

Raimi Adeleke, Iowa State University
"Interrogating the Black Cultural Nationalist Response to Globalization"

Session 11 "Powers of History, Varieties of Trauma"

Chair: Alicja Piechucka

Marta Koval, Lviv Regional Institute of Public Administration
"Holding out for a Hint of Harmony": Music, History, and Identity Quest in Richard Powers's Novel *The Time of Our Singing*"

Agnieszka Glegoła, UMCS, Lublin

"America is not your fault, but you are America's fault." History, Memory, and Forgetting in *Plowing the Dark* by Richard Powers"

Mateusz Liwiński, Catholic University of Lublin

"Retrofuturistic Impulse: Skeuomorphs of the Atomic Era in *Fallout*"

Session 12 "The Returns of the Vanishing American"

Chair: Marta Mazurek

Elżbieta Wilczyńska, UAM, Poznań

"History and Memory in Indian Fiction: James Welch's *The Heartsong of Charging Elk* and Leslie Marmon Silko's *Gardens in the Dunes*"

Joanna Ziarkowska, University of Warsaw

"Dancing for Survival: Reinterpretations of Ghost Dance in Leslie Marmon Silko's *Gardens in the Dunes*"

Artur Jaupaj, University of New York, Tirana

"Thomas Berger's *Little Big Man*: The Return of the Vanishing American"

Session 13 "Historicizing the South"

Chair: Jerzy Kamionowski

Irina Kudriavtseva, Minsk State Linguistics University

"Demythologizing the South in Peter Taylor's Fiction"

Beata Zawadka, University of Szczecin

"Past into Present and Back: A (Mis)use of Southern History in Edward P. Jones's *The Known World*"

Beata Kenig, University of Warsaw

"The Myth of the Old South and Its Hero: The Southern Gentleman and His Mission in the Selected Writings of the Southern Apologists and Gentlemen of the 1850s"

Session 14 "From Mexico to Japan: Memories of the Other"

Chair: Sascha Pöhlmann

Jason Ruiz, University of Notre Dame

"Americans in the Treasure House: Travels to Mexico in the U.S. Popular Imagination"

Małgorzata Poks, ATH, Bielsko-Biala

"Points for Mediation on the Nuclear Age: Thomas Merton and Gerald Vizenor"

John Howard, King's College, London

"Japanese American Incarceration as Heroic National Fable"

Session 15 "Rural Hours"

Chair: Elżbieta Rokosz-Piejko

Hanna Boguta-Marchel, University of Warsaw

"Time in the Novels of Cormac McCarthy: From Recurrent Circularity to the Finality of Here and Now"

Katarzyna Czerwiec-Dykiel, UMCS, Lublin

"Environmental Component of Human History in Barbara Kingslover's *Prodigal Summer* and William Least Heat-Moon's *Prairie Earth*"

Damian S. Pyrkosz, University of Rzeszów

"The Past Revitalized: Preservation of the Rural America's Cultural Heritage"

Session 16 "Icons of the Past; Moving and Still"

Chair: Elżbieta Wilczyńska

Katarzyna Spiechlanin, Jagiellonian University, Cracow

"(Re)discovery of American Past in the Paintings of American Realists"

Edyta Frelík, UMCS, Lublin

"Ideas freed from events which brought them into being": Jasper Johns's Use of History"

Dorota McKay, UMCS Lublin

"Transformation of the Legend of Lawrence of Arabia: From British Colonial History to American Science Fiction"

Session 17 "Female Signatures"

Chair: Joanna Ziarkowska

Agnieszka Graff, University of Warsaw

"But this was not Nazi Germany. This was America." Revisiting the World War II Analogy in Betty Friedan's *Feminine Mystique*"

Aleksandra Szaniawska, University of Warsaw

"Salt and Pepper": The Unsettling Experiences among Black and White Women in the Civil Rights and Women's Liberation Movement"

Magdalena Misiaczek, Jagiellonian University, Cracow

"The Past and the Present of Women's Christian Temperance Union"

Session 18 "Remembering the Holocaust"

Chair: Anna Wortman

Gustavo Sánchez Canales, Universidad Complutense de Madrid

"In a different world, we could have been real friends": Two Opposite Approaches to the Problem of Holocaust in Jonathan Safran Foer's *Everything Is Illuminated*"

Joanna Młynarczyk, UAM, Poznań

"Memory is life": The Need and Obligation to Remember in *Mr. Sammler's Planet* and *The Bellarosa Connection* by Saul Bellow"

