Welcome to the twenty-third annual graduate conference of McGill University’s Department of English! “Brave New World: Revisiting Globalization in Literature and Culture” promises to be an exciting, intellectually stimulating meeting of presenters from top programs across the humanities. In a fitting reflection of the conference theme, this year’s presenters hail from three countries and close to twenty-five institutions; participants come from departments of anthropology, comparative and world literature, education, English, French, history, Islamic studies, music, Spanish and Portuguese, and translation, among others.

Since the inception of this year’s conference theme, we have been especially keen on fostering academic ties with the many other programs and departments at McGill and elsewhere which address themselves to the conference’s intellectual questions. We are firm in our belief that expanding the conversation past traditional disciplinary boundaries will make for an exciting and productive scholarly meeting.

To complement this vision of multidisciplinary collaboration, and to signal our commitment to greater interdepartmental cooperation going forward, this year we sought to include a bilingual English / French panel. We are happy with this inclusion as a starting point, and we hope to host more such panels at future conferences.

Our goal with this year’s meeting has been to provide students from across the humanities with an occasion to once again interrogate the question of globalization beyond the normative postmodern approach to the phenomenon as the proliferation of cultural difference. In our call for submissions we asked presenters to consider issues such as the forms which globalization has historically taken—its modern and premodern origins. We asked them to examine, for example, what we mean by modernity/modernization in the context of globalization; how translation might limit and expand the possibilities and scope of a global canon; what status national literatures might hold in view of a world literature; and how aesthetic practices like modernism, realism, and
naturalism register global processes as combined and uneven development. We sought reflections on how social inequality, class, race, and gender are implicated in globalization. And, perhaps most pertinently to us today, we asked the question of how cultural identity might be mediated in a time of unprecedented mass migration and displacement.

We are confident that the next three days will provide many thought-provoking insights into, perhaps even answers to, these and other questions. In addition, therefore, to providing our participants with a space to exchange ideas and readings related to the conference theme, we have arranged to host a workshop to complement the great variety of presentations and the two public lectures that make up the conference. To that end, we are opening this year’s meeting on Friday morning with a workshop facilitated by our Keynote speaker, Prof. Nirvana Tanoukhi, who has been a faculty and founding advisory board member of the Institute for World Literature (Harvard) and currently is an associate professor of literature at the University of Wisconsin—Madison.

Also in the spirit of fulfilling our multidisciplinary goals, we have invited journals and magazines from both McGill and the wider Montréal community to participate in a book fair, which will be available all day Saturday in the Ballroom.

Whether you’re presenting, attending, or volunteering, we thank you for courageously facing the February cold to join us this weekend. We welcome you not only to this conference, but also to McGill and the city of Montréal.

The EGSA Conference Organizing Committee,
Lisa Banks, Felix Fuchs, Omar Qaqish
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Day 1: Friday, February 17, 2017
10:00 am – 11:35 am Workshop with Prof. Nirvana Tanoukhi
Location: Leacock, 927 (preregistration required)*

Lunch (on your own)**

Start of Conference: Registration opens 12:00 pm, main floor***

Session 1*
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, fourth floor

Panel 1.A: Languages of Migration (Room 406, fourth floor)
Chair: Prof. Mbaye Diouf

Sabrina Aguzzi (McGill)
Materialism and the Mundane:
Subversive ‘Postrace’ Narratives in Tao Lin’s *Taipei* (2013)

Shastri Akella (University of Massachusetts Amherst)
Monstrous Immigrant:
Depicting Movement Between Worlds

Morganne Blais-McPherson (University of Toronto)
How to Talk about Missing Bodies:
When Migrant Youth Cross Ethnographic Borders

Panel 1.B: Home and Community (Room 405, fourth floor)
Chair: Prof. Berkeley Kaite

Joshua Lok (Nanyang Technological University)
Conceptualising Home:
Reading the Aesthetics of Food in Postcolonial Literature

Bronwyn Frey (University of Toronto)
Caribana and Community Change:
Moves towards Gender Equality and Celebration in Toronto++

Light refreshments 3:00 – 3:15, Room 403, fourth floor
Session 2
3:15 pm – 4:45pm, fourth floor

Panel 2.A: Exiled Selves (Room 406, fourth floor)
Chair: Lisa Banks

Leah Tench (Simon Fraser University)
‘Nothing at All and Everything at Once’:
Representations of Hybridity in Kim Thúy’s Ru

Jessica Hope Sebali (McGill University)
Lebanon Lost:
A Study on Fragmented Identity and Form

Noor Habib (University of Massachusetts Amherst)
Mapping Structures of Feeling:
Agha Shahid Ali and the Transnational Literary Network of the Ghazal

