

THE
VIRGINIA HUMANITIES
CONFERENCE 1999

VHHC

VIRGINIA HUMANITIES CONFERENCE

March 19-20, 1999



ANTICIPATING
THE END:
The Experiences
of the Nineties

on the campus of
Mary Baldwin College
Staunton, Virginia

email: sbgreen@cit.mbc.edu

web site: www.mbc.edu/professional/vhc/home.html

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

Conference Registration and Coffee 8:30 - 2:00 Hunt Foyer

Opening Remarks and Greetings 9:00 - 9:10 Miller Chapel

CONCURRENT SESSIONS A 9:15 - 10:30

1. **Perspectives on Classical British Literature** King 107
"Myth or Prophecy? Interpreting Chaucer's 'The Former Age'"
Piotr Gwiadzda (New York University)
"Creation, Discovery, and Change in Shakespeare and His Theatre"
Ryan D. Rjter (University of Georgia)
"Twentysomethings in the Nineties: Film Noir Meets Marlovian Tragedy"
Ronald Kates (Middle Tennessee State University)

2. **The 1790s: Revolution and Repercussions** King 108
"Utopia and the Millennium in 1790s England"
Daniel W. Hollis (Jacksonville State University)
"Millennial Mission and Hope, USA, 1782-1800"
James H. Smylie (Union Theological Seminary/PSCE)
"Defining Identities: Gender, Politics, and the Postal Service in the 1790s"
Martha J. King (University of Virginia-Madison Papers)

3. **Women: Wild and Strong** Miller Chapel
"Ooh, Baby, It's a Wilde World: *Salome*, *Tank Girl*, and the Feminine Apocalyptic"
Connie Monson (Emory University)
"From Lizzie Borden to Lorena Bobbitt: Violent Females of the 1890s and 1990s"
Jean Filetti (Christopher Newport University)
"Brave New Girls: Female Archetypes, Border Crashing, and Utopia in Kate Braverman's *Palm Latitudes*"
ShaunAnne Tangney (Minot State University)

PLENARY ADDRESS 10:40 - 11:25 Francis Auditorium
"Aestheticism and Empire"
Stephen Arata (University of Virginia)

LUNCHEON 11:40 - 12:45 Hunt Lounge

CONCURRENT SESSIONS B 1:00 - 2:15

4. **German Culture and Its Critics** King 107
"The 1790s in Hamburg: The Crisis of Civic Ethics and Republican Political Conduct at the End of the Eighteenth Century"
Katherine B. Aaslestad (West Virginia University)
"Overcoming Fin-de-Siecle Decadence: Beer-Hofmann, Hofmannsthal and the Young Vienna Circle"
Esther Elstun (George Mason University)
"The Inner and Outer Immigration of Antonin Dvorak"
Stevens Garlick (Mary Baldwin College)

5. **Race, Identity, and Democracy in the 1890s** King 108
"One by One Our Rights Are To Be Taken Away":
Race Relations in Virginia at the End of the Last Century"
Ann Alexander (Mary Baldwin College)
"America in the 1890s: Whiteman's Country or Multi-Racial Democracy?"
Noel Kent (University of Hawaii at Manoa)
"Dirt, Desire and Whiteness in 1890s Painting"
Elizabeth Lightfoot Lee (Indiana University)

6. **Crossing Sexual Borders** Miller Chapel
"Moving Toward Millennium: The Second Coming of the *Eternal Feminine*"
Frederick A. Lubich (Old Dominion University)
"Mormonism and Homosexuality: A Historical Overview"
O. Kendall White (Washington & Lee University) and Daryl White (Spelman College)

CONCURRENT SESSIONS C 2:30 - 3:45

7. **Art and Aesthetics** King 107
"An Art of and for Our Time: Memory in Wilde and Proust"
Lawrence Byrne (Barry University)
"Contemporary Art from Latin America at the End of the Century: The Case of Argentina"
Gustavo Fares (Lynchburg College)
"Hilarious Coda: Art after the Death of Art"
Dinah Ryan (Mary Baldwin College)

8. **Imagined Cities** King 108
"Representations of the Cosmic Polis: London and Labor in *News from Nowhere* and *In Darkest England*"
Tanya Agathocleous (Rutgers University)
"Reconjuring the Lost Rainbow: Imaginary Cities of the Balkans and Levant"
Gloria Fulton (Humboldt State University)

