
JANUARY 2019

THE NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of the Department of English & Writing Studies



A message from the Chair

PROFESSOR MANINA JONES, CHAIR

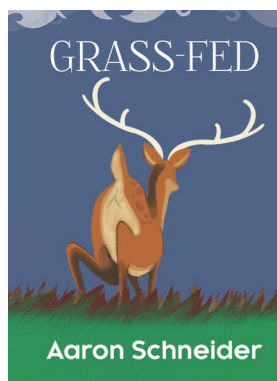
The Winter 2019 term is off to an inspiring start. This revived department newsletter will offer an accessible common space to keep in touch with what's going on in Department of English and Writing Studies, including faculty and student accomplishments, announcements of upcoming speakers and meetings, and reports on past events of interest, as well as research- and teaching-related activities, big and small. Do contribute! Please submit contributions to Shelli Hunter (shelli.hunter@uwo.ca).

Continuing on the theme of common spaces... The main floor faculty common room (UC 2410) is taking shape. This is not a "bookable" space. It may be used for meetings, but keep in mind that people may wander in and out. If you have copies of books to add to the collection of faculty-authored books, please contribute. Browsing these as-yet-unorganized shelves is a fascinating excursion into the department's history and I hope it will also give a good place to share our present-day research productivity. If you have a creative name for this space, please pass it along, and if you know what the heck to do with those white-backed glassed-in shelf units on the main the hallway, speak up. Good luck with the term. Keep in touch.

Research & Publications

BOOKS AND ANTHOLOGIES

Fiction



Grass-Fed

by Professor Aaron Schneider
Quattro Books, November 2018

An academic, an artist, two businessmen, a talk show host, and a retired hockey player gather at a hunting lodge and resort in Northern Ontario. Over the course of

their retreat they kill, they eat and they justify their lives. In *Grass-Fed*, Fragments connect multiple storylines and moral contexts in a skewering social critique. In this literary horror, power bends rhetoric to its own ends, torqueing language until it legitimizes itself and all its exploitative goriness.



Bear No Malice

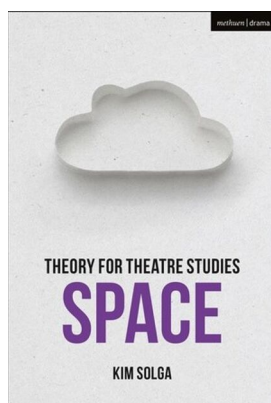
by Professor Clarissa Suranyi
Pegasus Books, January 2019

Published under the name Clarissa Harwood, Clarissa Suranyi has published her second historical novel, *Bear No Malice*, whose male protagonist was a minor character (and the hero's

nemesis) in her debut novel *Impossible Saints*. Pitched as *Grantchester* meets *Great Expectations*, *Bear No Malice* is the story of Tom, an Anglican priest and social reformer who has been covering up his mistakes and lying about his traumatic past for so many years that he no longer knows who he is. It's also the story of Miranda, an artist and Lady of Shalott figure who is haunted by her own painful past. When Tom's secrets catch up with him and his reputation is destroyed, he realizes that Miranda is the only person he trusts with the truth. What he doesn't realize is that even if she believes him and returns his feelings, he can't free her from the shackles of her past.

Bear No Malice and *Impossible Saints* are companion novels that interrogate the tension between faith and feminism in Edwardian England. Both novels were inspired by Victorian novelist Anthony Trollope's *Chronicles of Barsetshire*, especially Trollope's focus on the lives and loves of cathedral clergy and the ways minor characters in some novels become major characters in others.

Non-Fiction



Theory for Theatre Studies: Space

by Professor Kim Solga
Bloomsbury, February 2019

Her latest book provides a comprehensive introduction to the "spatial turn" in modern theatre and performance theory, exploring topics as diverse as embodied space, environmental performance politics, and urban

performance studies. The book is written in accessible prose and features in-depth case studies of a range of performance works.



Queerness in Play

Co-edited by Meghan Adams
Palgrave MacMillan, 2018

Queerness in Play examines the many ways queerness of all kinds—from queer as 'LGBT' to other, less well-covered aspects of the queer spectrum—intersects with games and the social contexts of play. The current unprecedented visibility of

queer creators and content comes at a high tide of resistance to the inclusion of those outside a long-imagined cisgender, heterosexual, white male norm. By critically engaging the ways games—as a culture, an industry, and a medium—help reproduce limiting binary formations of gender and sexuality, *Queerness in Play* contributes to the growing body of scholarship promoting more inclusive understandings of identity, sexuality, and games. Read the review [here](#).