Panel 2.B: Transnational Texts (Room 405, fourth floor)
Chair: Prof. Miranda Hickman

Kailey Havelock (Ryerson)
‘The imperfections of memory meet the inadequacies of documentation’:
Unreliable Traumatological Narrativization in Ishiguro, McEwan, and Barnes”

Matthew Timmermans (McGill)
Kálmán’s Die Herzogin von Chicago:
A Transnational Vision for Inter-war Central Europe

Praśanta Dhar (University of Toronto)
The Global Circulation of Marxism through Calcutta, the 1940s

Reception 4:45 pm – 6:00 pm, Ballroom, third floor

* This is the only conference event that will take place on lower campus (Leacock building, room 927), not in the PGSS Thomson House; preregistration is required to participate in this workshop.

** The conference site houses a restaurant /café.

*** The main floor of the PGSS Thomson House is technically the second floor.

+ All sessions comprise either two or three concurrent panels.

++ This presentation includes a twelve-minute video screening.
Anti-colonialism is a utopian project, requiring the imagination of a “better” (decolonized) version of the colony, one that also does not exist at that time. The talk interrogates why landscape representations are amenable for providing socio-spatial form to the utopian project of anti-colonialism. Drawing on the case of British India, it demonstrates how literary landscapes were deployed to imagine the Indian postcolony.
Day 2: Saturday, February 18, 2017

Registration opens 9:00 am, Ballroom, third floor
Breakfast 9:00 am – 10:00 am, Ballroom

Session 3
10:00 am – 11:30 am, fourth floor

Panel 3.A: Past the Postcolonial (Room 404, fourth floor)
Chair: Prof. Eli MacLaren

Gabriel Bamgbose (Rutgers University)
Vernacular Multilingualism:
Nigerian Hip Hop and the Ethics of Tesseractation

Kate Scheckler (Université de Montréal)
‘Welcome to Our Humanity’: The Inescapable ‘We’ in Mpe

Rym Guesmi (Université de Montréal)
Rethinking the Social World Contract:
Chika Unigwe’s On Black Sisters Street, a Case Study

Panel 3.B: Early Modern Networks (Room 406, fourth floor)
Chair: Prof. Fiona Ritchie

Ashley O’Mara (Syracuse University)
‘Divided by Christ’: Synecdoche and Sectarianism in Seventeenth-Century
English Protestant Pilgrim Narratives

Tracy O’Brien (Memorial University of Newfoundland)
English Economy, Expansion, and Nationalism
in Pericles and The Island Princess

Willow White (McGill)
Other Worlds: Women and Science in Aphra Behn’s The Emperor of the Moon
and Margaret Cavendish’s The Blazing World

Panel 3.C: The Language(s) of Globalization (Room 405, fourth floor)
Chair: John Allaster

Xin Chen (Indiana University Bloomington)
Identity Formation of Nonnative Speaker Youth
through Literacy Practices Online
Liz Lorie (McGill)
The Art of the Matter in Tom McCarthy’s *Remainder*

Men Bozhou (University of California—Santa Barbara)
Changing the ‘One-Way Street’ of Cultural Globalization:
The Use of ‘Ideolect’ in Lin Yutang’s Translation Practices

Coffee / tea / water available in Ballroom 11:30 am – 11:45 am

Session 4
11:45 am – 1:15 pm, fourth floor

Panel 4.A: Theorizing the World-System (Room 405, fourth floor)
Chair: Felix Fuchs

Sofia Cutler (McGill alumna)
History without Ends:
Utopiansim in Occupy Wall Street

Courtenay Chan (University of Calgary)
‘Oh, So You Think It Has a Physiological Basis?’:
Queerification and the Capitalist Other in Hari Kunzru’s *Transmission*

[Name redacted] (McGill)
Neoliberalism as Conflict Resolution:
Palestine and the ‘Global War on Terror’

Panel 4.B: Violent Visions (Room 406, fourth floor)
Chair: Catherine Nygren

Cheri Robinson (University of California—Los Angeles)
Transnational Corporal Memory in *Wakolda*:
Children, Violence, and Social Practice

Isavella Vouza (McGill)
Transnational Cinematic Narratives:
Bodies and Dystopian Societies in Yiorgos Lanthimos’ *The Lobster* (2015)

Meagan Smith (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
Neoliberal Borders and the New Dystopian Landscape
Panel 4.C: A Global Imaginary (Room 404, fourth floor)
Chair: Prof. Erin Hurley

Rachel Feldman (University of California—Santa Barbara)
Rachid Boudjedra and ‘Reading’ the Space of le Métro

Pierre Gabriel Dumoulin (McGill)
Le transnationalisme dans l’oeuvre d’Aki Shimazaki

