



Faculty of English  
Adam Mickiewicz University  
Poznań, Poland

*American Studies Scholarly Circle at the Faculty of English, UAM, Poznań*

*Book Lovers Among Students (BLASt)*

***Re-Examining American Literature* Student Symposium**

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

### **HISTORICITY AND MEMORY:**

### **POSTMODERN STRUGGLES WITH THE PAST**

*Saturday, March 29, 2014, Faculty of English UAM, Poznań*

It is the loss of memory not the cult of memory that will make us prisoners of the past.

- Paolo Portoghesi, *After modern architecture*, 1982

Twentieth century literature and arts have been greatly influenced by various concepts of historicity and views proclaiming “the end of history”. In particular, postmodern writers and artists have struggled both with the concept of history itself and the artistic consequences thereof. By means of parody, pastiche or even historicizing of the present, postmodern cultural production frequently discloses the structure of historicity. We are interested in ways in which the postmodern struggles with historicity, memory and the past are reflected in the literature and art of the United States. We cordially invite B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. students to submit conference papers (approx. 20-minute presentations) on American literature, theater and visual arts, concerning (but not restricted to) the following issues:

- tensions between history and historicity
- expressing temporality, continuity and discontinuity
- undermining / embellishing experience
- the present as history
- alternative histories
- forms and strategies of historical representation
- gender perspectives on HIStory/HERstory
- mythologizing experience
- re-working trauma

Please send an abstract of 200-300 words by **January 31, 2014** to the following address: **real.conference@gmail.com**. All queries should also be sent to the above address. The conference fee is 30 PLN.

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