

Theories of the Novel Now

A Conference in Celebration of Forty Years of NOVEL

November 9-10, 2007

The Biltmore Hotel
Providence, Rhode Island

Complete Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9

9:00 - 10:00 AM

Conference Registration

10:00 - 11:45 AM SESSION 1

1.1 Visual Culture and Fictional Form

{State Suite C}

Kate Flint (Rutgers Univ.): Chair

Daniel Novak (Louisiana State Univ.):

“Photographic Fictions: Nineteenth-Century Photography and the Novel Form”

Aviva Briefel (Bowdoin Coll.):

“The Potter’s Thumb/The Writer’s Hand: Manual Production and Victorian Colonial Narratives”

Kate Flint (Rutgers Univ.):

“‘Between the Novel and the Film’: The Fictions of Contemporary Narrative Photography”

Paul Saint-Amour (Univ. of Pennsylvania):

“War, Optics, Fiction”

Lengthiness and Delay in Fiction I

{Renaissance Salon}

Deidre Lynch (Univ. of Toronto): Chair

Stuart Sherman (Fordham Univ.):

“The News and the Novel: Tempi and Templates, Pulse and Sprawl”

Michal Ginsburg (Northwestern Univ.):

“Narratives of Survival”

Michelle Massé (Louisiana State Univ.):

“The Last Chapter: Old Age, Temporality, and Narrative Closure”

Amy M. King (St. John’s Univ.):

“Natural History and the Novel: Dilatoriness and Length in the Nineteenth-Century Novel of Everyday Life”

The Subject in Question

{State Suite A}

Kevin McLaughlin (Brown Univ.): Chair

Susan S. Lanser (Brandeis Univ.):

“Novel Subjects: The Sexual History of Form”

Mary Helen McMurrin (Univ. of Western Ontario):

“Transnationalities?”

Lorri Nandrea (Univ. of Wisconsin, Stevens Point):

“Desiring-Production and the Novel”

Lauren Byler (Tufts Univ.):

“If the Shoe Fits...: Trollope and the Girl”

Unhuman Fiction

{Salon 6}

Jacques Khalip (Brown Univ.): Chair

Jules Law (Northwestern Univ.):

“There’s Something about Hyde: or, Gothic Quiditas”

Ivan Kreilkamp (Indiana Univ., Bloomington):

“Pitying the Sheep in *Far From the Madding Crowd*”

Nancy Bentley (Univ. of Pennsylvania):

“DuBois, Kinship, and the Fourth Dimension of Color”

Lloyd Pratt (Michigan State Univ.):

“The African American Origins of American Liberal Form”

12:00 - 2:30 PM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS & LUNCH:

{Grand Ballroom}

Franco Moretti (Stanford Univ.): “Theory, History”

2:45 - 4:30 PM

SESSION 2

2.1 The Contemporary Hispanic Novel of Globalization

{State Suite A}

Carlos J. Alonso (Columbia Univ.): Chair

Dierdra Reber (Emory Univ.):

“Visual Storytelling: Cinematic Ekphrasis in the Latin American Novel of Globalization”

Alberto Medina (Boston Univ.):

“Arts of Homelessness: Trans-Atlantic Reflections on Remembrance and the Novel”

Kate Jenckes (Univ. of Michigan):

“The Ethics of Intermittence: Sergio Chejfec and the Limits of Narration”

2.2 The Notion of “World” in World Fiction

{Renaissance Salon}

Rey Chow (Brown Univ.): Chair

Rosemary Marangoly George (Univ. of California, San Diego):

“Where in the World Did Kamala Markandaya Go?”

Carolyn Vellenga Berman (The New School):

“The Known World in World Literature”

Marinos Pourgouris (Brown Univ.):

“It’s All Greek to Me: Modern Greek Literature in a Poststructuralist World”

Rita Barnard (Univ. of Pennsylvania):

“Fictions of the Global”

2.3 Historicism and Its Discontents

{Salon 6}

Elizabeth Maddock Dillon (Northeastern Univ.): Chair

Sarah Winter (Univ. of Connecticut):

“The Novel and Prejudice”

Scott Black (Univ. of Utah):

“Cosmopolitan Reading, Anachronism, and the Novel”

David Glover (Univ. of Southampton):

