

# NOVEL THEORY

Conference of the Society for Novel Studies

Statler Hotel

Ithaca, NY, May 31-June 2



Sponsors: Cornell University (College of Arts and Sciences, Society for the Humanities, Departments of English, German, Romance Studies), Ithaca College, the V21 Collective, and *NOVEL: A Forum on Fiction*

**Conference organizers: Amanda Claybaugh, Anna Kornbluh, Caroline Levine**

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## Thursday, May 31

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**Thursday 1:00 pm-: registration in the Statler Loews Lobby and coffee, tea, and snacks in the Conference Foyer**

### **Thursday 12:00-2:00 pm Cornell event open to all SNS registrants**

The Department of Comparative Literature and the Class of 1916 Chair present **Sylvie Patron** (Université Paris-Diderot, Vice President, International Society for the Study of Narrative). Her talk is entitled, **“The Narrator: A Historical and Epistemological Approach to Narrative Theory.”** Location: English Lounge, 258 Goldwin Smith Hall. Lunch will be provided.

### **Thursday 2:30-4:30 pm: Student workshops and peripatetic seminar**

**Leader: Amanda Claybaugh (Harvard University)**

**Room: Pennsylvania**

Victoria Baena (Yale)

Sungmey Lee (Johns Hopkins)

Charlotte Lindemann (Stanford)

Maggie McGowan (Yale)

Pritika Pradhan (Rutgers)

Diana Rosenberger (Wayne State)

**Leader: Anna Kornbluh (University of Illinois, Chicago)**

**Room: Taylor A**

Zach Fruit (University of Pennsylvania)

Gabriele Lazzari (Rutgers)

Nathan Likert (Cornell)

Evan Radeen (University of Michigan)

Sezen Unluonen (Harvard)

Sujin Youn (UCLA)

**Leader: John Marx (University of California, Davis)**

**Room: Taylor B**

Henry Ivry (Toronto)

Mi Jeong Lee (Indiana University)

Joseph Randolph (University of Buffalo)

Heidi Smith (University of Illinois, Chicago)

Sushmita Sircar (NYU)

Alexa Valenzuela (Rutgers)

**Leader: Jesse Rosenthal (Johns Hopkins)**

Amy Coté (Toronto)  
Shannon Draucker (Boston University)  
Daniel Kasper (Arizona)  
Yuki Katsuta (University of Tokyo)  
Lacey Muckle (Rutgers)  
Yumi Dineen Shiroma (Rutgers)

**Room: Harvard**

**Leader: Jordan Alexander Stein (Fordham)**

Tiffany Bassett (University of Buffalo)  
Gabriella Friedman (Cornell)  
Rebecca Macklin (Cornell)  
Michael Mlekoday (University of California, Davis)  
Finola Prendergast (Notre Dame)  
Wyatt Sarafin (NYU)

**Room: Brown**

**Leader: Rebecca Walkowitz (Rutgers)**

Olivia Milroy Evans (Cornell)  
Mary Pappalardo (Louisiana State)  
Rebekah Rosenfeld (University of Chicago)  
Zuleima J. Ugalde (California State University)  
Megan Strackbein (Stanford)  
Alexander Ullman (University of California, Berkeley)

**Room: Dartmouth**

**Peripatetic seminar (Leader: John Plotz, Brandeis)**

**Meet: Statler Lobby** (rain meeting room: Statler Amphitheater)

## **Thursday, 4:45-6:30 Reception, Statler Ballroom**

**Reception for all NOVEL THEORY participants, sponsored by the V21 Collective**  
**Welcome remarks:** Caroline Levine (Cornell) and Anna Kornbluh (Illinois-Chicago)

**Thursday dinner: on your own.** If you don't have plans and would like to eat at a nearby Collegetown restaurant with other conference-goers, please sign up for a group meal at the reception.

## **Thursday, 8:30 pm-**

**Film screening and discussion of *Remainder* (directed by Omer Fast, based on Tom McCarthy's novel)**  
Hollis E. Cornell Auditorium, Goldwin Smith Hall  
Hosted by Michaela Brangan (Cornell)

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## Friday June 1

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### Friday, beginning 8:30 am

Breakfast, including hot items and coffee, served in the Statler's Conference Foyer. Continuous refreshments, coffee, and tea served here all day. Registration materials available in the Loews Lobby.

