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# RE-IMAGINING the VICTORIANS

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with Keynote Speaker: Jentery Sayers

“Victorian Activities and the Play of Genre in  
Contemporary Video Games”

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APRIL 18, 2024

9:00-17:10 EST  
(Kingston, Ontario)

Virtual Zoom  
Conference

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Click [here](#) for  
the Zoom link!



# Schedule

## SESSION ONE - 9:00-10:30

### Revisioning Victorian Gender (1A)

**Moderator: Fred Hook, Queen's University**

Barnana Baidya, Independent Scholar

- Exploring Conventions and Rebellion: Hardy's Representation of Women in *Jude the Obscure*

Pritanshu Kar, Jadavpur University

- Contorting Gender Norms: Revisiting *Wuthering Heights*

Shibangi Ghose, Jadavpur University

- Rational Versus Emotion: The Riveting Case of Victorian and Modern Toxic Masculinity in *Sherlock Holmes*

Catherine Marcotte, Queen's University

- A Meal Fit (Only) For a Queen: Transgressive Appetites and Patriarchal Politics in the Ephemera of Queen Victoria's Life

### Post- and De-Colonial Perspectives (1B)

**Moderator: Jacob Aubut, Queen's University**

Aryani Roy, Jadavpur University

- Revisiting *Carmilla*: the conflict of colonizer and colonized

Rupsha Banerjee, Jadavpur University

- "Mr. Lessing will not want his wife being stroked by an Indian": Revisiting Patriarchal and Colonial Anxieties in Victorian London Through Comedy in BBC's *Quacks*

Sabarno Sinha, Jadavpur University

- The Continuing Relevance of the Victorian Indo-Gothic Space of Bombay

April McInnes, Queen's University

- Disrupting the Dominant Discourse with Decolonial Temporality: Challenging Chronological Time and Deploying Ceremonial Time in Drew Hayden Taylor's *The Night Wanderer: A Graphic Novel*

## **Visual Culture, Aestheticism, and Decadence (1C)**

**Moderator: Adam Jackson, Queen's University**

Alokita Raichaudhuri, Jadavpur University

- Rethinking cultures of Victorian visuality in reference to Josef Altholz's "The Mind and Art of Victorian England"

Aisik Maiti

- "The Tyranny of the Novel": *Fin de Siècle Popular Publishing* in Britain c.1890-1900

Sritama Mukhopadhyay, Jadavpur University

- Filth teaches filth, but what does art teach? Intertextual eras: Plays of the 16th vs the 19th Century

Anna Grace Ebert, Kennesaw State University

- The Looking Glass: Decadent Themes and Reflections in Ella Hepworth's Dixon's *The Story of a Modern Woman*

## **SESSION TWO - 10:30-12:00**

### **'Otherness' and Deviant Encounters (2A)**

**Moderator: Nicholas Marcelli, Queen's University**

Alperen Yedekçi, Social Sciences University of Ankara

- Otherworldly Encounters: Exploring Vampiricism in *Dracula* and Fantastic Creatures in *Alice in Wonderland* – An Investigation into Otherness and Fantastical Elements in the Victorian Era

Ali Bal, Social Sciences University of Ankara

- Heathcliff's Otherness: The Construction of a Victim-Turned-Perpetrator in *Wuthering Heights*

Erin Gilbert, Queen's University

- The Butcher, The Baker, The Human-Pie Maker: Adaptations of Sweeney Todd and the Fascination with True Crime

Jacob Aubut, Queen's University

- Spectacle, Violence, and the Banality of Evil in *Dan Leno and the Limehouse Golem*

## **Reconceptualizing Women's Relationships (2B)**

**Moderator: Dr. Lara Karpenko, Carroll University**

Paramita Routh Roy, Jadavpur University

- The Queer Gaze in *Ammonite*: Re-imagining the Female Sexual Desire

Dr. Irina Rabinovich, Holon Institute of Technology

- Reimagining Victorian Women Writers: Unveiling Grace Aguilar's Literary Legacy Through Epistolary Exchange

Faith Montagnino, University of Scranton

- “Unsexing Ourselves”: Proto-Feminism in Victoria Cross’s “Theodora” and Sarah Grand’s “Woman Question”