“Unorthodox Chronologies, Secret Histories: The Novel and the Critique of Historicism”

Joseph Drury (Univ. of Pennsylvania):

“The Novel and the Machine in the Eighteenth Century”

2.4 The Novel’s Affect

{State Suite C}

Vanessa Ryan (Brown Univ.): Chair

Jennifer Fleissner (Indiana Univ., Bloomington):

“Symptomatology and the Novel”

William Cohen (Univ. of Maryland):

“Envy in Victorian Fiction”

Ashly Bennett (Cornell Univ.):

“‘Erring as I’: *Jane Eyre*’s Shameful Revisions of Victorian Relationality”

Meegan Kennedy (Florida State Univ.):

“Recording or Reproducing Sensation? The Novel as Instrument”

4:45 - 6:30 PM SESSION 3

3.1 Outside, After, Against Liberalism

{State Suite A}

Ian Duncan (Univ. of California, Berkeley): Chair

Penny Fielding (Univ. of Edinburgh):

“‘No such thing as action’: Godwin, the Secret, and the Decision”

Ian Duncan (Univ. of California, Berkeley):

“Fanaticism and Civil Society: Hogg’s *Justified Sinner*”

Kent Puckett (Univ. of California, Berkeley):

“‘Make No Mistake’: Character and Terror in Henry James”

Jane Elliott (Univ. of York):

“The Return of the Referent in Recent North American Fiction: Neoliberalism and the Anti-Instrumental Imagination”

3.2 Novel Temporalities

{Salon 6}

Laura Marcus (Univ. of Edinburgh): Chair

Randall Stevenson (Univ. of Edinburgh):

“Not What it Used to Be: Nostalgia and the Legacies of Modernism”

Mark Currie (Univ. of East Anglia):

“The Novel and the Moving Now”

Annette Van (Univ. of North Carolina, Greensboro):

“Novel Futures”

Michael Levenson (Univ. of Virginia):

“Reading Time”

3.3 The Novel in a State of Emergency

{Renaissance Salon}

Julie Park (McMaster Univ.): Chair

Stephen M. Barber (Univ. of Rhode Island):

“States of Emergency: Woolf, History, and the Novel”

Scott Juengel (Michigan State Univ.):

“The Novel and Catastrophe”

Jonathan Elmer (Indiana Univ., Bloomington):

“‘Vaulted Over by the Present: Melancholia and Sovereignty in Mary Shelley’s *The Last Man*”

Ramesh Kumar Mallipeddi (Cornell Univ.):
“The Problem of Colonial Sovereignty in *Robinson Crusoe*”

3.4 Failures of Communication

{State Suite C}

Ellen Rooney (Brown Univ.): Chair

William Warner (Univ. of California, Santa Barbara):

“Resistance on the Circuit: Communication and Miscommunication in the Novel in the Age of the Postal System”

David Greven (Connecticut Coll.):

“Hawthorne Unfinished: Narcissism, Hawthorne’s Sexuality, and the Novel”

Bruce Robbins (Columbia Univ.):

“Too Much Information”

Clifford Siskin (New York Univ.):

“Do Novels Think Electric Thoughts?”

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Opening Reception at the Biltmore: Grand Ballroom

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

10:00 - 11:45 AM SESSION 4

4.1 The Novel in Transit

{Renaissance Salon}

Sharon Marcus (Columbia Univ.): Chair

Margaret Cohen (Stanford Univ.):

“The Freedom of the Seas”

Wendy Walters (Emerson Coll.):

“Archives of the Black Atlantic”

Colleen Lye (Univ. of California, Berkeley):

“The Fiction of Asian American Pan-Ethnicity”

Caroline Reitz (John Jay Coll., CUNY):

“The Novel’s Mobile Home”

4.2 Revisiting Lukács’s *Theory of the Novel*

{State Suite A}

Timothy Bewes (Brown Univ.): Chair

Jonathan Arac (Univ. of Pittsburgh):

“What Kind of History Does a Theory of the Novel Require?”

