

THE NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of the Department of English & Writing Studies



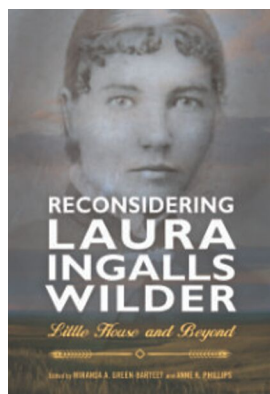
A message from the Chair

PROFESSOR MANINA JONES

Welcome to the Fall term. As you'll read below, there is lots of activity in the department on many different fronts: teaching and learning, research and publication, creative production, and public attention to the work we do, including coverage of Prof. Jane Toswell's new course **This University**, our upcoming **Fall Production** of Shelley's *The Cenci* and the **Summer Shakespeare** production of *Twelfth Night* in the Ivey Garden outside UC last month. Highlights among the developments that have enlivened my Fall so far are the initiation of the search for the next **Alice Munro Chair in Creativity**, the ongoing redevelopment of our constellation of websites (thank you Shelli Hunter!), and the start of **Student Writer-in-Residence Gabrielle Drolet's** term. Gabi has already visited my undergrad class to introduce herself. We've even enlivened the look of University College. Thanks to the efforts of Prof. Madeline Bassnett and MacIntosh Gallery's Brian Lambert, a work of art ([pictured here](#)) by London artist **kerry ferris** has just been installed in the 4th floor lounge area (which I call the James Reaney Tower Room). St. Mary's *Newfoundland* (1977) is a stunning depiction of a small island densely populated by terns. Thanks go to the Dean's office for supporting this new addition. Shelli Hunter has also set up the display cases on the main UC corridor with recent book publications by EWS faculty and students, and incoming Writer-in-Residence **Jane Urquhart**, who joins us in January. Current Alice Munro Chair in Creativity Nino Ricci's podcast series "**Who Do You Think You Are?**" is worth downloading to animate your Fall. In each episode, Nino talks to a faculty member from the Western community "who makes a difference in their field by challenging old assumptions or forging new models for how we make sense of the world." Prof. Aaron Schneider's Writing Studies course **Write Now! Writers on Writing** continues to host a dazzling array of creative writers on Wednesdays this Fall – and it is open to all. Check the schedule. This weekend, Profs. Jan Plug, Thy Phy, and Student Writer-in-Residence Gabi Drolet will be representing Arts and Humanities at the **Ontario Universities Fair** in Toronto – good luck, and thank you! Finally, I participated this week in the kick-off and planning meeting for **Congress 2020**, which will be held here at Western next May-June. It's already clear that we'll have a strong presence from faculty and students in English, Writing Studies, Film Studies, Theatre Studies, and Medieval Studies at Congress. Stayed tuned for further developments and opportunities to get involved. Please keep the newsletter contributions coming so we can stay in touch with one another's diverse interests and activities.

Research & Publications

BOOKS



Reconsidering Laura Ingalls Wilder Little House and Beyond by Professor Miranda Green-Barteet

University Press of Mississippi
2018

Reconsidering Laura Ingalls Wilder: Little House and Beyond offers a sustained, critical examination of Wilder's writings,

including her Little House series, her posthumously published and unrevised *The First Four Years*, her letters, her journalism, and her autobiography, *Pioneer Girl*. The collection also draws on biographies of Wilder, letters to and from Wilder and her daughter, collaborator and editor Rose Wilder Lane, and other biographical materials. Contributors analyze the current state of Wilder studies, delineating Wilder's place in a canon of increasingly diverse US women writers, and attending in particular to issues of gender, femininity, space and place, truth, and collaboration, among other issues.

