



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

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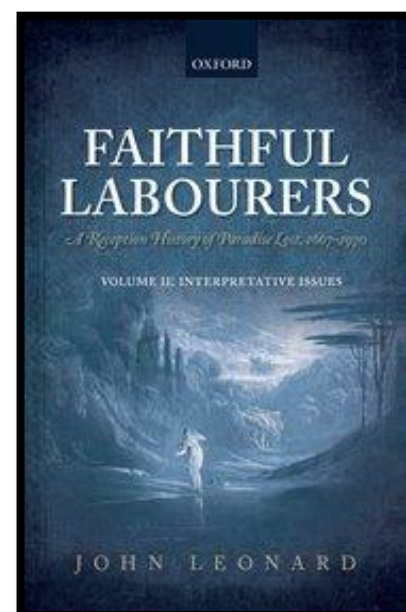
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Department Publication News

**Prof. John Leonard's book, *Faithful Labourers*, Now
Available in Paperback**



Professor John Leonard's book, *Faithful Labourers: a Reception History of Paradise Lost*, which was published in hard cover by Oxford University Press in 2013, will be available in paperback this month!

Faithful Labourers is a survey and evaluation of existing criticisms of John Milton's epic *Paradise Lost*, tracing the major debates as they have unfolded over the past three centuries. Eleven chapters, split over two volumes, consider the key debates in Milton criticism, including discussion of Milton's style, his use of the epic genre, and his references to Satan, God, innocence, the fall, sex, nakedness, and astronomy.

More information about the book and purchasing can be found [here](#).

Department Publication News

Professor Alison Conway Comments on The Women's March on Washington in *Western News* Article

"The Women's March reminded us we can nurture, in ourselves and each other the courage we need to face down the bully by creating safe places for each other, by creating chains of human connection like the ones that kept our friends close by as we weaved through the crowds, holding hands with the women ahead and behind us."

-Elizabeth Greene and
Alison Conway



One, an American citizen herself, and the other a mother of an American daughter, now living in New York, both Classical Studies professor, Elizabeth Greene, and English professor, Alison Conway, felt a urgent and personal call to be present at the recent women's rights crusade in Washington, D.C.. "As soon as the Women's March on Washington was announced, we knew we had to be there," they said, in their co-authored *Western News* article, published last week.

(The) sense of community was visceral at the march. The crowd was dense – we were pressed close to the bodies of strangers. But we felt no danger, no sense of threat. When we needed to move, we asked and a path was cleared. We struck up conversations with faces six inches from our own, meeting people from all over the country, hearing their stories, sharing our own. The ages of protestors ranged from teens to activists who had marched in the '70s for women's rights. The connection gave us the feeling a collective wisdom was being built on the ground, in our bodies, as we stood and voiced our resistance not only to sexism, but to racism and xenophobia – to the language of hatred Trump has unleashed on America and the world.

On January 21, over 5 million of us worldwide and over 1 million in Washington, D.C., came to march, speak and make our voices heard, "send(ing) a bold message to administration on their first day of office, and to the world, that women's rights are human rights." Millions rallied to protest against "the range of Trump's assaults on the values of both Canadian and U.S. citizenry," but it does not end here—now is not the time to hang up our marching shoes. We need to uphold the promise and commitments of the march as we contemplate our next move(s)."

Read Alison and Elizabeth's full *Western News* article [here](#).

Department Awards and Prizes

Fatale Wins Film Aesthetic RGB 2016 Trophy



Film students, Katerina Alexis, Tala Al-Ramahi, Allison Bowes, Chelsi Germain, Rachel Loewen and Rita Rahmati's, film, *Fatale*, won the Film Aesthetic RGB 2016 Trophy late last semester.

The award, created by their instructor, Greg De Souza, was given based on the audience choice at their culminating film festival for the Film Aesthetics 2270 course. The team collaborated to write, film, and edit *Fatale* in its entirety, and deserve a big round of applause for their creative and inventive work!