William Solomon (SUNY Buffalo):

“The Novel in Distress”

David Cunningham (Univ. of Westminster):

“‘Very Abstract and Terribly Concrete’: Capitalism and *The Theory of the Novel*”

Virginia Krause (Brown Univ.):

“Lukács and the Adventures of Medieval French Romance”

4.3 Postcoloniality in Theory and Fiction

{Salon 6}

Olakunle George (Brown Univ.): Chair

Sanjay Krishnan (Univ. of Pennsylvania):
“Memories of Underdevelopment”

Susan Andrade (Univ. of Pittsburgh):
“Reclaiming Realism for African Novelistic Writing”

Alok Yadav (George Mason Univ.):
“Literature, Fictiveness, and Postcolonial Criticism: The Case of Kipling's *Kim*”

Neil ten Kortenaar (Univ. of Toronto):
“African Literature and the World on Paper”

4.4 Science in the Novel

{State Suite C}

Priscilla Wald (Duke Univ.): Chair

Priscilla Wald (Duke Univ.):
“Octavia Butler’s Ecology of Being”

Patricia E. Chu (SUNY Albany):
“D(NA)-Coding the Ethnic: Jeffrey Eugenides’s *Middlesex*”

Patrick Jagoda (Duke Univ.):
“Stories in the Making: Knowledge, Networks, and Narratives in Amitav Ghosh's *The Calcutta Chromosome*”

Lisa Lynch (Catholic Univ.):
“The Violence of Illiteracy: The Novel and the Future of Scientific Understanding”

12:00 - 2:30 PM

PLENARY PANEL & LUNCH

{Grand Ballroom}

The Novel, the Globe, the Dialectic?

Nicholas Brown (Univ. of Illinois, Chicago): Chair

Ato Quayson (Univ. of Toronto):
“On Revisiting Calibrations: Dialectics Between Narrative and the Social”

Roberto Schwarz (Univ. of São Paulo, Campinas):
“Ex-Colony: Local or Universal?”

Nicholas Brown (Univ. of Illinois, Chicago):
“Modernism and Political Subjectivity”

2:45 - 4:30 PM

SESSION 5

5.1 Lengthiness and Delay in Fiction II

{Salon 6}

Nicholas Dames (Columbia Univ.): Chair

Deidre Lynch (Univ. of Toronto):
“Samuel Richardson's Lifetime Reading Plan”

Mary A. Favret (Indiana Univ., Bloomington):
“Jane Austen’s Periods”

Charlotte Sussman (Duke Univ.):
“Time Wandering: Problems of Witnessing in Romantic-Era Fiction”

Caroline Levine (Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison):
“*Bleak House*: Narrative Networks and the Affordances of Form”

5.2 Historicisms

{Renaissance Salon}

Cora Kaplan (Queen Mary, Univ. of London): Chair

Lisa O'Connell (Johns Hopkins Univ.):

"The Novel's 'Other' History: The Political Origins of the English Marriage Plot"

George Boulukos (Southern Illinois Univ., Carbondale):

"How the Novel Became Middle-Class: A History of the History of the Novel"

Marianne DeKoven (Rutgers Univ.):

"History, Periodization, and the Problem of Twentieth-Century Fiction"

Michael Wood (Princeton Univ.):

"The Facts We Deliver"

5.3 Detachment and Involvement

{State Suite A}

Jeff Nunokawa (Princeton Univ.): Chair

Jeff Nunokawa (Princeton Univ.):

"The Lonely Peace of Lady Steyne: Forgiving and Forgetting Society in *Vanity Fair*"

Daniel Hack (Univ. of Michigan):

"Close Reading at a Distance"

Gage McWeeny (Williams Coll.):

"The Sociology of the Novel"

John Plotz (Brandeis Univ.):

"The Anti-Social J.S. Mill: Detachment as Involvement"

5.4 Anthropology and the Novel

{State Suite C}

Kathy Alexis Psomiades (Duke Univ.): Chair

Christopher Herbert (Northwestern Univ.):

"The Doctrine of Survival, the Great Mutiny, and *Lady Audley's Secret*"

Elsie B. Michie (Louisiana State Univ.):

"Rich Woman, Poor Woman: Toward an Imaginary Anthropology of the Nineteenth-Century Marriage Plot"

James Buzard (Massachusetts Institute of Technology):

"Expansion, Interruption, Autoethnography"

Kathy Alexis Psomiades (Duke Univ.):

