

The William Carlos Williams Society seeks submissions to two panels at the annual American Literature Association Conference (ALA), which will be held at The Westin Copley Place, Boston on May 25-28, 2023.

The Great American Novel at 100 William Carlos Williams's *The Great American Novel*, first published in a small edition in Paris in 1923, remains among the least read and most elusive of the miscellaneous works collected in *Imaginations*. Replete with American themes of violence and the frontier, predation and loss—and composed of mixed sources from American biography, autobiography, folklore, popular anthropology and popular history—what is it? How do we understand its mixed composition, its challenge to novelistic chronology, and its shifts of voice from persona to persona? What do we make of the fact that much of it is stolen? Is the dialogue between the urbane interrogator and the one he calls “*mon vieux coco*” central? What does the text teach us about the canonical idea of a “great American novel”? Short papers exploring these questions are invited for a panel celebrating and reflecting on the centennial of its publication.

Lowell and Williams The publication of the volume *Memoirs / Robert Lowell* including Lowell's retrospective meditation (1962) on his estimation of Williams opens the question of new perspectives on their relationship as writers in the post-WWII/Cold War era. Beyond the settled and superficial views that result from the repetition of a few well-worn quotes from Lowell about Williams, what can we learn from reading these two writers together now? Short papers for a panel exploring their relationship are invited to renew the conversation about their mutual concerns and evident differences in the middle of the twentieth century.

Please submit a brief proposal (300 word abstract and 100 word bio) by January 10th 2023 to Mark C. Long at m-long@keene.edu.

For information on the ALA and its 2023 meeting, please see the ALA website at americanliteratureassociation.org.