### Friday, 9:00-10:15 am

#### Panels

**A. The Novel and the Knowable: A Post Truth Inquiry Room: SHA 391**

Harris Feinsod (Northwestern University)

"The Secret History of Costaguana Amid the Ruins of Globalization"

Carlos Amador (Michigan Technological University)

"Non-Knowledge and the Latin American Novel: Toward a Theory of Non-Reflective Marxism"

Héctor Hoyos (Stanford University)

"Evocative Objects and Hyperfetishism in the Contemporary Novel"

Dierdra Reber (University of Kentucky)

"Marxist Affect? Between Rita Felski and Rodrigo Hasbún"

Respondent: Debra Castillo (Cornell)

**B. A Roundtable on Catherine Gallagher's *Telling it Like it Wasn't* Room: SHA 265**

**Panelists:**

Rachel Ablow (University at Buffalo)

Ayelet Ben-Yishai (University of Haifa)

Rae Greiner (Indiana University)

Nasser Mufti (University of Illinois-Chicago)

Deidre Lynch (Harvard University)

Paul Saint-Amour (University of Pennsylvania)

**Respondent:** Catherine Gallagher (University of California-Berkeley)

**Chair:** Daniel Hack (University of Michigan)

**C. Perilous Democracy and the American Novel Room: Yale/Princeton**

Dale Bauer (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

"Serial Novels, Serial Power"

Elizabeth Duquette (Gettysburg College)

"The Young Man from the Provinces": Plotting American Tyranny"

Elizabeth Maddock Dillon (Northeastern University)

"Hawthorne and the Gag Rule"

Chair: Shirley Samuels (Cornell)

**D. Realism and South Asian Novels: how much do terms travel? Room: Pennsylvania**

Rijuta Mehta (University of Toronto)

"Anticolonialism in Mahasweta Devi's Forest Novels"

Snehal Shingavi (University of Texas, Austin)

"Joginder Paul: The Allegory of Realism"

Susan Andrade (University of Pittsburgh)

"Telling the Emergency in Realist Prose: What's Gender Got to do with it?"

Chair: Susan Andrade

**E. Linear and non-linear Room: SHA 351**

Rob Colson (Brigham Young University)

"Metafiction as Realism in Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun*"

Nicolas Vandeviver (Columbia University)

"The Novel in the Colonial Present, or the Mediation of Slow Violence in a Slow Medium"

Stephen Shapiro (University of Warwick)

"World-System: Warwick Research Collective and the Problem of the Novel"

Chair: Chris Berardino (Cornell)

**F. Comparative Properties of the Global Novel Room: Taylor**

Debjani Ganguly (University of Virginia)

"Catastrophic Comparisons: Reading Indra Sinha's *Animal's People* Via Chernobyl"

Ben Baer (Princeton University)  
"Globules"

Sangeeta Ray (University of Maryland)  
"Reading for Form: Amitav Ghosh's trilogy as a Double Decker Novel"

Chair: Sangeeta Ray

**G. Information Heroes in the Novel Room: SHA 198**

Nancy Glazener (University of Pittsburgh)  
"Information in Police Procedural Novels"

Erin A. Smith (University of Texas, Dallas)  
"Gender, Information, and the State"

Philip Joseph (University of Colorado, Denver)  
"Rogue Heroines and the Secret Intelligence of War"

Penny Fielding (University of Edinburgh)  
"Secrecy and Sympathy"

Chair: Philip Joseph

**H. Multiple Times, Material Books Room: SHA 196**

Sarah Wasserman (University of Delaware)  
"On Transience, On Typography"

Margo Crawford (University of Pennsylvania)  
"Moving On By Holding On: The Textual Production of Pause as Slow Motion"

Priya Joshi (Temple University)  
"Staple Commodities"

Emily Hyde (Rowan University)  
"Photographic Futures"

Chair: Emily Hyde

**I. Deranging Forms Room: SHA 341**

Coilin Parsons (Georgetown University)  
"Long Form and Deep Time"

Aaron Rosenberg (Cornell University)

“On Being the Right Size’: Compression and Narrative Form”

Sarah Osment (New College of Florida)

“Scale Effects, Reading, and the Contemporary Ecological Novel”

Chair: Nathan Hensley (Georgetown)

**J. Episode/ Episodic Room: SHA 398**

Seeta Chaganti, (UC Davis)

Episode/Interval

Katherine Fusco, (U. Nevada-Reno)

“The Unhappy Episodes of Horace McCoy’s Novel of Attrition, *They Shoot Horses, Don’t They?*”

Sarah Cole (Columbia)

“The Novel as Episode: Reading H. G. Wells”

Chair: John Plotz (Brandeis)

**K. Optional Narrator Theory I Room: Rowe**

Jonathan Culler (Cornell University)

“Lyric Poems and the Problem of the Narrator”

Vincenz Pieper (Göttingen University)

“Real Authors, Real Narrators and the Rhetoric of Fiction”

John Brenkman (City University of New York Graduate Center and Baruch College)

“Novelistic Voice and Narrative Time”

Chair: Sylvie Patron (University of Paris Diderot)

## 10:30-12:30 Friday

### Keyword seminars

**A. Contemporary Room: Pennsylvania**

**Leaders:** Nancy Armstrong (Duke University) and Tim Bewes (Brown University)

**Presenters:** Priya Joshi (Temple University), Roberto Dainotto (Duke University), Alexander Millen (University of Pennsylvania), and Peter Boxall (University of Sussex)