[Read Western News article here >>](#)



A Cultural History of Theatre in the Modern Age

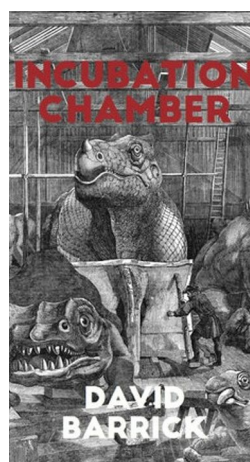
by Kim Solga
Bloomsbury 2018



To call something modern is to assert something fundamental about the social, cultural, economic and technical sophistication of that thing, over and against what has come

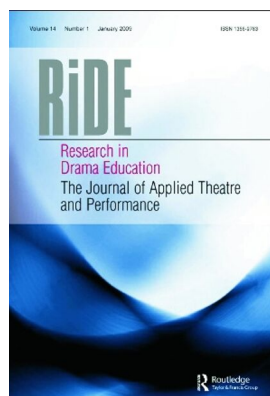
before. *A Cultural History of Theatre in the Modern Age* provides an interdisciplinary overview of theatre and performance in their social and material contexts from the late 19th century through the early 2000s, emphasizing key developments and trends that both exemplify and trouble the various meanings of the term 'modern', and the identity of modernist theatre and performance.

Poetry



Incubation Chamber by Professor David Barrick Anstruther Press 2019

David Barrick's new chapbook explores the intersection of imagination and anxiety in a series of linked poems. These narrative lyrics use dream logic to slip between the realms of everyday experience and phantasmagoric vision, delving into the mind's recesses.



Theatre and Performance vs the 'Crisis in the Humanities'

Research in Drama Education:
The Journal of Applied Theatre
and Performance

by Professor Kim Solga

Routledge | Taylor & Francis
Group 2019

Kim published a special issue of
Research in Drama Education

(RiDE) over the summer. Since then she's been approached by Routledge, and the issue will be reprinted as a book in 2020, called *Theatre and Performance in the Neoliberal University: Responses from an Academy in Crisis*.

RiDE is available online at our library.



Research & Publications

BOOKS

Green-Barteet, Miranda, Phillips, A.K. *Reconsidering Laura Ingalls Wilder: Little House and Beyond*. University Press of Mississippi (2018).

Wenaus, Andrew. *Where Word Breaks Off: The Literature of Exclusion, Artificial Intelligence Narrative, and Modernism's Möbius Strip*. Transforming Literary Studies Series. Lexington Books. Forthcoming. (2020).

BOOK CHAPTERS

Wenaus, Andrew. "Coping with Zero to a Million Decimals: Mike Bonsall's J.G. Ballard TwitterBots and Procedural Psychopathology." *Deep Ends: The J.G. Ballard Anthology* 2019. Ed. Rick McGrath. The Terminal Press. (Fall 2019).

JOURNALS

Green-Barteet, Miranda, Coste, J. "Non-Normative Bodies, Queer Identities: Marginalizing Queer Girls in YA Dystopian Literature." *Girlhood Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, Vol. 12, no. 1 (2019): 82-97.

Green-Barteet, Miranda. "From the L-Chamber to the wood-pile: Negotiating Space in Harriet E. Wilson's *Our Night*." *Canadian Review of American Studies*, vol. 49, no. 2 (2019): 160-184.

ARTICLES

Johnson, Jeremy. "**Maybe I am fixed': Disciplinary Practices and the Politics of Therapy in Young Adult Literature**". *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 44.3 (Fall 2019): 310-331.

Wenaus, Andrew. "'Nodding-Off from the Anthropocene: Picnolepsy and Rehearing Disappearance in Space Exotica.'" *Paradoxa* 31. Forthcoming. (2020).

Wenaus, Andrew, Willatt, Christina. "Data Signifies Nothing: Granular Synthesis, Algorithmic Impersonality, and Supermodern Autonomy." *Canadian Review of American Studies*. Special Issue: Uncertain Futures. Forthcoming. (2020).

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

POETRY PUBLICATIONS

Barrick, David. "Recurrent Dream #19" and "Revolving Door." *The Fiddlehead* 278 (Winter 2019).

Barrick, David. "Spider Bite." *EVENT Magazine* 47.3 (Winter 2019).

Barrick, David. "Balance." *Prairie Fire* 40.3 (forthcoming).

