Program
Annual Meeting
of the ACLA
Atlanta, Georgia
March 20-22, 1987

All meetings and social functions for the Annual Meeting of the American and Southern Comparative Literature Associations, hosted by Emory University, were held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Peachtree Center.

Friday, March 20

9:00-10:30  I. Genre and Poetic Form

Presiding: Jacqueline T. Schaefer (University of the South)


Daniel Javitch (New York University): “Self-Justification in the Genre Theories of Renaissance Poets”

Yopie Prins (Princeton University): “‘Our Pindarick Infatuation’: Eighteenth-Century Revisions of the Victory Ode”

II. Literary Interactions: East and West

Presiding: Satya S. Pachori (University of North Florida)

Peter Lassman (University of Montana): “A Comparative Study of Pride and Prejudice and The Story of a Stone”

Ho Hsiang-lin (Wake Forest University): “Chinese Obscure Poetry and Modernism”
Vincente Cantarino (Ohio State University): “Women's Voices and Feminine Poetry in the Iberian Peninsula”

Nasrin Rahimieh (University of Alberta): “New Approaches to Eastern Literature: The Case of the Iranian Author, Sadegh Hedayat”

III. Reading the Self: Romantic Autobiography

Presiding: Anca Vlasopolos (Wayne State University)

Carol Colatrella (Rutgers University): “The Consolidation of Nature in Les Reveries du promeneur solitaire and Childe Harold's Pilgrimage”

Todd Kontje (Columbia University): “The Reader in the Autobiographical Novel: Karl Phillip Moritz’s Anton Reiter”

Henry Schwarz (Duke University): “The Truth of Textuality: Reading in Wordsworth's Prelude”

IV. Territorial and Textual Imperatives

Presiding: Patricia A. Ward (Wheaton College)

Peter I. Barta (Texas Tech University): “The Fate of the Plaueur in the Modernist European and American Novel of the Metropolis”

Thomas O. Beebee (Pennsylvania State University): “Writing as Ruling in Aphra Behn and Claude Lévi-Strauss”

II. Axiological Problems in Comparative Literature

Presiding: Linda Brooks (Emory University)

Mihai Spariosu (University of Georgia): “Play, Interpretation, and Literary Values: George Orwell’s Nineteen Eighty-Four”

James I. Porter (University of Michigan): “Coming to One's Senses: Nietzsche, Physiology, Aesthetics”

Michael Freedberg (University of North Carolina): “Value Judgements and the Work of Art”

III. New Approaches to Epic and Medieval Narrative

Presiding: Bella Zweig (Emory University)


Jacqueline T. Schaefer (University of the South): “Myth mis-en-abyme: The Case of Tristan”

Wendy Greenberg (Pennsylvania State University): “A Greimasian Approach to Epics and Folktales”

IV. Commodity Aesthetics

Presiding: Jessica Munns (University of New Orleans)

Wendy Graham (Columbia University): “The Spoils of Poynton”

Mark Osteen (Emory University): “Leopold Bloom and the Discourse of Advertising in Joyce’s Ulysses”

Andrew Hewitt (Cornell University): “But Is It Art?”

11:00-12:30 I. Gender Discourse

Presiding: Lore Metzger (Emory University)

Elizabeth Fox-Genovese (Emory University): “Gender and Discourse: Reading Women’s Self-Representations”

Anca Vlasopolos (Wayne State University): “The Feminization of Aristocracy in Hedda Gabler, Lady Julie, and A Streetcar Named Desire”

Laurie Edson (Emory University): “Postmodernism, Feminist Discourse, and the Politics of Theory”

2:00- 4:00 I. Does Literary Language Exist? A Debate

A Forum. Presiding: Ralph Freedman, Princeton University

Claus Clüver (Indiana University): “The Concept of Literariness and the Reader”
Lowry Nelson, Jr. (Yale University): “Literature As the Linguistic Art”

Tillotama Rajan (University of Wisconsin): “Deconstruction and Value: Shelley’s Defence of Poetry”

Discussant: Marlies Kronegger (Michigan State University)

II. Modernism and Postmodernism in Latin America

A Forum. Presiding: Ricardo Gutierrez-Mouat (Emory University)

George Yudice (Hunter College): “A Critique of the Concept of Marginality: The Latin American Case”

Daniel Balderston (Tulane University): “Roa Bastos and His Precursors”

Julio Ramos (Emory University): “The Problem of Modernism in Latin America”

Discussant: Sohnya Sayres (Cooper Union)

4:30- 5:30

Keynote Address

Presiding: Ricardo Gutierrez-Mouat (Emory University)