The film can be watched by clicking the still frame below.

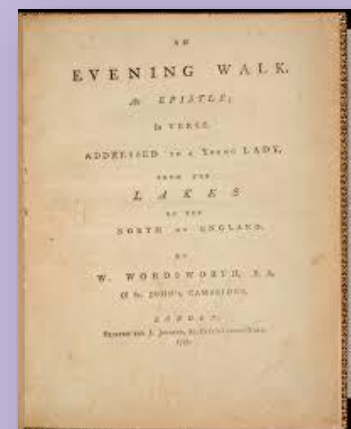


Professor Emeritus Bolsters Book Collection with Wordsworth First Edition

Professor emeritus and former Dean of Arts and Humanities at Western University, James Good, began his rare and first-versions book collection in the 1960s, upon his initial encounter with the works of poet William Wordsworth. Completing his Masters, and living in New York at the time, Good took every chance he had to scour used bookstore shelves for unique works to add to his growing, and prized collection.

Over fifty years later—his book collection much grander—Good has retired and donated his adored personal collection to Western Libraries. The collection, named the Dr. James M. Good William Wordsworth-Samuel Taylor Coleridge Collection, boasts mostly first editions of original works, alongside related materials and works from Wordsworth and his contemporaries.

Most recently added to the collection is a Wordsworth first edition of *An Evening Walk*—the first published collection of the famed poet's work and of which there are only 33 first editions. Yale, Harvard, and Cambridge universities have a copy. Trinity College at the University of Dublin has one. The New York Public Library, among a handful of other public libraries, is also among the lucky lot. And now, thanks to Good, Western too can boast ownership of this slight, first edition of Wordsworth's poetry—the only copy that resides in Canada.



congress 2017 THE NEXT 150

OF THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

May 27 – June 2 2017

Toronto, Ontario

Congress 2017 Big Thinking Series Includes John Ralston Saul – Olivia Chow – Niigaanwewidam
James Sinclair – Wade Davis – Jocelyn Létourneau – Andréanne LeBrun – Tracey Lindberg –
Maatali Okalik – Maria Campbell – Mohamed Fahmy – Aja Monet

Ryerson Presents Speakers Include Leanna Simpson – Alok Mukherjee – Kamal Al-Solaylee –
Harron Siddiqui – Peter Bregg – April Lindgren – Cornel West – Deepa Mehta



WHY JOIN ACCUTE.CA?



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[@ACCUTE_CAF](https://twitter.com/ACCUTE_CAF)

There is *lots* of activity taking place in the Western office of the Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English. Plans for our conference at **Congress 2017** (to be held at Ryerson University from May27-30th) are well under way. Madeline Bassnett (Vice President), Stephanie Oliver (Office Coordinator), and Manina Jones (President) have been working on some very exciting programming.

Check the **ACCUTE website** for information about why you should be a member, for discussion about professional issues, and for conference news. You can join or renew your membership online.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Twitter (links above)!



ACCUTE Office Selfie (from right to left): Manina Jones, Madeline Bassnett, and Stephanie Oliver

Department and Faculty Events

Writer-in-Residence Poetry Crossover Event: Boomerang



Can writers and poets catch vectors of inspiration from the visual arts of their colleagues? How might a specific artwork incite a textual rejoinder beyond the critical review or blogspot? Might the tradition of ekphrastic poetry still fly with muscle? This February, writers and poets affiliated with Western's Department of English and Writing Studies will throw their attentions to these lively questions in *Boomerang: Writers Respond to the Annual Juried Exhibition*. Each participating writer will explore the form, content and concept of a visual, media and/or sculptural artwork selected from the exhibition to see what curves back into their own creative process, and then mobilize a new poem, text or other form of written, spoken-word or sound-based literary composition in response.

