



A monthly newsletter brought to you by the English and Writing Studies Department

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'Sad Stories of the Deaths of Kings': Revisiting England's real Game of Thrones

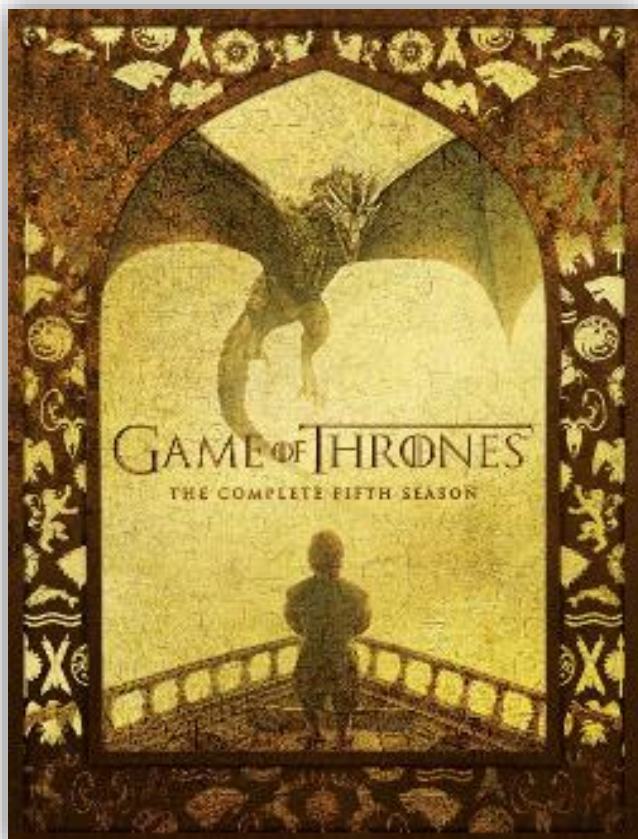
Professor John Leonard Discusses Historical Influences in the Writings of Game of Thrones

In a *Western News* article published last week, Professor John Leonard discusses some of the historical influences present in the famed series *Game of Thrones*.

In his article, Leonard explores numerous parallels between 'real' English history and the fabricated plot lines presented by George R. R. Martin in the *Game of Thrones* novels, including one of the most unforgettable deaths of the series, that of Twyin Lannister, "who was shot with a crossbow while relieving himself on the privy." Leonard explains that Lannister's death may hold some resemblance to the death of King Edmund Ironside—one of the last Anglo-Saxon kings of England—and while many fans of the *Game of Thrones* fiction series do not feel pity for the Twyin Lannister character and his less than graceful demise, "Edmund Ironside, brave warrior and inspiring leader of his people, deserved a better end."

Neither Leonard nor his students can prove Martin was thinking precisely of King Edmund when he thought up Twyin's grossly death; however, it was quite a neat thing to discuss the possibility, this past week on November 29th; "Edmunds death is dated either Nov. 29th, or 30th," meaning "[they] were remembering him 1,000 years to the day after his undignified demise," pretty neat, right?

Read Professor John Leonard's full article in the *Western News* [here](#).



The Story of an English Professor

Alumnus Chris Lowry Produces Portrait Documentary About Late Professor Ross Woodman

Unlike most literature enthusiasts, late professor Ross Woodman's imagination was formed not in reading poems and prose, but rather in the fictional worlds of moving pictures. "If you ask me where I came from," he would always say, "I came from the movies. I invented myself at the movies."

Growing up in Winnipeg, in the midst of the Depression, haunted by illusory prairie horizons, Woodman could, on most days, be found hiding away in the dimly lit theatre in the centre of town. He would spend hours upon hours, day after day at the theatre, watching each and every film that came to town, slowly dissolving his disbelief in the impossible and fully allowing his imagination to take flight.

Years later, upon returning home from his service in the Royal Canadian Air Force, Woodman would see the benefits from his time spent in the worlds of imaginary realities and suspended disbelief, when he landed a job teaching literature to a small group of veterans. The experience of reading poetry with these returning soldiers in the midst of war turmoil and trauma ultimately set the course of his extraordinary life; he knew he was one of the lucky ones. While the world around him was becoming increasingly secular, pragmatic, and utilitarian, Woodman never veered from the trajectory of imagination. Poetry, he maintained, was a direct path to the divine.

