

McGill English Graduate Students Association 16th Annual Conference

A Measure of Place: Space in Text and Context

Friday, February 5th 2010

Session One: 1:30 – 3:00 PM

Open Access Seminar: Dr. Brent Nelson (University of Saskatchewan)

Board Room One

Session Two: 3:15 – 4:45 PM

Panel One: Politics of Space in Film and Television

Board Room One

Chair: Amanda Tripp

Nathan Koob (University of Michigan)

“Divided Attention: The Split Screen Effect’s Theorization of Space.”

Simon Lewsen (McGill University)

“Formal Power/Informal Space: Conservative Fantasies in Christopher Nolan’s *The Dark Knight*.”

Myles McNutt (Acadia University)

“A Canadian in an American Sitcom: The Spatial Construction of Identity in *How I Met Your Mother*.”

Panel Two: New Dimensions, New Perspectives

Board Room Two

Chair: Benjamin Barootes

Naben Ruthnum (McGill University)

“Secular Maps of Hell: Weird Dimensionality in the Stories of H.P. Lovecraft.”

Dominique Bauer (University of Louvain)

“From Constructing to Dissolving Empirical Space: The Fortunes of the Tableau

Jayne Hildebrandt (Concordia University)

“Waking and Finding: Dreaming, Interiority, and the Relativization of Space in *Paradise Lost*”

Panel Three: Border Crossings

Board Room Three

Chair: TBA

Kiara Kharpertian (Boston College)

“Bodies on the Move: Migratory Identities and Topographies in Karen Tei Yamashita’s *Tropic of Orange*.”

Aya Latifa Gaddas (Université de Montréal)

“Borders Unsettled, Borders Resettled: Contemporary Geopolitical Mapping at the Mexican-American Border in Sandra Cisneros’s *The Woman Hollering Creek*.”

Mayassa Zouaghi (Université de Montréal)

“ ‘Transit Lives’: Exportability, Deportability, and the Reversal of Global Traffic Borders in Abdurrahman Waberi’s *Transit* and *In the United States of Africa*.”

Session Three: 5:00 – 6:30 PM

Faculty Address: Dr. Alanna Thain (McGill University)

Ballroom

“Anarchive.”

Saturday, February 6th, 2010

8:00 – 8:45 AM

Thompson House

Breakfast

Session Four: 8:45 – 10:15 AM

Panel Four: Mapping Sites of Conflict

Board Room One

Chair: Ian Whittington

Bianca Baggianini (York University)

“The Neoliberal Militarization of Space: How Private Warfare and Sites of Gendered Violence Intersect in Iraq.”

Natalie Brown (York University)

“Remote Witness: The Politics of Satellite-based Human Rights Advocacy.”

Rawane Nassif (University of Alberta)

“The Politics of Memory in the Reconstruction of Downtown Beirut.”

Panel Five: Ethics, Identity, and Texts

Board Room Two

Chair: Rosel Kim

Dilyana Mincheva (Trent University)

“Religion and Media – Towards a Normative Reformulation of the Public Sphere?”

Abraham Rubin (City University of New York, Graduate Center)

“ ‘Square Letters Illuminating Living Faces’: The Space of the Text in Emmanuel Levinas’ Ethics”

Sophia Warshall (Concordia University)

“Use of Simhala Narrative Among Nepalese Newari Buddhists.”

Panel Six: Public Address and Literary Spaces

Board Room Three

Chair: Julie Greczko

Melissa Davidson (McGill University)

“Tin Hats and Candlesticks: F.G. Scott and the Creation of Liturgical Space at the Front, 1914-18.”

David M. Diamond (University of Chicago)

“ ‘Form’d by thy converse’: Alexander Pope’s Verse Epistles and the Poetics of Public Address.”

Tom Ue (McGill University)

“Navigating through Geographical, Temporal, and Literary Terrains: George Gissing’s *By the Ionian Sea*.”

