

BECOMING (DE)FAMILIARIZED

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2015 UCF English Symposium

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Conference Program

UCF Colbourn Hall
CNH 401 and the Graduate Student Center, CNH Suite 146
University of Central Florida

Friday, February 20, 2015

9:00AM – 5:30PM



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.

The Symposium Theme: This year's symposium explores the notion of becoming (de)familiarized with multiple aspects of the self, the other, and the world. With this theme, we celebrate and discuss the rich diversity of creative, scholarly, and pedagogical work that we do as students, faculty, and independent scholars.

In philosophical, psychoanalytic, cultural, socio-historical, and literary theory, the unfamiliar, or uncanny, is often shunned in favor of other subjects or objects that define normality. These safe subjects provide a haven for readers and writers of fiction, players of video games, and audience members of film, all of whom yearn for physical and mental comfort. However, a fine line exists between “normal” and “unusual”; subjects we may find reassuring may contain elements that others find horrendous. Alternatively, terrifying subjects may exhibit traits of familiarity that draw us, as readers, players, and viewers, closer to the image/text. By making ourselves familiar with the unfamiliar and reimagining our perspectives on the normal, we may come to understand subjects more fully and widen our intellectual horizons.

Conference Organizers: Kevin Meehan, Ashleigh Ann Gardner, Sasha Strelitz, and Bryan Williams

Conference Advisors: James Campbell & Kathleen Oliver

Cover image is an adaptation of an illustration from *De Monstris* (1665), by Fortunio Liceti.

Panel 6*:

*Panel will include a short five-minute break between topics.

Coffee with Orwell and Huxley: Alternate & Dystopic Realities

Moderator: Sasha Strelitz

“The Sacred Engine: Class, Revolution and Thinking Outside the Tube in *Snowpiercer*,” Amandalin Valentine

“Neal Stephenson: Excavating Epochs from Eden for Cyber Cynics in *Snow Crash*,” Jenna Miller

“We are the Terrorists,” Pearson Bolt

The Grotesque: A Philosophical Inquiry on the Defamiliarization of Torture and the Grotesque

Moderator: Bryan Williams

“The Aesthetics of Torture in Flannery O’Connor’s ‘A Temple of the Holy Ghost,’” John Ottinger

“Eating the Slippery Liver: Why the Grotesque & Vulgar in Poetry is a Beautiful Thing,” Judith Roney

CNH, Suite 146—Graduate Student Center, Presentation Room

Reception: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. CNH 401

Second Session: 1:30 – 3:15 p.m.

Panel 3: Press Start: Navigating the Landscape of Magical Realism and Gaming

Moderator: Ashleigh Ann Gardner

“Humanoid, Yet Inhuman: The ‘Othering’ of Goblins and other Sentient Humanoid Races,” Tyler Chatelain

“The Shattered Minds of *Kingdom Hearts*,” Eric Murnane

“The History of Flight,” Jamie Poissant

“Alice Estranged: Global Neo-Victorianism, Graphic Novels, and the Ethics of Appropriation,” Anna Maria Jones

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Panel 4: Constructing the Self: Familiarized and Defamiliarized Identity

Moderator: Patrick D. Murphy

“The Embodiment and Identity of Diaspora in the Graphic Narrative *Maus*,” Brett Schwartz

“The Fractured Narrative’s Impact on Nationalism, Gender, and Time in Contemporary Fiction,” Benjamin Buckingham

“Defamiliarizing the Self: *Black Swan* and the Infinite Regress of the Mirror Image,” Sara Raffel

CNH, Suite 146—Graduate Student Center, Presentation Room

Third Session: 3:30 – 5:15 p.m.

Panel 5: A Method of Madness: Pedagogical and Writing Techniques

Moderator: James Campbell

“Complicity: Defamiliarizing and Alienating the University,” Barry Mauer

“A Chance Encounter: A Surrealist Research Approach to Zusak’s *The Book Thief*,” Amanda Hill

“The Self on the Page: Creating ‘I’ as Character in Memoir,” Laurie Uttich

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For Further Reading

Bhabha, Homi. *The Location of Culture*. London: Routledge, 2004. Print.

Best, Steven and Douglas Kellner. *Postmodern Theory*. New York: Guilford Press, 1991. Print.