Keynote Speaker: Sylvia Molloy (Yale University): “Mischief in the Library: Reading, Writing and Remembering in Latin America”

5:30- 6:30

Reception

8:00-10:00

Survival Strategies for Comparative Literature Programs

A Panel Discussion. Presiding: Janet A. Walker (Rutgers University)

Stuart Y. McDougal (University of Michigan): “Creating an Undergraduate Comparative Literature Program”

Claus Clüver (Indiana University): “Fostering an Undergraduate Comparative Literature Program”

Sarah Lawall (University of Massachusetts): “Maintaining a Comparative Literature Program: Building Up Curricular Strength, Building Political Support”

Hugo Dyserinck (Aachen): “Developing Comparative Literature in Relation to European Studies”

Ellen Goodell (University of Minnesota): “Gathering Support for Graduate Studies in the Comparative Literature Program”

Caroline Eckhardt (Pennsylvania State University): “Making the Transition from Program to Department”

Saturday, March 21

9:00-10:30

I. Applications of Contemporary Theory

Presiding: Lowry Nelson, Jr. (Yale University)


João Sedyhias (Wofford College): “The Concept of Mimetic Desire in Aluisio Azevedo’s O Cortico”

J. Nash Mayfield (University of Michigan): “The Female Bildungsroman and Contemporary Theory”

II. Rethinking Genre in the Modern German Novel

Presiding: Ralph Freedman (Princeton University)

Siegfried Mews (University of North Carolina): “Martin Walser’s Brandung: A German Campus Novel?”

Thomas G. Rosenmeyer (University of California, Berkeley): “Das Kuckuckskapitel: Generic Ballast or Didactic Mass?”

Claudia Brodsky (Princeton University): “Writing and Building: Ornament in Broch’s The Sleepwalkers”

III. Gender in Visual and Verbal Narratives

Presiding: Laurie Edson (Emory University)

Johanna X. K. Garvey (Rutgers University): “Subversive Androgyny: Women in and the Fantastic”
Barbara Mortimer (Emory University): “Two-Dimensional Woman and Three-Dimensional Man: Assumptions about Gender in ‘Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema’”

Ingeborg Major O’Sickey (University of Texas): “Two Kinds of Death: Narratives about Erasures.”

9:00-10:30  IV. New Approaches to Literary Influence

Presiding: Matilynn J. Smith

Martin Bidney (State University of New York, Binghamton): “Shelley in the Mind of a Russian Symbolist: Six Kinds of Influence/Appropriation”

Anna A. Tavis (Princeton University): “Rilke’s Dialogue with Tolstoy”

Peter J. Burgard (University of Virginia): “Two Parts Ibsen, One Part American Dream: On Derivation and Originality in Arthur Miller’s Death of a Salesman”

11:00-12:30 I. Comparative Approaches to New World and Third World Literature

Presiding: Wendy B. Faris (University of Texas, Arlington)

Wendy B. Faris (University of Texas, Arlington): “Marking Space, Surveying Time: The Territorial Imperative in Faulkner’s The Bear and Carpentier’s The Lost Steps”

Kapanga M. Kasongo (Vanderbilt University): “The Practice of Comparative Literature in Africa”

Angelita Reyes (Pennsylvania State University): “Spiritualities: From Feminism, to Womanism, to Indigenous Feminism”

II. Issues of Terminology

Presiding: Peter H. Lee (University of Hawaii)

Cecile C-C Sun (University of Pittsburgh): “Some Key Critical Terms for Chinese Literature and Their Place in East-West Comparative Poetics”

Sumie Jones (Indiana University): “Centering and Deepening: The Western ‘Sublime’ and Japanese ‘Iki’”

Janet A. Walker (Rutgers University): “‘The Novel’: One of the Modern Period’s Most Guilty Terms”

Discussant: Peter H. Lee

III. Genre and its Discontents in Postmodern Fiction

Presiding: Joel Black (University of Georgia)


John Johnston (Emory University): “Generic Promiscuity in the Fiction of Don Delillo”

Louis Mackey (University of Texas): “Seeing How Things Aren’t: Science Fiction and the Mainstream”

IV. Literature and the Other Arts

Presiding: Phillip H. Rhein (Vanderbilt University)

Christine Kiebuzinska (Virginia Polytechnic Institute): “Mayakovsky and the Avant-Garde Theater”

Ben Stolzfus (University of California, Riverside): “Magritte and Robbe-Grillet”

Marjorie H. Hellerstein (Massachusetts College of Art): “Stein on Picasso, Picasso on Stein”