Jewel Pereyra (Georgetown) and Jonathan Carmona (Columbia)
Diasporic Dandies: Oscar Wilde’s Aestheticism and Black Dandies in America, 1882-1927

Lunch 1:15 pm – 2:30 pm, Ballroom

Session 5
2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Panel 5.A: Mapping the Nation(s) (Room 406, fourth floor)
Chair: Zain Rashid Mian

Evan Buck (University of Western Ontario)
Splitting Headache: Trauma and Testimony in Bapsi Sidhwa’s Cracking India

Matthew Rettino (McGill alumnus)
Through the Prism of the Weird: Uneven Development in Usman T. Malik’s Fiction

Zahra Sabri (McGill)
English Fiction from Pakistan: The Last Decade, and New Directions

Panel 5.B: Translating Experience, Experiencing Translation
(Room 404, fourth floor)
Chair: Prof. Merve Emre

Yiwen LIU (Simon Fraser University)
Cultural Imaginings in the Globalized World: Issues of Readership in The Fat Years

Benny Rangell (University of Massachusetts Amherst)
Sexual Violence in Ka-Tzetnik’s House of Dolls: Translation, Function and Memory
The talk evaluates the recent rise of “the relatable” as a category of aesthetic judgment. It stages a debate between those who have defended and dismissed the term in the college classroom and the mainstream, then examine the term’s circulation in public discourse during the 2017 U.S. Presidential Elections, and finally return to Kant’s criteria for judgments of taste and its categories. The goal is to determine whether the relatable is incommensurate with the notion of aesthetic judgment in the tradition of critique, and what we can learn from the relatable about the apparent incommensurability of critique to our global moment.
Day 3: Sunday, February 19, 2017

Registration opens 10:00 am, main floor

Brunch 10:00 am – 11:30 am, main floor

Session 6
11:30 pm – 1:00 pm, third floor

Panel 6.A: Theorizing World Literature (Room 406, fourth floor)
Chair: Prof. Tabitha Sparks

Nick Millman (University of Pennsylvania)
Unfinished Debates, Incomplete Transitions:
Realism and José María Arguedas's *Todas las sangres*

Alonzo Rico (University of Illinois at Chicago)
Universality and Its Paradoxes

Carlos Fuentes (McGill)
The Historical Novella:
Religion in the Works of Conrad Ferdinand Meyer and
Its Relation to Georg Lukács’ Theory of Fiction

Panel 6.B: Anticolonial Imagination (Room 405, fourth floor)
Chair: Prof. Katherine Zien

Sara Farah (McGill)
Melville and Haiti: *Benito Cereno* and the Unfinished Anti-Colonial
Project of the Haitian Revolution

Janie Beriault (University of Toronto)
Navigating an Unequal World:
Jamaica Kincaid’s *A Small Place* as a (Counter) Travel Narrative

Devin William Daniels (University of Pennsylvania)
Something Close and Terrible:
Nuclear Colonization and Nonmodern History in
Leslie Marmon Silko’s *Ceremony*
Session 7
1:15 pm – 2:45 pm, third floor

Panel 7.A: Colonial Iconographies (Room 405, fourth floor)
Chair: Chris Rice

Deseree Cipollone (McGill)
The Satanic Cosmopolitan:
Melville's Critique of American Colonialism in *Benito Cereno*

C. Plowright (McGill)
Savagery and Taming: Primitivism, Identity and Conversion in
*A View* and Book I of *The Faerie Queene*

Panel 7.B: Postcolonial Canada (Room 406, fourth floor)
Chair: Jeff Noh

Sunjae Jun (SUNY Buffalo)
Brave New Women's World:
Historicizing Experimental Novels of Post-War Anglophone Women Writers

Katharine Beaulieu (Lakehead University)
Villain or Hero; Vice Figure or Trickster: Nicholas Crisp as a Subversive
Judeo-Christian/Indigenous Hybrid and a Pathway for Indigenous Healing

Ian Ridewood (Queen’s University)
‘Honky Night in Canada’:
Hockey’s Affective Capabilities in Richard Wagamese’s *Indian Horse*

END OF CONFERENCE
Nirvana Tanoukhi is Assistant Professor of English at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She received her PhD in Modern Thought & Literature from Stanford in 2009, with a minor in History. She was trained as a comparatist of the novel across central Europe and the postcolonial Anglophone world, with a focus on British literature and African literature continentally defined.

Tanoukhi has been a faculty and founding advisory-board member of The Institute for World Literature at Harvard since 2009. She is a recipient of various fellowships and grants supported by the SSRC, ACLS, and the Mellon Foundation, and has held two resident fellowships at Harvard, at the Humanities Center and the Hutcheon Institute for African & African American Research.