**Participants:** Thom Dancer, Paula McGrath, Molly MacVeagh, Nancy Glazener, Sushmita Sircar, Joelle Mann, Maria Bose, Kinohi Nishikawa, Emily Hyde, Jan Steyn, Bala Venkat Mani, Gabriella Friedman, Daniel Kasper, Gabriele Lazzari, Khachig Tololyan, Sujin Youn, Sarah Wasserman, Erin Smith, Erin Prior, Magalí Armillas-Tiseyra, Anne Garland Mahler, Ellen Rooney, Mary Pappalardo, Julie Hipp, Glenda Carpio, Steven Ambrose, Hector Hoyos, Vinh Nguyen, Hayley O'Malley, Sheri-Marie Harrison, Matthew Hart, Martin Puchner, Ulka Anjaria

**B. Data Room: Yale/Princeton**

**Leaders:** John Marx (University of California, Davis) and Jesse Rosenthal (Johns Hopkins)

**Presenters:** Tess McNulty (Harvard), Kalyan Nadiminti (Haverford), Richard Jean So (McGill), Ted Underwood (University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana), Megan Ward (Oregon State)

**Participants:** Dan Sinykin, Adam Grener, Aarthi Vadde, Nicholas Dames, Diana Rosenberger, Zuleima J. Ugalde, Debjani Ganguly, Sarah Cole, Michael Rubenstein, Søren Frank, Rachel Buurma, Malcolm Bare, Sayan Bhattacharyya, Jonathan Kramnick

**C. Plot Room: Taylor**

**Leader:** Yoon Sun Lee (Wellesley College)

**Presenters:** Pardis Dabashi (Boston University), Elaine Freedgood (NYU), Billy Galperin (Rutgers), Brian Richardson (Maryland), Wendy Xin (Berkeley)

**Participants:** Rebekah Rosenfeld, Katie Trumpener, Finola Prendergast, Sungmey Lee, Ezra Feldman, Sylvie Patron, Jonathan Culler, Valerie Rohy, Ayelet Ben-Yishai, Penny Fielding, Deirdre Lynch, Yumi Dineen Shiroma, Andrew Franta, Lacey Muckle, Charlotte Lindemann, Nathan Likert, Priyanka Jacob, Pritika Pradhan, Arielle Zibrak, Dora Zhang, Amanda Claybaugh, Kasia Bartoszynska, Sezen Unluonen, Emily Steinlight, Robert Tally, Paul Nadal, Scott Selisker, Stephen Shapiro, Philip Joseph, Namwali Serpell, Maria Su Wang, Wendy Allison Lee, Henry Ivry, Stephanie DeGooyer, Daniel Hack

**D. Affect Room: Rowe**

**Leader:** Pamela Gilbert (University of Florida)

**Presenters:** Zach Samalin (University of Chicago), David James (Birmingham), Bojan Srbinovski (Cornell), and Eleanor Courtemanche (University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana)

**Participants:** Rebecca Colesworthy, Greger Andersson, Nathan Hensley, Joseph Randolph, Shannon Draucker, Elizabeth McNeill, John Brenkman, Ellis Hanson, David Coombs, Kathleen Lubey, Evan Radeen, Emily Direen, Rae Greiner, Ismail Muhammad, Dean Franco, Ivan Kreilkamp, Alexander Ullman, John Lurz, Devorah Fischler, Rebecca Macklin, Rachel Ablow, Shirley Samuels, Katie Gilbert, Nicole Lobdell, Rae Gaubinger, Lauren Gillingham,



David Winters, Mark Wollaeger, Briana Best, Daniella Gati, Supritha Rajan, Ani Bezirdzhyan, Talia Schaffer, Dierdra Reber, Anna Maria Jones

**E. Lukacs Room: SHA 341**

**Leader:** Ben Parker (Brown University)

**Presenters:** Natalie Amleshi (University of Pennsylvania), Corbin Hiday (University of Illinois, Chicago), Matthew Price (Pennsylvania State), and Carie Schneider (University of Arizona)

**Participants:** Vasugi Kailasam, Sangeeta Ray, Oded Nir, Mi Jeong Lee, Yuki Katsuta, Jeffrey Lawrence, Jennifer Fleissner, Christian Thorne, Paul Stasi, Michael Mlekoday, Ruth McAdams, Kelly Swartz, Maggie McGowan, Kristen Pond, Jonathan Aguirre, Nasser Mufti, Heidi Smith, Matthew Taft, Umberto Mazzei, Tricia Matthew

**F. Length Room: SHA 391**

**Leader:** Bradley Fest (Hartwick College)

**Presenters:** Alex Creighton (Harvard University), Alley Edlebi (Cornell University), Andrew Ferguson (Washington and Lee), Jason Potts (St Francis Xavier), Robert Ryan (University of Illinois, Chicago), and Aaron Vieth (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

**Participants:** Magdalena Fricke, Ignacio Sanchez Prado, Karen Steigman, Aaron Rosenberg, John Plotz, Elizabeth Duquette, Jill Richards, Tiffany Bassett, Victoria Baena, Nicholas Vandeviver, Olivia Milroy Evans

