

## REUNION: Classes of '85, '86, and '87 in NYC, April 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> 2017

(You can see more photos and videos by requesting to join the private Facebook group "April 28-30, 2017 Special Reunion" at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/847115865420783/>)

**Alumnae Alessandra Gagliardi ('86), Isabel (Pendred) Llewellyn ('86) and Christine Foucher Oury ('87) were kind enough to send us reports and photos of the reunions, for our newsletter.**

On Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, a group of us met up at the new Lycée to see the student musical, A Chorus Line. As our alumni friends walked up to the building, they found us clumped together *devant le bâtiment*, just like in the old days. Finally, we wended our way inside and down to the impossibly lavish auditorium. Eric Martin's Mom joined us to represent the family and had brought lots of photos from our own *spectacles de fin d'année*. We reminisced about our own student productions, put on in *La Salle d' Honneur*, with 2 makeshift platforms on either side of *l'estrade*. These kids had spotlights, a sound and light board, a student orchestra to accompany them, and our beloved **Prof. Loumbrozo** to guide them. Spoiled much? Before the show began, a teacher addressed the crowd and announced special guests from Prof. Loumbrozo's first show (Carmen) in 1983. That was us! We all waved and took a bow.

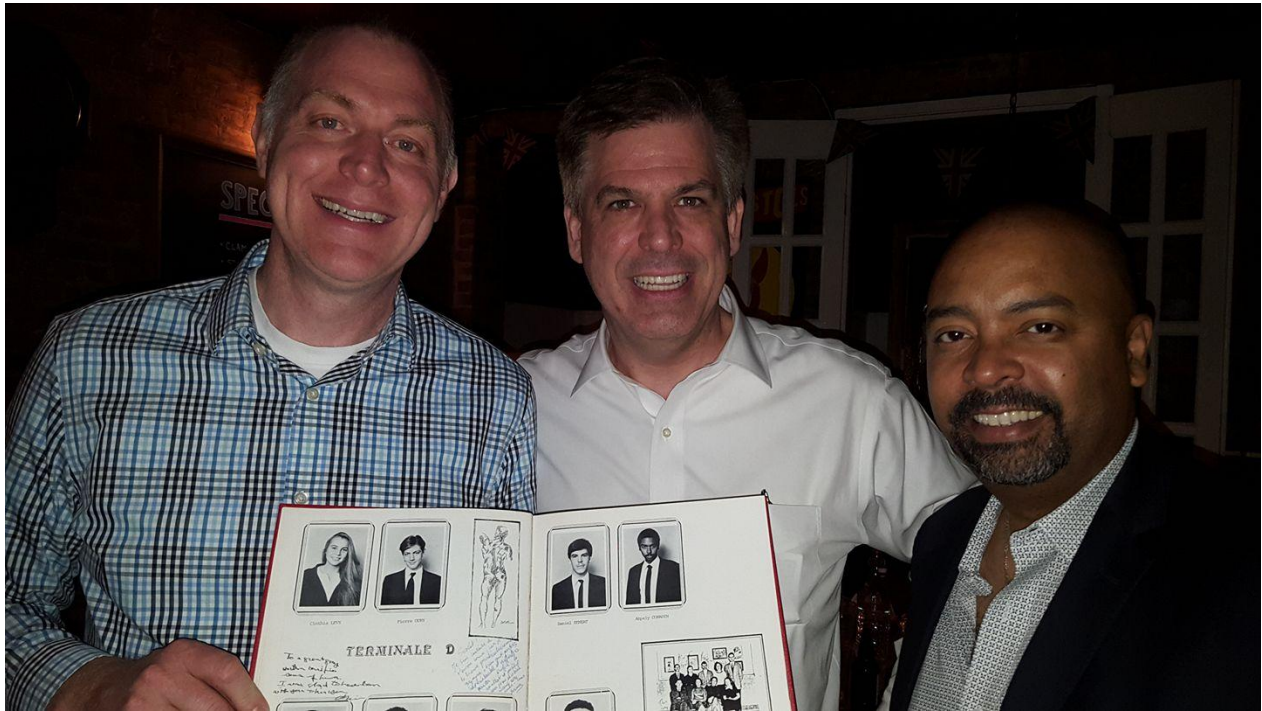


Peter, Gabriele, Judith, Kaisa, Alex, Selcan & Marc

After the show, we went backstage (yes, they have a backstage) to congratulate the Maestro. He greeted us with affection and glee and a promise to join us around the corner for a drink. So we were off to a nearby pub, the Jones Woods Foundry, where we took over the patio room for drinks and snacks and laughter and “do you remember when?” Our dear professor Rémy Loumbrozo joined us along with more classmates from ‘85, ‘86, & ‘87, with **Francis Konda** (‘86) making a very late appearance.



Alex, Peter & Kaisa Friday at the pub



'85 then & now: Pierre, Daniel & Ahpaly with their yearbook photo, wishing Cynthia was there to complete the picture.