Richard Poss (University of Georgia): “The Figure of the Doge in Venetian Art and English Renaissance Drama”

2:00- 4:00  I. Allegory and Allegoresis

A Forum. Presiding: A. Owen Aldridge (Saint Peter’s College)

Longxi Zhang (Harvard University): “The Song of Songs, Allegoresis, and The Book of Poetry”
Michael Murrin (University of Chicago): “Michael and His Dragon”
Earl Miner (Princeton University): “The Imputation of a Fuller, Better Meaning”
Discussant: A. Owen Aldridge

II. Marginal Men and Centers of Learning: Critical Theory and its Recent Institutional History

A Forum. Presiding: Claudia Brodsky (Princeton University)
Evan Watkins (University of Washington): “How Theories Die”
R. K. Meiners (Michigan State University): “Lyric As Trouble: Blackmur, Benjamin, Bakhtin”
Discussant: Claudia Brodsky (Princeton University)

4:30-6:00

I. Harry Levin, René Wellek and American Comparatism

A Forum. Presiding: Frederick Garber (State University of New York, Binghamton)
Sarah Lawall (University of Massachusetts): on René Wellek
Burton Pike (City University of New York): on Harry Levin

II. Lecture

Presiding: John Johnston (Emory University)
Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak (University of Pittsburgh): “Affirmative Deconstruction and some Limits of Theory: Mahasweta Devi’s Breastgiver”

6:30-7:30 Cash Bar
7:30-9:00 Banquet

Sunday, March 22

9:00-10:00 SCLA Business Meeting

9:00-10:30 I. Rethinking Narrative Conventions

Presiding: Francois Jost (University of Illinois)
Ali Behdad (University of Michigan): “Desire Realize Narrative Transaction in Balzac’s La Peau de Chagrin”
Lilian R. Furst (University of North Carolina): “Truth Tell: The Narrator in Realist Fiction”
Joseph Janangelo: “Narratologies of the Self: Reanimating Autobiography through Narrative Theorist the Rhetoric of Modern Fiction”

II. Genre, Modernism, and Postmodernism

Presiding: Mary Layoun (University of Wisconsin)
Suresh Raval (University of Arizona): “Genre and History”
Henry Sussman (State University of New York, Buffalo): “Joyce’s Musical Comedy”

III. Genre and Ideology

Presiding: Bernhard F. Scholz (Utrecht)
Lawrence Venuti (Temple University): “Genre Theory as Ideological Critique: Plautus, Jonson, and the Ideological of Intrigue Comedy”
Jessica Munns (University of New Orleans): “Fathers, Rulers and Romans: An Infernal Triangle”
IV. Mass Culture and Art

Presiding: Terry Cochran (University of Minnesota)
Lois Parkinson Zamora (University of Houston): “Novels and Newspapers in the Americas”
Gustavo Pellón (University of Virginia): “The Fading Boundary: Mass Culture and Art in the Contemporary Latin American Novel”
Claudia Stanger (Berklee College of Music): “Across Cultures and Disciplines: Amos Tutuola’s and Brian Eno’s Bush of Ghosts”

11:00-12:30 I. Postmodern Utopias: From Hope to Aesthetics

Presiding: Daniel Balderston (Tulane University)
George Yudice (Hunter College): “Utopian Erotics after Foucault”
Fred Pfeil (Trinity College): “Potholders and Subincisions: Some Notes on Bliss and Postmodernism in the Novels of Tom Disch and Dennis Johnson”
Sohnya Sayres (Cooper Union): “Events in the Era of Nonevents: Jonestown”

II. Theoretical Discourses

Presiding: Stuart Y. McDougal (University of Michigan)
Linda Brooks (Emory University): “If It Barks, It’s Art: Lucian, Peacock, and Postmodernism”
David Halsted (University of Michigan): “Why Philosophers of Language and Post-Structuralists Don’t Communicate”

III. Third World Writers on First World Texts

Presiding: Terry Cochran (University of Minnesota)
Mary Layoun (University of Wisconsin): “Sighting the Other”
Alan Wolfe (University of Oregon): “Writing Against the West: The Japanese Experience”

1:00-12:30 IV. Metadiscourse and the Novel

Presiding: Lilian R. Furst (University of North Carolina)
Ann Marie Stewart Caldwell (Auburn University): “The Implications of Authorial Presence in the Fictional World of the Novel”
Svetlana Boym (Harvard University): “What Is an Author? Intertextual Approaches to Literature and Biography”
Carolyn Buckley LaRocque (Catholic University): “Metadiscourse and the Commentary on Genre”

2:30- 2:00 Lunch and Business Meeting