## **12:30-2:15 Friday: Lunch and Plenary Roundtable, Ballroom**

### **Roundtable on “Theory of the Novel Now”**

**Presenters:**

Nicholas Dames (Columbia)

Debjani Ganguly (University of Virginia)

Kate Marshall (Notre Dame)

Ignacio Sanchez Prado (Washington University in St Louis)

Jordan Alexander Stein (Fordham University)

**Chair:** Anna Kornbluh (University of Illinois, Chicago)

## 2:30-4:30 Friday: Novel seminars

- A. **Madame de Lafayette**, *La Princesse de Cleves* (1678, Oxford World's Classics, 1992, translated from French by Terence Cave) **Room: Yale/Princeton**

**Seminar co-leaders:** Deidre Lynch, Harvard University, and Katie Trumpener, Yale University

**Participants:** Rachel Ablow, Greger Andersson, Elaine Auyoung, Trish Bredar, John Brenkman, Ezra Feldman, Penny Fielding, Devorah Fischler, Chris Freeburg, Zach Fruit, William Galperin, Rae Gaubinger, Nancy Glazener, Adam Grener, Stephanie Insley Hershinow, Priyanka Jacob, Maha Jafri, Philip Joseph, Ivan Kreilkamp, Nathan Likert, Nicole Lobdell, Kathleen Lubey, Maggie McGowan, Elsie Michie, Ben Parker, Sylvie Patron, John Plotz, Kristen Pond, Pritika Pradhan, Rebekah Rosenfeld, Michael Rubenstein, Talia Schaffer, Jane Steyn, Kelly Swartz, Zuleima J. Ugalde, Ted Underwood, Aaron Vieth, Wendy Veronica Xin

- B. **Benito Pérez Galdós**, *Tristana* (1892, New York Review Books, 2014, translated from Spanish by Margaret Jull Costa) **Room: Taylor A and B**

**Seminar co-leaders:** Julia Chang, Cornell University, and David Kurnick, Rutgers University

**Participants:** Natalie Amleshi, Victoria Baena, Katarzyna Bartoszynska, Tiffany Bassett, Brianna Best, Ani Bezirdzhyan, Keith Clavin, Amanda Claybaugh, Yuri Dineen Shiroma, Shannon Draucker, Joseph Drury, Jennifer Fleissner, Andrew Franta, Daniel Hack, Ellis Hanson, Anna Henchman, Hector Hoyos, Yuki Katsuta, Anna Kornbluh, Jeffrey Lawrence, Caroline Levine, Charlotte Lindemann, Ruth McAdams, Alex Millen, Lacey Muckle, Kevin Ohi, Sarah Ross, Zach Samalin, Jonah Siegel, Elisabeth Strayer, Daniel Wright, Dierdra Reber, Umberto Mazzei

- C. **Vivek Shanbhag**, *Ghachar Ghochar* (2013, Penguin translation from Kannada by Sainath Perur, 2017) **Room: SHA 391**

**Seminar co-leaders:** Ulka Anjaria, Brandeis University, and Aarthi Vadde, Duke University

**Participants:** Ayelet Ben-Yishai, Rebecca Colesworthy, Amy Coté, Matthew Eatough, Debjani Ganguly, Katie Gilbert, Robert Higney, Janice Ho, Vasugi Kailasam, Gabriele Lazzari, Nasser Mufti, Kalyan Nadiminti, Sangina Patnaik, Joseph Randolph, Sangeeta Ray, Kelly Rich, Brian Richardson, Jocelyn Rodal, Tania Roy, Sarah Schwartz, Sushmita Sircar, Christian Thorne, Krithika Vachali, Alexa Valenzuela, Megan Ward, Eugenia Zuroski, Brian Richardson, Heidi Smith, Krithika Vachali, Agota Marton

**D. Yoko Tawada, *Memoirs of a Polar Bear*.** (New Directions, 2016; translated from the German by Susan Bernofsky) **Room: SHA 351**

**Seminar co-leaders:** Martin Puchner, Harvard, and Rebecca L. Walkowitz, Rutgers University

**Participants:** Jonathan Aguirre, Maria Bose, Glenda Carpio, Seeta Chaganti, Elisha Cohn, Sarah Cole, Robert Colson, Eleanor Courtemanche, Thom Dancer, Brett deBary, Dean Franco, Mary Galbraith, Daniella Gáti, Chris Holmes, David James, Anna Maria Jones, Mi Jeong Lee, John Lurz, Rebecca Macklin, Molly MacVeagh, Bala Venkat Mani, Paula McGrath, Elizabeth McNeill, Paul Nadal, Julie Beth Napolin, Finola Prendergast, Erin Prior, Megan Quigley, Martin Quinn, Bruce Robbins, Diana Rosenberger, Erin Smith, Katherine Snyder, Sezen Unluonen, Sarah Wasserman, Tim Wientzen, David Winters, Susan Zeiger

## **4:45-7:30 Friday: Conversation followed by conference reception, Statler Ballroom**

### **Novelist Helena Maria Viramontes in conversation with Dean Franco:**

Helena Maria Viramontes is Professor of English at Cornell and author of *The Moths and Other Stories* (Arte Público Press, 1995), *Under the Feet of Jesus* (Penguin, 1995), and *Their Dogs Came With Them* (Simon and Schuster, 2007). She has won the Luis Leal Award and the John Dos Passos Award for Literature.