The next day was ambitious. A group set out at 10am for a tour of the building. **Isabel (Pendred) Llewellyn ('86)** relates:

“ On Saturday, April 29th - 10 o'clock – the Lycée’s Director of Development, **Caroline Wolf Naralasetty ('93)**, took us on a tour of the new buildings. Eight eager, well-behaved – if a little chatty - LFNY graduates from 1986 and 1987 enjoyed a tour of the new school premises on April 29th. We might have been nostalgic about the grand E. 72<sup>nd</sup>, E. 93<sup>rd</sup> and E. 95<sup>th</sup> Street buildings, but we all agreed that the purpose-built school provides a far better learning environment with its pleasing mix of high-tech and traditional spaces. We were, however, positively jealous of the impressive sports installations, theatre and dedicated film room. There was even a proper canteen - impressive, when you consider that the old Lycée didn't have one at all! Highlights of the tour included sitting in a classroom again, seeing who gravitated to the front or back of the class, realizing that old habits die hard. We also enjoyed taking group shots by the old school logo and the bust of the school founder, M. Charles Ferry de Fontnouvelle. Many thanks to our helpful guide, Caroline, a former LFNY pupil herself, who patiently answered all our questions.”

Six alumni then went down to the 9/11 museum. Many of us had not been back to NYC since the attack had occurred. Luckily, this solemn occasion would soon be followed *by la piece de resistance*, our alumni reunion dinner capably and elegantly organized by **Kaisa Akerlund ('86)**.

The '86 dinner took place at Osteria Laguna and was attended by a few friends from the class of '85 (**Ahpaly Coradin**, **Daniel Bénéat** and his wife, **Fabrice Frère**, **Matthew Caws** and **Pierre Oury**) as well as a surprise visit from dear **Mme. Gassier** and **Mme. Pointelet-Isaac**. The dinner was wonderful, and many of us took full advantage of the open bar. We were treated to a delightful slideshow put together by Kaisa, who had solicited photos from everyone. At one point, we caught the waiters trying to guess who was who. I saw them correctly identify **Judith Mlockier Audrain ('86)** who really has not changed a bit! We were happy **Marcy (Stitt) McLeod ('86)** finally made it despite challenging travel plans, because we got to celebrate her birthday with her! Francis Konda made another mysterious late night appearance



Anne, Alexandra & Valerie



Judith, Valerie, Lamia, Kaisa, Isabel, Marcy, Alexandra & Anne



Veronique, Marcy & Kaisa



Standing: Alex & Marcy. Sitting: Peter, Alexandra, Laurent & Veronique



“Two Judiths”

The class of ‘87 had their own dinner, once again at the James Woods.

Members of the two groups reunited at The Pyramid Club in the East Village, where Alex had organized a dance party filled with music from our formative years from Madonna to The Cure. (No wonder we turned out the way we did) **Alexandra Rolland ('87)** and **Zoe (Coxon) Cuddy ('87)** danced on the stage and **Judy, Selcan and Marcy** shook it like a rock video. A more studious group opted for drinks at “The Library,” a charming roof top bar near the Osteria. Great fun was had by all judging from the photos.



Dancing at the Pyramid Club



Partying at the Library

The next day it was time to wind down, and a French bistro, Cassis, was the site of our Sunday brunch. We were joined by **M. Otalora**, whose accent has not abated one bit in the intervening 30 years! After a tasty brunch, Goodbyes were exchanged amid more than a few tears and promises to stay in touch. We have all vowed not to let it go for another 30...

The furthest an alumna traveled was **Selcan Kirca ('86)** from Turkey, but we also had visits from the UK, France, and Belgium. In the US, Kaisa and Marcy came from Los Angeles and had almost as long a trip as our classmates from Europe. We are very grateful to Kaisa for bringing us all together and organizing such a wonderful dinner. Thanks also to Alex for finding our additional venues and putting together an authentic 80's dance party.

A few classmates took the time to send us their regrets and tell us they were with us in spirit: **Leticia Orti, Isabelle Monnier, Yves Le Gal, Fred Binder and Robby Amar**. Those who could not be with us were all missed, and we had fond thoughts for our departed classmate and friend, **Gilles Bacon '86**.

(For list of attendees, see end of this write-up)

**NEXT:**

**From Christine Foucher Oury ('87)**

“A few of us from the Class of ‘87 participated in a multi-class reunion with ‘86 and ‘85 at the end of April in NY, marking our 30th! Here are a three photos. We also got to tour the new Lycée and some attended a Lycée play. While it was a small group of ‘87, we had a great time!



Christine Oury ('87) and Jean-Michel Huet ('87) with Mr. Remy Loumbrozo! Wow!



Class of '87 dinner: from left around the table to the right: Olivier Poncet, Raviv Laor, Sebastien Fernandez, Alexandra Rolland, Jean-Michel Huet, Guillaume Rambourg, Zoe Coxon Cuddy, Nicolas Meltzer and Marc Dookingue





Myself [Christine Oury] in a new Lycée classroom with some class of '86 alum and my brother Pierre Oury ('85) (seated behind me)

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**Attendees**

**1985**

- Daniel Beneat
- Matthew Caws
- Ahpaly Coradin
- Fabrice Frere
- Pierre Oury

**1986**

- Alex Gagliardi
- Alexandra Gobbi
- Anne Dufau Piana
- Francis Konda
- Gabriele Piperno
- Isabel Pendred Llewellyn
- Judith (Mlockier) Audrain
- Judith Hoenig Adelson
- Kaisa Akerlund

**1986 (cont'd)**

- Lamia (Abu Heidar) Moukheiber
- Laurent Van der Zyppe
- Marc Duby
- Marcy (Stitt) Brown McLeod
- Nathalie (Gest)Young
- Peter Penha
- Selcan Kirca
- Valerie Struye
- Veronique Mazard

**1987**

- Guillaume Rambourg
- C. Zoe Cuddy
- Christine Oury
- Raviv Laor
- Alain Sainson Frank