Woodman had found his vocation as a teacher of poetry focusing on the problem of good and evil in the aftermath of Hiroshima and the Holocaust, and went on—most relevantly—to write his masters thesis about Satan as 'The Hero' rather than 'The Villain' of John Milton's epic *Paradise Lost*.

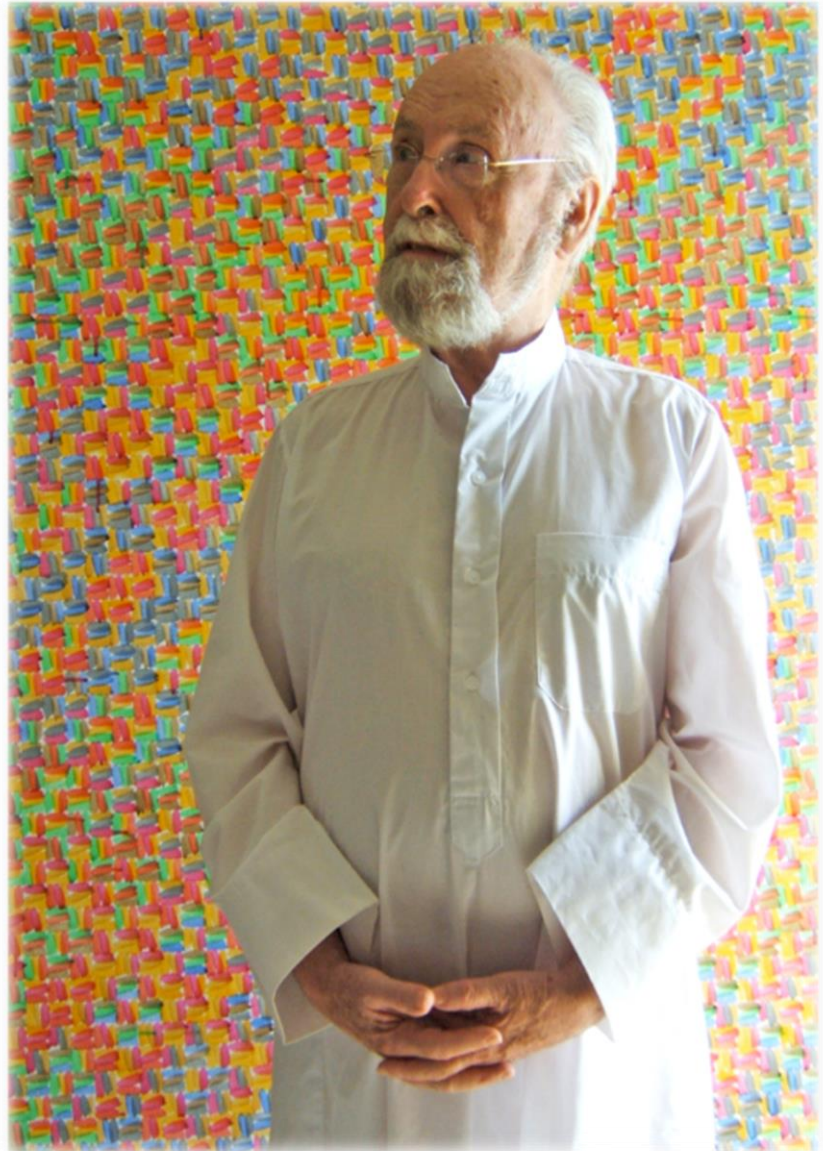


Photo originally published in the London Yodeller April 2014

Continuing his education further, Woodman relocated first to Toronto—to complete his PhD—and then to London, where he was a professor of English at the University of Western for nearly 40 years.

In London, Woodman became deeply engaged in the cultural life, acting as an attentive witness and champion to the London art scene in the 1960s, explaining and promoting it to the world in his critical writings in *artscanada* and *Art International*. At the same time as he taught the high art of Coleridge, Shakespeare, Matisse and Eastern mystic poetry, he also advocated the diverse, grungy, and completely original artists of the Forest City as equally potent forces of inspiration for a disillusioned world.

Young minds hungered for what Woodman offered in his classroom; he created a protected space for the imagination. He was a magical teacher who influenced thousands of students for more than half a century, inspiring many of his students to become writers, artists, and educators.

