

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

59th BAAS Annual Conference

10th - 13th April

**Provisional Programme – SUBJECT TO
CHANGE**

THURSDAY 10th APRIL

14. 30: Registration (Arts Foyer)

15.00-16.15pm: BAAS Libraries and Resources
Subcommittee (BLARS) (Arts Main LR)

16.15-16.45: Tea/Coffee (Noble Room)

17.00 -18.30: Welcome and Plenary,
sponsored by the Eccles Centre at the British
Library (Noble Room)

Iwan Morgan, Professor of United States
Studies and Commonwealth Fund Professor of
American History, Institute of the Americas
(University College London),

“The Eternal Red Peril: Deficits and Debt in
American History from Jefferson to Obama”

18.30-19.45: Reception and Buffet (Noble
Room)

Friday 11th April

7.30-9am: Breakfast (Lucas House, for those
staying on campus)

9.00-10.30: SESSION A

Panel A1: BRANCA Panel: Fin de siècle

Radicalisms

Chair/Respondent: Andrew Lawson (Leeds
Metropolitan)

Michael Collins (University of Kent), “Creating
a Common Ground: Print Culture, Anarchist
Autobiography and 'US Literary Tradition'”

J. Michelle Coghlan (University of
Manchester), "Amazons in the Parlor: The
Paris Commune and the Visual Culture of Post-
bellum U.S. Gender Panic"

Tom F. Wright (University of Sussex), "How
Silence Spoke for Lucy Parsons"

Panel A2: Fictions of Crisis

Chair: TBC

Michelle Green (University of Nottingham), "A
Queer Kind of Anarchy: The 'Failed Citizen' in
Contemporary 'Obesity' Fiction"

David W. Janzen (University of Alberta),
"Critical Conditions: Crisis and its remainders
in *An American Tragedy*"

Daniel Mattingley (Swansea University),
"'Crash Fiction': American Literary Novels of
the Global Financial Crisis"

Respondent

Panel A3: Native Writing and Legacies

Chair: TBC

Zalfa Feghali (Canterbury Christ Church
University), "Writing a Literary History of
Citizenship"

Cornelia Vlaicu (Independent Scholar), "Myth
into Politics, the Sacred, the Wild, and the
Ethical: N. Scott Momaday's *House Made of
Dawn* and *The Ancient Child*"

Manjeet Ridon (University of Nottingham),
"Indian American Dreams of Home in Chitra
Divakaruni's *The Mistress of Spices*"

Panel A4: Race and the Body

Chair: TBC

Jonathan Ward (University of East Anglia),
"Containing the Threat: Analyzing Robert
Mapplethorpe's Photographs of Black Men in
The Black Book"

Samy Azouz (Independent Scholar), "Amiri
Baraka's Theater of Ritual and Ritualization:
From Rituals of Sacrifice to Rituals of Political
Protest Performance"

Laura MacDonald (University of Portsmouth),
"The Production and Distribution of the Black
Female Body on the Musical Theatre Stage in
The Wiz (1975) and *Dreamgirls* (1981)"

**Panel A5: Soft Power and Private Agency in
US National Security Policy**

Chair: TBC

Robert Pee (Independent Scholar), "The rise of
democracy promotion during the 1970s: state
weakness and non-state initiative"

Chiara Morbi (University of Birmingham), "U.S.
cultural propaganda in Italy during the Early
Cold War"

Mara Sankey (University College London),
"Political Intervention or Impartial Assistance?
The National Endowment for Democracy's
Electoral Assistance Programmes to Chile and
Nicaragua 1988-1990"

Panel A6: Sport and Gender

Chair: TBC

Julie Rak (University of Alberta), "The
Brotherhood of the Rope? Gender Trouble on
the American climbs of K2"

Simon Sandison (University of Leeds),
"America's Games: National nostalgia and
Athletic Exceptionalism"

Tom Adam Davies (University of Sussex),
"Poster Boy for the Great Society: George
Forman, Black Protest and American Identity"

Panel A7: European Beat Studies Network

Chair: Oliver Harris (Keele University)

Véronique Lane (Keele University), "National
Identity in Beat Image-Making: Burroughs and
Gide"

Douglas Field (University of Manchester), "In
the Manchester Jeff Nuttall Archives: Tracing a
Counter-Cultural Polymath"

Ceren Sengezer (University of Birmingham),
"Allen Ginsberg's Lectures on William
Shakespeare"

Panel A8: Military Service

Chair: TBC

Christopher Sparshott (Northwestern
University in Qatar), "Guilty of Being America:
Imperial Hubris and the Court Martial of David
Henley, February 1778"

Lawrence T. McDonnell (Iowa State
University), "Making War Pay: Civil War
Military Service and the Creation of an
American Working Class"

Patrick Doyle (University of Manchester),
"Irregular Warfare in the Confederate
Heartland: Was There a Guerilla War in Civil
War South Carolina?"