Jolanta Kryda, University of Gdańsk

"American Representations of the Holocaust: Isaac Bashevis Singer, Elie Wiesel, Noam Chomsky, and Norman Finkelstein"

Session 19 "History, Memory, DeLillo"

Chair: Paweł Frelík

Katarzyna Kuczma, UAM, Poznań

"Memory as Pharmakon in Don DeLillo's *Falling Man*"

Maciej Masłowski, University of Wrocław

"'Like nothing in this life': The Concept of Historic Time in Don DeLillo's *Falling Man*"

Justyna Kociatkiewicz, University of Wrocław

"History as Loss, History as Waste: American Twentieth Century in the Novels of Bellow and DeLillo"

Session 20 "History and/in Poetry"

Chair: Katarzyna Spiechlanin

Paulina Ambroży-Lis, UAM, Poznań

"'It is this brokenness that interests me.' The Aesthetics and Politics of Susan Howe's Historical Poetry"

Paweł Stachura, UAM, Poznań

"The End of History in Whitman's War Poems"

Alicja Piechucka, University of Łódź

"History Is Now": Historical Experience and Historical Vacuum in T.S. Eliot and the French Symbolists"

Session 21 "Spies and Agents"

Chair: Anna Bartnik

Anna Wortman, University of Warsaw

"From Heroes to Scapegoats: The Image of the FBI in American Popular Culture"

Anna Krawczyk-Łaskarzewska, UWM, Olsztyn

"The Zeitgeist Is Out There: History in *The X-Files* and *The X-Files* in History"

James G. Ryan, Texas A&M University, Galveston

"Historians of American Communism Remain in Denial"

Session 22 "Ethnic Self-Fashioning(s)"

Chair: Agnieszka Graff

Karolina Krasuska, Viadrina University, Frankfurt (Oder)/University of Warsaw

"The Renaissance of the Mongrel. American Moments in Mina Loy's 'Anglo-Mongrels and the Rose'"

Tomasz Jacheć, Regent College, Elbląg

"Joseph Heller's *God Knows* – An Updated Narrative"

POLISH ASSOCIATION
FOR AMERICAN
STUDIES



The Past in the Present:
The American Uses of History

Polish Association for American Studies
2008 Annual Conference,

American Studies Center,
University of Warsaw

22–24 October

WEDNESDAY, 22 October

Main Campus, Krakowskie Przedmieście 22/24

- 13:00 – 14:00 **Registration**
14:00 – 15:00 **Conference opening – Sala Balowa**
Chair: Tomasz Basiuk
Keynote address: Donald Grinde, SUNY Buffalo
"Marxism, Native Americans, and What Happens after the Dictatorship of the Proletariat"
15:15 – 16:45 Session 1 "Alternative Histories" – Sala Brudzińskiego
Session 2 "Notes of the Past: History and Music" – Sala Balowa
Session 3 "Narratives of Exceptionalism" – Sala Kofłątaja, Pałac Staszica
16:45 – 17:15 **Coffee break**
17:15 – 18: 45 Session 4 "African-American Representations" – Sala Balowa
Session 5 "History, Politics, Presidency" – Sala Kofłątaja, Pałac Staszica
19:00 – 20:30 Session 6 "Atlantic Crossings: African American Memories" – Sala Balowa
Session 7 "Episodes of the Past" – Sala Kofłątaja, Pałac Staszica
20:35 **Reception – Old Library Hall**

THURSDAY, 23 October

American Studies Center, Aleja Niepodległości 22

- 9:30 – 10:30 **Plenary Session – Room 317**
Chair: Agnieszka Salska
Yuri Stulov, Minsk State Linguistics University
"Black History in Contemporary African American Fiction"
10:45 – 12:15 Session 8 "Herstories in Black: Fiction by African American Women," 319
Session 9 "Popular Culture: Historicizing and Historicized," 314
Session 10 "Ethnic Past(s) and Present(s)," 310
Session 11 "Powers of History, Varieties of Trauma," 317
12:15 – 12:45 **Coffee break**
12:45 – 14:15 Session 12 "The Returns of the Vanishing American," 319
Session 13 "Historicizing the South," 310
Session 14 "From Mexico to Japan: Memories of the Other," 317
Session 15 "Rural Hours," 314
14: 15 – 15:15 **Lunch**
15:15 – 16: 15 **Plenary session – Room 317**
Chair: William R. Glass
Erika Doss, University of Notre Dame
"Who Owns Historical Memory?
Commemorative Conflicts in the American Southwest"
16:15 – 16:45 **Coffee break**