English and Writing Studies professor, Joel Faflak, who worked closely with Woodman on his last two books, was one of these grateful former students. He remembers being blown away at the beginning of his first class when Woodman opened up the Songs of Innocence.

"It was this act of absolute imagination," said the Director of Western's School for Advanced Studies in the Arts and Humanities. "This fantasy Blake writes about, of a child appearing on a cloud, and the child talks back to him. What got me was that the man at the front of the room channeling William Blake had no problem with the world of fantasy or imagination whatsoever. For a kid like me, coming from a small town, my mind simply got pried open."

Both Ross and his adored wife Marion seem to have an uncanny ability to draw out even the shyest

and most alienated of students and awaken their deepest mysteries and potentialities. It wasn't an approach that every student appreciated, but for those whose internal antennae could pick up the Woodmans' signals, they were major, life-shaping teachers. Together, they were an impressive, often astonishing couple.

"A social evening with Ross and Marion was like a bizarre field trip to a moonlit realm where you chewed on eternal truth like sugared almonds and watched the curtains being drawn to reveal a backyard reality that you hardly knew existed—and they actually lived in this place," remarked a former student at Woodman's funeral.

Through blessings and trials, the two wandered through life, creating and inspiring as they progressed, often imposing on each other formidable breakdown and breakthrough moments, until 2007, when Marion started to lose her memory to dementia. Ross, determined to keep Marion at home, took care of her until he no longer feasibly could.

In the spring of 2014, Ross was no longer capable of looking after his dear wife, and Marion moved to a long-term-care facility; although he felt had no choice, Ross was deeply shaken by these events, and died soon afterward.

Woodman's commitment to the power of living works and arts informed his radical vision, a vision that continues to inspire generations of those studying and working in the arts. As the value of an arts education becomes increasingly questioned in our culture, his voice and vision remains urgent and timely.

Woodman's story, his accomplishments, and his ideas will be shared—most appropriately—on the big screen, thanks to English Department alumnus Chris Lowry, who is currently creating the documentary *Rebel Angel*—a portrait documentary about the truly remarkable English professor.



Western
Arts&Humanities

The
Department of English and
Writing Studies
is proud to announce
MARGARET CHRISTAKOS
Writer-in-Residence 2016-17

Margaret Christakos is a widely published, award-winning poet, fiction author, critic and creative writing instructor. She has published nine collections of acclaimed poetry and one novel, and has given readings and seminars from her work across Canada and the US since 1989. Her work has won the ReLit Award for Poetry and the Bliss Carman Award, and has been nominated for the Pat Lowther Award twice and the Ontario Trillium Book Award. In 2012-13 she was the recipient of a major Chalmers Arts Fellowship. Her most recent poetry collection is called *Multitudes*, published by Coach House Books in 2013. A new collection of creative memoir, *Her Paraphernalia: On Motherlines, Sex/Blood/Loss & Selfies*, was published by Book Thug in Spring 2016.

This season, Margaret Christakos will hold weekly office hours to offer feedback to, and consultation with, both experienced and novice creative writers from the university and the London community. She is happy to discuss any genre of creative writing including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, prose, and playwriting.

Winter Hours (Jan-April) at Western, Wednesdays 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm, and 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm (contact Vivian Foglton, vivian.foglton@uwo.ca, 519-661-3403); at the London Public Library, Thursdays 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm (contact Rebecca Faber, info@lpl.ca, 519-661-4600).

The WiR program is co-sponsored by the James A. and Marjorie Spenceley Fund, the Department of English and Writing Studies, the London Public Library, the Department of Women's Studies and Feminist Research, the Department of Visual Arts and Art History, and the Canada Council for the Arts.

We acknowledge the support of the Canada Council for the Arts, which last year invested \$153 million to bring the arts to Canadians throughout the country.

Nous remercions le Conseil des arts du Canada de son soutien. L'an dernier, le Conseil a investi 153 millions de dollars pour mettre de l'art dans la vie des Canadiennes et des Canadiens de tout le pays.



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada

WordsFest 'Instant' Zine

Impressive 'Instant' Zine Created During Words Festival



WordFestZine is an instant publication born out of a partnership among Words, Poetry London, Western University, Fanshawe College, and Insomniac Press, with the main goal of capturing the energy, dynamism, and diversity of the annual *Words Festival* by putting together a collection of written reactions and responses to the literary festival, all within the span of the weekend festival.

