted to go out and really live and really learn things, things you can't learn in school. so i volunteered at a wolf preserve all summer, then worked with the southwest conservation corps in arizona, digging and maintaining trails in the mountains and working in national parks, and made my first couple 1000 bucks, 2 to be precise, then started to learn how to make a cello with my father who is a violin maker and then i went to mammoth mountain in california, a ski resort, where i am working now as a lift operator and snowboarding for free. it's kind of like a vacation, work is very very easy, one thing i don't like is that i'm not learning very much doing this job, but i'm getting very good at snowboarding.

i don't know if i'll ever go back to college, i know everyone thinks i should and if i have the opportunity and it might save my ass one day, why not. but there are some things i want to do in my life and i want to be satisfied with myself before i die and i know that making money isn't one of the things that's going to satisfy me.

one thing i realize now that i have so much more time to think, that my thoughts are so much clearer. and when i think about my time at the lycee, i realized really how much more i could've learned, because you really teach a lot. but there was somethign missing. or maybe it was all too soon and fast. i know that many kids struggle very much in that school, i know i did, and i know now that what was missing was motivation. and that can't come only from the student. i think kids need much more diversity in their weekly activities, and especially in school. in physics for example, it's true that there is a lot of money put into microscopes and all the equipment used to facilitate and expand the learnings, but you still haven't made many projects where most kids in the class actually reallllly want to do it. when i was in college i made a little robot with wheels, a motor and sensors so that it could roll around on the a table and not fall off the edge. the objective of this project was to make a robot that would push the opponent off the table. this was a lot of fun, fairly simple, and very motivating. we had to use a soldering iron to connect the motor, the battery, the capacitor, the sensors and the other electronic features. i learned a bit more about electricity and it was really fun.

it's just that it's asking a lot to sit in a class room for 2 hours and listen about philosophie. you know for a fact that have the students aren't listening and that most of the whole class cheats for tests, copies each other, uses sparknotes instead of reading the whole book. and you shouldn't try to catch these kids, or acquire better plagiarism detection software, but try to make class a little more enjoyable, motivate the kids. other than that i think i got a pretty good education."



**TOP: Alban Bressand ('07);
BOTTOM: Olivia Pei ('07)**



**TOP: Daniel Noeltner ('07);
BOTTOM: Nicole Pardo ('07)**

-----From July 2008 AALFNY Newsletter-----

● **Philippe Gregori** told us that he has been cited in the December 20, 2007 edition of *Le Monde*:

"La fin du blocage du centre parisien Censier a été votée, mardi 18 décembre. Des tensions persistaient à Amiens. Quatre étudiants sont en grève de la faim à Montpellier. Jusqu'où n'irait-on pas contre une « loi fasciste » ? C'est ainsi que Philippe, étudiant en première année de licence de physique à Montpellier-II, qualifie, mardi 18 décembre, la loi Pécresse (loi LRU) sur l'autonomie des universités, dont il exige l'abrogation. Interrogé sur l'usage de ce terme, il persiste et signe, soulignant « le fait que ce gouvernement a commencé par attaquer les universités » et dénonçant « la désinformation des médias, tellement flagrante ». Philippe, qui, au téléphone, remercie *Le Monde* de faire écho à son action, n'est pas un plaisantin. Avec trois de ses camarades, Tristan, Lilian et Thomas, il est en grève de la faim depuis le 10 décembre. Installés à l'UFR de sciences, ils sont entourés par des étudiants qui, malgré l'arrêt du blocage depuis plus d'une semaine, restent mobilisés. Pourquoi en venir à cette extrémité ? « C'est un mode d'action non violent. Et radical. Là, au moins, on ne peut plus nous accuser de bloquer. Je vois que ça marche, car beaucoup de gens nous disent maintenant qu'ils ont du mal à dormir le soir », dit Philippe. Les grévistes de la faim de Montpellier s'attendent à être rejoints par d'autres, ailleurs. Philippe n'envisage pas une poursuite illimitée : « Nous avisons tous les deux ou trois jours. » Son objectif est à moyen terme : « Je suis sûr à 100 % qu'il y aura, après les vacances de Noël et après les partiels, une nouvelle étape du mouvement. Nous allons repartir sur de nouvelles bases. » " He is also cited in *Liberation.fr*. To read that full article, [click here](#).

