Thursday, September 7, 2017

Literary Tour of New Orleans: 3:30 p.m.

Dr. Nancy Dixon, professor, author of N.O. Lit: 200 Years of New Orleans Literature, and licensed New Orleans tour guide, will lead a literary walking tour of the French Quarter, a place known to have housed and inspired some of the greatest writers of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Space is limited to those who pre-registered because of New Orleans tour guidelines. Those with confirmation of a tour slot should meet in the lobby at 3:15 pm.

Welcome Reception and Registration
5:00 – 6:00 p.m. (Royal Salon D)

Please join us during our opening night registration for a Welcome Reception. Complimentary beer and wine will be served.

Registration: 9:30-10:30 p.m. (Cathedral Room)
Friday, September 8, 2017

Registration: 8:15 – 9:00 a.m. (Cathedral Room)

Opening Plenary: 9:00 – 10:20 (Bienville & Iberville Ballrooms)

Why Regionalism and Place, and Why Now?
Chair: Sara Kosiba, Troy University
1. June Howard, University of Michigan
2. Tina Casagrand, editor, The New Territory
3. José Limon, University of Notre Dame
4. Patricia Oman, director, Hastings College Press
Respondent: Michael Steiner, California State University, Fullerton

Session One A: 10:30 – 11:50 (Beauregard Room)

African American Regionalism
Chair: Randall Wilhelm, Anderson University

1. “Gwendolyn Brooks’ Regional and Radial Maud Martha,” Dorothy Randall Tsuruta, San Francisco State University
2. “Toomer’s Dilemma: From Taos to Doylestown,” Amanda Licato, Stanford University
3. “Back Door Regionalism: Rebellion Enters Ohio through the Caribbean in Toni Morrison’s Sula,” Bethany Aery Clerico, University at Albany, SUNY

Session One B: 10:30 – 11:50 (Pontalba Room)

Eudora Welty and Regionalism I
Sponsored by the Eudora Welty Society
Chair: Harriet Pollack, College of Charleston and Bucknell University

1. "Putting Place in Motion: Eudora Welty, Transport, and Modernist Regionalism," David McWhirter, Texas A&M University
2. "Never Confined in Any Frame: Welty’s Photographic Regionalism," Allison Rittmayer, Northwestern State University of Louisiana
3. "The Post Office and the Pedestal: Regional Community and Sexual Tyranny in Welty’s Fiction," Kevin Murphy, Towson University, and Donnie McMahan, Towson University
4. "Lost in the Heat: The Global and Miscegenated South of South in Eudora Welty’s ‘No Place for You My Love,’" Rebecca Mark, Tulane University
Session One C: 10:30 – 11:50  (Cabildo Room)
The South  
Chair: Jason Richards, Rhodes College

2. “They Were Men’: The Movement from Unifying to Sectionalist Sentiment in the Confederate Undead,” Claire Martin, Creighton University  
3. “Gendering the Monstrous in Bernice L. McFadden’s *Gathering of Waters,*” Deborah Wilson, Arkansas Tech University

Session One D: 10:30 – 11:50  (Ursuline Room)
California  
Chair: Melissa Walker Heidari, Columbia College

2. “Didionland: Notes and Anxiety from the Drop Off Point in Joan Didion's California,” Edward Journey, Alabama A&M University  

Lunch: Noon - 1:00 p.m.  
Royal Room

Registration: 1:00 – 1:20 p.m. (Cathedral Room)

Session Two A: 1:20 – 2:40  (Ursuline Room)
Beyond Local Color I: Methods and Genres for Late Nineteenth-Century Regional Inquiry  
Chair: Tara Penry, Professor of English, Boise State University

1. “More than Color, Less than an –ism: The Postbellum Regional Novel,” Alex Leslie, Rutgers University  
2. “Social Equality and the Louisiana Novel,” Erica Stevens, Penn State University  
3. “(Re)Constructing the South with Pauline Hopkins' *Peculiar Sam, or The Underground Railroad,*” Sherita L. Johnson, The University of Southern Mississippi  
4. “Alternative Regionalisms from the Periodical Archive,” Tara Penry, Boise State University
Session Two B: 1:20 – 2:40 (Pontalba Room)
**Eudora Welty and Regionalism II**  
Sponsored by the Eudora Welty Society  
Chair: Harriet Pollack, College of Charleston and Bucknell University