Alivia Hanson, Carroll University

- Sisterhood in Rossetti’s “Goblin Market”

## **Psychoanalysis and Rethinking ‘Madness’ (2C)**

**Moderator: Dr. Maura Ives, Texas A&M University**

Protiti Maji, Jadavpur University

- Reconceptualizing madness in Jean Rhys's *Wide Sargasso Sea*

Anurag Ghosh, Sister Nivedita University

- What lies within, lies Beyond: A posthumanist psychoanalytic reading of R. L. Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

Zebulon Mikula, Holy Family University

- The Victorian Mental Asylum: Separating Media Myth From Reality

Feryn Wade-Lang, University of Guelph

- “Am I a Monster?”: Neurotrans and Reproductive Labour in *Jane Eyre*

Elizabeth Marszalek, Rutgers University

- “Live, move, and have her being in another”: Dissociation and Doppelgängers in Charlotte Brontë's *Villette*

## **Death and the Occult (2D)**

**Moderator: Sidney Robichaud, Queen's University**

Titas Choudhury, Jadavpur University

- Alcestis, Dionysus, and Sydney Carton: Sacrifice and Resurrection in *A Tale of Two Cities*

Riddhi Guha, Jadavpur University

- Exploring Victorian occultism: A study on occultist periodicals

Katherine Robbins, University of Rhode Island

- What Still Haunts Us: Victorian Spiritualism in the Contemporary Novel

Brynn Valuch, Carroll University

- One Dress in the Grave: Victorian Mourning Culture, Sexism, and Modern Standards

## KEYNOTE AND BREAK - 12:00-14:00

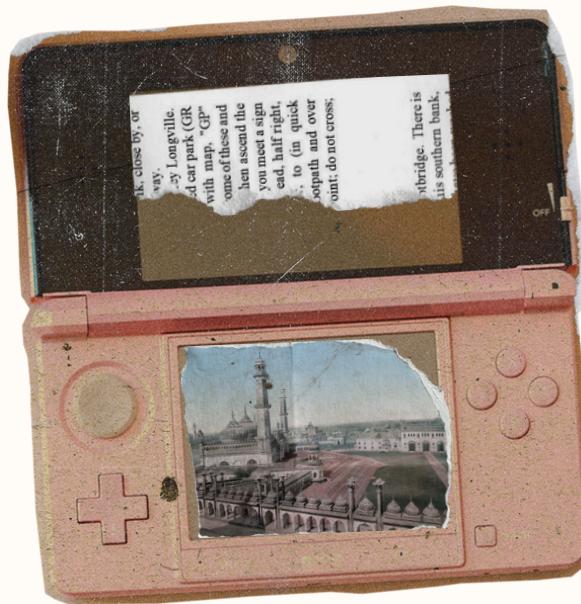
Break: 12:00-12:45

Keynote: 12:45-13:45

Break: 13:45-14:00

### **Dr. Jentery Sayers, University of Victoria “Victorian Activities and the Play of Genre in Contemporary Video Games”**

Jentery Sayers (he/him) is Director of Media Studies and Associate Professor of English at the University of Victoria. He's the editor of three books: *Making Things and Drawing Boundaries* (U. of Minnesota Press 2017), *The Routledge Companion to Media Studies and Digital Humanities* (2018), and *Digital Pedagogy in the Humanities* (MLA 2020, with Davis, Gold, and Harris). He's currently writing a new book on the play of genre in contemporary video games, and his most recent publications address topics such as algorithmic accountability, artificial intelligence, autoethnographies of mediation, and minimal computing from the labour perspective.