Research & Publications

BOOK CHAPTERS

MacLean, Alyssa. "Writing Back To Massa: The Black Open Letter in Transnational Abolitionist Literature." *Reading Between the Borderlines: Cultural Production and Consumption across the 49th Parallel*, Ed. Gillian Roberts, McGill-Queen's University Press (2018): 41-66.

This chapter recovers a genre of writing composed by formerly enslaved authors who escaped to Canada: letters to their former owners in the U.S., which were then published as open letters in cross-border abolitionist newspapers. Formerly-enslaved authors used this mode of writing to condemn U.S. slavery, publicize their success in Canada, and advocate for their rights to equality and legal citizenship.

Phu, Thy. "Refugee Photography and the Subject of Human Interest." *Photography and Migration*. Ed. Tanya Sheehan, London, Routledge (2018).

Wenaus, Andrew. "Parmenidean Psychopathy and Capitalist Hyperstition: J.G. Ballard's Late Novels." *Deep Ends: The J.G. Ballard Anthology 2019*. Ed. Rick McGrath. The Terminal Press. Forthcoming (Summer 2019).

ARTICLES

Adams, Meghan, Rambukanna, N., "Why do I have to make a choice? Maybe the three of us could, uh...": Non-monogamy in Video Game Narratives." *Game Studies: The International Journal of Computer Game Research* 18.2 (September 2018).

Mockler, Kathryn. "I Won't Clean the Tub." *Geist Magazine*. Issue 109, Fiction (Fall 2018).

Mockler, Kathryn. 4 Poems. *Chicago Review*. #MeToo: a Poetry Collective, Poetry (2018).

Pennee, Donna. "Transatlantic Figures in The Imperialist: Public Sentiment, Private Appetite." *Canadian Literature* 234 (Autumn 2017): 33-50 (published August 2018).

This article grew from her graduate course "Between Britain and America." Thanks especially to Nahmi Lee, Hanji Lee, Taylor Kraayenbrink, and Ryan Gibbs for their contributions to course work on Duncan's 1904 novel.

Phu, Thy, Brown, E. "The Cultural Politics of Aspiration: Family Photography's Mixed Feelings." *Journal of Visual Culture* 17.2 (August 2018): 152-165.

Shrivastava, Nidhi. "The Representation of Gender and Sexuality in Priya's Shakti (2012)", *South Asian Review* (October 2018): pp. 1-15.

Sunder, Jason. "Religious Beef: Dalit Literature, Bare Life, and Cow Protection in India", *Interventions – International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* (December 2018).

Wenaus, Andrew. "Babelian Act of Fecundity." *James Joyce Quarterly*. Vol. 55.3-4 (Forthcoming 2019).

Wenaus, Andrew. "Perfume" Audio. *Ballardian Soundscapes*. Urban Arts Berlin, Fiction (2018).

Research & Publications

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Adams, Meghan. "Compromising Positions: Performing Queerness in Academic Publishing." The Queerness and Games Conference. Concordia University, Montreal, QC (September 2018).

Adams, Meghan. "Pater Omnipotens: The Father as Savior in Games Culture." Canadian Game Studies Association. University of Saskatchewan, Regina, SK (May 2018).

Adams, Meghan. "Waist Away: Gender and Fat (In)Visibility in the Heroes of Overwatch." Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference. Toronto, ON (March 2018).

Shrivastava, Nidhi. "Priya's Shakti: Recasting of Familiar Mythological Constructs in Order to Criticize Rape Culture." South Asian Literary Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL (January 2019).

Wenaus, Andrew. "Algorithmic Realism: Mathematical Fictionalism, Benjamin's Sunspring, and Artificial Intelligence Narrative." Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference. Milwaukee, WI (July 2018).

INVITED PAPERS

Phu, Thy. "Invisible Vietnam: Propaganda's Threshold." Asia Theory Visuality. Princeton University (May 2018).

Phu, Thy. "Intimate Estrangements." Vernacular Photography. Columbia University (October 2018).

Phu, Thy. "Vietnam Pictorial and Communist Aesthetics." Socialism Around the Bloc, Hangzhou, China (April 2018).

PUBLIC LECTURES

Wenaus, Andrew. "Nothing Means a New Meaning: DADA, Dank Memes, J.G. Ballard, and the Rise of Techno-Feudalism." Brown & Dickson Bookstore (February 2019).