2. Casting a Wider Net: Eudora Welty, Regionalism, and Cultures of Display," Elizabeth Oxler, University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
4. "Welty on the North, The South, and Civil Rights Era in her Never Published Work," Harriet Pollack, College of Charleston and Bucknell University

Session Two C: 1:20 – 2:40 (Beauregard Room)
**Southern Comforts: Drinking in New Orleans and the American South**  
Co-chairs: Conor Picken, Bellarmine University, and Matthew Dischinger, Georgia Institute of Technology

1. “Moonshine in the Sunshine State: Rawlings, Hemingway, and the Global South,” Christopher Rieger, Southeast Missouri State University  
2. “W's Good Time,” Jennie Lightweis-Goff, University of Mississippi  

Session Two D: 1:20 – 2:40 (Cabildo Room)
**Examining Nationalism, Politics, and Other Perspectives**  
Chair: Kirk Curnutt, Troy University

2. “Voicing the Void: The Political Work of Regional Writing,” J.D. Isip, Collin College  
3. “Post-Corporate Spaces and Their Function in Tom Robbins’ Novels,” Liam O. Purdon, Doane University

Session Three A: 2:50 – 4:10 (Beauregard Room)
**Beyond Local Color II: Border-Crossing Genres in the Late Nineteenth-Century U.S.**  
Chair: Tara Penry, Professor of English, Boise State University

2. “California Verses: Charlotte Perkins Gilman’s Poetics of Western Paradise,” Sigrid Anderson Cordell, University of Michigan  
4. “Folk Knowledge and the Evolution of Science in *The Country of the Pointed Firs*,” Liz Smith, Western State Colorado University
Session Three B: 2:50 – 4:10 (Pontalba Room)
New Orleans I
Chair: Olivia Carr Edenfield, Georgia Southern University

1. “The Bamboula in New Orleans Fiction,” Mary Anne O’Neal, University of Georgia
3. “Regionalism and the Nonhermeneutic: Lafcadio Hearn’s Chita and Why the Limits of Literary Interpretation Matter,” Matthew Smith, University of Tennessee
4. “Regional Historiography and the Stories of New Orleans,” James Nagel, University of Georgia

Session Three C: 2:50 – 4:10 (Cabildo Room)
Undead Souths/Spectral Regionalism I
Chair: Eric Gary Anderson, George Mason University

1. “As She Lay Dying: Locating a Pacific Southern Gothic in Kaui Hart Hemmings’s The Descendants,” Amber Pualani Hodge, The University of Mississippi
2. “Undead Energy and the Gulf Coast in Brenda Longfellow’s Offshore,” Delia Byrnes, University of Texas at Austin
3. “Undead Edifices of Gulf Minds, Bodies, and Labor: Abandoned Textile Mills and Undreamt Unions across the Gulf of Mexico, Dolores Flores-Silva, Roanoke College, and Keith Cartwright, University of North Florida

Session Three D: 2:50 – 4:10 (Ursuline Room)
West Virginia/Appalachia
Chair: Megan Flanery, Georgia Southern University

1. “Listen to the Mountain People: Appalachian Literature and Resisting Capitalist Imperialist Nationalism,” Christopher Prewitt, Columbus State Community College
3. “Affrilachian Poets: Redefining Regionalism and Place,” Mary Carruth, Southern University

Session Four A: 4:20 – 5:40 (Pontalba Room)
Undead Souths/Spectral Regionalism II
Chair: Eric Gary Anderson, George Mason University

1. “Grave Emergences: Undead Figures in Poe’s ‘Berenice’ and Gilman’s ‘The Giant Wisteria,’” Staci Poston Conner, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Session Four B: 4:20 – 5:40 (Ursuline Room)
Fire in Gay New Orleans: Staging Local History Off-Broadway
Chair: Stephanie Rountree, Auburn University