10.30-11.00: Tea/Coffee (Mason Lounge, Arts)

11.00-12.30: SESSION B

Panel B1: HOTCUS Panel 1: American History and the Moving Image in War and Peace

Chair: - Cara Rodway (Independent Scholar)
Sara Beth Levavy (Courtauld Institute of Art),
"Constructing the Contemporary: American Interwar Newsreels and the Patchwork of the Everyday"

Amy-Claire Scott (Newcastle University), "The Office of War Information and the Depiction of Isolationism in the Hollywood Journalism Genre, 1942-1945"

Iwan Morgan (University College London),
"Before the Red Scare: Hollywood's Nazi-Hunting Movies, 1945-47"

Panel B2: American Poetry

Chair: TBC

Eleanor Spencer-Regan (Durham University),
"'Down here, after 9/11, we need positive stuff': Post-9/11 Poetry and the Elegiac Tradition"

Rona Cran (Independent Scholar), "'the uptown poets and the downtown poets': inter-coterie poetics in mid-century New York"

Melanie Eis (Free University of Berlin),
"'Seeking Jazz or Sex or Soup': Public Performances of Emotionality in Allen Ginsberg's 'Howl'"

Panel B3: "We Create our own Reality": The War on Terror and U.S. Media Representation

Chair: Zara Dinnen (University of Birmingham)
Hamilton Carroll (University of Leeds), "How to Tell a True War Story: The Photojournalist as Subject in Contemporary Documentary"

Liam Kennedy (University College Dublin),
"The Elusive Enemy: *Zero Dark Thirty* and the American Worldview"

Nick Robinson (University of Leeds), "Playing our Own Reality? Towards an Understanding of Post-9/11 Military Games"

Panel B4: Civil Rights

Chair: TBC

Lee Sartain (University of Portsmouth), "'Let the Children Lead': The Youth Marches to Washington, DC 1958 and 1959"

Gemma Evans (University of Nottingham),
"'Taking the Law into Our Own': African American Religious Leadership and the Constitutionality of Non-violent Direct Action, 1960-1965"

Mark Newman (University of Edinburgh), "The Catholic Archdiocese of New Orleans and Parochial School Desegregation, 1955-1962"

Panel B5: Lost in Translation: Latino/a Identities and the Browning of America

Chair: TBC

Becky Avila (University of East Anglia), "Dora the Explorer Speaks Like a White Girl: Standard Language Ideology & U.S. Born Latinos"

Victoria Carroll (King's College London), "The White Man in Me: Translating HIV Transmission as Interracial Exchange in Gay Latino/a Cultural Production"

Eilidh Hall (University of East Anglia), "'Honk, says the cars at home, here they say tán-tán-tán': The Mestizaje of Language and Identity in Sandra Cisneros"

Panel B6: Performing the Past

Chair: TBC

Sarah Conrad Gothie (University of Michigan),
"A Funny Match': Radicalism Weds Nostalgia
at Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House
Museum"

Kate Kirwan (University College, Cork), "'A
cappella heavy metal': the transnational
renaissance of Sacred Harp singing"

Panel B7: Narratives of Slavery and Freedom

Chair: TBC

Bharat Malkani (University of Birmingham),
"Voices for Abolition: A Comparative Study of
Slave Narratives and the Testimonies of Death
Row Exonerates"

Heike Jablonski (University of Heidelberg),
"American Martyrs: Discourses of Martyrdom
in the American Anti-Slavery Movement"

Jenni Lewis (Bath Spa University), "Frederick
Douglass' Phenomenology of Literacy"

**Panel B8: Domestic and Transnational Action
Against Jim Crow in Southern Universities
and Their Communities**

Chair: George Lewis (University of Leicester)

James C. Hall (University of Alabama),
"Segregation and the Professor: Faculty
Responses to the Autherine Lucy Crisis at the
University of Alabama in 1956"

Hannah Higgin (University of Cambridge),
"Bringing 'Peace' to the American South:
Peace Corps Training and Race Relations
Below the Mason-Dixon Line, 1961-1969"

Katherine Jernigan (University of Cambridge),
"'Elders in Our Midst': A Long History of

Student Activism in Nashville, Tennessee,
1940-1964"

12.30-13.30: Lunch (Mason Lounge, Arts)

13.30-15.30: SESSION C

**Panel C1: Communicating Political Ideas in
the 20th Century**

Chair: Sue Currell (University of Sussex)
Simone Diender (Brandeis University),
"Trading Activism: Middlebrow Publishing and
the Career of Everyday Political Language in
20th Century America"

Ian Afflerbach (University of California),
"Tragic Liberalism in Midcentury America"

Nick Witham (Canterbury Christ Church
University), "The House of Knopf and the
History of Slavery: Rethinking Kenneth
Stamp's *The Peculiar Institution* (1956)"

Panel C2: Vertical Networks

Chair: TBC

Robin Vandome (University of Nottingham),
"Theorizing Vertical Networks"

Graham Thompson (University of
Nottingham), "Melville's Magazine Fiction"

John Fagg (University of Birmingham),
"Norman Hapgood's Editorial Control"

