

# What We Read Materiality, Narrative, Text

An Interdisciplinary Conference at The University of Texas at Austin

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Interdisciplinary Conference organized by the Students of the Program in Comparative Literature

# 11 October, 2013

All panels will be held in the College of Liberal Arts Building

Registration and Breakfast: CLA 1.302F

Panels A: CLA 1.302 A Panels B: CLA 1.302 D Panels C: CLA1.302 E

Panel D: CLA 1.302 C

Plenary Address will be held in the Legislative Room of the College of Liberal Arts Building **CLA 0.126** with a reception following.

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## Schedule of Events

See page 1 for room assignments

9:30 am – 10:00am Registration, Breakfast

CLA 1.302F

10:00 am – 11:30 am Panels A1, B1, C1

11:40 am – 1:00 pm Panels A2, B2

1: 00 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm Panels A3, B3, C3

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm Panels A4, B4, D4

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Plenary Address in CLA 0.126

Dr. N. Katherine Hayles

Introduced by Hannah Alpert-Abrams

Welcoming remarks by Dr. Elizabeth Richmond-Garza

Reception to follow the address in CLA 1.302F
[See map insert]

The Program and its Graduate Students would like to thank the following departments and programs for their generous support:

#### Dr. Douglas Biow

and the Center for European Studies

#### Dr. David Birdsong

and the Department of French and Italian

#### Dr. Kristen Brustad

and the Department of Middle Eastern Studies

#### Dr. Elizabeth Cullingford

and the Department of English

#### Dr. Lisa Moore

and the Center for Women's and Gender Studies

#### Dr. Mary Neuburger

and the Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies and CREES

#### Dr. Jill Robbins

and the Department of Spanish and Portuguese

#### **Deans of the College of Liberal Arts:**

Dean of Liberal Arts Randy L. Diehl, Senior Associate Dean Richard Flores, and Associate Dean Esther Raizen

#### The Graduate Student Assembly

#### Special thanks to:

#### Dr. Elizabeth Richmond-Garza

Director, Program in Comparative Literature Distinguished Teaching Associate Professor, English Department

#### Dr. Lynn Wilkinson

Graduate Adviser, Comparative Literature Associate Professor Department of Germanic Studies, College of Liberal Arts and the Center for Women's and Gender Studies

### Judith H. Langlois

Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies

Dean Randy Diehl, Senior Associate Dean Richard Flores, Associate Dean Jamie Southerland, Associate Dean Esther Raizen And the College of Liberal Arts

#### William Fatzinger

Graduate Coordinator, Comparative Literature

#### Cory Hahn and Hannah Alpert-Abrams Conference Organizers

# A Welcome from the Program Director, Dr. Elizabeth Richmond-Garza

In his Passagenwerk, Walter Benjamin observes: "Where walls and doors are made of mirrors there is no telling outside from in, with all the equivocal illumination. Paris is a city of mirrors. ... Ambiguity of the arcades as an ambiguity of space." Modernity is epitomized by these urban arcades, which combine transparency with its inverse, reflection, in a dazzlingly lit multimedia display. Filled with signs, displays, and glass, the arcade operates for its occupants as an always changing textual space where what we read can be erased, repeated, and expanded infinitely. Walls become texts, which multiply into an infinite mise-en-abîme where texts become space itself. Empathy allows each strolling flâneur to become other people as he moves. Texts, I might suggest, reprise Benjamin's dandy of 1900, circulating like a "roving soul in search of a body." With the entrance of any technology from Guttenberg to Zuckerberg, comes a remediation of the verbal, and often a supplementation of it, that is to say a supplementation of the human itself. The anxiety attendant upon material change is matched by the exuberance it simultaneously triggers in our collective cultural expression. The readable performs itself in many venues, many material costumes and in many times. Prismatically, the transnational, networked and varied papers which come together in this conference refract the nature and the implications of what we read. In the pages and hours that follow, a brightly lit display opens for any passerby who wants to step inside.

> Dr. Elizabeth M. Richmond-Garza Director, Program in Comparative Literature Distinguished Teaching Associate Professor, English Department

#### Friday, October 11th - 2013

#### 9:30 am

Registration, Breakfast [CLA 1.302F]

#### 10:00 am - 11:20 am

Session 1 Panels

#### A1: Reading the Postmodern

Moderator: Dr. Katherine Arens

Brian Carroll (Department of English, UT Arlington)

"To 'Make Them Real with His Magic Instrument': Photographic Allusion and the Viewing of Magical Realism"

Chienyn Chi (Program in Comparative Literature, UT Austin)

"Ironic Nostalgia in Steven Chow's Kung Fu Hustle"

Anne Stewart (Department of English, UT Austin) "No, Not the Archive! Zombie Apocalypse and the Breakdown of the Symbolic Order"