To accomplish this, the collective, asked festival attendees, esteemed participants, and their own onsite writers to send in poems, twitterverse, creative non-fiction, and fiction pieces, all in the midst of experiencing the festival—the idea being that they could capture the real and authentic aura of the festival in print.

With a team of tireless editors and producers—many of whom are from the Writing Studies program—working around the clock they were (quite impressively) able to edit, compile, design and, finally, print the zine within 24 hours of receiving the final submissions.

Printed and on sale by the third day of the festival, the second issue includes for categories, "Words of Celebration," Words of Reaction," "Words Aloud"—a compilation of poems read at the open mic night—and, "Words Unbound"—a collection of heterogeneous oddments and tidbits that collect around a major literary event.

If you would like to purchase a copy of the zine, email Carolyn Doyle at Carolyn.doyle@lpl.london.on.ca.

The cost for the zine is \$5 per copy plus shipping and handling

The Theatre Studies Program at Western University presents

SQUALLS OF GLASS

***Watch "Squalls of Glass," an Original Full-Length Play by Meg Cormack, 4th-Year English Honors/
SASAH, and presented by Theatre Studies at Western, from January 19th-21st, 2017 at the Arts
Project Theatre in Downtown London (all shows at 8PM)!***

Students of last year's American Drama survey course (English 3666F), taught by George Ramos, will be presenting the full-length version of "Squalls of Glass" by Meg Cormack, 4th-year English Honors/SASAH, on January 19th, 20th, and 21st (Thursday through Saturday, all shows at 8 PM) at the Arts Project (203 Dundas St.).

Inspired by Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, "Squalls of Glass" is a powerful psychological piece that deals with mental health issues, particularly suicide. It dramatizes how members of a theatre company, through the creative process of writing and producing a new musical, come to terms with the profound loss of a loved one who has taken her own life. The hit one-act version was produced at the McManus Studio Theatre of London's Grand Theatre last winter.

The creative and production team includes undergraduate students, graduate students, and graduates of the Department of English and Writing Studies and other departments and faculties of Western, including Matt Butler, Meg Cormack, Jacek Orzylowski, Michelle Dumont, Jesyka Traynor, Colin Ennis, Jasmina Hothi, Matthew Rodnick, Jess Symington, Mykelti Whiting, Krystle Casupanan, and George Ramos.

"Squalls of Glass" is presented by the Theatre Studies Program with the generous support of the Department of English and Writing Studies, the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, the Student Donation Fund of the Arts and Humanities Student Council, and the Hume Cronyn Funds for dramatic performances. Proceeds will be donated for the benefit of the Canadian Mental Health Association Middlesex. Let's support our students and colleagues and help raise awareness for mental health.



At the Centre of it All

Alumna Leigh Turner: Healthy Attitude towards Learning and Team Diversity to Success

The world we live in is becoming increasingly more dependent on technology. Even modern business and commerce growth has developed to rely heavily on technological advancements. The tech industry is becoming the centre of our world, the centre of everything, really.

In 2008, English (BA'95) alumna, Leigh Turner—who loves being in the centre of it all—dove head first into the middle of the booming tech industry, when she was hired as an Account Executive at one of the world's largest independent software manufactures, SAP (Systems, Applications, and Products in data processing).

Turner, stationed in Toronto, took an unorthodox path to a career in information technology. The former varsity swimmer and English major initially joined the company because she saw it as a place to learn, develop, and grow.

"The path for me wasn't clear. It happened as a result of bumping into a lot of things, trying things, finding things I enjoyed doing. And, as I enjoyed doing things, I got to live a career of enjoying what I do and of growing and motivating people,"

Turner told the *Western News* in an interview last month.

On her journey towards her current position, Turner realized business is and never really was all about the product that you are selling, saying that instead, she believes that commerce is about meeting new people, understanding their personal issues and providing them with help. She shares with *Western News*, that,

"In learning to love helping people, I found myself in a customer-service industry and I've enjoyed every minute of every customer interaction I've ever had because it's an amazing learning opportunity."

Western University was a place that provided an amazing foundation for Turner's future. In fact, she believes that it was her post-secondary education in English studies that helped her improve her communication skills and be a better, down-the-road leader.