----- From December 2007 AALFNY Newsletter -----

● **Chase-Lyn Sage** wrote: "I will be graduating top of my class from the Swedish Institute on January 28th. I will also be passing the NY state boards on January 24th. That's it for now! :)"

● **Adrian Landon** wrote: "Hey everyone, it's Adrian from San Francisco. How are you? Hope all is going well, hope you had a nice Thanksgiving. I came back to New York for Thanksgiving for three days but unfortunately didn't get to see anyone; I just chilled with my mum, bro, girlfriend and dog. It was great, my mum cooked up a excellent feast and I ate enough chocolate to cover my face up in pimples for a week. :) hihihhi, silly me. And I'm not gay from living in San



TOP: Carlotta Morteo ('07);
BOTTOM: Philippe Noeltner ('07)



Agathe Roncey ('07) & Vincent
Yoshikawa ('07)



**TOP: Irene Domenjoz ('07);
MIDDLE: Maximilien
D'Andigne ('07); BOTTOM:
Alban Bressand ('07) &
Jessica Schinazi ('07)**

Francisco if that's what you're thinkin'.

College is fun -- I watch so many movies that I don't like them anymore, It's super noisy to live in a dorm, theres a really loud obnoxious f#*%^er who lives right across the hall from me, babbling all night. My neighbor smokes pot with a bunch of people in the little bathroom we share, lots of people smoke a lot of pot here, drink a lot, people just go on all night giggling and laughing, it makes me wonder. At night, when there are no cars, we ride down the hills on skateboards, risking our lives, awesomeness though, the speeeeeeeed, the sensation, the bus ride back up; the intense math I experienced at the Lycee is slowly fading away as I spend most of my time building things, making water pumps, ping pong ball launchers, balsa wood bridges (mine held 65 pounds). I'm layed back, in the Lycee I felt like I was smarter than most people. Here I know I am smarter than most people. Haha, cocky bastard. No, but seriously, this school only accepts those with the money, they do not check SAT scores at all, and lots of the kids here are just dumb. But that's not why I'm here though. The stuff is relatively easy, it's really fun sometimes, and I know for a fact that I am the one working the least out of everyone from the Lycee, but let me assure you that I didn't know about it, and that if I choose to continue this major, I might go to a more challenging and serious school. But I like San Fran. It's funny, I call the place I work in the 'testosterone factory', 'cause there are mostly guys and they're all here for the cars. It's fun though, it's chill. Learn the word 'hella', it's hella chill, nutella is hella good. New SAT word. I express my sophistication to the others in my dorm by drinking tea and listening to classical music, hahaha, and speaking French, cursing in French, and some of the ladies really love it.

Here are some pictures of me, the pirate was for halloween, my dad came and it was great; he dressed as a monk, the jack sparrow joker was this random night, ten other people went for the joker look, entering for a contest for the new batman movie. Best group picture wins. We didn't win, but we looked pretty bad ass. Here is my teapot project, I got a C- on it but I think it's cool. It all started with a couple of designs, then after selecting one, a foam model was constructed, a model split in half down the middle. then I cast a sheet of acrylic over each half to make a mold, a one use only mold though. After removing the foam model from the mold, which means destroying the foam model, I poured instant cast into the mold, which is two materials that you mix together, very toxic, and that acts like a liquid clay thay dries in half an hour. So my teapot ended up like a big block of clay-like material. After glueing the two halves together, sanding it down, sharpening the edges, I had to paint it, color by color, with a spray gun. It turned out nice, I wanted it to look like a rock that burst out of the ground from an earthquake



**TOP to BOTTOM: Guillaume
Pfistner ('07); Melissa Las
Fargeas ('07); Maëlle-Charlotte
Charpié ('07)**

or something, and give it lava like colors, as if it was lava in the process of drying. I also added little chunks of silver paint to mimic metal or crystals.

I really miss all of you and hope to be able to see you during the Christmas break in New York, if you'll be there. I'm coming back on the 22nd of December for 5 weeks. Love, Adrian"



TOP, left to right: Jean Edouard Ourceyre, Mohamed Hachani; BOTTOM: Danielle Nickerson, Melissa Bukuru



Adrian Landon ('07) and sample of his artwork (helmet is made of steel sheet metal, formed entirely with anvil and hammer.