9. **Late Nineteenth Century Fiction** Miller Chapel
"Reporting the Harsh Social Truth: Turn-of-the-Century Murder Cases as a Source for Theodore Dreiser"
Lana Whited (Ferrum College)
"Apocalyptic Themes in Henry James's 'The Beast in the Jungle' and 'The Jolly Corner'"
Pamela Warford (Georgetown College)
"Announcing the End of the White Patriarchal Colonial Subject: George Egerton's 'Under Northern Sky'"
Iveta Jusova (Miami University)

VHC Business Meeting (Delegates) 4:00-5:30 Academic 308

CONCURRENT SESSIONS D 4:00 - 5:15

10. **Redefining Values in the Nineties** King 107
"Giving Peace a Chance: Can the Intellectual Revolt against Positivism in the 1890s Offer Lessons for the Preservation of Peace in the Post-Cold War World of the 1990s?"
Phillip A. Cantrell (West Virginia University)
"Environmental Crisis and the Problem of Intrinsic Value"
George Teschner (Christopher Newport University)

11. **Looking Right and Left** King 108
"That Way Madness Lies: Conspiracy Theories, Postmodern Paranoia, and (Anti)Intellectual Cabals"
Bryan G. Salmons (Southern Illinois University)
"Futures of Fear: The Dystopian Impulse in Far Right Literature"
David Lobb (Syracuse University)
"The Decimation of the Liberal Democratic Paradigm"
James Willson-Quayle (George Washington University)

12. **New Work, New Women, New Worlds, New Worries** Miller Chapel
"Brave Red New World"
Brad Ricca (Case Western Reserve University)
"Dangerous Appetites: The Consuming New Woman of the 1890s"
Amy D. Stephenson (Case Western Reserve University)
"New Work for Women: Negotiating Ambivalence in Women's Detective Fiction of the 1890s"
Carla Kungl (Case Western Reserve University)

RECEPTION 5:30 - 6:00 Hunt Gallery

DINNER 6:00 - 7:30 Hunt Lounge

CONCERT 8:00 - 9:00 St. Francis Roman Catholic Church
Music of the Nineties by Canticum Novum

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

Conference Registration and Coffee 8:30 - 9:30 Hunt Foyer

CONCURRENT SESSIONS E 9:00 - 10:15

13. Utopia/Dystopia King 108

"The Cultivation of Utopia in Emile Zola's *Fecundity*"

Anne McGovern (Mary Baldwin College)

"Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray*: A Nineties' Utopia"

Linda Maureen Gordon (Christopher Newport University)

"*Infinite Jest*: Pleasure-Seeking, Addiction, and the Elimination of Millennial Tension and Release"

Brittany Davis (Clarion University)

14. Apocalyptic Religion King 107

"Are the American Millenarian Movements Disappearing?: The Association for Research and Enlightenment"

Chizu Tsurutani (Syracuse University)

"Sensual Aspects of the Imaginary Endtime: Recent Developments of Charismatic Communities in Latvia"

Agita Luse (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology)

"Marketing the Apocalypse in Japan"

Daniel Mettraux (Mary Baldwin College)

15. Reconstructing Ourselves Academic 207

"Interdisciplinary Theatricality: Theatre as a Model for Consciousness?"

Kirsten Shepherd-Barr (North Carolina State University)

"Exposing Ourselves: The Rise of American Autobiography"

Roark Mulligan (Christopher Newport University)

16. Critique of Science Miller Chapel

"Science is Good—Or Is It? Popular Perceptions of Technology in the 1890s"

Randall Clark (Pfeiffer College)

"End of Century Angst: Wells' *The Island of Dr. Moreau* and Ballard's *Rushing to Paradise*"

Helen O'Hara Connell (Barry University)

"Scientific or Cultural Literacy for the Fin de Siecle?"

