



2014 English Department Graduate Symposium
Reconceptualizing Narrative: Structures, Systems, Boundaries

Friday, September 5, 2014

9:30 am – 11:00 am: Registration; Bagels and Coffee (BRC 202)

11:00 am – 12:30 pm: Panels 1A & 1B

1A. Formulations of Able-ness in Narratives of the Body (BRC 282)

Chair: Larry Butz, Rice University

Svetlana Borodina, Rice University

"Ethics of Visibility: Terms, Tones, and Postures of Blindness in Today's Urban Russia"

Rachel A. Oriol, Miami University of Ohio

"Representations of Dance: The (Dis)abled Body in Ana Castillo's *Peel My Love Like an Onion*"

Mallory Pladus, Rice University

"Gender and Generic Ambiguity in Winterson's *Written on the Body*"

1B: Systems of Being / Being Part of a System (BRC 286)

Chair: Lindsay Sherrier, Rice University

Annie Lowe, Rice University

"Troping Technological Others: Structures and/of Meaning in Transnational Indian Call Centers"

Rodrigo Paula, Rice University

"System of Art/System of Science: Fictional Science and the *Institut Scientifique de Recherche Paranaturaliste*"

Mercedes Albert-Llacer, Rice University

"Feminizing Narratives of Youthful (Im)mobility in the Rhizomatic West"

12:30 pm – 1:30: Lunch (BRC 202)

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm: Panels 2A & 2B

2A: Re-placing the Borderlands (BRC 282)

Chair: Professor José Aranda, Rice University

Renata Ryan, University of Oklahoma

"Rhetorical Sedimentation: Claiming Sovereignty in the Borderlands"

Brittany Henry, Rice University

"'Podré ir y venir cuando quiera': Border-Crossing Narratives and Migrant Imaginaries in *La Migra me hizo los mandados*"

Lorena Gauthereau, Rice University

"Mapping Chicano Identity through Affect in Tomás Rivera's *...y no se lo tragó la tierra*"



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2B. Coming while Going: Gender, Sex, Maps (BRC 284)

Chair: Alanna Beroiza, Rice University

James Bennitt, University of Montevallo

“Madness and Gender Confusion in the Spaces of Wordsworth’s ‘Nutting’”

Evan Choate, Rice University

“Coming and Climax: Narrative, Sexuality, the World”

Hannah Biggs, Rice University

“An Empty Orange Marmalade Jar: Preservation of Alice’s Sexual Innocence in Wonderland”

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm: Panel 3A

3A. Narratives of Time, Place, and Politics in Victorian Literature (BRC 282)

Chair: Sophia Hsu, Rice University

Cécile Heim, University at Buffalo

“Sleuthing Narratives: Investigating Narratives in Arthur Conan Doyle’s *The Hound of the Baskervilles*”

Lindsey Chappell, Rice University

“Dirty Masterpieces and Timeless Contemporaneities in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*”

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm: Keynote (BRC 1003)

Bruce Clarke, Texas Tech University

Paul Whitfield Horn Professor of Literature and Science

“Systemic Reentry and Narrative Form”

7:00 pm – 8:45 pm: Reception and Drinks (BRC 1003)



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Saturday, September 6, 2014

8:00 am – 9:00 am: Bagels and Coffee (BRC 202)

9:00 am – 10:00 am: Panel Sessions 4A, 4B, & 4C

4A. Poetic Systems (BRC 284)

Chair: Derek Woods, Rice University

C. M. Foltz, University of Texas at Dallas
“A Systems Theory of Poetry in the Posthuman Era”

Alexandra Edelblute, University at Buffalo
“Subverting Normative Modes of Reading: Contiguity as a Device and Theme”

4B. Breaking the Sound Barriers (BRC 285)

Chair: Sydney Boyd, Rice University

Dorita Barr, Rice University
“Beyoncé: A Project for Married Black Women’s Sexual Liberation?”

Jeanette Hall, University of Hawaii at Manoa
“Women Sing the Blues: A Critical Reading of Blues Cover Songs Using Digital Humanities”

4C. Everything’s More Global in Texas (BRC 286)

Chair: Niffy Hargrave, Rice University

Robert C. J. Graves, Texas Regional Public Defender
“When a Good Story is Literally a Matter of Life and Death: Using Narratives to Persuade in Texas Death Penalty Cases”

Cecilia Bonnor, University of Houston
“Globalization and Local Narratives: Rethinking the University of Houston’s Mission Statement”

10:15 am – 11:45 am: Panels 5A, 5B, & 5C

5A. Narratives of the Built Environment (BRC 284)

Chair: Jade Hagan, Rice University

Camille Cohen, Rice University
“Cosmopolitan Narratives in Euro-Mediterranean Spaces”

Nicole Iverson, University of Texas at Austin
“‘Architecture as Destiny’: Affect, Agency, and Place in Zadie Smith’s *NW*”

