

The tale of this colloquium illustrates once more that even if our various political parties can't agree on much, we can certainly agree that Paine's vision of common sense, reason, honesty, determination, justice, and progress will continue to inspire our vision of a better America—particularly in times of crisis. Because we still have it in our power to begin the world again.

### COME HOME TOM PAINE

by Graham Dean

They hounded you in England, the French threw you in jail  
A cobbler in London stamped your initials on boot nails  
Your bones are lost forever, but we praise you in song  
Tom Paine, Tom Paine, come home  
Where you belong.

A stranger to this country, you heard freedom's call  
Your words helped the people read the writing on the wall  
Your call for independence so eloquent and strong  
Tom Paine, Tom Paine, come home  
Where you belong.

CHORUS: A man for the ages, still an inspiration  
Words call out from the pages, to an ungrateful nation  
There's a time for action, a time for compromise  
A time for the downtrodden to unite and rise  
In a time of Crisis, you knew right from wrong  
Tom Paine, Tom Paine, come home  
Where you belong.

Where is the Age of Reason, where are the Rights of Man,  
What happened to the promise, what happened to the plan?  
Who now will write the words to motivate the throng?  
Tom Paine, Tom Paine, come home  
Where you belong.

CHORUS:

Your bones are lost forever, but we praise you in song  
Tom Paine, Tom Paine, come home  
Where you belong.  
Tom Paine, Tom Paine, come home  
Where you belong.  
Tom Paine, Tom Paine,  
Come Home.....

Again, I'd like to offer a final thanks to the speakers and performers for granting their time and energy so generously, the sponsors who supported this endeavor, the audience for energetic participation, and Director of Public Programs Pamela Tillis (The New School) for helping me put it all into place. The Colloquium can be viewed on Youtube:  
[www.youtube.com/thenewschool.nyc](http://www.youtube.com/thenewschool.nyc)

**Susan Jacoby** is author of nine books, including, *Freethinkers: A History of American Secularism* (an outstanding international book of 2004 says *New York Times Literary Supplement*), and the bestselling, *Age of American Unreason*, and, *Alger Hiss and the Battle for History*. Her articles have appeared in many publications. She is a regular panelist for *On Faith*, a website. She is currently Program Director for the Center for Inquiry-New York City.

**J. Ward Regan** holds a PhD degree in labor and cultural history. He teaches history and philosophy at New York University. He is a speaker on Thomas Paine and on labor history for the New York Council on the Humanities. He has also worked in off-Broadway theatre and independent film in New York. He performed his one-man show, *A Paranoid's Guide to History*, off-Broadway this past year.

**John Nichols** is a political writer for *The Nation* and other publications. He is an editor of *The Capital Times* (Madison WI). He is author or co-author of eight books, including, *The Genius of Impeachment: The Founders' Cure for Royalism*. His new book, co-authored with Robert W. McChesney, *The Death and Life of American Journalism: How the Coming Communications Revolution Can Begin the World Again*, uses Paine in arguing for renewal of journalism and democracy.

**Karen Thorsen** has worked for Simon & Schuster, *Life Magazine*, and *Time Magazine*. She wrote, produced and directed the feature-length, award-winning documentary, *James Baldwin: The Price of the Ticket*, shown on PBS/American Masters. She has produced several other documentaries, including, *Joe Papp in Five Acts*, which will be on PBS in 2010. Her current documentary project has the working title, *The Thomas Paine Project*.

**Barbara and Graham Dean** are political folk performers. They released their debut CD, *Tom Paine's Blues: Common Sense Songs*, in 2004. They have worked with such folk luminaries as Kim and Reggie Harris, Bob Franko, Kate Campbell, and Joel Mabus. The Deans produce and host a music/political radio show, "Common Sense Songs", streaming live, [www.berkshireradio.org](http://www.berkshireradio.org).

### ABOUT THE COLLOQUIUM ORGANIZER, FRANCES CHIU

by Martha Spiegelman

This important colloquium, with its exciting roster of highly informed participants, was sponsored by The New School, the entire event, from start to finish, was largely conceived and designed by Frances Chiu. On the faculty in humanities and social sciences at The New School, she teaches the pioneering online course on Thomas Paine (The Age of Paine: Radicalism, Revolution, and Religion). She was moved to arrange a symposium or similar panel during Paine Year 2009, marking the 200th anniversary of his death. She consulted her department and others at The New School and eventually got the green light for the colloquium; the challenging tasks of engaging the speakers, budgeting, and procuring funds were left almost entirely up to her. The huge success of the event, therefore, rests on her imagination, skills and nerve in forging ahead, even as various obstacles came in her path. The large number of people who attended undoubtedly want to say, "THANK YOU, FRANCES CHIU, FOR THIS MEMORABLE COLLOQUIUM, AND CONGRATULATIONS."

**Frances Chiu** holds a PhD in English literature from Oxford University. She teaches 18th- and 19th-century history and literature at The New School. She has published articles in several peer-reviewed journals (both print and online), and has presented papers at learned conferences. She has produced the first scholarly modern editions of Ann Radcliffe's, *Gaston de Blondeville*, and J. Sheridan Le Fanu's, *Rose and the Key*, for Valancourt Books. Chiu is now completing an edition of Ann Radcliffe's *Journey Made in the Summer of 1794* for Broadview Press and is also writing a book on the politics of horror.