Vladimir Garkov (Mary Baldwin College)

PLENARY ADDRESS 10:30 - 11:15 Francis Auditorium

"Millennial Misfortunes"

Sibley Towner (Union Theological Seminary & PSCE)

CONCURRENT SESSIONS F

11:30 - 12:45

17. Revolution and Counter-Revolution King 108

"The Haitian Revolution of 1791, America's Second Quest for Liberty"

Carl L. Garrott (Virginia State University)

"Christ and Guns in History: How William Pierce's Paramilitary Handbook *The Turner Diaries* Relates to the History and Actions of Paramilitary Organizations in the United States"

Samantha Marrin (Hobart & William Smith Colleges)

"Christ and Guns in Literature: A Literary and Theoretical Analysis of William Pierce's Paramilitary Handbook *The Turner Diaries*"

Megan Myers-Hayes (Hobart & William Smith Colleges)

18. Eschatological Images King 107

"Apocalypse 1500: Liturgy and Poetry in Luca Signorelli's Fresco Series in Orvieto"

Sara Nair James (Mary Baldwin College)

"Eschatological Poems of the Twentieth Century"

Scott Bates (The University of the South)

"The End of the World in the Middle of the Century: The Apocalypticism of John Ponet"

Glen Bowman (Chowan College)

19. Futuristics: Beyond the 1990s Academic 207

"Who Might Human Beings Be in the Twenty-First Century?"

Sarah Drenan (Mary Baldwin College)

"Paradigms of the Future: From Mass Society to Post-Modernism"

James Paharik (Seton Hill College)

"'Hope' and the Construction of the Future"

Elizabeth Gill (Randolph-Macon College)

20. Computers and the End Miller Chapel

"Approaching the Asymptote: The Y2K and Terminal Time"

Randall Scott (Ohio State University)

"Engaging the Visual: *Paragone* in the Digital Environment"

Charles F. Warner (U S Naval Academy)

"Typewriters, Computers, and the Mechanics of Meaning: Reflections on Writing, Machines and the Process of Mediation"

Felicia Mitchell (Emory and Henry College)

LUNCH AND THE END 1:00 - 2:00 Hunt Lounge

TRANSPORTATION:

Staunton is 100 miles west of Richmond, VA, and 40 miles west of Charlottesville, VA, at the junction of I-64 (East/West) and I-81 (North/South). You will be using Exits 222 and 225 from I-81. If you are coming by car from Richmond/Eastern Virginia, take I-64 west to Exit 87, I-81 North. Once you are on I-81 North, the

first exit will be Exit 222 to Route 250 West; the second exit is Exit 225 west on the Woodrow Wilson Parkway (Rte. 275). If you are coming from the west on I-64, take I-81 North at Lexington and continue to Exits 222 or 225. We will send maps of Staunton and advice about parking to those who pre-register for the conference.

Staunton is served by the Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport at Weyers Cave, VA, about 30 miles northeast of Staunton. Airport limousine service is available from Shenandoah Airport through A & B Luxury Suburban Airport Transportation. The charge to or from Staunton is \$25. Make reservations at least two weeks ahead (540-248-0597). Mention the Virginia Humanities Conference, and A & B will try to arrange for conference goers to share the ride and the cost.

LODGING:

We have reserved blocks of rooms in the Staunton area at the Holiday Inn, the Comfort Inn, and the Frederick House. Rooms at the **Holiday Inn** are \$74 a night; call for reservations at 1-800-932-9061. Mention the **Virginia Humanities Conference** and make your reservation by March 2. Holiday Inn has courtesy van service to Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport and to Staunton; if you wish the van to pick you up at the airport, you should request van service when you make your room reservation. Holiday Inn is located approximately four miles north of the College at the I-81 Exit 225 to the Woodrow Wilson Parkway (Rte. 275).

Rooms at **Comfort Inn** are \$50 a night and include breakfast; call for reservations at 1-540-886-5000 or email your request to liannecrookshanks@rica.net and leave your phone number. Mention the **Virginia Humanities Conference** and make your reservation by March 1. To reach Comfort Inn, take Exit 222 from I-81 onto Route 250 West. Comfort Inn will be on your left just west of I-81 and is approximately two miles from the College.

Frederick House is a bed and breakfast adjacent to the College. Rooms at the Frederick House are \$65 a night and include a full breakfast; call for reservations at 1-800-334-5575 or email the proprietor at ejharman@frederickhouse.com. Frederick House has a website at www.frederickhouse.com. Mention the **Virginia Humanities Conference** and make your reservation by March 1.

For more information about transportation or lodging, contact Susan Blair Green, VHC President and Conference Coordinator (sbgreen@cit.mbc.edu or MBC/PVCC Coop/ 501 College Drive/ Charlottesville, VA 22902-7589).