Todd Womble (Department of English, UT Arlington)

"Postmodern Diegesis: Tricky Authors and Familiar Narrators"

# B1: Reading Beckett's Media: Surface, Substance, Sound

Moderator: Dr. David D. Kornhaber

Jeffrey Boruszak (Department of English, UT Austin)

"Being, Remaining, and Recovering: The Iterative Ontology of Playback in *Krapp's Last Tape*"

Jesi Egan (Department of English, UT Austin)
"Imagine/Say: Performing the Imperative
In Samuel Beckett's Late Prose"

Courtney Massie (Department of English, UT Austin)

"No Success Like Failure: *Endgame* and the Frustration of Sonata Form"

Elliott Turley (Department of English, UT Austin) "Acts Without Words, Words Without Acts"

### C1: Reading Trauma through Memory

Moderator: Dr. Gabriela Polit

Itay Eisinger (Department of Middle Eastern Studies, UT Austin)

"Dystopian narratives in the writings of the 1948 Arab-Israeli War veterans"

Mike Flynn (Program in Comparative Literature, UT Austin)

"Modernism and Tómas González' La Luz Difícil"

Lauren Shigeko Gaskill (Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UC Irvine)

"Narrating the Firing Squad: Metaphors of Sight and Light in Textual and Visual Representations"

Rachael Mariboho (Department of English, UT Arlington)

"Writing the World: Meta-fictional Magic in Haruki Murakami's 1Q84 and Tea Obreht's The Tiger's Wife"

### 11:40 am - 1:00 pm

Session 2 Panels

# A2: Reading the Popular and/as Resistance

Moderator: Dr. Lynn Wilkinson

Sam Cannon (Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UT Austin)

"I am Aveline de Grandrpé, I am an assassin, and I fight for liberation": Subverting Colonial Control and Playing with Colonial Mimicry in *Assassin's Creed III: Liberation*'s System of Procedural Rhetoric"

Nicholas Holterman (Department of French and Italian, UT Austin)

"Fey"ble: Queering Joseph Campbell's Monomyth as Found in Lionhead Studios' Fable III"

Alejandro Omidsalar (Department of English, UT Austin)

"Breeders and Bleeders: The Queerness of *Blacula*"

# 12: 50 pm - 1:30 pm

Lunch

### 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Session 3 Panels

# A3: Reading Gender in the Archives

Moderator: Dr. César A. Salgado

Ayse Gursoy (School of Information, UT Austin)
[Untitled]

Roanne Kantor (Program in Comparative Literature, UT Austin)

"Chasing your (Josie) Bliss: The archival afterlife of Pablo Neruda's Burmese mistress"

Destini N. Price (Program in Comparative Literature, UT Austin)
"Fama Novi Fontis: The Sexual Curiosity of Minerva in Ovid's Metamorphoses V"

Cindy L. Taylor (School of Information, UT Austin)

"'Unsolved Problems': Virginia Woolf and Archives of the Mind, from Early Fiction to *A Room of One's Own*"

### **B3:** Reading Across Media

Moderator: Dr. Jason Borge

Jake Cowan (Department of Rhetoric and Writing, UT Austin)

"Text as Texts: Translating and Trimming *Ulysses* into Twitterature"

Gretchen Kasting (Department of English, UT Austin)

"Nightmare Dork University: A Case Study of the Alternate Universe in Fan-Created Works"

Michelle Quinones (Dept. of Modern Languages and Literatures, University of Central Florida) "Memory, Dystopia and The Art of Ghosts in Silvina Ocampo's Cornelia frente al espejo and its filmic adaptation"

Lily Zhu (Department of English, UT Austin)
"From Monkey King to Monkey Clown"

# C3: Reading Space & Place

Moderator: Dr. Karen Grumberg

Julianna Leachman (Program in Comparative Literature, UT Austin) "The Word Became Filth: Platonov's *Happy Moscow*"

Sarah Lube Roe (Department of French and Italian, UT Austin)

Theatricality and Framing: The Pavilion in "Madame de Lafayette's *Princesse de Clèves*"

Jenn Shapland (Department of English, UT Austin)

"Paper-thin Walls: neighboring, materiality, & the apartment building in *Building Stories* and *NW*"

## 3:15 pm – 4:45 pm

Session 4 Panels

#### **A4:** Reading Words

Moderator: Dr. Naomi Lindstrom

Daniel Carter (School of Information, UT Austin) LANGUAGE Poetry and Fugu Fish: Redesigning Textual Studies through Bioinformatics

Jonathan Fleck (Program in Comparative Literature, UT Austin)

"Na Minha Fala:' Transcription, Translation, and Appropriated Language in *Macunaima*"