10:15 – 10:30

Thompson House

Coffee

Session Five: 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Panel Seven: Locations of Knowledge: Museums, Libraries, Schools

Board Room One

Chair: Justin Pfefferle

Vicky Chainey Gagnon (University of Quebec at Montréal)

“Exhibitions as Spaces of Multi-Directional Exchange.”

Jared Hildebrandt (University of Western Ontario)

“Library as Green Space: How Libraries Inform Sustainable Communities.”

Taunya Tremblay (York University)

“Rural Media Education: The Study of Popular Cultural in Pastoral Spaces.”

Panel Eight: Sites of Memory

Board Room Two

Chair: Gary O’Neil

Sarah Bezan (McMaster University)

“Rural Ruins: Places, Non-Places, and Ghost-Places on the Saskatchewan Prairies.”

Pat Feindel (Simon Fraser University)

“Disability, Visibility, and Public Memory.”

Benjamin Barootes (McGill University)

Title: TBA

Panel Nine: Domestic Space

Board Room Three

Chair: Ariel Buckley

Jonathan Stubbs (West Chester University of Pennsylvania)

“ ‘Badly Adjusted Like you Own’: Shifting Economics and Social Space During Wartime in Harriet Arrow’s *The Dollmaker*.”

Stephanie McAllister (University of Toronto)

“The Hermetically Sealed Jar: Home-making in Charlotte Brontë’s *Villette*.”

J.A. Weingarten (McGill University)

“‘The material end of things’: The Possession of Space in Patrick Hamilton’s *The Slaves of Solitude*.”

12:00 – 1:00 PM

Break for Lunch

Session Six: 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Panel Ten: World War II and After

Board Room One

Chair: Ian Whittington

Ariel Buckley (McGill University)

“‘Jackets on or off’: Food and Sex in the Second World War.”

Paula Derdiger (McGill University)

“Rebuilding and Realism in Mid-Twentieth-Century Britain.”

Justin Pfefferle (McGill University)

“Mass Observation, the English Pub, and Patrick Hamilton’s *The Slaves of Solitude*.”

Panel Eleven: Placing Identity in Canadian Literature

Board Room Two

Chair: Laura Cameron

Brianne Colon (Concordia University)

“(In)visible Minorities: Queering the Single in Carol Shields’ *The Republic of Love*.”

Alexandra Gilbert (Acadia University)

“Reinhabiting Space: Searching for Place and Belonging in John Steffler’s *The Grey Islands*.”

Panel Twelve: Racialized Space

Board Room Three

Chair: TBA

Steve Asselin (McGill University)

“Being White in Blank Spaces: Hyper-whiteness and the Fear of Becoming the Racial Other in Polar Narratives of the 19th Century.”

Stephanie Clare (Rutgers University)

“Subjectivity and Territoriality: Revisiting Fanon’s *Black Skin, White Masks*.”

Jeremy MacFarlane (Acadia University)

“‘Corpses Cannot be Bribe’d’: Racialized Space in Richard Wright’s *Native Son*.”

2:30 – 2:45

Thompson House

Coffee

Session Seven: 2:45 – 4:15PM

Panel Thirteen: Beyond Colonialism?

Board Room One

Chair: Simon Lewsen

Melanie Bell (Concordia University)

“Decolonizing the Language Garden: Narratives of Exploration and Acquisition in Jamaica Kincaid’s Garden Writing.”

Marty Fink (City University of New York)

“Mother Space: Locating Diaspora in Saidiya Hartman and Susan Lori Parks.”

Alicja Surzyn (University of Toronto)

“Metonymic Space: Arundhati Roy’s Examination of Post-Colonialism.”

Panel Fourteen: Mapping Marginal Montréal

Board Room Two

Chair: Marc Ducusin

Jason B. Crawford (Concordia University)

“Those Were the Days My Friend: Performing Montréal’s Gay Downtown.”

Sandra Jensen (Concordia University)

“Writing on the Main: Tracing Street Posters Upon St. Laurent Boulevard.”

Danielle Lewis (Concordia University)

“The Tourist Body in the Midget Palace: The Domestic Theatre and its Performance of Other Bodies.”