Dean Franco is Professor of English at Wake Forest University and author two books on ethnic American literature. In 2015, he published an article titled, "Metaphors Happen: Miracle and Metaphor in Helena María Viramontes's *Their Dogs Came with Them*" in the journal *NOVEL*.

**Introduction:** Chris Holmes (Ithaca College)

**Session sponsored by Ithaca College**

**Friday dinner: on your own.** If you don't have plans and would like to eat at a nearby Collegetown restaurant with other conference-goers, please sign up for a group meal at the reception.

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## Saturday June 2

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### Saturday, beginning 8:30 am

Breakfast, including hot items and coffee, served in the Statler's Conference Foyer. Continuous refreshments, coffee, and tea served here all day.

### 9:00-10:15 Saturday

#### Panels

**A. Queer theory and the novel**

**Room: Pennsylvania**

Steven Ambrose (Emerson College)

"This Bridge Called My Book: Biomythography and Lesbian Hermeneutics"

Valerie Rohy (University of Vermont)

"Queer "Misadventure" and Racial Contingency"

E. L. McCallum (Michigan State)

"Life Drive as Narrative Principle"

Kevin Ohi (Boston College)

"Posthumous Narration in Flann O'Brien"

Chair: Ellis Hanson (Cornell)

**B. Refugees**

**Room: Yale/Princeton**

Søren Frank (University of Southern Denmark)

"Fluid Europe: Forms of Refuge in Ben Jelloun's Leaving Tangier and Oksanen's Purge"

Vinh Nguyen (University of Waterloo)

"Fictitious Disclosures: The Narrative Demands of Refuge"

Tania Roy and Vasugi Kailasam (National University of Singapore):

“Bequeathing Form to Bare Life: A Reading of Anuk Arudpragasam’s *The Story of a Brief Marriage*”

Venkat Mani (University of Wisconsin-Madison):  
“Novel/Essay: New German Writings on Refugees”

Chair: Venkat Mani

**C. Other Artistic Lives of African American Novelists                      Room: SHA 291**

Autumn Womack (Princeton), “‘The Last Black Cargo’: Zora Neal Hurston’s Cinematic Aesthetic”

Melissa Barton (Yale), “‘The Problem of the Hero’: Liberating Bigger Thomas on Stage”

Hayley O’Malley (University of Michigan), “Toni Cade Bambara and the Dream of Black Cinema”

Chair: Hayley O’Malley

**D. Human All Too NonHuman    Room: SHA 341**

Ivan Kreilkamp (Indiana University)  
“Meat, Flesh, Skin: the Carnality of The Secret Agent”

Robert Higney (City College of New York, CUNY)  
"Persons Writing"

Joseph Drury (Villanova)  
"Technology and the Novel's Forms"

Chair: George Hutchinson (Cornell)

**E. Defamiliarizing Heterosexuality in 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Novels                      Room: SHA 351**

Eugenia Zuroski (McMaster University)  
“The Courtship Novel’s Queerer Theories”

Kathleen Lubey (St John’s University)  
“Genitals and Their Prosthetics”

Stephanie Insley Hershinow (Baruch College, CUNY)  
“The Incest Plot”

Chair: Stephanie Insley Hershinow

**F. Exogeneous Theory    Room: SHA 445**

Rachel Fest (Hartwick College and SUNY Cobleskill)  
“Friedrich Hayek’s Novel Theory”

Stuart Burrows (Brown University)  
"Are Novels the Best Place to Look for a Theory of the Novel?"

Matthew Eatough (Baruch College, CUNY)  
"The Novel in an Age of Intellectual Property"

Maria Bose (Clemson University)  
"Postracial Formation in Recent US Fiction"

Chair: Stuart Burrows

**G. Gender Novelities** **Room: SHA 441**

Karen Steigman (Otterbein University)  
"Art Monsters and Airless Spaces: Stagnation Theory in the Novel"

Andrew Franta (University of Utah)  
"Jane Austen and the Morphology of the Marriage Plot"

Anna Maria Jones (Central Florida)  
"Memory, Mimicry, and Mastery: Rewriting Imperial Masculinities in Ishiguro's *When We Were Orphans*"

Chair: Megan Ward (Oregon State)

**H. Transnational Form: The Novel after the Nation** **Room: SHA 391**

Sheri-Marie Harrison (University of Missouri) and Andrew Hoberek (University of Missouri)  
"The Novel of Migrancy: Whitehead, Hamid, and the Irrealism of Travel"

