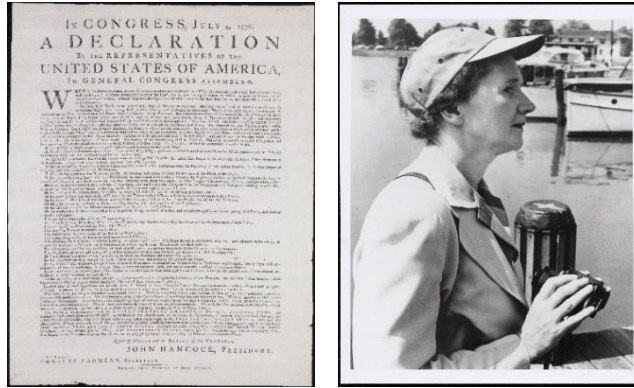


Yale Library Announces Spring 2026 Exhibition Season

Through Rare Books, Objects, and Artifacts, Exhibitions Invite Audiences to Reflect on **Conceptions of American Patriotism, the Legacy of Biologist Rachel Carson, and Strategies of Revision and Intervention in Over 400 Years of Errata Lists**



(L) United States Declaration of Independence. Philadelphia: Printed by John Dunlap, 1776. Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. (R) Norman J. Driscoll, photographer. Rachel Carson holding binoculars. 1951. Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library. Image: Norman J. Driscoll, with permission of the Rachel Carson Council, Inc.

New Haven, CT—November 20, 2025—This spring, Yale Library presents a compelling program of special exhibitions examining the role of books, documents, and ephemera to challenge and reinforce historical records, organize social and political movements, and reframe systems of power.

Opening March 2026 at Beinecke Library — in conjunction with the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States — *Unfurling the Flag: Reflections on American Patriotism* presents rare artifacts and texts from Yale’s special collections to explore conceptions of national identity and patriotism in the public imagination. Among the highlights on view are one of the 26 known surviving first printings of the **Declaration of Independence**, produced only hours after ratification in 1776.

Later that spring, the Beinecke debuts *Silent Springs, Windswept Seas: Rachel Carson’s Environmental Vision*, tracing the life and work of biologist and nature writer Rachel Carson (1907–1964) through more than 100 featured objects, including the debut of letters that have never been publicly exhibited, as well as handwritten drafts and notes from her watershed book *Silent Spring* (1962).

The Hanke Gallery at Sterling Memorial Library presents “*Beauties of My Style*”: *Errata and the Printed Mistake*, surveying errata lists alongside the books they amend, from the 16th century through modern times. Through a broad cross-section of issued corrections, ranging from John Milton’s epic poem *Paradise Regain’d* to Allen Ginsberg’s Beat-inflected *Airplane Dreams*, “*Beauties of My Style*” invites viewers to explore moments of fortuitous poetry, humor, and scandal, and how the errata format has been used as an implement of intervention and resistance.

“Yale Library exhibitions create meaningful opportunities for our community to encounter the extraordinary breadth of our collections – archival manuscripts, letters, photographs, ephemera, and other original materials found nowhere else,” said **Barbara Rockenbach**, Stephen F. Gates ’68 University Librarian. “As our exhibition program continues to grow, we welcome the public to engage directly with these remarkable artifacts and the rich histories they illuminate.”

“The Beinecke Library’s collection of rare books and manuscripts offers an exceptional opportunity to explore centuries-old and modern landmark texts with new lines of inquiry,” said **Michelle Light**, Associate University Librarian for Special Collections and Beinecke Library Director. “This spring’s series of exhibitions invite us to consider enduring questions about the authority and influence of the published word – questions that remain especially urgent today.”

The spring season reflects Yale Library’s enduring commitment to the presentation, curation, and exhibition of books and rare texts, most notably at Beinecke Library and at the newly created Hanke Exhibition Gallery, which opened at Sterling Memorial Library in 2022. This commitment has deepened in recent years under Rachel Herschman, who joined in 2023 as the inaugural Exhibitions and Publications Program Director and has overseen an expansion in the range and types of exhibitions organized by the library.

Additional information and details on the spring exhibition season follow:

Unfurling the Flag: Reflections on American Patriotism

Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

March 16–September 27, 2026

On the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, *Unfurling the Flag: Reflections on American Patriotism* reflects on the ideological underpinnings and material manifestations of patriotism since the 1776 signing of the Declaration of Independence. On view is an array of historic documents, such as rare editions of **Thomas Hobbes’** *Leviathan*, **John Locke’s** *Two Treatises of Government*, and **Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s** *Du contract social (The Social Contract)*. There is also a first printing of the **Declaration of Independence**, commissioned by the Second Continental Congress and printed by John Dunlap in 1776.

Artifacts of nation-building from both policymakers and non-political actors are abundant, including comic strips, posters, speeches, treatises, maps, photographs, drawings, and other items from Yale Library Special Collections. The exhibition also chronicles and uncovers the manifold mobilizations of patriotism – from conceptions of national identity and belonging to delineations of allegiance and dissent – inviting viewers to reflect on the complex lineages of patriotism and the ideological frameworks of the nation’s founders that continue to shape modern civic and public life.

