

UT American Studies Conference

Friday, 28 September 2007

Sponsored by the Department of American Studies Graduate Student Association and the University Co-op

All Panel Rooms are in the Texas Union; the evening Keynote Address is in Welch Hall.

7am-3pm

Registration and Hospitality

Lone Star Room

8am-9:30am

Scribing the Nation: U.S. Nationalism in Nineteenth-Century American Literature

Sinclair Suite

The American Dream in Twain and Alger

Mark Lavoie—Georgetown, English

Speaking America into Being: Emerson's Poet-orator and Marianne Moore's "The Octopus"

Julia Smith—Florida State, English

A "new yet unapproachable" Direction for American Literary Studies; or, Reading the Texts of the Past with Ralph Waldo Emerson

Shari Goldberg—SUNY Albany, English

Moderator: Tracy Wuster—UT Austin, American Studies

Investigating Gender in Ordinary and Extraordinary Times

Texas Governors' Room

Patriarchal Masculinity on the Ropes: Representations of Gender in the Films of John Ford

Joe Moser—UT Austin, English

Sexual Deviants and Gender Deviance: Challenges to suburban norms in The Virgin Suicides and Middlesex

Mallory Szymanski—Univ. of Florida, Women's Studies

Drugs and Dreams: Envisioning America Through Drug Dealing Narratives

Amy Long—Univ. of Florida, Women's Studies

Moderator: Audrey Russek—UT Austin, American Studies

Imagination and Representation in a Post-Disaster Milieu

Chicano Culture Room

The End is Here, Now What?: A Genre Analysis of 9/11's Impact on the Apocalyptic Imagination

Nick Muntean & Matt Payne—UT Austin, Radio-Television-Film

From the Freedom Tower to Sacred Ground: Building Imagined Communities through Official 9/11 Memorials

Anthony Kolenic—Michigan State, American Studies

From Castaway to Keepsake: The Celebrated Boy Survivor of the SS Atlantic Shipwreck, 1873

Carolee Klimchock—William and Mary, American Studies

Moderator: Amy Ware—UT Austin, American Studies

9:45am-11:30am

Legality and Liminality

Sinclair Suite

The Figure of the Legal Alien in the Making of U.S. Citizenship

Su-ching Wang—University of Washington, English

Defining the Nation State: Immigrants as illegal Aliens and Mexican Nationals

Romeo Guzman—Cal. State Northridge, History

Dreams Deferred: Immigration and the Construction of Liminal Americans

Roberto G. Gonzales—UC Irvine, Sociology

Tam Tran—Los Angeles-based Media Activist

Por La Paz y La Justicia: La Placita, the New Sanctuary Movement, and the Politics of Faith

Irene Graza—UT Austin, American Studies

Moderator: Christina Garcia—UT-Austin, American Studies

Europe in the American Mind/America in the European Mind

Texas Governors' Room

Archibald MacLeish and Modern American Optimism

Emily Stelzer—Univ. of Dallas, Literature

"Learning to love Auntie": BBC America and British identities

Andrew Jones—UT Austin, American Studies

Winning the U.S. Green Card in the Lottery: How a German Agency is Selling the "American Dream" in the 21st Century

Nicole Ishikawa—Univ. of Kansas, American Studies

Discovery and Montaigne's "Of Cannibals"

Alberto Garcia—Texas A&M-Kingsville, English

Moderator: Daniel Gerling—UT Austin, American Studies

Early America

Chicano Culture Room

Pursuits of Happiness: An Analysis of the Works of Judith Sargent Murray and Mary Wollstonecraft

Brittany Adams—UCLA, History

Trouble in Eden: Charles Brockden Brown's Wieland and the Subverting of the American Dream

Richard Reyes—Wayne State

"The Lying Sense": The Subject of American Blindness in Royall Tyler's The Algerine Captive

Matthew Pangborn—SUNY-Albany,

Exploring the Wild: The Founding Fathers' Encounters and Interpretations of Wilderness

K.A. Wisniewski—Univ. of Pennsylvania, History

Moderator: Rebecca Onion—UT Austin, American Studies

Art and Architecture – Fantasy and Reality

Asian Culture Room

Translating Tropical America: David Alfaro Siqueiros and the Subversion of the Spanish Fantasy Past

Anabel Mota—USC, History

The Artist as Laborer: Nationalism and American Identity in the Reception of David Smith's Sculpture

Meghan Bissonnette—York, Art History

Re-Thinking the Rural Studio

Laura Smith—UT Austin, Architecture (recent graduate)

Moderator: Stephanie Kolberg—UT Austin, American Studies

11:30am-12:30pm

BYO Brown Bag Lunch with Participants in the UT Austin Central Texas Barbecue

Oral History/Book Project

Texas Governors' Room

12:30pm-2:15pm

Beatmaking! America in Music & Lyrics

Sinclair Suite

There's An Enron Rap Album? - Competing Ideas of America in N-Run's Corporate America

Gavin Benke—UT Austin, American Studies

Performing Multiculturalism: Taiko Drumming and Cultural Tourism in North America

Angela Ahlgren—UT Austin, Performance as Public Practice

I'm Not a Prophet, They Just Want the Profit: Contending Nationalism and Social Protest in Underground Hip-Hop

Alyxandra Vesey—UT Austin, Radio-Television-Film

This is Whose Country? John Mellencamp, Chevrolet, and the Commodification of "American Values"