Matthew Hart (Columbia University)  
"A Political Geography of the Contemporary Historical Novel"

Janice Ho (University of Colorado-Boulder)  
"Scaling Human Rights in Michael Ondaatje's *Anil's Ghost*"

Chair: Andrew Hoberek

**I. On What There Is in the Novel** **Room: SHA 398**

Daniel Wright (University of Toronto)  
"Existence and the Underground of the Novel"

Alicia Christoff (Amherst College)  
"How Many Worlds Are There in a Novel? Balint, Hardy, and the 'Friendly Expenses' of *The Return of the Native*"

Jocelyn Rodal (Pennsylvania State University)  
"On Mathematics as a Fiction: The Ontology of Abstractions"

Joshua Gang (University of California, Berkeley)  
"Without Molloy"

Chair: Daniel Wright

**J. Contemporary publishing: Conglomeration, Kindles, and Comps** **Room: SHA 396**

Dan Sinykin (Notre Dame)  
"The Conglomerate Era: Publishing and Literary Form"

Laura McGrath (Michigan State)  
"Comps"

Kinohi Nishiwaka (Princeton)  
"The Kindle Era: Urban Fiction and Digital Self-Publishing"

Chair: Dan Sinykin

**K. The Global South Novel** **Room: Taylor**

Magalí Armillas-Tiseyra (Pennsylvania State University)  
"The Global South Novel: Before and After"

Scott Selisker (University of Arizona)  
"Networks and the Form of Collectivity in Karen Tei Yamashita's *I Hotel*"

Jonathan Aguirre (Princeton University)  
"*La Vorágine*: Protection and Displacements in the Global South"

Chair: Anne Garland Mahler (University of Virginia)

**L. Optional Narrator Theory II** **Room: Rowe**

Sylvie Patron (University of Paris Diderot)  
"The Narrator: An Historical and Epistemological Approach to Narrative Theory"

Mary Galbraith (San Diego State University)  
"Silent self and the Middle Voice"

Greger Andersson (Örebro University)  
"The Concept of a Narrator"

Chair: Jonathan Culler (Cornell)

## 10:30-12:30 Saturday

### Keyword seminars

#### A. BLACK

**Room: Pennsylvania**

**Leader:** Namwali Serpell (University of California Berkeley)

**Presenters:** Stephen Best (University of California-Berkeley), Glenda Carpio (Harvard), Nadia Ellis (University of California, Berkeley), and Ismail Muhammad (University of California, Berkeley)

**Participants:** Daniel Wright, Melissa Barton, Ulka Anjaria, Julia Chang, Dean Franco, Hayley O'Malley, Sheri-Marie Harrison, Alicia Christoff, Sangeeta Ray, Kinohi Nishikawa, Emily Hyde, Gabriella Friedman, Anne Garland Mahler, Chris Freeburg, Zach Fruit, Jill Richards, Ellen McCallum, Janice Ho, Austin Lillywhite, Daniel Hack

#### B. Detail

**Room: Yale/Princeton**

**Leaders:** Amanda Claybaugh (Harvard University) and Jen Spitzer (Ithaca College)

**Presenters:** Wendy Allison Lee (Skidmore College), Gage McWeeny (Williams College), Julie Beth Napolin (New School), Martin Quinn (Harvard), Shirley Wong (Westfield State University) and Dora Zhang (University of California, Berkeley)

**Participants:** Molly MacVeagh, Nancy Glazener, Katie Trumpener, Priyanka Jacob, Pritika Pradhan, Nicholas Dames, Ivan Kreilkamp, Arielle Zibrak, Peter Shipman, Jan Steyn, Sungmey Lee, Ezra Feldman, Valerie Rohy, Yumi Dineen Shiroma, Andrew Franta, Elizabeth McNeill, David Coombs, Kathleen Lubey, Aaron Vieth, Andrew Miller, Rachel Ablow, Stuart Burrows, Talia Schaffer, Elsie Michie, Nicole Lobdell, Elaine Auyoung, Maggie McGowan, Jocelyn Rodal, Rae Gaubinger, Stephen Best, Jonathan Kramnick, Anna Maria Jones

#### C. Totality

**Room: Taylor**

**Leaders:** Anna Kornbluh (University of Illinois, Chicago) and Oded Nir (Franklin and Marshall)

**Presenters:** Kasia Bartoszynska (Monmouth College), Bruce Robbins (Columbia University), and Phil Wegner (University of Florida)

**Participants:** Diana Rosenberger, Mi Jeong Lee, Sezen Unluonen, Emily Steinlight, Carlos Amador, Sianne Ngai, Robert Tally, Yuki Katsuta, Victoria Baena, Sushmita Sircar, Maria Bose, Alex Millen, Bala Venkat Mani, Khachig Tololyan, Tim Bewes, Erin Prior, Hector Hoyos, Adam Grener, Ayelet Ben-Yishai, Bojan Srbinovski, Ben Parker, Bradley Fest, Amanda Anderson, Paul Stasi, Kevin Ohi, Maha Jafri, Maria Su Wang, Becky Lu, Keith Clavin, Matthew Seybold, Heidi Smith, Umberto Mazzei