Though she did not know the exact career path she wanted to pursue, Turner spent her formative years learning and enjoying each and every

experience that broadened her perspective of the world and fostered a love of lifelong learning. She told Western News:

"I didn't know the direction I was going to go. I viewed life as an opportunity to really learn and I knew there was so much richness in that regard after having left Western," she said. "What I love most [about my job] is it is ever-changing and there's incredible opportunity for learning. If you love to learn and you are OK with not knowing where it will lead you, you can have a really great career."

Today, as Chief Operating Officer of SAP Canada, Turner is facing the same challenges as every other company chief executive in the world, with globalization dictating the need for a company's workforce to resemble not only existing customers, but new ones too. While workplace diversity is often sold as a feel-good option, the reality is that simply rolling with the status quo represents a cluster of missed opportunities that threatens the relevance of companies who are okay with the way things are. To that end, SAP, and Turner specifically, have implemented several initiatives meant to bring more women, visible minorities and variously abled people into its workforce.

One of these initiatives is a really neat program called Autism at Work, wherein SAP will have 1% of its global workforce on the autism spectrum working in their business, in order to be able to do work that is impossible to source elsewhere. In order to build a successful team and be strong leader, Turner feels it is important to form a team with diverse backgrounds, bias, ages, gender, and previous experience through work diversity programs like Autism at Work.

While Turner has experience at various levels of the company and is prepared—and willing—to

abandon rank and title to dig into the details and be part of problem-solving, she also believes in taking a step back and allowing her team space to learn, grow, and flourish.

"To have a leader that acts that way all of the time, gets in the way of the creative thought of the team and, frankly, means the team will only continue to solve things in the way they always have," she explained. "As a leader, it is important that although you may have those skills, you get out of the way and watch the team, give them opportunities to come together and give them big, difficult problems to chew on, and really watch them as they shape the strategy."

By building a strong and eclectic team of employees Turner can have confidence in getting "out of the way" and letting her staff thrive. Creating an environment that is fearless, where her team members are able to think of things without consequence, without fear of repercussion; giving them an opportunity to be super creative and know that if they do not succeed, that's okay; she knows that failure is not only part of the job it is also learning experience to grow from.





Ready to go Digital?

Teacher Evaluations Going Digital at Western University

Following a pilot project this summer, this term, students will be afforded more flexibility in evaluating their instructors and courses as Western goes digital with its end-of-term questionnaires. It's a move, university officials say, that will not only provide deeper data and a better understanding of teaching campus, but in replacing nearly 250,000 paper questionnaires each semester will also be more cost effective and environmentally conscious in the long term.

With a few days remaining in their courses, students will have received an email with a link to a questionnaire—a digital reproduction of the paper version used in previous years—that can be filled out during class or at a later time on any electronic device.

In preceding years, students who do not attend class the day evaluations were handed out were unable to complete teacher evaluations at a later date. With this new system students who are not in class the day the questionnaire is released may still participate. Moreover, students will receive follow-up emails if they have not completed the evaluation by the last day before the exam period.

However, don't expect changes in teacher evaluations to stop there. By this time next year the university is hoping to offer new options within the digital questionnaire never available in paper form, including the ability for faculties and departments to seek mid-course feedback and access comparative data and more sophisticated reports.

Top of our List:

Become a HouseWarmer and give a gift that keeps giving!



sign up to become a monthly donor online rmhc-swo.ca or call Brianna at 519-685-3232 x2507

Ronald McDonald House
Charities Southwestern Ontario

Holiday WishList

With your help, we can bring some comfort and joy to families with seriously ill children staying with RMHC-SWO this holiday season.

Special Holiday items for RMH London

Teen Gifts

- Headphones
- Movie Passes
- Nail Polish
- Sport "Stuff"
- Jewelry

Parent Gifts

- Picture Frames
- Home Decor
- Candles
- Car Accesories

Toys for Babies from 0-12m

Gifts for Children aged 7-12

Gift Cards

Phone Accesories

Travel-Sized Toiletries

Slippers - All Sizes

Sports Memorabilia

E-Rated Video Games

Pyjamas - Adult and Youth

Winter Gloves and Hats- All Sizes

RMH London Year Round Comforts

- Kitchen Items

- Peanut/nut butter
- Fresh fruit and vegetables
- Canned beans
- To-Go items i.e. KD Cups
- Honey
- Maple syrup, olive oil