Prime, Tom, Barwin, G. "**A Cemetery for Holes: Poems**." Gordon Hill Press. (2019).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Wenaus, Andrew. "Coping with Zero to a Million Decimals: Mike Bonsall's J.G. Ballard TwitterBots and Procedural Psychopathology." Electronic Literature Organization Conference and Media Arts Festival. Cork, Ireland. July 2019.

Devereux, Joanna. "'What no female artist in all the world had attempted before': Florence Claxton's Engravings and Satires." North American Victorian Studies Association Conference, Columbus, Ohio, October 17-19, 2019.
This paper will explore the ways in which Claxton's satirical art represents an important feminist intervention into the predominantly masculine art of wood engraving in the 1860s.

News & Events

WEMS Presents: Gordon S. Miller

Gordon S. Miller, playing Iago in the Stratford Festival staging of *Othello*, is visiting Western! He will be speaking in a Q&A with Paul Werstine from **4:45-5:15 p.m.** in Dante Lenardon Hall, room 130, over at King's University College (it's the old "mansion" building) on **Monday, September 30**. Everyone is welcome to join!

Janice Radway - Girls, Zines, and Their Travels: Imagining Lives, Crafting Archives for the Next Century

English and Writing Studies is co-sponsoring an event with Janice Radway, who will speak on "Girls, Zines, and Their Travels: Imagining Lives, Crafting Archives for the Next Century" on **Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.** | FIMS Creative Commons (2nd floor), FIMS & Nursing Building.



[Read more about Janice here >>](#)

Professor Peter Schwenger included in Times Literary Supplement

The June issue of the Times Literary Supplement had a section of writers on what they were reading during the summer. One writer, Lara Pawson, included our own Professor Peter Schwenger on her list. Writes Lara Pawson: "I am also becoming a devoted fan of Peter Schwenger since reading *The Tears of Things: Melancholy and physical objects* (Minnesota), a key inspiration for the book I am currently writing. This summer, I want to lie in my hammock in the heat reading *At the Borders of Sleep: On liminal literature* (also Minnesota), in which Schwenger explores the links between literature and that curious space between sleeping and waking."

Seline Boer, HSP in Film Studies student, reflects on her experience at the SCMS-U Conference

As a 4th year Honours Specialization in Film Studies student, I was absolutely delighted and astounded when I was accepted to present at Society for Cinema and Media Studies-Undergraduate for the second time. I was able to attend thanks to support from the Department of English and Writing Studies and the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. The SCMS-U Conference is an undergraduate conference founded by the Society for Cinema and Media Studies that desires to broaden the understanding of film, cinema, and media through academic research and investigation.

This year's conference was held at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania. I presented a version of the first chapter of my thesis, titled "The Artistic Possibilities of Cinema: The Double, Split Subjectivities, and the Commodified Body in *Der Student von Prag* (1913)".

My presentation was on the second day, so for the first day I was able to admire the work of my film and media colleagues who were from all over the world. Like any young scholar, I was amazed by array of theories and research presented. Topics ranged from new approaches to reading film sound to maternal subjectivity within pregnancy horror films as well as two vastly different approaches to *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*. My own presentation went incredibly well, despite my own nerves, as I discussed the historiography of *Der Student von Prag* as the first film dealing with the motif of the doppelgänger. My presentation garnered many kinds of questions. The conference overall was an invigorating experience and I hope that in the future I can experience many more like this where I hope I can see some familiar faces.

-- Seline Boer



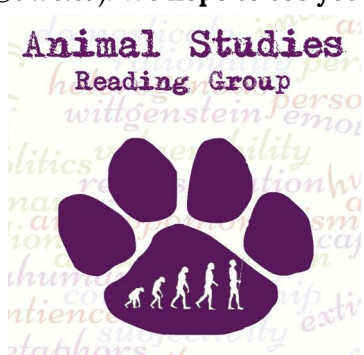
News & Events

Melanie Byron, winner of the Sara Marie Jones Memorial Scholarship

Congratulations to Melanie Byron for her essay "'Now that's medicine': Disability and Healing in *The Marrow Thieves*". The committee received submissions from five students, and awarded the prize to this essay for "its strong, original argument, expressive quality, and argumentative clarity."

