

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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