- Large Ziploc freezer bags

- Individually wrapped toiletry Items
- Pre-packaged snacks
- Lysol wipes
- Parchment paper
- Ladies deodorant
- Tupperware/Rubbermaid plastic food bins

- Diapers - all sizes

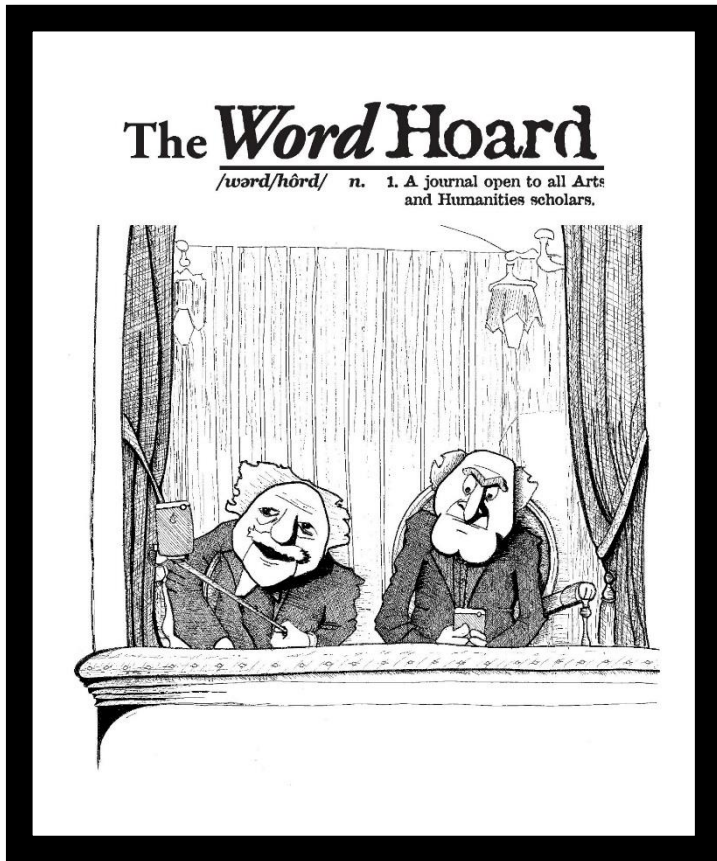
- Hair brushes, facial wipes
- Batteries (AAA, D, C)
- Newborn items (swaddle blankets, clothing)
- Pump hand soap
- High efficiency "HE" laundry pods

FRIENDS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND WRITING STUDIES ARE SHARING COMFORT AND JOY WITH FAMILIES STAYING AT RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP US, PLEASE CHECK THE RMH HOLIDAY WISH LIST, AND LEAVE YOUR GIFT IN THE MAIN OFFICE (AHB 2G02) BY DECEMBER 9TH. THE GIFT BOX WILL BE DELIVERED TO RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE BY DECEMBER 15TH

MAKING SPIRITS BRIGHT!

Publication News

'The Word Hoard' Releases Fifth Issue



Word Hoard—an interdisciplinary arts journal based in the Department of English and Writing Studies—is thrilled to announce the launch of its fifth issue. This issue brings together creative and academic responses to the theme of "Scum and Villainy".

The issue can be accessed online [here](#).

Word Hoard is also looking for volunteers! If you're interested in becoming involved, send us an email at wordhoard.editors@gmail.com.

'Horror Studies' Releases Sonic Horror Issue

7.2 Autumn 2016

Special Issue: Sonic Horror

Guest Editor: Isabella van Elferen

Isabella van Elferen, Introduction: Sonic Horror

Matt Foley, 'My voice shall ring in your ears': the Acousmatic Voice and the Timbral Sublime in the Gothic Romance

Joan Passey, Sound and Silence: the Aesthetics of the Auditory in the Novels of Ann Radcliffe

Frances Clarke, Gothic Vibrations and Edgar Allan Poe

Danielle Hancock, Welcome to *Welcome to Night Vale*: First Steps in Exploring the Horror Podcast

Jessica Balanzategui, Haunted nostalgia and the Aesthetics of Technological Decay: Hauntology and Super 8 in *Sinister*

Steven T. Brown, Ambient Horror: From Sonic Palimpsests to Haptic Sonority in the Cinema of Kurosawa Kiyoshi

Sean Matharoo, A Weird Creature Operating in the Theater:...ODDSAC

Amanda DiGioia, A Cry in the Dark: The Howls of Wolves in Horror and Heavy Metal Music

Isabella van Elferen, Sonic Monstrosity

Phil Emery, *Nosfer-2*

Horror Studies—a peer reviewed academic journal managed and edited by Professor Steven Bruhm— is happy to present the fall edition of their 7th volume.