1. “The Revolution Ain’t Coming Here’: The Upstairs Lounge Fire as Post-Stonewall Flashpoint in New Orleans,” Ryan Prechter, Georgia State University
2. “Salvaged Southern Mythos in Max Vernon’s Musical The View UpStairs, or Aurora Whorealis Serves Scarlett-Madonna Realness,” Stephanie Rountree, Auburn University
3. Interview with Max Vernon, Creator and Playwright of The View UpStairs, conducted by Ryan Prechter and Stephanie Rountree

Session Four C: 4:20-5:40 (Cabildo Room)
Sense of Place in American Modernist Poetry, Print Culture and Visual Art
Chair: Leticia Pérez Alonso, Jackson State University

2. “Bowery Blues,” Ben Gillespie, Johns Hopkins University
3. “‘The sketch I want simple, and stark’: Art Imagery and Sense of Place in the Poems of Kenneth Fearing,” Ann Lupi von Mehren, Drexel University

Session Four D: 4:20-5:40 (Beauregard Room)
Grounded Regions—Sky, Glass, and Before the Grid: Three Memoirs of Deep Place
Chair: Sara Kosiba, Troy University

2. Excerpt “From the James River to the Corn Palace,” Shirley Samuels, Cornell University

Opening Reception and Keynote Address: 5:40 – 7:30 p.m.
Royal Room
“The Birth of the Midwest and the Rise of Regional Theory”
Michael Steiner
California State University, Fullerton
Saturday, September 9, 2017

Session Five A: 9:00 – 10:20 (Beauregard Room)
19th Century Regional Perspectives I
Chair: Mike Lemon, Texas Tech University

1. “My flower garden has taught me that lesson’: Gardens in E.D.E.N. Southworth’s Novels,” Ann Beebe, University of Texas at Tyler
2. “Searching for the Church: Obscure Places and the Ministers’ Fall from Grace,” Lisa Moody, Southeastern Louisiana University

Session Five B: 9:00 – 10:20 (Pontalba Room)
New Orleans II
Chair: Breanna Harris, Georgia Southern University

2. “On Faulkner’s Souths: New Orleans as Region in Absalom, Absalom!,” John Schranck, University of California, Santa Barbara

Session Five C: 9:00 – 10:20 (Ursuline Room)
Black Pittsburgh
Sponsored by the John Edgar Wideman Society
Chair: Keith Byerman, Indiana State University

2. "The Black Hole—Homewood in John Edgar Wideman's Brothers and Keepers," JuYoun Jang, University of Mississippi

Session Five D: 9:00 – 10:20 (Cabildo Room)
Defining Region or Addressing Multiple Regions
Chair: Marcia Noe, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

1. “Regionalism in Mark Twain’s The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn and Kate Chopin’s The Awakening,” Vikram Singh, Kurukshetra University
2. “Judy Troy: Postmodern Regionalist,” C. Scott Nesbitt, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
3. “Out in the Sticks,” Khirsten Doolan, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Session Six A: 10:30 – 11:50 (Beauregard Room)
19th Century Regional Perspectives II
Chair: Leslie Petty, Rhodes College

1. “The Limits of Whitman’s Nationalist Poetics in Drum-Taps,” Kayleigh Quarterman, University of California, Riverside
3. “A Haunted Place: The Gothic and Regionalism in Hawthorne’s The House of the Seven Gables,” Matthew Skwiat, University of Rochester
4. “Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins, Regionalism, and US Nationalism and Imperialism,” Carolyn Sorisio, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Session Six B: 10:30 – 11:50 (Pontalba Room)
The Contemporary South
Chair: Jay Ingrao, University of Texas at Dallas

1. “A Southern Gothic for the 21st Century?: Southern Conceptions of Time and Space in Brian Reed’s S-Town,” Rachael Price, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

Session Six C: 10:30 – 11:50 (Cabildo Room)
Texas Regional Writing
Chair: Alfred Bendixen, Princeton University