**D. Genre/scale**

**Room: SHA 391**

**Leaders:** Jed Esty (University of Pennsylvania) and Paul St. Amour (University of Pennsylvania)

**Presenters:** Rachel Buurma (Swarthmore College), Jennifer Fleissner (Indiana), Nathan Hensley (Georgetown University), and Yumi Dineen Shiroma (Rutgers)

**Participants:** Thom Dancer, Paula McGrath, Rebekah Rosenfeld, Rebecca Colesworthy, Priya Joshi, Paul Nadal, Alexander Ullman, Alexa Valenzuela, Elisabeth Strayer, Jeffrey Lawrence, Matthew Eatough, Scott Selisker, Aaron Rosenberg, Zuleima J. Ugalde, Stephen Shapiro, Philip Joseph, John Plotz, Robert Colson, Debjani Ganguly, Elizabeth Duquette, Eugenia Zuroski, Tania Roy, Sarah Cole, Sarah Schwartz, Jane Glaubman, Nathan Likert, Daniel Kasper, Erin Smith, Finola Prendergast, Michaela Bronstein, Sarah Osment, Crystal Lake, Martin Puchner, Jordan Alexander Stein, Harris Feinsod, Jonathan Kramnick, Henry Ivry, Stephanie DeGooyer, Matthew Hart, Tricia Matthew, David James

**E. Charisma**

**Room: SHA 351**

**Leader:** Beth Blum (Harvard)

**Presenters:** John Lurz (Tufts), Günter Leypoldt (Heidelberg), Emily Lordi (University of Massachusetts, Amherst), Megan Quigley (Villanova), and Robert Volpicelli (Randolph Macon)

**Participants:** David Winters, Cólín Parsons, Aarthi Vadde, Greger Andersson, Shirley Samuels, Jason Potts, Tiffany Bassett, Philip Perry, Sergio Pedro

**F. Limit**

**Room: Rowe**

**Leaders:** Chris Holmes (Ithaca College) and Tim Wientzen (Skidmore College)

**Presenters:** Sarah Brouillette (Carleton), Stephanie DeGooyer (Willamette), and Christian Thorne (Williams)

**Participants:** Devorah Fischler, Rebecca Macklin, Seeta Chaganti, Gabriele Lazzari, Sujin Youn, Magalí Armillas-Tiseyra, Joseph Randolph, Eleanor Courtemanche, Nasser Mufti, Brian Richardson, Andrew Strombeck, Matthew Taft, Krithika Vachali, Elizabeth Anker, Rachel Fest, Agota Marton, Corbin Hiday, Olivia Milroy Evans, Andrew Strombeck

## 12:30-2:15 Saturday: Lunch with Keynote Address, Ballroom

**Remarks by SNS President:** John Plotz (Brandeis)

**Introduction:** Amanda Claybaugh (Harvard University)

**Keynote address:** Ursula Heise (UCLA), “Scale and the Novel in the Anthropocene”

Ursula K. Heise is Professor in the Department of English and at the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability at UCLA, and a 2011 Guggenheim Fellow. Her books include *Chronoschisms: Time, Narrative, and Postmodernism* (1997), *Sense of Place and Sense of Planet: The Environmental Imagination of the Global* (2008), and *Nach der Natur: Das Artensterben und die moderne Kultur* (*After Nature: Species Extinction and Modern Culture*; 2010). She has just finished a book called “Where the Wild Things Used to Be: Narrative, Database, and Endangered Species.” Her website is [www.uheise.net](http://www.uheise.net)

## 2:30-4:30 Saturday: Keyword seminars

### A. Interiority

**Room: Pennsylvania**

**Leader:** Jennifer Fleissner (Indiana University)

**Presenters:** Amanda Anderson (Brown), Chris Freeburg (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), Andrew H. Miller (Johns Hopkins), Paul Stasi (SUNY, Albany), and Katherine Snyder (University of California, Berkeley)

**Participants:** Daniel Wright, Paula McGrath, Nancy Glazener, Devorah Fischler, Stephanie Insley Hershinow, Rachel Ablow, Andrew Hoberek, Michael Mlekoday, Vinh Nguyen, Zach Fruit, Amy Coté, Kevin Ohi, Maha Jafri, Elisha Cohn, Maria Su Wang, Shirley Samuels, Mary Galbraith, Jason Potts, Stuart Burrows, Katie Gilbert, Sujin Youn, Sarah Wasserman, Erin Prior, Sylvie Patron, Wendy Xin, Ezra Feldman, Ben Parker, Ismail Muhammad, Victoria Baena, Debjani Ganguly, Kasia Bartoszynska, Stephen Best