Devoted to the rigorous study of horror in all of its cultural and historical forms, from film and literature, music and dance to fine art, photography and beyond, this issue focuses on the theme of "Sonic Horror".

Above you will find the Table of Contents for the recently released autumn edition of their 7th issue.

The *Horror Studies Journal* is available through [subscription](#), and can also be accessed through Weldon Library

IC•NOCLAST

COLLECTIVE

Campus Culture Collective Releases Second Issue of Publication

In the time of medieval Greece, the iconoclast had a slightly thuggish reputation. Stemming from the Greek words *eikon*, meaning “image,” and *klastes*, meaning “breaker,” an iconoclast was someone who destroyed religious sculptures and paintings. However, to be called an iconoclast by today’s standards is usually kind of cool—they’re rugged individualists, bold thinkers who don’t give a hoot what tradition calls for. They are pushers of boundaries and ideas, and are often praised for their out-of-the-box thinking.

Created by several students—three of whom are from the English and Writing Studies Department—with that token “iconoclasts freethinking” mind set, and out of a desire to initiate interdisciplinary conversations on campus, a group of students have joined forces to create the *Iconoclast Collective*, a student culture collective based at Western, whose aim is to publish stories—in whatever form they may come in—that encourage their contributors and their readers to think fearlessly and passionately, outside of traditional rhetoric; just as their name suggests, they want their contributors to break down barriers between mediums, genres, and passions.

To give their readers a taste of what was to come, the collective put together a [pilot publication](#)—released this past summer—with the set theme of “origin.” The theme, most fittingly, was chosen to convey that this was their first piece of published work, but also in the spirit of celebrating and discussing beginnings in whatever forms they may come in.

The issue included stories told in various forms comprising of photography, illustrations, poetry, creative writing, more precisely focused opinion pieces, as well as some words from the founders/editors introducing their adored publication-child.

Fast forward to December, and the campus-housed culture collective has just released their [second issue](#). Themed around the word “launch” as a verb, this issue is meant to represent the speed at which our culture and environments are evolving.

The campus culture collective is also dedicated to supporting and running events in real life as well as hosting podcasts, video series, and discussion panels following the same ethos as their publication. Throughout the year they will be hosting art exhibitions, poetry readings, music gigs, pop up shops, and (hopefully) much more.

Department Accomplishments



Meghan Blythe Adams Presents Research at National ReFig Conference

PhD Candidate, Meghan Adams, recently presented "'The production of sacred things': Gender, Sacrifice and agency in *Tomb Raider* and *Bioshock*" at the 2016 [Refiguring Innovation in Games Conference](#) in Montreal, QC this past October.



David Huebert's Poem Shortlisted for The Walrus Poetry Prize

PhD Candidate, David Huebert's poem, "Colloquium: J.T. Henry and Lady Simcoe on Early Ontario Petrocolonialism," has been shortlisted for [The Walrus' Poetry Prize 2016](#)

Conversations and Presentations by Nandi Bhatia

On November 27th, Nandi Bhatia delivered the 10th Edward Baugh Distinguished Lecture at the University of West Indies in Kingston Jamaica. Her talk, "Dramatic Contests and Colonial Contexts on the Indian Stage," was sponsored by the Department of Literatures in English in association with the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.

10th Baugh lecture on Sunday

DR NANDI Bhatia, leading scholar of postcolonial theatre, will deliver the 10th Edward Baugh Distinguished Lecture on Sunday November 27th, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. in the Neville Hall Lecture Theatre (N1) at the University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona. The event will be hosted by the Department of Literatures in English and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. Bhatia has titled her talk 'Dramatic Contests and Colonial Contexts on the Indian Stage'.

Bhatia is a professor in the Department of English and associate dean of research and graduate studies in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at Western University in London, Ontario, Canada.

