



# WHAT IS PAST IS PROLOGUE

NEWSLETTER | JANUARY 2018

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*A note to Prologue members and guests, directly from Board Chair James Herron.*

### Our Next Event

*Find all the details regarding our February 22nd luncheon with Bijan Omrani.*

### Upcoming Events

*Save these dates so you do not miss any of our upcoming 2017-2018 events.*

### How to Register for Events

*Visit us online or contact us by phone or email to register before event deadlines!*

### Past Events

*We hope you were there!*

## Contact Us

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## FROM THE CHAIR | JIM HERRON



**Simon Sebag Montefiore is a force of nature!**

**What a wonderful time we had at our January 17 lunch listening to Sebag discuss Putin, Trump, and his wonderful new novel, *Red Sky at Noon*.**

**I think it's safe to say that The Prologue Society is on a roll: James Holland, Walter Isaacson, Montefiore, Giles Milton in March, David Grann in April, and on Thursday, February 22, Bijan Omrani, a brilliant young British historian, will discuss his new book, *Caesar's Footprints*, a story of the conquest of Gaul and the beginning of modern Europe. For those of us (and I'm sure there are many) who are familiar with the words "Gallia est omnis divisa in partes tres," this should be a real treat.**

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*Thank You*

## OUR NEXT EVENT



### **Bijan Omrani**

Thursday, February 22, 2018  
12:00-2:00pm

Riviera Country Club  
1155 Blue Road, Coral Gables FL 33146

Registration closes Thurs., February 15

## *Caesar's Footprints*

Julius Caesar's conquests in Gaul in the 50s BC were bloody, but the cultural revolution they brought in their wake forever transformed the ancient Celtic culture of that country. After Caesar, the Gauls exchanged their tribal quarrels for Roman values and acquired the paraphernalia of civilized urban life. The Romans also left behind a legacy of language, literature, law, government, religion, architecture, and industry.

Each chapter of *Caesar's Footprints* is dedicated to a specific journey of exploration through Roman Gaul. From the amphitheatres of Arles and Nîmes to the battlefield of Châlons (where Flavius Aetius defeated Attila the Hun) Bijan—an exciting and authoritative new voice in Roman history—explores archaeological sites, artifacts, and landscapes to reveal how the imprint of Roman culture shaped Celtic France—and thereby helped to create modern Europe.

*“Without the conquests of Caesar there would have been no Roman Empire—and, so many of us believe, no continuing Freudian impulse for a European Union today. This terrific account lays bare the horror and cruelty of Caesar's campaigns. Bursting with anecdotes and fizzing with unexpected information, Caesar's Footprints compels us to ask: how much does our continent owe to one man and his naked and cynical lust for glory.”—Boris Johnson, British Foreign Secretary*

*“A real delight. Caesar's Footprints exuberantly marches around France and Britain with the Roman legions, vividly bringing the formation of a shared European identity to life. It pulls no punches on the shocking violence and naked self-interest of Caesar's northern wars. It is a bold vision, elegantly evocative, and an accomplished tribute to year zero of our shared modern European identity.”—Dominic Selwood, author of The Sword of Moses*

Bijan Omrani attended Lincoln College, Oxford. He is the author of various works on Central Asia, including *Asia Overland: Tales of Travel on the Trans-Siberian and Silk Road*, and also a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society and the Royal Geographical Society. He teaches Classics at Westminster School in England.

Publisher: Pegasus Books

Photo credit: [bijanomrani.com](http://bijanomrani.com)

## Author Events

Unless otherwise specified, all author events are luncheons, held from 12:00-2:00pm at

### Riviera Country Club

1155 Blue Road  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Doors open at 11:30am

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Registration is open for the remaining Spring 2018 author events.  
Save these dates – and register early!

Thursday, March 8 Registration Deadline: March 1	Giles Milton, <i>Churchill's Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare: The Mavericks Who Plotted Hitler's Defeat</i>
Wednesday, April 18 Registration Deadline: April 11	David Grann, <i>Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI</i>

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## HOW TO REGISTER FOR EVENTS

### To register:

- **Online:** Visit [ThePrologueSociety.org](http://ThePrologueSociety.org) and follow the instructions;
- **OR by telephone:** Call our office and talk to Debbie Hirshson or leave a voicemail message stating that you plan to attend;
- **OR by regular mail:** Send us a note, along with your check for \$50.00 per person, made payable to The Prologue Society.
- **Include** the names of your guests.
- **IMPORTANT: IF YOU REGISTER BY MAIL, you must also call or email Debbie** so that she knows to expect you!

### To pay:

- **Enter your credit card details** on the secure website;
- **OR mail your check** for \$50.00 per person to The Prologue Society;
- **OR bring your check** to the luncheon.

### Note:

- To speed up luncheon check-in and accounting, our preference is that you: 1) pay online, OR 2) mail a check well in advance of the luncheon.
- Mail is taking a while to reach us. (Remember to call or email Debbie right away if you're registering via the mail.)
- **If you haven't yet sent in your membership application,** please do so right away (or activate and pay for your membership online).
- **IMPORTANT: You must register before the posted deadline,** as we must guarantee our reservation with the venue ahead of time.

The Prologue Society, Inc. is a tax-exempt organization under IRS code 501(c)(3).

Contributions to The Prologue Society are tax deductible as permitted by law.

We do not sell, share or disclose any information to any third parties.

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## PAST EVENTS

Simon Sebag Montefiore | January 17, 2018



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*[Find us on Facebook](#) to see more photos from our past events.*