Jennifer Hutcherson, Wake Forest University
“Studies of Home in Edwidge Danticat’s *The Farming of Bones*”



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5B. Questions of Capital(ism) (BRC 285)

Chair: Ben Kozicki, Rice University

Jeremy Buesink, York University

“Implicit Policy, Essentialist Character, and the Systemic Imperative of the American Dream:
The Affectively Reified Utopian / Apocalyptic Meta-Narrative in America”

Colin Robins, Richland College

“A Postmodern Analysis of *Lolita*”

Soham Bose, Texas A&M University

“A Human Desire: A Political Economy of Human Emotions and Consumption”

5C. Material Narratives (BRC 286)

Chair: Rachel Conrad, Rice University

Emily Johnston, University of Michigan

“Rethinking Environmental Chemicals Through Speculative Autobiography”

Brian Jacob, University at Buffalo

“Commonwealth of Objects: Issues of Materiality, Narrative Agency, and Structural Alignment”

Ashlie Kontos, University of Texas at Tyler

“I Just Want to Believe: Modern Myths and the Double-Bind of Meta-modernism”

11:45 am – 12:45 pm: Lunch by Les Givral’s Kahve (BRC 202)

12:45 pm – 2:15 pm: Panel Sessions 6A, 6B, & 6C

6A. Devices of Narrativity (BRC 284)

Chair: Derek Woods, Rice University

Todd Womble, University of Texas at Arlington

“You and Junot Diaz: Further Complications of Second-Person Narrative”

Kelly Holley, San Diego State University

“Always the Middle: Using Deleuze and Guattari’s Rhizome to Examine Narrative Structure in *Mrs. Dalloway*”

Frederick Whiting, University of Alabama

“*Bildungsroman* as Dynamic System”

6B. Politicizing the Early Modern (BRC 285)

Chair: Professor Joseph Campana, Rice University

Ward Risvold, University of Georgia

“‘Whiles the yron is hote, it is good striking’: Material Circumstances and the Narrative of Politics Surrounding the
Publication of Spenser’s *The Shepheardes Calendar*”



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6B. Politicizing the Early Modern (continued)

Maley Thompson, University of Texas at Austin
“Reading Wrong: Renaissance Reappropriations of Courtly Love Fictions”

Alex Solomon, Rutgers University
“‘I shall prove to you that I see them’: Narrative as Scientific Demonstration in Seventeenth-Century Fantastic Travels”

6C. The Multiple Dimensions of Melville (BRC 286)

Chair: Lecturer Melissa Gniadek, Rice University

Brad King, University of Texas at Austin
“*Billy Budd's* Allure: Homosexuality, Democracy, and Disciplinary History”

Robert Wilson, Binghamton University
“Melville's Blues: A Case Study in Close Listening as Literary Critical Practice”

Shinji Ohno, University of Mississippi
“The ‘Truthfulness’ of Travel Writing: The Narrative Structure of Herman Melville's *Typee*”

2:30 pm – 4:00 pm: Panel Sessions 7A, 7B, & 7C

7A. Structures of Cinematic Spectatorship (BRC 284)

Chair: Rodrigo Paula, Rice University

Jake Cowan, University of Texas at Austin
“I, A.I.: The Automaton of the Auteur and the Dialectic of the Director”

David Marlett, University of Texas at Dallas
“Scripting Immersive Cinema”

Trisha Farco, Binghamton University
“Frames of Dissonance: Post-Structuralist Thought, Connected-Disconnectedness and Adaptation Studies”

7B. Frames of the Evolving Self (BRC 285)

Chair: Abby Goode, Rice University

Aristides Dimitriou, University of California, Berkeley
“The Aesthetics of Nonidentity: Structural Determination and Negation in John Rechy's *City of Night*”

Amina Tarek Ahmed ElHalawani, Alexandria University
“Identity Formation and Negotiation in Khaled Hosseini's *And the Mountains Echoed*”

Saara Raassu, University of Oklahoma
“‘A Slight Insanity in My Mood’: Writing the Self Out of Free-Market Idealism in Henry David Thoreau and Paul Auster”



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7C. Charting the Horizons of New Media (BRC 286)

Chair: Professor Judith Roof, Rice University

Richard James Wirth, University of Texas at Dallas
“Re-authoring New Media Narratives in the Era of Secondary Orality”

Lindsey Joyce, University of Texas at Dallas
“Creating a Collaborative Criteria for Interactive Narrative Game Analysis”

4:30 pm – 6:00 pm: Keynote (BRC 1003)

Donald Pease, Dartmouth University
*The Ted and Helen Geisel Third Century Professor in the Humanities,
and Chair of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program*

“Between the Camp and the Commons:
Rights of Bio-Political Passages in Douglass and Melville”

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm: Dinner by Mark’s BBQ, reception to follow (BRC 1003)

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