

Keynote Speaker Biography



SARAH BLACKWOOD is Associate Professor of English at Pace University. She researches, writes, and teaches about 19th-century American and African American literature and art, as well as American visual and popular cultures. She is currently completing a book entitled *The Portrait's Subject: Inventing*

Inner Life in Nineteenth Century America and her essays on race and nineteenth-century photography and visual art have been published in journals such as *American Literature* and *MELUS: Multiethnic Literatures of the United States* and the forthcoming edited collection *African American Literature in Transition, 1800–1830* (Cambridge UP). She also has an established profile as a public intellectual; with Sarah Mesle (USC), she cofounded and coedits the popular scholarly magazine *Avidly* and forthcoming short book series stemming from the magazine, *Avidly Reads* (NYU Press). She regularly writes about her academic expertise for general audiences in outlets such as the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *The Hairpin*, *Slate*, and *The Awl*.

With Gratitude...

Special shout-out to the 2018 Graduate Conference Committee who organized this conference! Today wouldn't have been possible without the enthusiasm and hard work of Alison Eldredge, Tenisha McDonald, Virginia Pellegrini, and Nandi Prince.

Many thanks also to the English Department Chair, Professor Glenn Burger, and Associate Chair, Professor Andrea Walkden; Kim Smith, Jamie Arizmendi, John Rice, and the entire English Department staff; our keynote speaker, Professor Sarah Blackwood; our panel chairs, Professors Walkden, Natalie Léger, Steve Kruger, and Talia Schaffer; our graduate student presenters; and the entire QC English community for your support. Thank you for making the fifth annual QC English Graduate Conference a success!

The QC English MA Program Presents
Our 5th Annual English Graduate Conference

SHATTERING SILENCES: Challenging Traditions, Inventing Worlds

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

9:30am – 6:30pm



#shatteringsilences

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CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

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

9:30 – 9:45 **Welcome and Coffee**

9:45 – 10:00 **Opening Remarks**

- Professors Caroline Hong and Bill Orchard (Directors of Graduate Studies in English)
- Tenisha McDonald (Member of the 2018 Graduate Conference Committee)
- Professor Andrea Walkden (Associate Chair of English)

10:00 – 11:15 **Panel 1 – Can You See What I See: How Perception Delivers Literature**

- Chair: Professor Andrea Walkden
- Alexa Dicken, “Dystopia through *The Hunger Games*: More Nonfiction than Fiction”
- Sooji Lee, “‘When You Finally See Them’: The Narrative Deployment of (Dis)abilities in Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*”
- Virginia Pellegrini, “My Brain’s Auditions: Haji’s Stage and the Virtual Theatre of His Mind”
- Alanna Wagner, “When Time Stops in Utopia: Atwood’s *Frozen Journey*”

11:30 – 12:45 **Panel 2 – The Silent Dialogue of the Excluded**

- Chair: Professor Natalie M. Léger
- Maria Theresa Bulzone, “Gypsy Racism and the Victorian ‘Other’ in the 19th-Century Gothic Novel”
- Tenisha McDonald, “‘I Was Too Much Ashamed to Speak’: Rhetorical Modes of Traumatization in *The History of Mary Prince*”
- Kelly McIntosh, “A Lineage of Disease: An Intersectional Feminist Reading of Inheritance in *The Sound and the Fury*”
- Nandi Prince, “Through the Perilous Fight: Richard Wright’s Call to End Injustices in *Native Son*”

12:45 – 1:15 **Lunch**

1:15 – 2:30 **Panel 3 – Reimagining Boundaries: Toying with Space and Time**

- Chair: Professor Steve Kruger
- Thomas Collins, “The Luxury of Silence: Historicizing Enclosure in Jane Austen’s Novels”
- Sarah Coluccio, “Through the Looking Glass, and What Freud Found There”
- Meaghan Dodson, “Austen’s Conduct, Or, How to Reject a Proposal”
- Joseph Giunta, “‘I Am on a Curiosity Voyage and I Need My Paddles to Travel’: Childhood Subjectivities and ‘Play’ as Conflict Resolution in the Postmodern Web Series *Stranger Things*”

2:45 – 4:00 **Panel 4 – Where Genre and Media Collide**

- Chair: Professor Talia Schaffer
- Sara Ging, “Violencia Audiovisual: *Tesis*, *Scream*, and the Hollywood Horror Machine”
- Todd Henao, “Expressing the Inexpressible: Identity and Memory in Thi Bui’s *The Best We Could Do*”
- Bridget Martinez, “The Physicality of the Text in Modern Literature: A Reading of *House of Leaves* by Mark Danielewski and *Infinite Jest* by David Foster Wallace”
- Amanda Torres, “When Love Is Not Enough: Queer Utopian Coalition in Response to the Pulse Shooting”

In Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Klapper Hall 405

4:30 – 5:30 **Best Conference Paper Award Presentation**

Keynote Address by Professor Sarah Blackwood
**“Olive & Rosamond & Joanna & Marmee:
On Smallness and Irrelevance”**

5:30 – 6:30 **Reception**