Panel Fifteen: Navigating the Nation

Board Room Three

Chair: Tom Ue

Fulya Ozkan (Binghamton University)

“Roads for Security or Subversion? The Trabzon-Erzurum Road in the Late Ottoman Empire.”

Jeanine Marie Pitas (University of Toronto)

“Unwriting the Nation: On Witold Gombrowicz’s Reluctant Cosmopolitanism.”

Maxwell Uphaus (Columbia University)

“What’s Done in Paris: Producing and Subverting National Space in *Madame Bovary*.”

Session Eight: 4:30 – 6:00 PM

Keynote Address: Dr. Brent Nelson (University of Saskatchewan)

Ballroom

“Marginal Belief: Space and Taxonomy in the Age of Curiosity”

Sunday, February 7th, 2010

8:00 – 8:45 AM

Thompson House

Breakfast

Session Nine: 8:45 – 10:15AM

Panel Sixteen: Spatial Selves in Contemporary Art and Theatre

Board Room One

Chair: Amanda Clarke

David Cecchetto (University of Victoria)

“Bodily Spacing: Mark Hansen’s Affective Posthumanism in Lazzarini’s *Skulls*.”

Josh Morrisson (University of Western Ontario)

“Staging Insanity: The Spatiality of Madness in Theatre and Text.”

Emily Rosamond (Concordia University)

“Spatializing Character: On the Work of Geoffrey Farmer.”

Panel Seventeen: Sites of Urban Resistance and Reaction

Board Room Two

Chair: TBA

Hellin Burkay (Carleton University)

“Spaces of Neo-liberal Urban Governance: Squatter Transformation in Istanbul.”

Kris Murray (Concordia University)

“Alternative States and Spaces of the Everyday: Graffiti as a Means of Belonging and Expression.”

Robin Simpson (Concordia University)

“They’ll Come Back for More of the Same: Navigating Rochdale College through Printed Ephemera.”

Panel Eighteen: Prehistories in Modern Urban Space

Board Room Three

Chair: TBA

Bradford Taylor (University of California, Berkeley)

“Are we in life, now? *What is art?*”: Reading Wyndham Lewis’s *Tarr* within the Discursive Space of Little Magazines.”

cfs. Creasy (University of California, Berkeley)

“Thankless Field of Letters’: Urbanity and Vulgarly in Poe’s Place of Truth.”

Christopher Miller (University of California, Berkeley)

“Learning the Language of Cost in a Failing City: An Analysis of Place in William Carlos Williams’ *Paterson*.”

10:15 – 10:30 AM

Thompson House

Coffee

Session Ten: 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Panel Nineteen: American Spaces, Public and Private

Board Room One

Chair: TBA

Holly Allaire (University of New Hampshire)

“Transcending the Boundaries of Public and Private Space in the Modern Metropolis: Fern’s *Ruth Hall* and Melville’s ‘Bartleby, the Scrivener.’”

Adrian DeVuono (McGill University)

“Green Fields of the Mind’: The Space of the Baseball Stadium in the American Imagination.”

Myung Seok Hyun (Georgia Institute of Technology)

“The Spaces of Landscape, the Natural and the Aesthetic: A Study of Julius Shulman’s Photographs of Richard Neutra’s Postwar Domestic Space.”

Panel Twenty: True North: Three Constructions

Board Room Two

Chair: Steve Asselin

Constance Carrier-Lafontaine (Concordia University)

“Culture, Nature, and Autochtony: A Semiotic Analysis of Farley Mowat’s *High Latitudes* and *No Man’s River*.”

Mary Elizabeth Luka (Concordia University)

“Seeing the North in 30 Seconds or Less: (Re)presenting Artistic Practices on CBC Artspots, a Canadian Public Broadcasting Initiative.”

Riccardo Mauricio-Cardilli (Concordia University)

“North.gc.ca: Rhetoric, Representation, and Constructed Space.”