On Thursday, February 9, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., a live reading of the resultant new writing, paired in suit with their source artwork with artists in attendance, will be presented in the Artlab Gallery, with light refreshments and framing comments by Writer-in-Residence Margaret Christakos and Artlab Gallery Director Susan Edelstein.

Boomerang is the second event of *Poetry Crossover, A Campus Series of Literary Collaborations*, events facilitated by Western's 2016/17 Canada Council Writer-in-Residence, Margaret Christakos, to bring poetry as public address into conversation with several spaces, areas of study, and communities on campus.

For more information about *Boomerang*, contact Margaret Christakos mchrist63@uwo.ca or the Department of English and Writing Studies, c/o Vivian Foglton, vivian.foglton@uwo.ca (519-611-3403), or Artlab Gallery through Susan Edelstein.

Boomerang is produced by the Canada Council Writer-in-Residence, through The Department of English and Writing Studies with thanks as well to the Canada Arts Council and London Public Library, with the participation of the Graduate English Society and Coterie, in collaboration with Artlab Gallery and The Department of Visual Arts, in conjunction with the Annual Juried Exhibition.

POETRY CROSSOVER

A Campus Series of Literary Collaborations

Winter 2017

Western University

Animated by Margaret Christakos
2016/2017 Canada Council Writer in Residence



• Kickoff •

A Literary Sonic Social

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

6:00–8:00pm

IGAB Atrium, Arts & Humanities

• Boomerang •

**Writers Respond to
the Annual Juried Exhibition**

Thursday, February 9, 2017

6:00–8:00pm

Artlab Gallery, Dept of Visual Arts

John Labatt Visual Arts Centre

• Whissper •

Poets Interact with Quiet(s)

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Time and Location TBA

• Fast •

**Writers Speak Up About Food,
Feast and Sustainability**

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

2:00– 4:00pm

Campus location(s) TBA

Contact Margaret Christakos
(mchris63@uwo.ca)
for more information.

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.



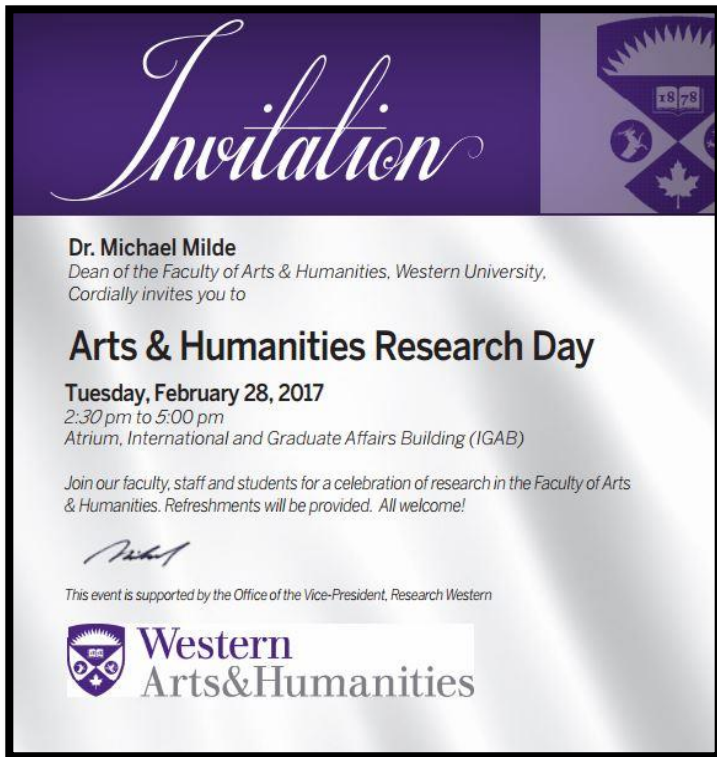
Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