### B. Memory/Influence

**Room: Yale/Princeton**

**Leaders:** Elsie Michie (Louisiana State University) and Talia Schaffer (Queen’s College and Graduate Center, CUNY)

**Presenters:** Daniel Hack (University of Michigan), Michaela Bronstein (Stanford), Grace Lavery (University of California, Berkeley), Anna Maria Jones (University of Central Florida)

**Participants:** Rebecca Colesworthy, Katie Trumpener, Sarah Ross, Nicole Lobdell, Rae Gaubinger, Ruth McAdams, Peter Shipman, Becky Lu, Steven Ambrose, Sungmey Lee, Valerie Rohy, Joseph Randolph, Pamela Gilbert, Hayley O’Malley, Ivan Kreilkamp, Alexander Ullman, Sarah Schwartz, Ani Bezirdzhyan, Megan Ward, Matthew Seybold, Elizabeth Weybright

**C. Empiricism**

**Room: Taylor**

**Leaders:** David Coombs (Clemson) and Elaine Auyoung (University of Minnesota)

**Presenters:** Jonah Siegel (Rutgers) Anna Henschman (Boston University), and Jonathan Kramnick (Yale)

**Participants:** Thom Dancer, Kelly Swartz, Nathan Likert, Maggie McGowan, Kristen Pond, Jocelyn Rodal, Keith Clavin, Joseph Drury, Billy Galperin, Tim Bewes, Ellen Rooney, Adam Grener, Jonathan Culler, Charlotte Lindemann, Rae Greiner, Pritika Pradhan, Ted Underwood, Josh Gang, Crystal Lake, Supritha Rajan

**D. Infrastructure**

**Room: SHA 351**

**Leader:** Kelly Rich (Harvard)

**Presenters:** Janice Ho (University of Colorado, Boulder), Caroline Levine (Cornell University), Sangina Patnaik (Swarthmore College), Jill Richards (Yale University), Michael Rubenstein (Stony Brook University), Susan Zieger (University of California, Riverside)

**Participants:** Søren Frank, Günter Leypoldt, Natalie Amleshi, Robert Higney, Sushmita Sircar, Joelle Mann, Maria Bose, Kinohi Nishikawa, Mary Pappalardo, Glenda Carpio, Hector Hoyos, Dan Sinykin, Penny Fielding, Deirdre Lynch, Julia Chang, Diana Rosenberger, Oded Nir, Elisabeth Strayer, Matthew Eatough, Stephen Shapiro, Sarah Brouillette, Aarthi Vadde, Sarah Osment, Matthew Hart, Martin Puchner, Wendy Allison Lee, Jane Glaubman, Elizabeth Anker, Namwali Serpell, Nicholas Vandeviver

**E. Space**

**Room: SHA 391**

**Leader:** Robert Tally (Texas State University)

**Presenters:** Lauren Gillingham (University of Ottawa), Trish Bredar (Notre Dame), Mark Wollaeger (Vanderbilt), and Drew Strombeck (Wright State University)

**Participants:** Nadia Ellis, Jonathan Aguirre, Briana Best, Bojan Srbinovski, Ellen McCallum, Daniel Hipp, Gabriella Friedman, Gabriele Lazzari, Anne Garland Mahler, Julie Hipp, Elizabeth McNeill, John Brenkman, Emily Direen, Bradley Fest, Dean Franco, Priyanka Jacob, Phillip Wegner, Mi Jeong Lee, Alexa Valenzuela, Robert Colson, Sarah Cole, Rebecca Macklin, Seeta Chaganti, Namwali Serpell, Harris Feinsod, Andrew Strombeck, Malcolm Bare

## 4:45-6:00 Saturday: closing discussion and coffee, Ballroom

### “The Novel of Ideas: Refracting Novel Theory”

Discussion led by Sianne Ngai (University of Chicago) and Tim Bewes (Brown)

**Recommended reading:** pp. 1-30 of a precirculated paper by Sianne Ngai, “Readymade Ideas” (available at <http://blogs.cornell.edu/sns2018/sianne-ngai-readymade-ideas/> password: novel theory)

**Sianne Ngai** is Professor of English at the University of Chicago. She is the author of *Ugly Feelings* (2007) and *Our Aesthetic Categories: Zany, Cute, Interesting* (2015), awarded the MLA’s James Russell Lowell Prize for best book. Her new book in progress, “Theory of the Gimmick,” explores the uneasy mix of attraction and repulsion produced by the gimmick across a range of forms specific to western capitalism, including the novel of ideas.

**Timothy Bewes** is Professor of English at Brown. He is the author of *Cynicism and Postmodernity* (1997); *Reification, or The Anxiety of Late Capitalism* (2002); and *The Event of Postcolonial Shame* (2011). He has edited *Jacques Rancière and the Novel* (2014), *The Contemporary Novel: Imagining the Twenty-First Century* (2012), *Georg Lukacs: The Fundamental Dissonance of Existence* (2011, with Timothy Hall), *Cultural Capitalism* (2001, with Jeremy Gilbert), and a special issue titled *After Fanon* (2002). He has served as an editor of *NOVEL* since 2005.