## **SESSION THREE - 14:00-15:30**

### **Re-engaging with the Nonhuman ‘Other’: Ecocritical Perspectives (3A)**

**Moderators: Liayana Jondy, Queen’s University and Noah Gallego, California State Polytechnic University**

Ngam Gooch

- Alfred Hitchcock, Man, and Nature: An Eco-critical Reading of “The Birds”

Mikayla Wilson, Queen’s University

- The Anthropomorphic Other: An Analysis of The King of Cats Folktale in Mary Shelley’s *On Ghosts*

Max Kaisler, Berkeley University

- Trusting the Weather-frog: Conspiracies of Conjugal Life in 19th Century German Media

Sidney Robichaud, Queen’s University

- The Gothic Garden: Cultivation, Gardening, and Empire in Emily Brontë’s *Wuthering Heights*

### **Gender and Performance (3B)**

**Moderator: Erin Gilbert, Queen’s University**

Alex Eubanks, Kennesaw State University

- The Victorian Image of the *Femme Fatale* and Its Effects on Feminist Figures in Contemporary Popular Culture

Kailey Pire, Rutgers University

- The Performativity of Gender as Escapism in Bronte’s *Villette*

Nancy La, Queen’s University

- “The Perfect West-End Swell”: Gender Performance in the Victorian Music Hall

Sarai Ramos Cedres, Universitat de València

- *Treasure Island* at the National Theatre: A Question of Gender

## **Medicine, Illness, and Disease (3C)**

**Moderator: Catherine Marcotte, Queen's University**

Réka Törzsök, University of Debrecen

- “Unfold to the world the deepest mysteries of creation”: Scientific Experimentation in *Frankenstein* and *The Island of Doctor Moreau*

Fred Hook, Queen's University

- “The refuse of London”: Disease, the Working-Class, and the Industrial Revolution in Peter Ackroyd’s *Dan Leno & The Limehouse Golem*

Aiden Hickey, Queen's University

- Darwin’s *Autobiographies*: Professional Ethos in the Early Nineteenth Century

Lauren Waters, Queen's University

- Bloodlust and Blood Loss in *Carmilla*: Menstrual Madness and Nymphomania in the 19th Century

## **SESSION FOUR - 15:30-17:00**

### **Behaviour, Interiority, and Conduct (4A)**

**Moderator: Dr. Lara Karpenko, Carroll University**

Sambuddha Ray, Presidency University

- “The cultivation of human faculty *is* culture”: When Bankimchandra Read Arnold

Rebekah Love, Western Michigan University

- Artifice and Empathy: The Rhetorical Construction of *Middlemarch*

Marisa Rath, Carroll University

- Mind Your Manners!: Exploring the Instruction of Victorian Children’s Literature

Aubrey Accomando, Carroll University

- Are 19th-Century Conduct Manual Ideals Still Being Instilled in Women?: An Analysis of Victorian Themes in Music Within the Last Century

Brandon Roder, Carroll University

- Aestheticizing the Outcast: An Analysis of Rossetti’s “Jenny”

## **Victorian Influences Today (4B)**

### **Moderator: Nancy La, Queen's University**

Debarati Pal, Jadavpur University

- Trends in Tourism: The Continuing Influence of Victorian Travel

Susana Valdes, Florida International University

- Romancing the Victorian: Depictions of Victorian Literary Figures in Otome Games

Jey Russell, University of Guelph

- The Marriage of Genres in the *Code: Realize* Games

Maria Radish, Carroll University

- Don't Give in to the Goblin Men: Rossetti's "Goblin Market" and Caution in a Consumerist World

## **Victorian Domesticity and its Complexities (4C)**

### **Moderator: April McInnes, Queen's University**

Roopsa Upadhyaya, Jadavpur University

- Female relationships, class and female homosocial space in Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*

Amar Roy, Presidency University

- Looking Back at the Victorian Entanglement of Motherhood through the Modern Mother: Feminine Space(s) in Mona Caird's "Morality of Marriage," Doris Lessing's "To Room Nineteen," and Domee Shi's *Bao*

Donna Tillotson, Queen's University

- The String of Perils: A Domestic Disarray

Rachel Pluta, Carroll University

- Masters of the House: The Victorian New Woman

## **Expanding the Canon: Unconventional Readings (4D)**

**Moderator: Dr. Brooke Cameron, Queen's University**

Nicholas Marcelli, Queen's University

- A Study in Springfield: *The Simpsons* and the Parodic Transmediality of Victorian Literature

Adam Jackson, Queen's University

- To Hell With Morality: A Victorian Nod to Ian Hinckfuss Through Decadence

Jennifer Jakob, Queen's University

- Eroticizing the Victorians in Yana Toboso's Manga *Kuroshitsuji*

**CLOSING REMARKS - 17:00-17:10**