Western
Arts & Humanities

Department and Faculty Events



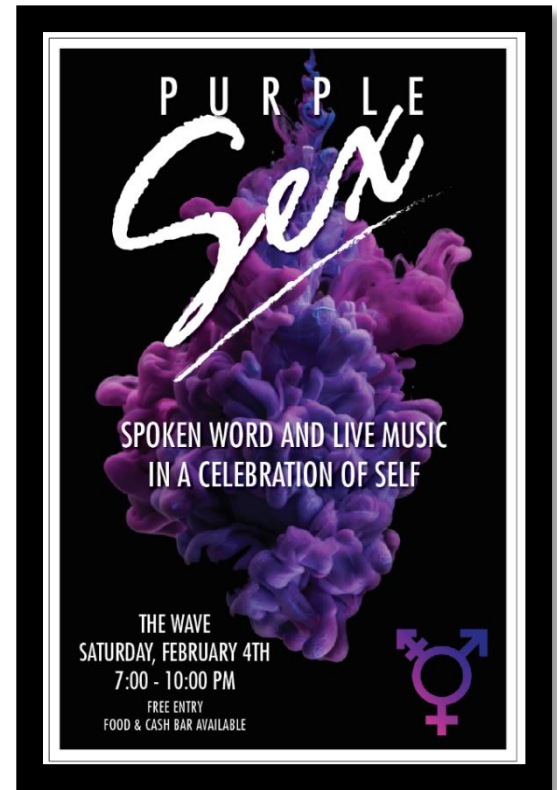
Arts & Humanities Research Day

Join fellow faculty, staff, and students for a celebration of research in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at Western University!

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

2:30 pm to 5:00 pm

Atrium, International and Graduate Affairs Building (IGAB)



Creative Writing Show, *Purple Sex*, Takes Place this Month

In a celebration of self, "Purple Sex" brings together Western students to perform, and listen to, live music, poetry, and short fiction, all centered on the topics of sex and sexuality.

This year's show will take place on Saturday, February 4th, at the Wave. Entry and food are free, and there will be a cash bar available. Join us in our celebration of self, of community, and of art from 7-10PM!

Department and Faculty Events

NEW
DATES!

SQUALLS OF GLASS

FEBRUARY 15 & 16 | 8 P
THE ARTS PROJECT | 8 M

ADMISSION \$15 STUDENTS \$10

**The Theatre Studies Program at Western
University presents**

Squalls Of Glass

A new full-length play by Meg Cormack, 4th
Year English Honors/ SASAH

Buy your tickets at the The ARTS Project (203
Dundas) or visit:

[facebook.com/squallsoglass](https://www.facebook.com/squallsoglass) or [artsproject.ca](http://www.artsproject.ca)

Members of a theatre company struggle to finish a musical in order to come to terms with profound loss. Their lives have been knocked askew, and their burdens begin to blur the faint divide between the real world and the psychological. A powerful emotional piece on mental health, the hit one-act version was produced at the McManus Studio Theatre in February, 2016.

All ticket proceeds go to the Canadian Mental Health Association Middlesex (CMHA Middlesex).

"Squalls of Glass" by Meg Cormack, 4th-Year English Honors/ SASAH, has been rescheduled to Wednesday, Feb. 15, and Thursday, Feb. 16 (both shows at 8PM) at the ARTS Project (203 Dundas)!

Come to an evening of great theatre, and support the producers and their efforts to raise mental health awareness! Please feel free invite your students and friends.

A powerful emotional piece on mental health, the hit one-act version was produced at the McManus Studio Theatre of London's Grand Theatre last winter.

All proceeds donated to the Canadian Mental Health Association Middlesex. Buy your tickets at the door or visit <https://www.facebook.com/squallsoglass/> or <http://www.artsproject.ca/>

Community Events

Interlude:

an evening of poetry readings by

CORNELIA HOOGLAND, BLAIR TREWARTHA,
KARA SMITH, and KEVIN SHAW

We welcome Cornelia and Blair back to town for a reading with Kara and Kevin. The four poets will read new work.

Q & A to follow.

Books will be available for purchase following the reading.
Free event.