Matthew Pethers (University of Nottingham),
"Going Postal: Distribution Networks and the
Form of the Nineteenth-Century Magazine"

**Panel C3: Natural Histories of American
Memory**

Chair: TBC

Lucy Bond (University of Westminster),
"Forget what it means to be human': The
Bureaucratization of Life and the Corporate
Pastoral in Joshua Ferris's *The Unnamed*"

Rick Crownshaw (Goldsmiths, University of
London), "Oil Past and Oil Futures in
Contemporary American Fiction"

Christopher Lloyd (Goldsmiths, University of
London), "Natural Memory, Southern
Memory: Hurricane Katrina in *Beasts of the
Southern Wild*"

Jessica Rapson (King's College, London), "De-
Naturalizing Slavery: Plantation Excavations in
Attica Locke's *The Cutting Season*"

Panel C4: Race and Memorialization

Chair: TBC

Wayde Brown (University of Georgia), "Lost,
Found, Made: The Cherokee Memory in
Georgia"

Bryan Jack (Southern Illinois University),
"Era(c)ing the South: Race, Modern Film,
Identity, and the Historical South"

James West (University of Manchester), "'His
Light Still Shines': EBONY Magazine, American
Advertisers and King's Rhetorical Legacy"

Jenny Woodley (Nottingham Trent University),
"Celebrating Emancipation: African-American
Commemorative Practices and Cultural
Resistance"

Panel C5: Literature and its Visual Contexts

Chair: TBC

Jade Broughton Adams (University of
Leicester), "'The Price Was High': Art and

Commerce in the Magazine Fiction of F. Scott
Fitzgerald"

Maya Heller (Goldsmiths, University of
London), "'... The coffin on the saw-horses like
a cubistic bug, comes into relief': William
Faulkner's Fragmentation of Form and Cubistic
Technique"

Sophie Jones (Birkbeck, University of London),
"Abortion and the Road Journey in Joan
Didion's Fictions of the West"

Panel C6: The Subversive Everyday

Chair: TBC

Doug Haynes (University of Sussex), "Toy
Story: Mike Kelley, from Monkey to Maus"

Nicholas Murgatroyd (University of Sheffield),
"American psychosis: Pop Culture and
Paranoia in J G Ballard's *The Atrocity
Exhibition*"

Stephanie Lambert (University of York), "Don
DeLillo's Crowds and the Resistance of
Everyday Life"

Maysaa Jaber (University of Baghdad), "Small
Town Monsters: Psychopathy in Jim
Thompson's Crime Fiction"

Panel C7: Zombie Allegories in AMC's *The Walking Dead*

Chair: Julie Rak (University of Alberta),
Gwyneth Peaty (University of Western
Australia), "We Don't Have Time: Temporality
and the Apocalypse"

Gary Farnell (University of Winchester), "The
Zombie Drive and the Vegetable Subject"

Angus Nurse (Middlesex University), "Order versus Chaos: Asserting Law and Order over the Mindless"

Dawn Keetley (Lehigh University), "The Zombie Gaze"

Panel C8: The Political Screen

Chair: TBC

Joshua Gulam (University of Manchester), "The Left's Mr Right? The Ides of March and the Limits of George Clooney's Liberal Activism"

Katie Barnett (University of Worcester), "'It's Time to Be the Nation's Father': Bill Clinton, Masculine Crisis and Paternal Survival"

Hannah Graves (University of Warwick), "The Citizen Writer Inside the Studio Gates: Albert Matz's WWII Work at Warner Bros"

Gregory Frame (University of Warwick), "The War Memorial in U.S. Television Drama: Triumphalism and Repression in *The West Wing* and *The X-Files*"

15.30-16.00: Tea/Coffee (Mason Lounge, Arts)

16.00 - 17.30: AGM (Arts Main LR)

17.45-18.45: Plenary sponsored by University of Birmingham

Janice Radway, Walter Dill Scott Professor of Communication Studies (Northwestern)

18.45-19.45: Reception hosted by Northumbria University, hosts of BAAS 2015 (Barber Institute of Fine Arts)

Own arrangements for dinner. Information on local and city centre eateries is provided in the conference pack

Saturday 12th April

7.30-9am: Breakfast (Lucas House, for those staying on campus)

09.00-10.00: Session D

Panel D1: Massive Resistance Revisited: New Interpretations of the Segregationist Counter-Movement

Chair: George Lewis (University of Leicester)

Rebecca Brueckmann (Freie Universitaet Berlin), "'I've been here from the start, and I'm staying to the finish': Women in Massive Resistance"

Emma Folwell (University of Leicester), "Helen Bass Williams and Mississippi Action for Progress: Massive Resistance to the War on Poverty"

Panel D2: Civil War Nursing: Experiences and Legacies

Chair: TBC

Rachel Williams (University of Nottingham), "'The greatest digestibility and the greatest economy': Female Workers in the Civil War Diet Kitchens"

Kristen Brill (Aberystwyth University), "'I do not remember any more, for I fainted': Rethinking the Legacy of Mary Chesnut"