Antares R. Alleman—UT Arlington, English

Moderator: Amy Nathan-Wright—UT Austin, American Studies

Texas as a (Large) Space: Church, State, and Water

Texas Governors' Room

Imperial Texas: The Lone Star State as Empire, Abject Other, and Displaced Self in the National Imaginary

Jason Mellard—UT Austin, American Studies

Spectacular Labor and the Construction of the Medina Dam: "...a disturbance in the Mexican part of Mico"

Marvin Bendele—UT Austin, American Studies

The Meaning of Church: The Spiritual Ideologies of the Sanctuary Movement at Holy Cross Catholic Church

Claudia Rueda—UT Austin, History

Moderator: Andrew Busch—UT Austin, American Studies

"America" in Contemporary Horror Films

Chicano Culture Room

Hostel & Hostel: Part II - Gender, Sexuality, and National Wealth

Caitlin Collins—UT-Austin, Radio-Television-Film

"I Want to Go Home": Patriarchy, Paranoia, and Punishment in Turistas

Peter Alilunas—UT Austin, Radio-Television-Film

From Black to Blue: Two Thousand Maniacs! and its Vicissitudes

Curran Nault—UT Austin, Radio-Television-Film

Castrating and Constraining Childhood Sexuality: Pedophilia, Torture and the Girl Avenger in Hard Candy

Kristen Lambert—UT Austin, Radio-Television-Film

Moderator: John Cline—UT Austin, American Studies

Contextualizing the Black Female Body

Asian Culture Room

Professionalizing the Black Female Body: Race, Gender, and Business in James VanDerZee's Photographs

Jacqueline Smith—UT Austin, American Studies

The Black Female Body as Social Discourse in Cuba, 1886-1898

Takkara Brunson—UT Austin, History

“Such Women as You Are Raised Up to Save Us”: The Business of Race and Femininity among Black Women Dressmakers in the Early 1900s

Shennette Garrett—UT Austin, History

Uncovering the Hidden Transcript of Black Female Sexuality in U.S. Popular Culture

Courtney Desiree Morris—UT Austin, Anthropology & African Diaspora Studies

Moderator: Chiyuma Elliott—UT Austin, American Studies

2:30pm-4:15pm

Transnational Visions: Literature and Nation on the Global Scale

Sinclair Suite

Yankee Failure: American Federalism and Culture in Love in the Time of Cholera

Marcos Del Hierro—UT El Paso, English

Reexamining Notions of America through Dickinson

Kang Yangbin—Chinese University of Hong Kong, Literary Studies

American Exceptionalism as Culture: Some Consequences of America for Cultural Theory

Ken MacLeish—UT Austin, Anthropology

Illegal Dreams: The United States in Kiran Desai’s “The Inheritance of Loss”

Gabriela Frank—CSU Stanislaus, English

Moderator: John Gronbeck-Tedesco—UT Austin, American Studies

Re-imagining the Heartland

Texas Governors’ Room

Ambivalent “Averageness”: Alexander’s Payne’s *About Schmidt* and the Landscape of the Middle

Stephanie Kolberg—UT Austin, American Studies

Little Town On The Prairie: Identity and Community Transition in Rural America

Anna Thompson Hajdik—UT Austin, American Studies

I Never Imagined You In My Community: The Arab-American Experience in Moja Kahf’s The Girl in the Tangerine Scarf

Evelyn Reid—City College of New York, English

Moderator: Robin O’Sullivan—UT Austin, American Studies

Labor and Performance in the Public Feminine

Chicano Culture Room

Practicing Politics: Riot Grrrl Performance and Feminist Place-Making

Jessica Del Vecchio—UT Austin, Performance as Public Practice

Sweet Subversion: Resistance and the Power to Name in Waitress

Melanie Haupt—UT Austin, English

Lessons from the Lusty Lady: Unionization and Labor Laws in the U.S. Sex Industry with a Focus on Exotic Dancers

Carly Kocurek—UT Austin, American Studies

Moderator: Allison Wright Munro—UT Austin, American Studies

Race, Gender, and Photography in 1930s America

Asian Culture Room

Re-Documenting Poverty: Re-photography of Depression-Era Images of Social Action

Andi Gustavson—UT Austin, American Studies

Migration, Regionalism, and Race in Sanora Babb’s Whose Names Are Unknown

Erin Royston Battat—Harvard, American Civilization

The School of Gertrude Stein: Nationalism, Self-Help, and Simplicity

Matt Sandler—Columbia, English

Lessons for a Nation – Photography and the Legacy of Slavery in 1930s America

Makeda Best—Harvard, Art & Architecture

Moderator: Andrew Jones—UT Austin, American Studies

4:15pm-5:30pm

Faculty Roundtable

Texas Governors’ Room

Elizabeth Engelhardt

Department of American Studies & Center for Women’s and Gender Studies

Jose Limon

Department of English & Center for Mexican American Studies

Edmund Gordon

Division of Diversity and Community Engagement & Center for African and African-American Studies

Madeline Hsu

Department of History & Center for Asian American Studies

Bryan Roberts

Institute of Latin American Studies

7:30pm

Keynote Address

Welch Hall, Room 2.304

Ruth Wilson Gilmore

University of Southern California

Department of Geography and

Program in American Studies and Ethnicity

Thanks to the Keynote Address sponsors:

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