KEVIN SHAW's poems and essays have appeared, or are forthcoming in, *The Malahat Review*, *CV2*, *The New Quarterly*, and *The Fiddlehead*. He won *Arc Poetry Magazine's* Poem of the Year award and the 2016 *PRISM International Poetry Contest*.



BLAIR TREWARTHA is the author of two chapbooks: *Break In* (Cactus Press, 2010) and *Porcupine Burning* (Baseline Press, 2012). He serves on the Anstruther Press editorial collective. *Easy Fix* (Palimpsest Press) was shortlisted for the 2015 ReLit award.



KARA GHOBHAINN SMITH has published *The Artists of Crow County* (Black Moss Press), co-authored *Next to the Ice* (Moedic Press), and is Chatham-Kent's Writer-in-Residence. Her poems have been shortlisted for the 2016 Walrus Poetry Prize and the Polar Expressions Prize.



CORNELIA HOOGLAND Cornelia Hoogland has published 6 books of poetry. *Woods Wolf Girl* (Wolsak and Wynn), was a finalist for the ReLit 2011 National Poetry Award, and *Sea Level* (Baseline Press), was short-listed for the CBC Literary Non Fiction Awards.

WED FEB 08 | 7-8:30 PM

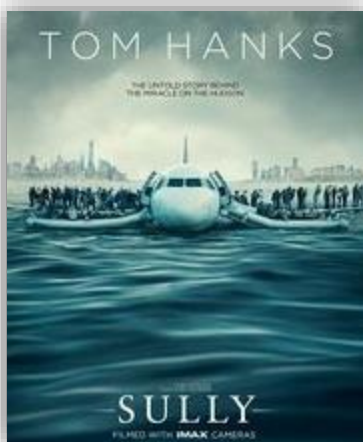
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University Events & News

Western Family Recognition Events



Western President, Amit Chakma, invites faculty/staff and their families to enjoy a [Western Family Recognition event](#).

There will be two events in February for staff/faculty and their families to choose from. To kick off the afternoon on February 12th, there will be a showing of the film *Trolls*. Family friendly, the film revolves around two trolls on a quest to save their village from destruction by the Bergen—a group of creatures who eat trolls.

Following the first showing, the film *Sully* will follow. Slightly more adult in nature, *Sully*, tells the story of Chesley Sullenberger (Tom Hanks), an American pilot who became a hero after landing his damaged plane on the Hudson River in order to save the flight's passengers and crew.

Trolls will begin promptly at 1 p.m., and *Sully* at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday February 12, 2017, in Room 290, UCC Building. Complimentary refreshments will be available at both events.

Registration and more information can be found [here](#).

The Bookcase Opens for the Semester with New Catalogue



[The Bookcase](#), founded and run by Dr. Kirsty Robertson, is a micro-museum, pop-up lending library, and cabinet of curiosities housed in office 221 of the Visual arts Building, at Western University.

What You Should Know About The Bookcase:

1. Visitors can check out a maximum of 3 books;
2. Books can be borrowed for 3 weeks;
3. Books with an R. are reference only;
4. Videos cannot be taken out (some DVDs can);
5. The Library is open 12-4 Wednesdays & by chance;
6. The Library is run on an honour system;
7. There is a return box in the hallway;
8. The Library is organized by colour to encourage browsing;
9. There is a catalogue;
10. Anyone can propose an exhibition for the MICRO- MUSEUM.

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Western English
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The English and Writing Studies Department welcomes contributions from students, faculty, and alumni. **Do you have an idea for a future article? Do you have an accomplishment or event you would like to share?** Please send us your suggestions. **Do you want to share your thoughts on something featured in the newsletter?** Please send along your comments, reactions, and opinions. We also welcome photographs of alumni and department events. Please send news to ncrowe4@uwo.ca. We would be delighted to hear from you!

The English and Writing Studies Department offers their thanks to all contributors and readers, and looks forward to bringing you more news from our vibrant department.



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