

# Consuming Objects

2013 English Symposium



Conference Program

Saturday, March 23, 2013

UCF Graduate Student Center  
University of Central Florida

**The English Symposium:** The purpose of this annual symposium is to capture a snapshot of the intergenerational and multifaceted contributions of students, alumni, and faculty to our dynamic learning community. In this one-day event we seek not only to highlight the importance of the humanities in the university but also to foster a sense of shared discourse and intellectual collaboration and to celebrate all the different kinds of work that we do.

**The Symposium Theme:** The 2013 symposium theme takes the notion of “consuming objects” as a broad umbrella under which to consider the rich diversity of creative, scholarly, and pedagogical work that we do as students and faculty. We consume and are consumed by objects. We create and destroy objects. We invest inanimate objects with spiritual, symbolic, and emotional significance. We pursue objects of desire, fix our attention on the objects of analysis, even as we are ourselves objectified and analyzed. Objects do the work of memorialization and cultural signification. They have histories, circulate in economies, reside in archives. They even assume lives of their own. Presenters in this year’s symposium examine a dizzying variety of objects, from Puritan household goods and eighteenth-century mourning jewelry, to Disney’s Tree of Life and digital archives.

Cover image is a woodcut illustration of “The Broken Pot,” from *Indian Fairy Tales*, selected and edited by Joseph Jacobs, Illustrated by John D. Batten. London: G. P. Putnam’s Sons, 1892.

**10:00–10:30 a.m.: Coffee & Registration, Colbourn Hall, Suite 146—  
Graduate Student Center**

**10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.: First Session**

**Panel 1: Domestic Objects, Femininity, and Nostalgia**

Moderator: Aimee Blackburn

“Representations of Little Objects in *Little House on the Prairie*,” Lindsay Rushworth

“*Shōjo* Manga Looking at Victorian Objects: Cosmopolitanism and a Neo-Victorian Feminine Ideal in Naoko Moto’s *Lady Victorian*,” Anna Maria Jones

“The Past, the Future, and the Archive: Seeing the World through Objects in Anne Bradstreet’s ‘Verses upon the Burning of Our House,’” Lesley Kamphaus

**Colbourn Hall, Suite 146—Graduate Student Center, Conference Room**

**Panel 2: Creating and Consuming Digital Objects**

Moderator: Bryce Jackson

“Gamers Changing Places: Technology and the Consumption of Space,” Amy E. Giroux

“Bricoleurs Build with LEGOs: Narrative in the Database World,” Amy Larner Giroux

“The Allure of Intangible Objects: Why All Humanities Students Should Learn Computer Programming,” Rudy McDaniel

“Going (Pedagogically) Green: Student Work as Objects Created for Re-Consumption,” Christopher R. Friend

**Colbourn Hall, Suite 146—Graduate Student Center, Presentation Room**

**12:15–1:30 p.m.: Lunch**

**1:45–3:15 p.m.: Second Session**

**Panel 3: Reading, Writing, and Resisting the Self as Object**

Moderator: Patricia Angley

“Creating a Reverberating Beat: Revisiting the Women Writers of the Beat Generation,” Elena Rogalle

“Narrative in Creative Nonfiction: The Self and Its Chronology as Objects,” April Urban

“Bridal Buying Power: How Wedding Planning Books Legitimize Consumption through Rites of Passage,” Jeannina Perez-Harrington

**Colbourn Hall, 401**

**Panel 4: Environmental Consumption**

Moderator: Bruce Janz

“The Tree of Life: A Reading of an Artificial/Natural Object,” Carissa Baker

“Contextualizing Participatory History: The Role of Online Portals in Constructing a Hybrid Community Archive,” Marcy Galbreath

“Consumption as Addiction,” Patrick Murphy

**Colbourn Hall, Suite 146—Graduate Student Center, Presentation Room**

**Panel 5: Coded and Commodified Gender**

Moderator: Christian Beck

“I hear there’s money in women’: Women and Economics in *The Travels of Marco Polo*,” Ashleigh A. Gardner

“Gender Consumption in *Ouran High School Host Club*,” Tanner Anthony

“Sexual Gnosticism: The Procreative Code of ‘The Portrait of Mr. W. H.’,” James Campbell

**Colbourn Hall, Suite 146—Graduate Student Center, Conference Room**

**3:30–5:00 p.m.: Third Session**

**Panel 6: Living with Objects**

Moderator: Genevieve Tyrrell

“Tunnels,” Lisa Roney

“Predicating Parallels,” Leslie Salas

“The Hand Model,” Jamie Poissant

**Colbourn Hall, Suite 146—Graduate Student Center, Presentation Room**

**Panel 7: Death, Fetishes, and the Uncanny**

Moderator: Clarissa Graffeo

“The Uncanny Object of the Ring in J. R. R. Tolkien’s *The Lord of the Rings*,” Molly Brown-Fuller

“Dying the Right Way?: Shigeru Mizuki and the War Against Noble Death,” Chris Cenese

“Remembering the Dead: Hair Jewelry, Fetishism, and Mourning in Eighteenth-Century Britain,” Kathleen M. Oliver

**Colbourn Hall, Suite 146—Graduate Student Center, Conference Room**

**5:00–6:00 p.m.: Reception, Colbourn Hall, 205—Sponsored by the  
Center for Humanities & Digital Research**

## Symposium Participants

**Patricia Angley**, Instructor, Department of English  
**Tanner Anthony**, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies  
**Carissa Baker**, Student, PhD in Texts and Technology  
**Christian Beck**, Visiting Instructor, Department of English  
**Aimee Blackburn**, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies  
**Molly Brown-Fuller**, Student, BA in English, Honors in the Major  
**James Campbell**, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English  
**Chris Cenese**, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies  
**Christopher R. Friend**, Student, PhD in Texts and Technology  
**Marcy Galbreath**, Student, PhD in Texts and Technology  
**\*Ashleigh A. Gardner**, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies  
**Amy E. Giroux**, Student, BS in Interdisciplinary Studies  
**Amy Larner Giroux**, Student, PhD in Texts and Technology  
**Clarissa Graffeo**, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies  
**Bryce Jackson**, Student, MA in Technical Communication  
**Bruce Janz**, Professor and Chair, Department of Philosophy, Director of the Center for Humanities and Digital Research  
**\*Anna Maria Jones**, Associate Professor, Department of English  
**Lesley Kamphaus**, Alumna, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies  
**Rudy McDaniel**, Associate Professor, School of Visual Arts and Design, Director of Texts and Technology  
**Patrick Murphy**, Professor and Chair, Department of English  
**Kathleen M. Oliver**, Associate Professor, Department of English  
**Jeannina Perez-Harrington**, Alumna, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies  
**Jamie Poissant**, Assistant Professor, Department of English  
**Elena Rogalle**, Alumna, MA in Literature  
**Lisa Roney**, Associate Professor, Department of English  
**Lindsay Rushworth**, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies  
**Leslie Salas**, Student, MFA in Creative Writing  
**Genevieve Tyrrell**, Student, MFA in Creative Writing  
**April Urban**, Student, MFA in Creative Writing  
**\*Brittan Wilkey**, Student, BA in English, Honors in the Major

\*Conference organizers

**Special Thanks to our student volunteers:** Samantha Bringas, Audrey Campbell, Samantha Celentano, Tyler Chatelain, Kat Kutash, Aidan Mitchell, Hyejin Rhee, Deidre Valentine

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The Center for Humanities and Digital Research  
The Graduate Student Center—College of Graduate Studies  
The Burnett Honors College  
The Department of English

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