1. “Excavating the Borderlands: South Texas Women’s Writing,” Susan Roberson, Texas A&M University, Kingsville
2. “Reppin’ H-Town: Houston Hip-Hop as Postmodern Representations of Place,” Kristina Kirk, University of Texas at Dallas
3. “Nelson Algren in Texas: A Critical Regionalist Reading,” José Limon, University of Notre Dame
4. “We’re all refugees, in a way’: Farnoosh Moshiri, Houstonian,” Cliff Hudder, Lone Star College – Montgomery
Session Six D: 10:30 – 11:50 (Ursuline Room)
Sacred Mountains/Spirit Places: Glyphs, Hymns, and Rites of Becoming
Chair: Molly Donehoo, Georgia Southern University

1. “Pyramids, Altepemeh, and Other Mountains: Sacred Geography Among Nahua People of Central Mexico,” Felicia Lopez, University of California, Santa Barbara
2. “A Methodology of Trust: Apache Oral Traditions and Places of Sacred Knowledge,” Inés Talamantez, University of California, Santa Barbara
3. “Singing Grace, Protecting Place,” Margaret McMurtrey, University of California, Santa Barbara
4. “Speaking and Creating Sacred Landscapes on The Native North American Stage: Protection and Ceremony in Performance,” Alesha Claveria, University of California, Santa Barbara

Lunch: Noon – 1:00 p.m.
Royal Room

Session Seven A: 1:20 – 2:40 (Beauregard Room)
Exploring America through International Eyes or Island Viewpoints
Chair: Jameela Dallis, Carolina Friends School

1. “The American Fictions of Blaise Cendrars,” David Ingle, University of Georgia
2. “America’s Frankenstein: Fear & Monstrosity in Richard Wright’s Native Son,” Gretchen Martin, The University of Virginia’s College at Wise
3. “‘Involved with a Very Powerful Jumbee’: Colonial Relations in Henry S. Whitehead’s Weird West Indies,” Travis Rozier, Texas A&M University

Session Seven B: 1:20 – 2:40 (Cabildo Room)
New (Southern) Weird
Chair: Benjamin Fisher, University of Mississippi

2. “Fear of the Unacknowledged: The Weird Tradition in the Fiction of Cherie Priest,” Leverett Butts, University of North Georgia

Session Seven C: 1:20 – 2:40 (Ursuline Room)
Archives ← → Regionalism ← → Place
Chair: Sandra Zagarell, Oberlin College
1. “The Local Global,” Kate Adams, Tulane University
2. "The Local Local,” June Howard, University of Michigan
3. “Archival Significance to Regionalism: the Letters of Grace King,” Miki Pfeffer, Nicholls State University
5. “Dunbar-Nelson’s Archive, Wilkins Freeman’s Oeuvre, and the Places of Regionalism,” Sandra A. Zagarell, Oberlin College

Session Seven D: 1:20-2:40 (Pontalba Room)
Carceral Regions: Utopic/Dystopic Deep Place
Moderator/Respondent: Jennifer Wicke, University of California, Santa Barbara

1. “Remaking Region in Radical Haiku: Minority Literary Sociality as Resistance at Tule Lake, Mai-Linh Hong, Bucknell University
3. “Horror’s Region is Pine Creek: Deep Blood/Carceral Homeland,” Colton Saylor, University of California, Santa Barbara

Session Eight A: 2:50 – 4:10 (Beauregard Room)
Flâneur of the American Underclass: Lafcadio Hearn and the Invention of Place in Cincinnati and New Orleans, 1872-1887
Sponsored by The Society for the Study of Working-Class Literature
Chair: Andrew Ball, Lindenwood University

1. “On the Bucktown Beat: Lafcadio Hearn Sketches Cincinnati’s ‘Pariah People’,” Andrew Ball, Lindenwood University — St. Louis
2. “Lafcadio Hearn and the Genesis of Working Class New Orleans as Literary Place,” Paul D. Mahaffey, University of Montevallo
3. “These Romantic Ghosts: Lafcadio Hearn’s Modern Day French Quarter,” Racheal Harris, University of New England — Australia

Session Eight B: 2:50 – 4:10 (Pontalba Room)
“Rough South” Regionalism: Place, Culture, and Material Souths
Chair: Kimberly Turner, University of Tennessee

