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THE BOSTON ATHENÆUM PRESENTS LECTURE ON *THE SECOND SEX: A NEW TRANSLATION*

**Constance Borde and Sheila Malovany-Chevallier Discuss Their Translation of Simone de Beauvoir's
Groundbreaking 1949 Study of Women
April 6, noon**

(BOSTON) The Boston Athenæum presents a lecture by Constance Borde and Sheila Malovany-Chevallier, who have just published a new translation of Simone de Beauvoir's groundbreaking work, *The Second Sex*. The lecture takes place on Tuesday, April 6 from noon to 1 p.m. Admission is free, but reservations are required, and will be taken starting March 24, 2010 at (617) 720-7600. The Boston Athenæum is located at 10 ½ Beacon St. on Beacon Hill near the State House. For more information, visit www.bostonatheneum.org or call (617) 227-0270.

First published in 1949, *The Second Sex* is a landmark in the history of feminism. Of all the writing that emerged from the existentialist movement, Simone de Beauvoir's groundbreaking study of women has had the most extensive and enduring impact. It is at once a scholarly work of anthropology and sociology, of biology and psychoanalysis, from the pen of a writer and novelist of penetrating imaginative power. In this new translation, marking the 60th anniversary of publication, Constance Borde and Sheila Malovany-Chevallier have produced the first integral translation, reinstating as much as 20 percent of the original work that was missing in the first translation (1953).

Simone de Beauvoir was born in Paris in 1908. In 1929, she became the youngest person to obtain the *agrégation* in philosophy at the Sorbonne. She taught in lycées in Marseille and Rouen from 1931-1937, and in Paris from 1938-1943. After the war, she emerged as one of the leaders of the existentialist movement, along with Jean-Paul Sartre. She was the author of volumes of philosophy and memoirs, as well as several novels, including *The Mandarins* (1957), which was awarded the Prix Goncourt. She died in 1986.

Constance Borde and **Sheila Malovany-Chevallier** have lived in Paris for over 40 years and were on the faculty at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques. They have co-authored numerous books in English and French on subjects ranging from grammar to politics to American cooking.

In the Boston Athenæum's Gallery

PAINTER + POET: George Nama and Charles Simic

Feb. 10—April 10, 2010

This new exhibition, the result of a collaboration that began several years ago between the two artists, features a selection of Nama's recent etchings, sculptures, gouaches, and artist's books that have been inspired by and give visual illumination to Simic's poetry. It is curated by David Dearing, Susan Morse Hilles Curator of Paintings and Sculpture.

About the Boston Athenæum

The Boston Athenæum, founded in 1807, is one of the oldest and most distinguished independent libraries in the United States. The building's first floor galleries are always free and open to the public. The Library's Norma Jean Calderwood Gallery features new exhibitions two to three times a year, and works of art from the Athenæum's formidable permanent collection are on display on a rotating basis in the public areas. New members are always welcome. In addition to library borrowing privileges, members enjoy access to beautiful research rooms with wireless internet access, and many events, including concerts, lectures, book groups, children's story hours and a delightful bi-weekly Athenæum afternoon tea. The Library offers fellowships and research opportunities for scholars who wish to make use of the Athenæum's special collections. For information about membership, including discounted membership for young people, visit www.bostonathenaeum.org.