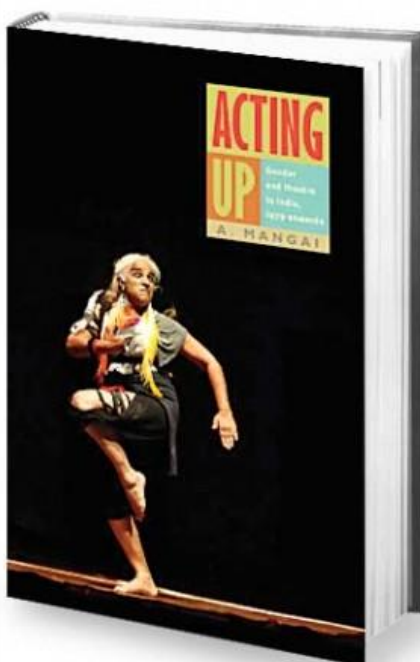
Her groundbreaking research has directed long-overdue attention to the crucial role of theatre and performance practice in bringing political struggles to the public sphere in colonial and postcolonial India. Intervening in a field dominated by discussions of the post-colonial novel, her research established theatre as a vital site of resistance to colonial authority, class structures and patriarchy. In addition to historically grounded and richly particularised studies of theatrical performance in India, Bhatia's research extends to the South Asian diaspora, exploring theatre in global and transcultural contexts.

Recognised for her contribution to the fields of postcolonial performance and feminist studies, her research has been supported by major grants from the governments of Canada and India, as well as Western University.

She is the author of two books, *Performing Women/Performing Womanhood: Theatre, Politics and Dissent in North India* (Oxford University Press, 2010) and *Acts of Authority/Acts of Resistance: Theatre and Politics in Colonial and Postcolonial India* (University of Michigan Press and Oxford University Press, 2004). Her third book, in progress, is titled *Local Themes, Transnational Concerns: Theatres of the South Asian Diaspora for Canada*.

The Edward Baugh Distinguished Lecture is an annual event in honour of Edward Baugh, acclaimed poet and scholar of anglophone Caribbean poetry, and Professor Emeritus of English at the UWI, Mona.

Members of the public are invited to attend. For more information, please contact the Department of Literatures in English at 927-2177 or e-mail htsengmona@gmail.com.



Nandi Bhatia was moderator and led a conversation with A. Mangai around her recent book about gender and theatre in India at the University of Toronto, Scarborough, on November 3rd. The event was organized at the University of Toronto Scarborough campus as part of a broader series on Tamil worlds at the U of T. The event was sponsored by the Berkshire Conference legacy funds and the Historical and Cultural studies department at UTSC.

POETRY CROSSOVER
A Campus Series of Literary Collaborations, Winter 2017
Western University
Animated by Canada Council Writer in Residence Margaret Christakos
Jan 2017 — Mar 2017

1. **Kickoff: A Literary Sonic Social**, in the IGAB Atrium, Arts & Humanities Building (Thursday, January 11, 2017, 6:00–8:00pm)
2. **Boomerang: Writers Respond to the Annual Juried Exhibition**, at Artlab Gallery, John Labatt Visual Arts Centre (Thursday, February 9, 2017)
3. **Whisper: Poets Interact with Kinds of Quiet** (Thursday, Mar 2, 2017, Time and Location TBA)
4. **Fast: Writers Think About Food, Feast, Readymades and Renewability** (Tuesday, March 14, 2017, 2:00–4:00pm, Campus location(s) TBA, in conjunction with Kathryn Mockler's Experimental Writing class and other student writers)

Poetry Crossover is a series of literary collaborations that Canada Council Writer in Residence Margaret Christakos will animate during the winter term through The Department of English and Writing Studies, with the participation of the Graduate English Society and Coterie, in conjunction with other individual-event presenters.

With this event series, Margaret aspires to activate the participation of English and Creative Writing students with students in other university departments, utilizing a range of spaces for interesting site-specific encounters between participating writers and audiences. The events will bring creative writing into conversation with public spaces and creative forms of address, and give student writers opportunities to consider, compose and perform original works of their poetry, prose, and spoken word, in both solo and small group interchange with other members of the campus community.

The first event will be a *Kickoff* gathering, on January 11, 2017, in the IGAB Atrium, followed by a *Boomerang* in conjunction with Artlab Gallery on February 9, 2017. Details for these two events follow. Please share widely.

For more information on the general series, please contact Margaret Christakos mchris63@uwo.ca or through Vivian Foglton at the Department of English and Writing Studies vivian.foglton@uwo.ca (519-661-3403).