

The Margaret Fuller Society welcomes proposals for two sessions at the 31st annual conference of the ALA in San Diego, CA from May 21-24, 2020.

### **1) Traveling with Margaret Fuller**

In her article titled “Books of Travel”, Margaret Fuller declares that “innumerable as are the books of travel now into every region of the world, the proportion of good ones to the whole is still very small”, but “among those we have, the best as to observation of particulars and lively expression are by women.” (*New York Daily Tribune*, 18 Dec. 1845, p. 1). Taking Fuller’s article as a point of departure, this panel proposes ways to think about traveling, including theorizing as well as representations of travel in Fuller’s writings. We would like to interrogate how encounters, itineraries, geographical locations, traveling equipment have shaped literary and cultural expressions in Fuller’s work and in that of her contemporaries. By including travel writing by Fuller and other writers, this panel aims to explore how these writers conceptualize travel, and how they respond to travel’s capacity to register physical and imaginative experiences, and its possibility to imagine communities.

### **2) Teaching and Practicing Fuller’s Feminism(s) in 2020**

Margaret Fuller’s feminist visions for social change are still valid and contemporary in our age. The 2020 anniversary of the women suffrage in the US calls attention to women’s civil rights, and to the language of the law. As Phyllis Cole noted: “Fuller’s feminist essay was first entitled “The Great Lawsuit”; and in both versions of this manifesto she declares that a human “inheritance” has been lost, now urging its recovery in ever higher courts.” Drawing from the language of law (literally and metaphorically), this panel seeks to investigate how the reconceptualization of gender, sexuality, politics, and the body in the feminist writings of Margaret Fuller and other women writers can be practiced and taught in the classroom. Using both theory and pedagogy, we invite papers that center on feminist practice and rhetoric, collaboration, aesthetics and activism.

We welcome papers from scholars at any career stage. Paper proposals of 250-500 words and a short Vita should be sent to Sonia Di Loreto ([sonia.diloreto@unito.it](mailto:sonia.diloreto@unito.it)) by January 15, 2020. Please note if you will require A/V for your presentation.