In conjunction with the exhibition, curator Joshua Cochran has organized the two-day symposium “Democracy, Civic Education, and the American Archive,” at Beinecke Library on April 8–9, 2026. Participants include David Ferriero, the 10th Archivist of the United States, appointed by President

Barack Obama; Robert Horton, Retired Assistant Director for Collections and Archives, National Museum of American History; and Kathleen Roe, former Director of Archives and Records Management Operations at the New York State Archives and the 70th president of the Society of American Archivists (SAA). Further details to be announced.

The exhibition is curated by Joshua Cochran, Curator for American History and Diplomacy at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

“Beauties of My Style”: Errata and the Printed Mistake

Sterling Memorial Library, Hanke Exhibition Gallery

March 30, 2026–September 6, 2027

“Beauties of My Style”: Errata and the Printed Mistake surveys corrections issued as errata sheets, alongside their companion texts from across nearly half a millennium. Starting in the 15th century as “errors committed” lists, errata lists allowed authors to acknowledge misprints and provide apologies and addendums. These lists were often added to the end of books in the form of tipped-in slips of paper.

Rare books on view and their associated amendments include the seven-page-long errata sheet for **James Joyce’s** *Ulysses*, which notes more than 200 mistakes, and one of the few surviving copies of the so-called 1631 Wicked Bible, which includes a handwritten correction to the infamous typographical error in the Seventh Commandment: “Thou shalt commit adultery.” The exhibition title itself, *“Beauties of My Style,”* riffs on a 1922 quote from Joyce, written shortly before the release of the English edition of the modernist author’s influential novel, which is also on view. Seminal examples from the 20th century include **Allen Ginsberg’s** 1968 *Airplane Dreams*, which implemented the errata fold-out as a legal strategy for political resistance.

From the earliest examples of the errata format to modern examples of issued corrections, *“Beauties of My Style”* chronicles themes of censorship, misrepresentation, intervention, and instability tied to the written word, as it explores technological developments in printmaking and publishing across some 500 years.

The exhibition is curated by Rachel Churner, Lecturer in Visual Studies at the New School and Director of the Carolee Schneemann Foundation and Geoff Kaplan, Lecturer in Graphic Design at the Yale School of Art and founder of General Working Group. They are cofounders of No Place Press.

Silent Springs, Windswept Seas: Rachel Carson’s Environmental Vision

Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

May 18–October 4, 2026

With more than 100 objects on view, *Silent Springs, Windswept Seas* presents a sweeping overview of the life and work of biologist and author **Rachel Carson** (1907–1964), from her early childhood affinities for wildlife to her career as a bestselling nature writer. The exhibition

highlights the ramifications of Carson's elegant writings and her research into modern environmental advocacy with never-before-seen objects: previously unpublished personal letters, photographs, notebooks, and handwritten manuscripts of her famous *Sea Trilogy*. This exhibition allows visitors to discover in detail Carson's prescient vision about the dangers of pesticide and toxicant use, and the evolution of environmental advocacy during the 60 years since her last writings entered the world.

Carson is best known for her groundbreaking book *Silent Spring* (1962), which documented the harms of DDT and other chemical applications and sparked widespread public concern and demands for environmental reforms on a national scale. *Silent Springs, Windswept Seas*, which draws on the Beinecke's Rachel Carson Papers, places her legacy in the context of her contemporaries, predecessors, and successors, including Transcendentalist writer **Henry David Thoreau**, theologian and Trappist monk **Thomas Merton**, and contemporary writer and activist **Terry Tempest Williams**. These convergences reveal the development of Carson's thought alongside the ascent of major social and political movements.

Corresponding with the exhibition, Beinecke Fellowship & Internship Program Director Meghan Freeman has organized a Rachel Carson Symposium on June 4, 2026. A full day of programming will commence with a panel presentation featuring alumni of the Beinecke Library Fellowship Program whose research has drawn on the Rachel Carson Papers. Speakers will include Janice Nimura (25-26 Short-term Fellow), Michele Navakas (24-25 Short-term Fellow), and Zak Breckenridge (24-25 Graduate Student Fellow), and will be followed with a tour of the exhibition.

The exhibition is curated by Carla Baricz, Librarian for Literature in English and Comparative Literature, and James Kessenides, Kaplanoff Librarian for American History, both at Yale Library.

About Yale Library Exhibitions

Yale Library exhibitions feature original research and invite new entry points into the collections. The library's most expansive exhibitions are presented at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library and Sterling Memorial Library's Hanke Gallery. These exhibitions showcase fresh scholarship in accessible ways to welcome new audiences, support teaching and learning, and enhance community engagement. Smaller exhibitions play similar roles at the Cushing/Whitney Medical Library, Gilmore Music Library, Haas Family Arts Library, Lewis Walpole Library, and Yale Divinity Library. [Yale Library exhibitions](#) are free and open to all.

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