Panel Twenty-One: Early Modern Theatrical Spaces

Board Room Three

Chair: Chelsea Honeyman

Matt Kibbee (Cornell University)

“Imaginary Spaces in Ben Jonson’s *The Alchemist*.”

Amy L. Merritt (University of Maryland)

"The Tragedy of Mariam: A Tragedy of Space."

Rachel Zlatkin (University of Cincinnati)

"A Comedy of Errors: Wandering in Illusions in Epheus."

12:00 – 1:00 PM

Break for Lunch

Session Eleven: 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Panel Twenty-Two: Torture, Discipline, Restraint

Board Room One

Chair: TBA

Jessa Alston-O'Connor (Concordia University)

"What Lies Beneath: The Forgotten Histories of Place Royale"

Simon Rolston (University of British Columbia)

"Confinement and Conversion in the American Prison."

Dustin Grue (University of British Columbia)

"Fragmentation, Containment, Genre: Tom Brown's School Days."

Panel Twenty-Three: The Optical Imagination in Contemporary Literature

Board Room Two

Chair: TBA

Rachel Kyne (Concordia University)

“Unfixed Images: Photography, Landscape, and Self-Mapping in W.G. Sebald’s *The Rings of Saturn*.”

David Hollingshead (McGill University)

“‘Ungessed Kinships’: Cormac McCarthy’s Optical Democracy.”

Kait Pinder (McGill University)

“Spaces of Recuperation: Narrative and the Photograph in the Textual Space of *Austerlitz*.”

Panel Twenty-Four: The 20th Century (Sub)urban Experience

Board Room Three

Chair: Paula Derdiger

Joshua Lam (State University of New York, Buffalo)

“Multitudinous Movement: Mobility and Mobilization in Henry James.”

Jacob Siefring (McGill University)

“The Narrative Logic of Ruins and Zones in the Writings of W.G. Sebald.”

Agnieszka Tuszynska (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

“Signifying on the Margins: Jazz/Blues Improvisation in the Marginal Spaces of Ann Petry’s *The Street*, Billie Holiday’s *Lady Sings the Blues*, and Benjamin Appel’s *Sweet Money Girl*.”

2:30 – 2:45 PM

Thompson House

Coffee

Session Twelve: 2:45 – 4:15 PM

Panel Twenty-Five: Spatiality in Popular Visual Culture

Board Room One

Chair: Jessa Alston-O’Connor

Meghan Adams (University of Toronto)

“Endless Slides in Cyberspace: Tensions between Space and Place in *Portal*.”

Valérie Cools (Concordia University)

“Interstitial Liminality: Manga as Articulated Othering Landscape.”

Crista M. Livecchi (Pennsylvania State University)

“Navigating the Dreaming: Transgressions of Public and Private Space in Neil Gaiman’s *The Sandman*.”

Panel Twenty-Six: Renegotiating Canadian Identity

Board Room Two

Chair: Joel Deshaye

Dietlind Bork (University of Alberta)

“Projections of North and the Canadian Experience.”

Mahreen Nabi (Carleton University)

“The Second-Generation Migrant: Negotiating Contested Identit(y/ies?) in Contested Spaces: Understanding the Construction and Contestation of Identity Among Second-Generation Pakistani Youth in Thorncliffe Park (Toronto, Canada)

Judith Mintz Sanchez (Trent University)

“Afrofest and the Claiming of Space in Urban Toronto: Diasporic Identities and the Quest for the Multicultural.”

Panel Twenty-Seven: Literary Cartography, Literary Journeys

Board Room Three

Chair: J.A. Weingarten

Renaud Roussel (McGill University)

“‘At each filament-like dot on the country maps, something had happened’: Cartography, Text, and Borders in Michael Ondaatje’s *Divisadero*.”

Katrin Fennesz (University of Vienna/University of Alberta)

“Back Doors, or Disappearing Travelling.”

Grant Wythoff (Princeton University)

“More typical than any real state’: Mapping the Everyday in Sinclair Lewis’s *Babbitt*.”