Animal Studies Reading Group

The Animal Studies Reading Group – focused on Animal Studies and its intersections with other fields in literature, culture, history, and theory – welcomes interested graduate students and faculty from any department to attend and participate in our *monthly meetings*, where we engage with some previously determined text/idea/issue pertaining to Animal Studies. If you have any interest, even just a minor curiosity, in animal studies or animals in relation to a different field, we would very much value your attendance at and participation. For any query, please contact Raj (rbanerj5@uwo.ca) and/or Stuart (scheyne2@uwo.ca). **We hope to see you there!**



Gabrielle Drolet, 2019 Student Writer-in-Residence

Gabrielle Drolet, a 4th year English and Writing Studies student, is Western's 2019-20 Student Writer-in-Residence.

She has one foot in journalism and another in poetry. She writes in English (mostly), but speaks French at home. She writes fearless opinions for all to see, but would rather be birdwatching alone. She loves reading for fun – except during the school year when it seems like work. Drolet is keen to discover how her diverse experiences can contribute to a culture of creativity across campus.

[Read more about Gabrielle here >>](#)

The Cenci 2019

To mark the bicentenary of Percy Bysshe Shelley's drama, *The Cenci*, the Keats-Shelley Association of America interviewed Professors Monika Lee and Jo Devereux. This production will be staged by students in our popular undergraduate course English 2041F (Fall Theatre Production) from **December 4-7, 2019**.

[Read the full interview here >>](#)

Alyssa Maclean interviewed for PBNJ: Professors Beyond Jobs



John Greyson: Activist Cinema

Filmmaker, video artist, writer, activist and educator John Greyson will appear in Prof. Chris Gittings Canadian cinema class on **October 17**, speaking on the topic of activist cinema. The event is open to all. **Please join us from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in UC 1405.**



[Read more about John here >>](#)

News & Events

CFP: What We(A)re Anthologies in Canadian Poetry (deadline: 1 Nov. 2019)

Frog Hollow Press seeks contributors for an essay collection that probes some of the issues surrounding contemporary practices of anthologizing Canadian poetry. Intended for publication as part of the Literary Criticism Series, the anthology revolves around the larger question of what contemporary or future Canadian Poetry Anthologies may be building, and for whom.

Potential contributors are invited to send a proposal of 200-300 words, along with a biographical statement of 50-100 words, to carlalanwatts@yahoo.com by November 1st, 2019. Invitations to submit complete essays of 4000-7000 words will be sent out shortly thereafter, along with a deadline and revision/publication timeline. **Submissions from BIPOC, LGBTQ2S+, and other underrepresented writers are especially welcome.**

[More details here >>](#)



The Department of English and Writing Studies at Western has an institutional membership to the Canadian Studies Network. This includes a free individual membership for five grad students. CSN may fund international grad student travel for members; it also has prizes for MA theses and dissertations for members. If you'd like to claim one of the free memberships, please email me asap! Note: for members and non-members alike, CSN has excellent job postings for alt-ac careers relevant to Canadian Studies. Job seekers should check it out.

[More details here >>](#)



Undergraduate students in the news

Student Writer-in-Residence Gabrielle Drolet speaks out about cuts to OSAP

Erin Anderson, 4th year student in Honours Specialization in Creative Writing and English Language & Literature speaks at the Spring Perspectives on Active Learning

Kriti Mehra, 3rd year student in Specialization in English Language & Literature finds strength in Western community

Camille Intson BA'19, the playwright, director and producer of WE ALL GOT LOST, wins Best in Fringe.

David Bentley Plenary Speaker ACQL

David Bentley will be a plenary speaker at the June 2020 annual Association of Canadian and Quebec Literatures conference at Western University. The title of his presentation is "**Archibald Lampman and Islamic Culture.**"

Gibson remembered as 'cutting-edge' author

Author and conservationist Graeme Gibson, BA'58, is being remembered as a writer who was in the vanguard of Canadian literature. The London, Ont., native died this month at the age of 85, following a recent stroke.

[View tribute here >>](#)