REVIEWS

Wenaus, Andrew. "Speculative Realism and Science Fiction." Brian Willems. Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP, (2017). 208 pp. 978-1474422703. Extrapolation 59.3 (Forthcoming Winter 2018).

Wenaus, Andrew. "J.G. Ballard: Modern Masters of Science Fiction." D. Harlan Wilson. Urbana, Chicago, and Springfield: University of Illinois Press (2017), 214 pp. 9780252082955, Extrapolation 59.2 (Spring 2018).

SERVICE

Wenaus, Andrew. External Examiner. Cameron Edmund's Ph.D. Dissertation: "Poetics of the Machine: Machine Writing and the AI Literature Frontier." Supervisor: Ryan Twomey. Department of English. Macquarie University. Sydney, Australia (Winter 2019).

News & Events

Mark Kearney, Lecturer, Writing Studies/FIMS awarded Dean's Award of Excellence, Faculty of Media and Information Studies for Part-Time Instructors

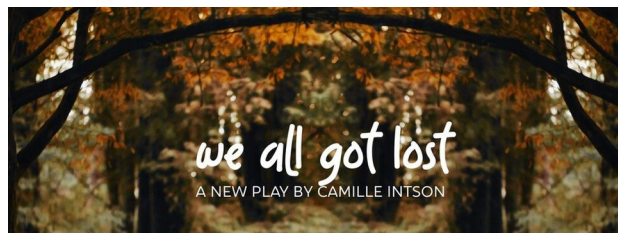
FIMS faculty members are presented with the Dean's Award for Excellence in Teaching in recognition of outstanding contributions to the academic development of students in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies. Congratulations, Mark!

Winter and Summer 2018 PhD Graduates

Congratulations to Dr Riley McDonald, Dr Logan Rohde, Dr David Huebert, Dr Jeremy Colangelo who successfully defended their doctoral dissertations in the Winter and Summer 2018 terms!

English & Theatre Studies student wins New Play Contest

Student Writer-in-Residence Camille Intson's play *WE ALL GOT LOST* is the winner of the 2019 Hamilton Fringe New Play Contest and placed 3rd in the Winnipeg Fringe New Play Contest. Congratulations, Camille!



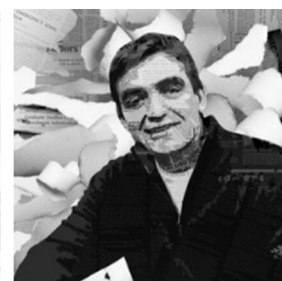
Fall 2018 Undergraduate Scholarship Recipients

The Department of English & Writing Studies offers over 30 undergraduate awards & scholarships annually. We were proud to recognize the academic achievements of our outstanding students during our annual Fall Awards Reception held this past November.



Cherie Dimaline and Nino Ricci named 2018 Newsmakers of the Year

Newsmaker of the Year is a title awarded by the Western News annually since 2009 to celebrate some of the people, places and things that have shaped the year at this institution. Read the full story [here](#).



News & Events

WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE

Writer-in-Residence Cherie Dimaline and Student Writer-in-Residence Camille Intson team up at a reading in Prof. Aaron Schneider's **Write Now! course**.



FACULTY

In December, Pauline Wakeham and Manina Jones attended Western's Indigenous culture Winter school. They are pictured here on the territory of the Lenape (Lunaapeew) People of the Delaware Nation at Moraviantown.



UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Dido, Queen of Carthage by Christopher Marlowe

Directed by Professor Joanne Devereux

Performed by English 2041F Students

Drawing upon Virgil's Aeneid, Christopher Marlowe's Dido, Queen of Carthage (c. 1593) dramatizes the classic and tragic love story of Dido and Aeneas. This short and lively early modern play blends comedy and tragedy and includes, alongside other human characters, many gods and goddesses—Jupiter, Ganymede, Juno, Venus, Mercury, and Cupid—as well as music, magic, trickery, and glorious poetry.



GRADUATE STUDIES

If you are supervising graduate students who need further guidance on matters relating to the profession or who are interested in career options beyond the MA or PhD, please encourage them to participate in this semester's upcoming GDPC sessions. Click [here](#) for the Winter 2019 workshops and seminars.



Bring your projects and just write in a space dedicated to establishing a regular writing practice.

Coming up ...

Saturday, March 9 March Break Open House

Tuesday, February 19 to Friday, February 22 Spring Reading Week

Tuesday, April 9 Fall/Winter classes end

Friday, April 12 Honors Thesis Day