Panel D3: Television and Surveillance Culture in 21st Century America

Chair: TBC

Darcie Rives-East (Augustana College) "Holmes of the Brave: American Surveillance and

Policing of Gender and Sexuality in CBS's *Elementary*"

Jeffrey S. Miller (Augustana College), "Sound and Vision: Surveillance as Spectacle in Post-9/11 American Television"

Panel D4: Science Fiction and American Masculinity

Jenna Pitchford-Hyde (University of East Anglia), "Re-masculinizing Contemporary Conflict in Science Fiction: Writing Against Technomascularity in *Battlestar Galactica*"

Miranda Corcoran, "'The Incredible Shrinking (Organization) Man': Organization and Identity in Post-War American Science Fiction"

Panel D5: Groundbreaking Travellers

Chair: TBC

William Frost (British Library / University of Sheffield), "Wheresoe'er they roam: North American female travellers in Norway, 1880-1900"

Henry Knight (Northumbria University), "'Afromobiling': A Tourist Phenomenon in Jim Crow Florida"

Panel D6: Masculinity on Screen

Chair: Julie Rak (University of Alberta), Frances Smith (University of Warwick), "An Elevator of One's Own: Performativity and Masculinity in *Breaking Bad*"

Clare Hayes-Brady (University College Dublin), "Apocalyptic Parenting: Paternity, Heroism and the End of the World"

Panel D7: African American Rhetoric

Chair: TBC

Kal Ashraf (Editor, *American Studies in Britain*), "Interpreting Representations of Speech in William Wells Brown's 'Novel' *Clotel* (1853)"

Matthias Klestil (University of Bayreuth), "'It was as when, for the first time, I was to stand on free soil' (Douglass 1843): Antebellum African Americans, the Black Sublime and Niagara Falls"

Panel D8: Openness, Security and Paranoia

Chair: TBC

Alex Goodall (University of York), "The Open Door in a Closed World: Openness, Anti-Totalitarianism and Anti-Imperialism in US Foreign Policy Debates, 1933-1945"

Kevern Verney (Edge Hill University), "'Not One of Us': Barack Obama and the Paranoid Style in American Politics"

Panel D9: Cultural Crossings: US-Mexico Experiences

Chair: TBC

Małgorzata Martynuska (University of Rzeszów) "Hybridization of Mexican-American Cuisine and Identity Examined Through Foodways in Maria Ripoll's *Tortilla Soup*"

Helen Oakley (Open University) "Contesting identity on the US-Mexico border: Alicia Gaspar de Alba's *Desert Blood: The Juárez Murders*"

10.00-10.30 Tea/coffee (Mason Lounge, Arts)

SESSION E: 10.30-12.30

Panel E1: Nineteenth-Century American Literature

Chair: TBC

David Greenham (University of the West of England), "Transatlantic Transcendentalism: A Case Study of American Literary Origins and Originality"

Maria Holmgren Troy (Karlstad University), "Framing the Fairy Tale: Nation Building and Imagination in Hawthorne's and the Stoddards' Nineteenth-Century Books for Children"

Martina Kado (University of Zagreb), "The (Self-)Legitimation of Sea Narratives by Herman Melville and Joseph Conrad"

Kristin Allukian (University of Florida), "The Most Brilliant Career": Money, Work, and Politics in Henry James's *The Bostonians* and Lillie Deveraux Blake's *Fettered for Life*"

Panel E2: Complex Stagings

Chair: TBC

Theresa Saxon (University of Central Lancashire), "'No men here yet!': Clyde Fitch's Theatrical Women"

Ramón Espejo Romero (University of Seville), "Early American Theater in Spain: The Fulton Years"

Luke Devlin (University of Edinburgh), "Staging a Coup: Theatrical Beginnings in the Irish and Harlem Renaissances"

Laura Michiels (Free University of Brussels), "Copies and Comebacks: Reproduction and/as Metatheatre in Tennessee Williams's *Sweet Bird of Youth*"

Panel E3: Contested Urban Spaces

Chair: TBC

Nicole Ives Allison (University of St Andrews), "Chicago's Uncivil Wars: Street Gangs and Political Violence in Contemporary Urban America"

Joe Merton (University of Nottingham), "Fear of Crime, the Association for a Better New York and the Privatization of New York City, 1971-1985"

Timothy Robbins (University of Iowa), "Spencer-Whitmanism: The Poetics of Social Science in Progressive Era Chicago"

Alice Levick (University of Exeter), "Autobiography and the American city: Marshall Berman, DJ Waldie, and Conceptions of Memory in 20th Century Urban Spaces"

Panel E4: Technology and Aesthetics

Chair: TBC

Zara Dinnen (University of Birmingham), "Holograms for Kings: Eggers, Lethem, Tupac and failing technological futures"

Nerys Williams (University College Dublin), "Lyric Data in Claudia Rankine's *Please Don't Let Me Be Lonely*"

Dorothy Butchard (University of Edinburgh), "'Inky Oblivion' and Baby Nostradamus: illegible spaces in *The People of Paper* and *House of Leaves*"