"The Marriage Plot in Theory"

4:45 - 6:30 PM

SESSION 6

6.1 From Modern to Postmodern: Theories and Forms of African American Narrative

{State Suite C}

Madhu Dubey (Univ. of Illinois, Chicago): Chair

Rolland Murray (Brown Univ.):

"The Time of Breach: Class Division and the Contemporary African American Novel"

Daylanne English (Macalester Coll.):

"'Being Black There': Racial Subjectivity, Temporality, and Narrative Form in Walter Mosley's Detective Novels"

Jeffrey Allen Tucker (Univ. of Rochester):

"'Verticality Is Such a Risky Enterprise': The Literary and Paraliterary Antecedents of Colson Whitehead's *The Intuitionist*"

Gene Jarrett (Boston Univ.):

“Unauthorized Parody: Margaret Mitchell, Alice Randall, and the Racial Politics of Transformative Fiction”

6.2 The Novel and Mass Culture

{State Suite A}

Rita Barnard (Univ. of Pennsylvania): Chair

Bruce Barnhart (Univ. of North Carolina, Greensboro):

“Prolepsis and Parabasis: Jazz and the Novel”

Lois Cucullu (Univ. of Minnesota):

“Sleep Deprived and Ultra Modern: How Novels Turned Dream Girls into Insomniacs”

Laurie Langbauer (Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill):

“The Novel and Mass Culture: Children and/as Mass Readership”

Dianne F. Sadoff (Rutgers Univ.):

“Becoming Jane Austen at the Multiplex”

6.3 Novel Reading

{Salon 6}

John Plotz (Brandeis Univ.): Chair

Leah Price (Harvard Univ.):

“From Object Narrative to Subject Narrative: David Copperfield and the ‘Biography of Every Book.’”

Nicholas Dames (Columbia Univ.):

“On the Protocols of Victorian Citation”

Rachel Ablow (SUNY Buffalo):

“Reading Victorian Individualism”

David Kurnick (Rutgers Univ.):

“Driven to Abstraction: Eliot’s Heroines and the Subject of Novel-Reading”

6.4 The Novel, Geopolitics, and the State

{Renaissance Salon}

Rebecca Walkowitz (Rutgers Univ.): Chair

Amanda Claybaugh (Columbia Univ.):

“US Consuls and the State Abroad”

Jed Esty (Univ. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign):

“Global Lukács: Modernism, Colonialism, and Novel Theory”

John Marx (Univ. of California, Davis):

“Failed State Fiction”

Jennifer Wicke (Univ. of Virginia):

“A Novel Theory of Terror: The Geopolitics of a Post-National Genre”

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Reception at 102 Benefit Street

.....

