The New York Times Book Review as Cultural Gatekeeper

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4 PM
Radcliffe Gymnasium
10 Garden Street, Radcliffe Yard
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Free and open to the public

This lecture is cosponsored by the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study and the Humanities Center at Harvard University.

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How does the New York Times Book Review function? What is its current role in the culture at large? How do the worlds of journalism and academics interact, or fail to interact?

Barry Gewen will address these questions by discussing the procedures of the New York Times Book Review, in particular how it selects book reviewers and the books they review. He will also discuss the state of book reviewing in general—with attention to the New York Times Book Review’s position in the culture as compared to publications such as the New York Review of Books, the New Yorker, and the Times Literary Supplement—and the values and forces that shape the world of intellectual journalism in contrast to the world of academics.