Robert W Jones II (University of Leicester), "'You Should Become Uptight': The Nexus of the Body and Technology in the Poetry of John Giorno"

Panel E5: Sequential Art

Chair: TBC

Chris Pallant (Canterbury Christ Church University), "Storyboarding the 'Spielberg-Lucas-Coppola Cinema of Effects'"

Freyja Peters (Lancaster University), "'Découpage and montage': the Production of Urban Space in American Graphic Novels"

Michael Goodrum (University of Essex), "'Superman believes that a wife's place is in the home': Superman's Girl Friend, Lois Lane and the representation of women"

Alan Gibbs (University College Cork), "Against Collective Trauma: Art Spiegelman's *In the Shadow of No Towers* and Pluralistic Responses"

Panel E6: America in the World (Roundtable)

Bevan Sewell (University of Nottingham), "The Wheels on the Bandwagon: America & the World, Diplomatic History, and some Possible Suggestions for Future Directions"

Joshua Simon (King's College London), "Our Americas: Pan-Americanism, the Panama Congress, and the Origins of antiyanquismo"

Uta Balbier (King's College London), "'The City upon a Hill and the World': Diplomatic History, Religious Studies, and the Transnationalization of US Religious History"

Nicholas Grant (University of East Anglia), "Transnational Black Activism"

Panel E7: Women, Readership and Print Culture

Chair: Danielle Fuller (University of Birmingham)

Margaret Manchester (Providence College), "Wielding a 'Golden Scepter of Grace' and the

'Rod of Iron': The Paradox of 17th Century Puritan Marriage in New England"

Anna Luker Gilding (Independent Scholar), "'Theorizing Editorial Labor: Exertion, Illness and Property in 1830s Magazine Culture"

Rachel Alexander (University of Strathclyde), "Fashioning the Ideal Woman: Gender Paradigms, Self-improvement, and Consumption in the Ladies' Home Journal and Canadian Home Journal"

Stephanie C. Palmer (Nottingham Trent University), "Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Wide British Readership"

Panel E8: Race and Freedom

Chair: TBC

Julie Taylor (Northumbria University), "Race, Animation, and Animatedness in Jean Toomer's Cane"

Alex Runchman (Trinity College Dublin), "'A common race': Albery Allson Whitman's Twasinta's Seminoles and William Cullen Bryant's 'The Ages'"

R.J. Ellis (University of Birmingham), "'In this age money talked': Charles Chesnutt's *The Colonel's Dream*"

HollyGale V. Millette (University of Southampton), "Black Power's Epigram: Transatlantic Radicals at the Turn of the Century"

Panel E9: Faraway Women and In-Between Men

Chair: Stephanie C. Palmer (Nottingham Trent University)

Christine Bold, (University of Guelph), "Indian Princesses" on the Vaudeville Circuit, 1890s-1930s"

Nancy Cook (University of Montana), "Bears in the Kitchen: Women, National Parks, and Wilderness as a Social Space"

Cathryn Halverson (University of Copenhagen), "The Atlantic Monthly, Gertrude Stein, and 'Faraway Women'"

James Kirwan (Kansai University), "Middlebrow Literature: No Such Thing"

Panel E10: Suburbia and the Home in Post War Literature

Chair: TBC

Antonia Mackay (Oxford Brookes University) "Simulacra and Selves in Cold War Suburbia"

Jarrod Homer (University of Manchester), "On the Banks of the Mainstream: Suburban Discontent and Urban Alternatives in the 1950s Jewish Imagination"

Ruth Hawthorn (University of New England), "Finding Significance in Suburbia: John Fante's 'My Dog Stupid'"

Jennifer Daly (Trinity College Dublin), "'Trying to bring life to a place': Richard Ford's Bascombe trilogy and the Dream of Home Ownership"

12.30-13.30: Lunch (Mason Lounge)

13.30-15.00: Session F

Panel F1: Literary Genealogies

Chair: TBC

Ruth Maxey (University of Nottingham), "Writing India into America: Calcutta, History and South Asian American Literature"

Sinéad Moynihan (University of Exeter), "'The Line of My Past': James Baldwin, Literary Genealogy and Contemporary Queer Writing"

Tessa Roynon (University of Oxford), "Ovid and (Post)modern American Fiction"

Panel F2: US-UK Special Relationships

Chair: TBC

Ishan Ashutosh and Nick Hayward (Northumbria University), "Amorous Politics? Interrogating the US-UK Special Relationship"

Suzanne Doyle (University of East Anglia), "'A Foregone Conclusion?' The Carter Administration and the Trident Agreement, January 1978 - July 1980"

Jamie Fletcher (University of Winchester), "The Politics of Constitutions: UKIP and the Tea Party's attempt to re-establish their 'lost constitution'"

Panel F3: African American Visual Cultures

Chair: Sara Wood (University of Birmingham)
Celeste-Marie Bernier (University of Nottingham), "'Stick to the Skin': Storytelling, Memory and Historical Imagining in Contemporary African American Art"