Index of Participants

- Ablow, Rachel:** 6.3 Panelist
Alonso, Carlos J.: 2.1 Chair
Andrade, Susan: 4.3 Panelist
Arac, Jonathan: 4.2 Panelist
Barber, Stephen: 3.3 Panelist
Barnard, Rita: 2.2 Panelist, 6.2 Chair
Barnhart, Bruce: 6.2 Panelist
Bennett, Ashly: 2.4 Panelist
Bentley, Nancy: 1.4 Panelist
Berman, Carolyn Vellenga: 2.2 Panelist
Bewes, Timothy: 4.2 Chair and Conference Organizer
Black, Scott: 2.3 Panelist
Boulukos, George: 5.2 Panelist
Briefel, Aviva: 1.1 Panelist
Brown, Nicholas: Plenary Session Chair and Panelist
Buzard, James: 5.4 Panelist
Byler, Lauren: 1.3 Panelist
Chow, Rey: 2.2 Chair
Chu, Patricia E.: 4.4 Panelist
Claybaugh, Amanda: 6.4 Panelist
Cohen, Margaret: 4.1 Panelist
Cohen, William: 2.4 Panelist
Cucullu, Lois: 6.2 Panelist
Cunningham, David: 4.2 Panelist
Currie, Mark: 3.2 Panelist
Dames, Nicholas: 5.1 Chair and 6.3 Panelist
DeKoven, Marianne: 5.2 Panelist
Dillon, Elizabeth Maddock: 2.3 Chair
Drury, Joseph: 2.3 Panelist
Dubey, Madhu: 6.1 Chair
Duncan, Ian: 3.1 Chair and Panelist
Elliott, Jane: 3.1 Panelist
Elmer, Jonathan: 3.3 Panelist
English, Daylanne: 6.1 Panelist
Esty, Jed: 6.4 Panelist
Favret, Mary A.: 5.1 Panelist
Fielding, Penny: 3.1 Panelist
Fleissner, Jennifer: 2.4 Panelist
Flint, Kate: 1.1 Chair and Panelist
George, Olakunle: 4.3 Chair
George, Rosemary Marangoly: 2.2 Panelist
Ginsburg, Michal: 1.2 Panelist
Glover, David: 2.3 Panelist
Greven, David: 3.4 Panelist
Hack, Daniel: 5.3 Panelist
Herbert, Christopher: 5.4 Panelist
Jagoda, Patrick: 4.4 Panelist
Jarrett, Gene: 6.1 Panelist
Jenckes, Kate: 2.1 Panelist
Juengel, Scott: 3.3 Panelist
Kaplan, Cora: 5.2 Chair
Kennedy, Meegan: 2.4 Panelist
Khalip, Jacques: 1.4 Chair
King, Amy M.: 1.2 Panelist
ten Kortenaar, Neil: 4.3 Panelist
Krause, Virginia: 4.2 Panelist
Kreilkamp, Ivan: 1.4 Panelist
Krishnan, Sanjay: 4.3 Panelist
Kurnick, David: 6.3 Panelist
Langbauer, Laurie: 6.2 Panelist
Lanser, Susan S.: 1.3 Panelist
Law, Jules: 1.4 Panelist
Levenson, Michael: 3.2 Panelist
Levine, Caroline: 5.1 Panelist
Lye, Colleen: 4.1 Panelist
Lynch, Deidre: 1.2 Chair, 5.1 Panelist
Lynch, Lisa: 4.4 Panelist
Mallipedi, Ramesh Kumar: 3.3 Panelist
Marcus, Laura: 3.2 Chair
Marcus, Sharon: 4.1 Chair
Massé, Michelle: 1.2 Panelist
McLaughlin, Kevin: 1.3 Chair
McMurrin, Mary Helen: 1.3 Panelist
McWeeny, Gage: 5.3 Panelist
Medina, Alberto: 2.1 Panelist
Mitchie, Elsie B.: 5.4 Panelist
Moretti, Franco: Keynote Speaker
Murray, Rolland: 6.1 Panelist
Nandrea, Lorri: 1.3 Panelist
Novak, Daniel: 1.1 Panelist
Nunokawa, Jeff: 5.3 Chair and Panelist
O'Connell, Lisa: 5.2 Panelist
Park, Julie: 3.3 Chair
Plotz, John: 6.3 Chair and 5.1 Panelist
Pourgouris, Marinos: 2.2 Panelist
Pratt, Lloyd: 1.4 Panelist
Price, Leah: 6.3 Panelist

Psomiades, Kathy Alexis: 5.4 Chair and Panelist

Puckett, Kent: 3.1 Panelist

Quayson, Ato: Plenary Panelist

Reber, Dierdra: 2.1 Panelist

Reitz, Caroline: 4.1 Panelist

Robbins, Bruce: 3.4 Panelist

Rooney, Ellen: 3.4 Chair and Conference Organizer

Ryan, Vanessa: 2.4 Chair

Sadoff, Dianne F.: 6.2 Panelist

Saint-Amour, Paul: 1.1 Panelist

Schwarz, Roberto: Plenary Panelist

Sherman, Stuart: 1.2 Panelist

Siskin, Clifford: 3.4 Panelist

Solomon, William: 4.2 Panelist

Stevenson, Randall: 3.2 Panelist

Tucker, Jeffrey Allen: 6.1 Panelist

Van, Annette: 3.2 Panelist

Wald, Priscilla: 4.4 Chair and Panelist

Walkowitz, Rebecca: 6.4 Chair

Walters, Wendy: 4.1 Panelist

Warner, William: 3.4 Panelist

Wicke, Jennifer: 6.4 Panelist

Winter, Sarah: 2.3 Panelist

Wood, Michael: 5.2 Panelist

Yadav, Alok: 4.3 Panelist