Derrida, Jacques. *Writing and Difference*. Trans. Alan Bass. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1980. Print.

Faris, Wendy. *Ordinary Enchantments: Magical Realism and the Remystification of Narrative*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 2004. Print.

Freud, Sigmund. *Civilization and Its Discontents*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2010. Print.

---. *The Interpretation of Dreams*. New York: Basic Books, 2010. Print.

---. *The Uncanny*. New York: Penguin, 2003. Print.

Gilbert, Sandra M. and Susan Gubar. *The Madwoman in the Attic: The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth Century Literary Imagination*. London: Yale University Press, 2000. Print.

Lacan, Jacques. *Écrits: The First Complete Edition in English*. Trans. Bruce Fink. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2007. Print.

Levinas, Emmanuel. *Alterity and Transcendence*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2000. Print.

Mulvey, Laura. *Fetishism and Curiosity (Perspectives)*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1996. Print.

---. *Visual and Other Pleasures (Language, Discourse, Society)*. 2nd ed. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009. Print.

Said, Edward. *Orientalism*. London: Vintage, 1979. Print.

Shklovsky, Viktor. *Theory of Prose (Russian Literature Series)*. London: Dalkey Archive Press, 1991. Print.

Symposium Participants

Patricia Angley, Associate Lecturer, Department of English

Danielle Armstrong, Student, MFA in Creative Writing

Nazeer Bacchus, Student, BA in English

Benjamin Buckingham, Student, MFA in Creative Writing

James Campbell, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English

Tyler Chatelain, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies

Ashleigh Ann Gardner, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies

Amanda Hill, Student, Ph.D. In Texts and Technology

Sarah-Marie Horning, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies

Anna Maria Jones, Associate Professor, Department of English

Barry Mauer, Associate Professor, Department of English and Texts and Technology Ph.D. Program

Kevin Meehan, Professor, Department of English

Jenna Miller, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies

Eric Murnane, Student, Ph.D. in Texts and Technology

Patrick D. Murphy, Professor and Chairperson, Department of English

Kathleen Oliver, Associate Professor, Department of English

John Ottinger, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies

David James Poissant, Assistant Professor, Department of English

Victoria Polk, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies

Sara Raffel, Student, Ph.D. in Texts and Technology

Judith Roney, Student, MFA in Creative Writing

Brett Schwartz, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies

Sasha Strelitz, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies

Melinda Stewart, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies

Laurie Uttich, Instructor, Department of English

Amandelin Valentine, Student, MA in Literary, Cultural, and Textual Studies

9:00–10:00 am: Coffee & Registration, CNH 401

First Session: 10:15 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Panel 1: Growing Pains: Sexuality and the Bildungsroman

Moderator: Patricia Angley

“The Masculine--Feminine and Feminine--Masculine: Successful and Failed Gender Role Reversal in Margaret Oliphant’s *Miss Marjoribanks*,” Ashleigh Ann Gardner

“Experiencing the Artfulness of the Object: The Function of the I, Off-Colored Seasons, and Defamiliarized Sexuality in Carson McCullers’s *The Member of the Wedding*,” Sarah-Marie Horning

“Deep Inside the Cobwebby Caves: A Creative Reading,” Danielle Armstrong

“Defamiliarizing the Bildungsroman Through Specific Language Forms in Julia Alvarez’s Novel *How the García Girls Lost Their Accents*,” Victoria Polk

CNH, Suite 146—Graduate Student Center, Presentation Room

Panel 2: Skirting the Issue: Depictions of Gender

Moderator: Kathleen Oliver

“Deleuze, Derrida, and Defamiliarization: Sadomasochism and the Female Voice in Lady Mary Roth’s Pamphilia to Amphilanthus,” Nazeer Bacchus

“Distortion and Gender Terror in *The Mysterious Mother*,” Melina Stewart

“Bringing It On Home: Gender and Sexuality in Led Zeppelin,” Sasha Strelitz

“She Had Reminded Me of Plants’: Proto-ecofeminism in Nathaniel Hawthorne’s *The Blithedale Romance*,” Bryan Williams

CNH Suite 146—Graduate Student Center, Conference Room

Lunch: 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. CNH 401