Jennifer Terry (Durham University), "Counter-Futures in the Diasporic Art of Ellen Gallagher"

Alan Rice (University of Central Lancashire), "Playing in the Dark (with the Archive): Henry Box Brown, African Atlantic Artists and their Radical Interventions"

**Panel F4: Twentieth-Century Cross-Currents:
Ireland and America**

Chair: TBC

Louise Walsh (University College Dublin)
"Everted Orthodoxy: James Joyce, George
Schuyler and an 'Inside-Out' Christianity"

Sarah Bennett (Oriental College Oxford) "The
Lessons of Whitman in Twentieth-Century
Irish Poetry"

Tara Stubbs (Oxford University Department
for Continuing Education) "W.B. Yeats in
Contemporary American Culture"

**Panel F5: The Liberal Consensus in an Age of
Conservatism**

Chair: TBC

Uta Balbier (King's College, London), "US
Evangelicalism and the Liberal Consensus"

Helen Laville (University of Birmingham),
"Gender Issues in an Era of Liberal Consensus"

George Lewis (University of Leicester) "Civil
Rights, the Liberal Consensus and the March
20 Years Later"

**Panel F6: HOTCUS Panel 2: Reframing the
1960s in Film and History**

Chair: Nick Witham (Canterbury Christ Church
University)

Althea Legal-Miller (University College
London), "'Seeing us Break': Civil Rights
History, Sexual Violation and Filmic
Representations of the Leesburg Stockade
Jailing, 1963"

Fraser McCallum (University of Glasgow),
"From JFK to Parkland: Re-Shooting The
Kennedy Assassination in Hollywood Cinema"

John Howard (King's College London), "Cliff vs.
Pinkos: Nuclear Secrecy and Spiritual/Sexual
Disclosures in *Finders Keepers*"

**Panel F7: RITA Panel: The Role of
Intersectionality in the Study of Race in the
Americas**

Chair: TBC

Steve Garner (The Open University), Title TBC

Maria Lauret (University of Sussex), Title TBC

Adunni Adams (Co-Founder of RITA Group),
"Contextualizing The Texas Abortion Bill 2013
– An Intersectional Approach"

Panel F8: Humor in American Fiction

Chair: TBC

Laura E B Key (University of Liverpool) "'Toxic
Assets': Humor and the Great Recession in
Twenty-First Century American Fiction"

Rachael McLennan (University of East Anglia)
"'What do we talk about when we talk about
Anne Frank?' The Holocaust and 9/11 in
Shalom Auslander's *Hope: A Tragedy* (2012)
and Nathan Englander's *What We Talk About
When We Talk About Anne Frank* (2012)"

15.00-15.30: Tea/ Coffee (Mason Lounge,
Arts)

Session G: 15.30-17.00

Panel G1: Writing Nature

Chair: TBC

Sarah Daw (University of Exeter), "'Cauldfield's
Thoreauvian Dream': Nature as Origin and
Escape in Cold War New York Writing"

Rebecca Mills (University of Exeter), "'Beyond Ariel's Song': Sylvia Plath's Oceanic Geographies"

Courtney Traub (University of Oxford), "Incommensurable Landscapes: Complicating the Postmodern Sublime in Recent American Novels"

Panel G2: It Will Oblige Your Constant Readers': Newspapers, Agency, and the Language of Atlantic Commerce

Chair: TBC

Simon Middleton (University of Sheffield), "Runaways, Rewards, and the Social History of Money"

Emily Buchnea (University of Nottingham), "Beyond Price Currents: Reflections of American Business in British Commercial Press, 1783-1820"

Angel-Luke O'Donnell (University of Liverpool), "'Raising and Increasing the Jealousy of Great Britain': Protest, Confidence, and Domestic Manufacturing in Philadelphia, 1765 to 1774"

Panel G3: Ethics and the Spectacle of Torture

Chair: Zara Dinnen (University of Birmingham)

Oliver Kenny (Queen Mary University of London), "The Saw series: a neo-conservative ethics?"

Michele Aaron (University of Birmingham), "Ethics, Arousal and Impunity: The Pornography of Death in The Act of Killing"

John Horne (University of Birmingham), "The Abu Ghraib Spectacle and A Simple Case for Torture (1983)"

Panel G4: Franzen, Wallace and Contemporary Fiction

Chair: TBC

Sadek Kessous (Newcastle University), "Franzen in Love: 'Big Dramas of Individuation' in Jonathan Franzen's *Freedom*"

Jennifer Glennon (Birkbeck, University of London), "David Foster Wallace: The Burdens of Genius and Postmodernism"

Tim Groenland (Trinity College Dublin), "The Pale Kings: Exploring Textual Multiplicity in David Foster Wallace's Unfinished Novel"

Panel G5: US Conservatism

Chair: TBC

Tom Packer (Independent Scholar), "Jesse Helms and the Polarization of America"

David Hancock (Kingston University), "Neoconservative Wives: Gertrude Himmelfarb and the de-moralization of America"

Martin Walter (University of Nottingham), "From Bailouts to Birthers: The Evolution of Tea Party Protest in 2009"