1. “The Dehumanizing Dream of Woodrell’s Tomato Red,” Shawn E. Miller, Francis Marion University
2. “A Rough Kind of Regionalism: Culture, Place, and Geography in Harry Crews’s Celebration,” Melody Knight Pritchard, University of South Carolina
3. “‘The Pine Trees Always Green and Constant’: Regionalism in Larry Brown’s Joe,” Christina Xan, University of South Carolina
Session Eight C: 2:50 – 4:10 (Cabildo Room)
The Midwest
Chair: Rachael Price, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

1. "The Metaphorical Significance of Regional Trees in *Winesburg, Ohio*," Breanna Harris, Georgia Southern University
2. “The Journey from ‘erasure of personality’ to ‘that is happiness’: Regionalism in Willa Cather’s *My Antonia*,” Shannon Forbes, University of St. Thomas
3. “Nanapush and Brown Dog: Terriorism and Stereotypology,” Rick Wallach, Nova Southeastern University LLI
4. “Nationalist Nostalgia: The Midwestern Small Town in the Mid-Twentieth Century,” Patricia Oman, Hastings College

Session Eight D: 2:50 – 4:10 (Ursuline Room)
Rethinking Regionalism: New Paradigms, New Regions, New Authors
Chair: Amber Hodge, University of Mississippi

1. “Canonical Constraint and the Problem of Regional Pleasures in King and Woolson,” Sarah H. Salter, Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi
2. “From ’60 to ’65 in ’76: Reimagining Region and Nation in the Work of Sherwood Bonner,” Kathryn McKee, University of Mississippi
3. “Toward a Transregionalist Approach: Woolson and Twain,” Anne Boyd Rioux, University of New Orleans

Session Nine A: 4:20 – 5:40 (Beauregard Room)
The Southern Gothic in Wolfe, McCarthy, and McCullers
Participants:
E. Stone Meredith, Colorado State University, Global Campus
James H. Meredith, Colorado State University, Global Campus
Jeanne Fuchs, Hofstra University

Session Nine B: 4:20 – 5:40 (Pontalba Room)
Flannery O’Connor
Chair: Andrew Ball, Lindenwood University

2. “Georgia Comes to New York City: Rethinking Flannery O’Connor’s Regionalism,” Alison Arant, Wagner College
Session Nine C: 4:20 – 5:40 (Ursuline Room)
Urban, Rural and Exotic Places in American Modernist Poetry
Chair: Leticia Pérez Alonso, Jackson State University

1. “Spoon River Anthology: Midwestern Modernism and the Myth of Rural America,” Jason Stacy, Southern Illinois State University
2. “It was never a Dark Continent: Educating about Africa in the Harlem Renaissance,” Mark Malisa, University of West Florida
4. “Elizabeth Bishop’s New York, Boston, and the American Landscape,” Charla Allyn Hughes, Louisiana State University

Session Nine D: 4:20 – 5:40 (Cabildo Room)
The West and Southwest
Chair: Meredith McCarroll, Bowdoin College

1. “Saying the Unsayable: Jean Stafford, Region, and Fiction,” Cory Lock, St. Edwards University
2. “Competing Regionalism: Unreconciled Productions of Place,” Monique McDade, University of Nevada, Reno
4. “Marginal Characters, Caricatures, and Place: Reading Edward Abbey’s Manuscripts and Desert Solitaire in Writing the Southwest,” Lauren Perry, University of New Mexico

Closing Plenary and Reception: 5:45 – 7:30 p.m.
Riverview Room

“The Role of Regional Academic Journals in American Literary Scholarship”
Chair: Kirk Curnutt, Troy University

1. Marcia Noe, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
   Editor, MidAmerica and Midwestern Miscellany (Publications of The Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature)
2. Ted Atkinson, Mississippi State University
   Editor, Mississippi Quarterly
3. Jonathan Chu, University of Massachusetts, Boston
   Editor, The New England Quarterly
4. William Jensen, Texas State University, San Marcos
   Editor, Southwestern American Literature