

Keynote Speaker Biography



JONATHAN W. GRAY is Associate Professor of English at John Jay College-CUNY. He is the editor of the *Journal of Comics and Culture* and the author of *Civil Rights in the White Literary Imagination* (University Press of Mississippi, 2013). Professor Gray is currently co-editing *Disability in Comic Books and Graphic Narratives* for Palgrave MacMillan and is

working on a book project for Columbia University Press, *Illustrating the Race: Representing Blackness in American Comics*, which traces depictions of African Americans in comics from 1966 to the present. He has published academic articles on the Harlem Renaissance, Kyle Baker's graphic novel *Nat Turner*, and Jay Z's relationship to Black masculinity. His journalism on comics and popular culture has appeared at EW.com, Salon.com, and the New Inquiry.

With Gratitude...

Special thanks to the 2015 Graduate Conference Committee who organized this conference! Today wouldn't have been possible without the enthusiasm and hard work of Angela Cerbone, Danielle Marie Demopoulos, Steven Herran, Steve Hopkinson, Maria Rigas, Frances Romano, Madiha Shameem, Beth Sherman, Demetri Siafakas, and Michelle Vacchio.

Many thanks also to the English Department Chair, Professor Glenn Burger; Kim Smith, Tiffany Thomas, John Rice, and the entire English Department staff; our keynote speaker, Professor Jonathan Gray; our panel chairs Professors Talia Schaffer, Jeff Cassvan, Karen Weingarten, and Gloria Fisk; our graduate student presenters; and the entire QC English community for your support. Thank you for making the second annual QC English Graduate Conference a success!

The QC MA Program in English Proudly Presents

Our 2nd Annual English Graduate Conference

OTHER/WISE

Contesting Knowledges, Inventing Cultures

Wednesday, April 1, 2015

10:00am to 7:00pm



#otherwise2015

#QCMAEnglish

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

In President's Conference Room 2, Rosenthal Library, 5th floor

10:00 – 10:30 **Welcome and Coffee**

10:30 – 11:00 **Opening Remarks**

- Professors Caroline Kyungah Hong and Bill Orchard (Directors of Graduate Studies in English)
- Frances Romano and Beth Sherman (on behalf of the 2015 Graduate Conference Committee)
- Professor Glenn Burger (Chair of the English Department)

11:00 – 12:10 Panel 1: **Unstable Bodies**

- Chair: Professor Talia Schaffer
- Elaine Housseas, “‘What are you blind? . . . No you are’: Blindness as Queer Vision in Carla Trujillo’s *What Night Brings*”
- Frances Romano, “Grotesque Gendering in David Foster Wallace’s *Infinite Jest*”
- Beth Sherman, “‘Though this be Madness, yet there is Method in’t’: Re-envisioning Ophelia”

12:20 – 1:30 Panel 2: **Epistemologies of Solitude**

- Chair: Professor Jeffrey Cassvan
- Amanda Harris, “Beating Back Reality: Reexamining the Addict in Raymond Carver’s *Where I’m Calling From*”
- Paola Rodriguez, “On Solitude and Contemplation: The Artist as Outsider”

1:30 – 2:30 **Lunch**

2:30 – 3:40 Panel 3: **The Self in Pieces**

- Chair: Professor Karen Weingarten
- Kelly Doran, “Ghosts of the Medieval: Race in Contemporary Fantasy Novels”
- Sadia Reza, “Of Discordant Minds: American Colonial Narratives & the Psychology of Othering”
- Demetri Sifakos, “‘Everything is Fine’: A Loss of Agency, an Altering of Consciousness, and the Fragmented Self in *Marble Hornets*”

3:50 – 5:00 Panel 4: **Colonialism Otherwise**

- Chair: Professor Gloria Fisk
- Jessica Berke, “Perpetuating the Disembodied Self”
- Marina Vlahaki, “The Resilient Barbarian Girl: Ambivalence, Indifference, and Empire in J. M. Coetzee’s *Waiting for the Barbarians*”
- Steven Herran, “Rehashed: Structural Orientalism in Craig Thompson’s *Habibi*”

Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Klapper Hall, 4th floor

5:30 – 6:30 **Keynote Address** – Professor Jonathan Gray, “#knowledge: Building Cultures of Resistance in the Digital World”

Klapper Hall, 6th floor

6:30 – 7:00 **Reception and Award Presentation**