Panel G7: The Southwest

Chair: TBC

Martin Padgett (Aberystwyth University), "The Radical Southwest: Paul Strand, Harold Clurman, Ernie O'Malley and Philip Stevenson"

Michael Dennis (Acadia University), "Ella Winter and the Labor Humanism of the Great Depression"

Joseph Morton (University of Manchester), "The Persistence of Regional Exceptionalism:"

Continuing Excursions in the California Collective Imaginary"

Panel G8: Public Diplomacy and Interventions

Chair: TBC

Caitlin Schindler (University of Leeds), "The Lost American Tradition: American Foreign Policy Public Engagement and the Origins of American Public Diplomacy"

Ksenia Wesolowska (University of Nottingham), "The United States and the Arab-Israeli conflict: the Rogers Plan - A Failure or Success of Mediation?"

David Model (Seneca College), "The Last Frontier: U.S. Post-Colonialism in Somalia"

Panel G9: Time and Space in Diasporic Literatures

Chair: TBC

Benjamin Miller (University College Dublin) "Narrating Transhistorical Determinism and Transnational Diaspora in Danticat's *The Dew Breaker* and Díaz's *Oscar Wao*"

Su Mee Lee (Dong-A University) "Japanese-Brazilian Diasporic Community in Karen Tei Yamashita's *Brazil Maru*"

Habiba Ibrahim (University of Washington) "Live Forever: Black Temporality in Toni Morrison's *Sula* and *Beloved*"

Lena Ahlin (Kristianstad University), "'All we wanted to do, now that we were back in the world, was forget': On Collective Remembrance and Forgetting in Julie Otsuka's Novels"

17.15-18.30 – Plenary Sponsored by *Journal of American Studies* (Bramall)

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and Director of the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research (Harvard University)

18.30 - 19.15 – Reception (Bramall)

19.15 - 19.45 – Coaches to Birmingham Council House

19.45 onwards – Gala Dinner and Awards Evening, (The Banqueting Suite, Birmingham Council House)

Sunday 13th April

7.30-9am: Breakfast (Lucas House, for those staying on campus)

09.30-11.00: SESSION H

Panel H1: American Music

Chair: TBC

Christian O'Connell (University of Gloucestershire), "'Nel blu, dipinto di 'Blues'": African American music in Italy during the 1930s"

Collin Lieberg (University of Warwick), "'All Gone to Look for America': National Identity in the Sounds of California"

Nick Heffernan (University of Nottingham), "From the Scottsboro Boys to Trayvon Martin: The Aesthetics and Politics of the Topical Anti-Racist Protest Song"

Panel H2: Building by Numbers: American Magazine Culture and the Spaces of Writing

Chair: John Fagg (University of Birmingham)

Kristen Treen (University of Cambridge)

"'Delightful relics...money cannot buy': The Domestic Arrangement of Civil War Memory in the *Ladies' Home Journal*, 1883-1906"

Edward Allen (University of Cambridge)
"More than a crossing of boundaries":
Bouleversement and Architectural Rhythms in
Poetry: A Magazine of Verse"

Joanne O'Leary (University of Cambridge)
"John Ashbury's 'Furniture poetry' and the
1970s *New Yorker*"

**Panel H3: The New American Century? The
'War on Terror' and Beyond**

Chair: TBC

Steve Hewitt (University of Birmingham), "The
Long Run: An Examination of the Implications
for American Domestic Counter-Terrorism of
the Obama Administration's Use of Drones
Abroad"

Maria Ryan (University of Nottingham), "'War
on Countries We are not at War With':
Irregular Warfare and the 'War on Terror' on
the Periphery"

Mark Ledwidge (Canterbury Christchurch
University), Title TBC

**Panel H4: Fifty Summers after 'Freedom':
1964 and the Southern Literary Imagination**

Chair: TBC

Jude Riley (Northumbria University), "'His
Father Had Been Some White Man': Southern
Eugenic Legislation, Race and Intellectual
Disability in Elizabeth Madox Roberts and
Ellen Glasgow"

Gavan Lennon (University of Nottingham),
"The Liberation of LBJ: Jesse Hill Ford, the
Southern Town, and the Civil Rights Act"

Ed Clough (University of East Anglia), "The
Space of Southern Writing after '64: Returns
to the Plantation in Gaines, Grau, and Styron"

Panel H5: Policy and Crisis

Chair: TBC

Clodagh Harrington (De Montfort University),
"Sense and Sustainability: SNAP, Food Poverty
and the US Obesity Epidemic"

Rebecca Isaacs (University of Birmingham),
"The Myth of the 'Sputnik Moment'"

Emily Crick (Swansea University), "The Global
Drug Prohibition Regime: America's War"

**Panel H6: Experiences of the Divine in
American Literature since the Fin-de-Siècle**

Chair: TBC

Steven Bembridge (University of East Anglia),
"The Politicization of Jesus in the Work of Jack
London and Upton Sinclair"

Loni Reynolds (Independent Scholar), "'A
Humane yet Dark Tribute to Life': The
Eucharist in the Work of Gregory Corso"

Jennie Chapman (University of Hull), "'Death
isn't what you think!' Narrating the Near
Death Experience in Fiction and Non-Fiction"

Panel H7: Rethinking David Foster Wallace

Chair:

Adam Kelly (University of York), "In Quest of
American Sincerity: Stanley Cavell and David
Foster Wallace"

Iain Williams (University of Edinburgh), "David
Foster Wallace: An Unlikely Conservative?"