Kaitlin Shirley (Program in Comparative Literature, UT Austin)

"Ellipses and the failed confession in *Notes* From Underground"

Clay Templeton and Rachel Simons (School of Information, UT Austin)
"Automating Ontography"

# **B4:** Re-reading the Colony

Moderator: Dr. Omoniyi Afolabi

Dusty Hixenbaugh (Program in Comparative Literature, UT Austin "Lew Wallace's The Fair God (1873): Or, Guatimozin: Last of the Warrior-Librarians"

Daniela MacGregor Sevilla (Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UT Austin)
"Coloniality and Legibility of the Nation:
Mexico's Education Project in the Pages of El Maestro Rural"

Jocelyn A. Wright (Department of French and Italian, UT Austin)

"Rapping to Remember: Médine's Musical Critique of Colonization"

Nat Zingg (Program in Comparative Literature, UT Austin)

"Archival fever at the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Guevara's death in Ana Menéndez's *Loving Che*"

#### **D4:** Reading Underground

Moderator: Dr. Gretchen Murphy

Rebecca Lippman (Department of Comparative Literature, UCLA)

"A Mysterious Peacock Lands in São Paulo"

Rae Wyse (Program in Comparative Literature, UT Austin)

"Who reads, writes and gets published in Chile?: How Ergo Sum's *Libros* Objetos have contested the dynamics of Chilean literary production"

Nicholas Tschida-Reuter (Indiana University)
"Merengue and Bachata: the official and hidden transcripts of the Dominican soundscape"

# 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Plenary Address by:

Dr. N Katherine Hayles (Duke University)

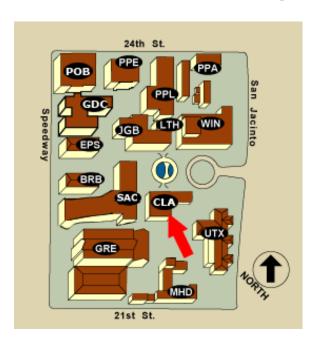
Introduced by Hannah Alpert-Abrams

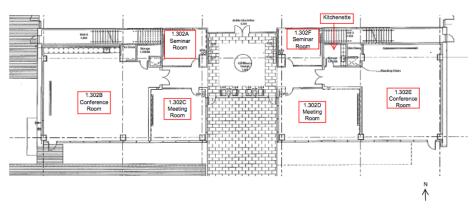
Words of Welcome by Dr. Elizabeth RichmondGarza

# 7:00 pm

Reception
Glickman Conference Center Patio and CLA 1.302F

# Glickman Conference Center Map





### **Index of Participants**

- B1 Jeffrey Boruszak
- A2 Sam Cannon
- A14 Daniel Carter
- Al Brian Carroll
- A1 Chienyn Chi
- **B3** Jake Cowan
- Bl Jesi Egan
- C1 Itay Eisinger
- A4 Jonathan Fleck
- C1 Mike Flynn
- C1 Lauren Gaskill
- A3 Ayse Gursoy
- B4 Dusty Hixenbaugh
- A2 Nicholas Holterman
- **B3** Gretchen Kasting
- C3 Julianna Leachman
- B2 Rebecca Lippman
- B1 Courtney Massie
- C1 Rachael Mariboho
- A2 Alejandro Omidsalar
- A3 Destini Price
- **B3** Michelle Quinones
- C3 Sarah Lube Roe
- B4 Daniela Sevilla
- C3 Jenn Shapland
- A4 Rachel Simons
- A4 Kaitlin Shirley
- Al Anne Stewart
- A3 Cindy Taylor
- A4 Clay Templeton
- **B1** Elliot Turley
- B2 Rae Wyse
- A1 Todd Womble
- B4 Jocelyn Wright
- B4 Nat Zingg

#### **Moderators:**

Dr. Omoniyi Afolabi

Dr. Katherine Arens

Dr. Jason Borge

Dr. Karen Grumberg

Dr. Gretchen Murphy

Dr. David D. Kornhaber

Dr. Naomi Lindstrom

Dr. Gabriela Polit

Dr. César A. Salgado

Dr. Lynn Wilkinson

# Plenary Address by Dr. N. Katherine Hayles



"The Book and the Document: Materiality and Deformation."

N. Katherine Hayles is Professor of Literature and Director of Graduate Studies at Duke University. She teaches and writes on the relations of literature, science and technology in the 20th and 21st centuries. Her book *How We Became Posthuman: Virtual Bodies in Cybernetics, Literature and Informatics* won the Rene Wellek Prize for the Best Book in Literary Theory for 1998-99, and her book *Writing Machines* won the Suzanne Langer Award for Outstanding Scholarship. Her most recent book is *How We Think: Digital Media and Contemporary Technogenesis*.