



**April/May 2010
Issue 3**

The U.S. Information Resource Center (IRC) of the American Embassy in Athens is happy to provide you with *Latest on Humanities*, a bulletin focused on American society and culture. This publication is a bi-monthly compilation of recent articles from a wide range of authoritative journals and periodicals. Internet sites related to cultural themes and current issues of interest are also included. By organizing and disseminating one more thematic publication about the United States, IRC seeks to promote better understanding of the principles and institutions that shape American values.

1. The Five Secrets of You Tube's Success

(*Wired*, April 2010, pg. 92)
As the video giant celebrates its fifth birthday, *Wired* goes behind the scenes of the site that launched a thousand memes.

2. Green Economics

By Paul Krugman
(*The New York Times Magazine*, April 11 2010, pg. 34)
"If you listen to climate scientists — and despite the relentless campaign to discredit their work, you should — it is long past time to do something about emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. If we continue with business as usual, they say, we are facing a rise in global temperatures that will be little short of apocalyptic. And to avoid that apocalypse, we have to wean our economy from the use of fossil fuels, coal above all."

3. Second Acts

By David Peisner
(*Spin*, March 2010, pg. 55)
Where does a hitmaker go when the music finally does down? Here is what happened to members of Elastica, Belly, White

Zombie, the Runaways, and the Lemonheads, among many others.

4. Between Two Worlds

By Wendy Perron
(*Dance Magazine*, April 2010, pg. 26)
Choreographer Alexei Ratmansky brings a love of the old and a passion for the new to exploring ballet's possibilities.

5. Stirring the Pot

By Nicole Estvanik Taylor
(*American Theatre*, April 2010, pg. 30)
For playwright and columnist Jonathan Reynolds, food is the not-so-secret ingredient of choice for activating ideas on stage.

6. Franklin's Charm Campaign

By Thomas Flemming
(*The American Heritage*, Spring 2010, pg. 46)
Benjamin Franklin seduced France's aristocracy, overcoming immense obstacles to forge a critical alliance between that nation and the struggling young American republic.

7. The Colonial Revolution

By Robin Cembalest
(*ArtNews*, April 2010, pg. 78)

In the United States, the art made in Spain's Latin American colonies used to be considered artistically minor and politically incorrect. Now, as intellectual trends coincide with demographic realities, it's on the cutting edge of art history— and the wish lists of top museums.

8. The Homer of the Ants

By Margaret Atwood

(*The New York Review of Books*, April 8, 2010, pg. 6)

"Anthill is E.O. Wilson's first work of fiction. It contains what its title promises it will contain: an anthill embedded at its core. Not a metaphorical anthill, a real anthill, filled to the brim with—well, ants. And thereby hangs its tale."

9. 35th Annual Grosses Gloss

By Donald Wilson

(*Film Comment*, March/April 2010, pg. 52)
"In box-office terms, 2009 will be remembered as the year of Avatar, even though 20th Century Fox's goliath collected the majority of its receipts in 2010. Instead of reiterating that Avatar is big and successful and one-of-a-kind and moving on, it's worth noting a few factoids."

NOTE: Latest on Humanities is available to subscribers only. You may contact us through telephone, fax or e-mail to order the requested material. Full text of articles will be faxed to you as soon as possible. Please send your comments and remarks to AthensIRC@state.gov

Please visit our selected web pages at the following electronic addresses:

❖ **America from the Great Depression to War World II: Photographs from FSI to OWI, 1939 – 1945**

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/fsowhome.html>

A collection of over 160,000 images from rural America during the Great Depression, as well as the war mobilization effort.

❖ **Modern American Poetry: Langston Hughes**

http://www.english.illinois.edu/maps/poets/g_l/hughes/hughes.htm

This site contains a biography, a bibliography, critical information, and a number of online texts of poems.

❖ **Artsource**

<http://www.ilpi.com/artsource/about.html>

Online Art and Architecture resources, including libraries, artist's projects, events, image collections, new media, vendor information, programs, art journals, electronic exhibitions, museum information, and art organizations.

For information on the U.S. Embassy in Athens, please visit the American Embassy homepage at <http://athens.usembassy.gov> . Also feel free to visit Mosaiko at <http://www.mosaiko.gr> and the American Corners in Greece website at www.amcorners.gr

**U.S. Information Resource Center, 91 Vassilisis Sophias Avenue, 101 60 Athens, Greece
Telephone: (210) 720 2888, Fax: (210) 720 2859**