Edward Jackson (Independent Scholar),
"Burned Children: Framing America's Wars in
David Foster Wallace's *Oblivion*"

Panel H8: Artistic Communities

Chair: TBC

Jennifer Essen (Kings College London) "A
Resting Place for My Affections": Setting Up
Home in Southwestern Art Colonies

Sara Rutkowski (The Graduate Center, The City
University of New York) "The Literary Legacy
of the Federal Writers' Project"

Janusz Kazmierczak (Adam Mickiewicz
University), "The Dispassionate Pilgrim: Jan
Jozef Szczepanski, the University of Iowa
International Writing Program, and the Myth
of America".

11.00-11.30 – Tea/Coffee (Mason Lounge)

11.30-13.00 - SESSION I

Panel I1: Visions of Africa

Chair: TBC

Imaobong Umoren (University of Oxford),
"Global Race Women in the Post Second
World War Age, 1945-1955"

Carmen Mboumba Nzamba (University of
Paris), "The United States and Africa: The
Image of Africa in Ebony Magazine until the
1960's

Hannah Durkin (University of Nottingham),
"Pearl Primus, African Dance and the Cold
War"

Panel I2: Narratives in US Foreign and Security Policy

Chair: TBC

Francisca Fuentes (York St John University),
"An American Peña & the Chilean 9/11: exilic
cultural memory of US covert activity in Chile"

Alexandra Homolar (University of Warwick),
"Narratives of Enmity: The Power of Words in
US Security Policy"

Clare Birchall (King's College London), "The
Snowden Revelations and the American Data
Dream"

Panel I3: Nineteenth-Century Historical and Geographical Intersections

Chair: TBC

Alessandra Magrin (University of Strathclyde),
"How the West was Shown: Italian Narratives
of the American Frontier (1790-1906)

Lorenzo Costaguta (University of Nottingham),
"Must they go? The Socialist Labor Party and
the 'Chinese Question' (1878-1890)"

Panel I4: Frames of Fiction

Chair: TBC

Guy Barefoot (University of Leicester), "Frank
Merriwell in Hollywood: Series Books and the
Film Serial"

Ben Robbins (Free University of Berlin),
"Between Literature and Film: the Hawksian
Woman's Faulknerian Inspiration"

Jennifer Cowe (University of Glasgow), "Sex
and the City: A Situationist Reading of Jens
Jorgen Thorsen's Film Adaptation of 'Quiet
Days in Clichy'"

Panel I5: Transatlantic Texts

Chair: TBC

Finn Pollard (University of Lincoln), "'Here he
had touched realities': P.G. Wodehouse,

Psmith Journalist and Anglo-American Relationships 1904-1975"

Lyndsay Miller (University of Nottingham),
"Nabokov's Extra-textual Revisions"

Sharon McCann (University of Cambridge),
"Trial and Error: The Transatlantic Troubles of Charles Reznikoff's *Testimony*"

Panel I6: Exploring Louisiana

Chair: TBC

Darryl Barthe (University of Sussex), "E
Duobos Unum: Race, Ethnicity and Jim Crow in
Creole New Orleans, 1900-1947"

Louise Fenton (University of Wolverhampton),
"'Snakes Jumped Out of Her Mouth': New
Orleans Voodoo represented in the works of
Lyle Saxon and Robert Tallant, 1920-1950"

Christophe Landry (University of Sussex),
"From a Linguistic to an 'Ethnic' Identity:
Americanization in Creole Southwest
Louisiana in the interwar period, 1916-1940"

Panel I7: Literary Spaces

Chair: TBC

Rob Lederer (University of Edinburgh),
"Renovating the House of Fiction"

Katie Ahern (University College Cork),
"Deserted Streets and Empty Rooms: Spatial
Constraints and Liminal Concerns in Edith
Wharton's *The House of Mirth*"

Coco d'Hont (University of East Anglia), "'So
the Thing's Still in the House?': The
(Un)heimliche Home as a Critical Space in
Lunar Park and *House of Leaves*"

Panel I8: Politics, Protest, Gender and Sexuality

Chair: TBC

David Deverick (University of Nottingham),
"Lyndon Johnson and Women's Rights"

Tom Bishop (University of Nottingham), "'Kiss
the children goodbye': Challenging the
patriarchy of Civil Defense"

Josh Hollands (University of Hull), "Boycott
Coors: Solidarity and the Role of Labor
Activism in the Struggle for Gay Liberation,
1970s San Francisco"

13.00-14.00 – Lunch and closing of Conference