Her latest article, “Surprise Me If You Can,” just published in the PMLA, analyzes the figure of surprise in recent ethico-methodological arguments on behalf of the literature and of critical objectivity. This essay is part of a book project, entitled Literature Itself: Scale and Readability after Globalization and Critical Democracy. Tanoukhi’s book identifies globalization and the end of democracy as the two big events behind the current crisis of faith in critical interpretation, a crisis which targets in particular the implied reader whom the liberal tradition has figured as an enlightened subject. Tanoukhi argues that the resolution of this crisis, which now questions the value of critical or reflective judgment as such, necessitates a pragmatic account of the reading process that can locate new grounds for critical interpretation that are irreducible to the reader’s self-interest.
Sandeep Banerjee is Assistant Professor of English at McGill University. His research focuses on South Asian literary and cultural texts from the nineteenth century to the present, as well as literary and social theory. It takes up questions of the production of space and nature, literary geography, nationalism, globalization, peripheral aesthetics, the global history of the novel from a materialist perspective.

His articles have been published (or forthcoming) in journals such as *Victorian Literature and Culture*, *Modern Asian Studies*, *Mediations* and in the edited volume *Cities in South Asia*.

He is currently working on two book projects: on the spatial dimension of Indian anti-colonial nationalism, and on the colonial production of the Himalaya and the literary imagination, the latter funded by a grant from the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et culture (FRQSC).
Acknowledgements

The conference organizers would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who helped make this conference happen. We once again thank all our presenters for braving the cold weather to be here. Many of you have travelled long and far to join us, and we hope you enjoy your stay here. We thank the EGSA members volunteering their time to assist with various logistical tasks, as do we thank EGSA as a whole for entrusting us with the organizing of this meeting.

We are grateful to the faculty members in attendance, many of whom are chairing panels and responding to presentations. Thanks also to our speakers, Dr. Sandeep Banerjee and Dr. Nirvana Tanoukhi, for contributing insights from their own research not only to the conference but also—as their talks are public lectures—to the McGill community at large.

This conference would not have been possible without the financial support of several parties, to whom we owe immense debts of gratitude. We thank the Department of English for its continued support, financial and otherwise, of this annual conference. This year, and thanks to a supplementary generous contribution from the department, we were able to cover the majority of registration fees for all EGSA members. We thank Dr. Tabitha Sparks in particular for finding us this money. We also want to thank both the PGSS and the Dean of Arts Development Fund for their grants. And last but not least, we thank the Department of French for their much-appreciated financial contribution.

Thanks to everyone who assisted us in translating conference materials, especially C. Plowright who translated our CfP. For their patience and assistance in arranging for space rentals and set-up as well as catering, we owe Bliss Ward and the staff of Thomson House a great deal of thanks.

And finally, we ask forgiveness for any omissions and un-credited (unintentionally, we assure you) support.
Traditional Territories

McGill University sits on the traditional territory of the Kanien’kehá:ka people. The island called “Montreal” is known as Tiotia:ke in the language of the Kanien’kehá:ka, and it has historically been a meeting place for other Indigenous nations, including the Algonquin people.

The Significance of Acknowledging Traditional Territory

A connection to the land is inextricably linked to Indigenous identity. Historically, the cultural protocol of acknowledging traditional territory symbolizes the importance of place and identity for Indigenous peoples. Within many Indigenous communities, protocol requires that individuals situate themselves, and their relationships to the people and the land. For many Indigenous peoples in Canada, and increasingly in broader Canadian society, traditional territory acknowledgements are an important cultural protocol practiced at ceremonial events as a way to acknowledge and honour Indigenous peoples’ connections to their ancestral lands.

We encourage McGill students, staff, and faculty to learn more about the lands they currently live on. For more information on traditional territories and languages, check out these resources. Send us an email to request that additional resources be added: pas.sede@mcgill.ca

The Native Land website (http://native-land.ca/) is a work in progress dedicated to mapping the territories, languages, and treaties of Indigenous nations respectfully.

The Wampum Chronicles (http://wampumchronicles.com/) is a website curated by Darren Bonaparte, from the Mohawk community of Ahkwesáhsne, which features his research into the history and culture of the Rotinonhsión:ni — the People of the Longhouse. Check it out to read lots about the history of „Montreal“ and surrounding areas.

At the left of the Roddick Gates stands the Hochelaga Rock, established by Parks Canada to commemorate the Iroquois settlement that stood on the very land that McGill sits on today. To learn more about the rock and the land McGill sits on, visit: http://www.mcgill.ca/equity_diversity/students/equity-projects-mcgill/hochelaga-rock
This conference has been made possible by the generous support from the McGill University Department of English and the English Graduate Student Association (EGSA).

We also want to thank the following sponsors:

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