- 16: 45 – 18:15 Session 16 "Icons of the Past; Moving and Still," 317
Session 17 "Female Signatures," 319
Session 18 "Remembering the Holocaust," 310
Session 19 "History, Memory, DeLillo," 314
18: 15 – 20:00 **Reception**
20:00 **PAAS Meeting**

FRIDAY, 24 October

American Studies Center, Aleja Niepodległości 22

- 9:30-10:30 **Plenary session – Room 317**
Chair: Jadwiga Maszewska
Willam R. Glass, University of Warsaw
"Do We Get to Win This Time? The Hollywood History of the Vietnam War"
10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee break**
11:00 – 12:30 Session 20 "History and/in Poetry," 319
Session 21 "Spies and Agents," 317
Session 22 "Ethnic Self-Fashioning(s)," 314
12: 45 – 13:45 **Plenary session – Room 317**
Chair: Marek Wilczyński
Keith Griffier, SUNY Buffalo
"The Mythology of the Underground Railroad as Invention in National Memory of an Absent Tradition of White Racial Liberalism in America"
13:45 – 14:00 **Conference closing followed by lunch**

LIST OF SESSIONS

Session 1 "Alternative Histories"

Chair: Zofia Kolbuszewska

Sascha Pöhlmann, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich
"Cosmographic Metafiction in Sesshu Foster's *Atomik Aztex*"

Beata Marczyńska-Fedorowicz, UMCS, Lublin
"America That Never Was: Alternative History in American Fiction"

Paweł Pyrka, University of Warsaw
"Watching the Watchmen. The Play of Masks and the Irreverent Exposure in Alan Moore's Graphic Novel *Watchmen*"

Session 2 "Notes of the Past: History and Music"

Chair: Paulina Ambroży-Lis

Małgorzata Ziółek-Sowińska, University of Warsaw
"History in the Music and Poetry of African American Spirituals"

Radosław Rybkowski, Jagiellonian University, Cracow
"Meaningless History? History in American Musical"

Marta Marciniak, CUNY

"Do you remember rock and roll radio? Punk as a 1970s Urban Subculture That Lives on in American Culture Today"

Session 3 "Narratives of Exceptionalism"

Chair: Clifford A. Bates

David A. Jones, University of Warsaw, Joanna Waluk, University of Białystok
"The Magic Became Tragic: The Special Diplomatic Exchange Between the Republic of Poland and the United States of America, 1934-1939"

Anna Bendrat, UMCS, Lublin

"A Tale of Two Historiosophies: Polish and American Exceptionalism in the Contemporary Context of War"

Karol Derwich, Jagiellonian University, Cracow

"American Exceptionalism in U.S. Latin American Policy at the Turn of the 20th Century"

Session 4 "African American Representations"

Chair: Justyna Kociatkiewicz

Dominika Ferens, University of Wrocław
"Diachronic vs. Synchronic Accounts of Cultural Difference in Paule Marshall's *The Chosen Place, the Timeless People* (1969)"

Elżbieta Rokosz-Piejko, University of Rzeszów
"The past claws its way back.' On the Use of Personal and National History in Toni Morrison's *Paradise and Love*"

Klara Szmańko, University of Wrocław

"Representations of History in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*"

Session 5 "History, Politics, Presidency"

Chair: David A. Jones

Zbigniew Kwiecień, University of Warsaw

"The Past as a 'Big Stick.' Historical Arguments in Theodore Roosevelt's Attacks on President Woodrow Wilson's Foreign Policy, 1914-1916"

Clifford A. Bates, University of Warsaw

"The 2008 American Presidential Election: The Triumph of the 'ONE' as the Latest Next Stage of the Postmodern Presidency or the Stoic Non-Boomer Presidency?"

Łukasz Wordliczek, Jagiellonian University, Cracow

"The Past, the Present, and the Future: The Logic of Continuity in U.S. Foreign Policy"

Session 6 "Atlantic Crossings: African American Memories"

Chair: Paweł Stachura

Agnieszka Wróblewicz, UAM, Poznań

"Six years a prisoner.' The Uses of Enslavement in Royall Tyler's *The Algerine Captive*"

Olga Dudek, UMCS, Lublin

"The History of American Slavery Inscribed in the Works of Former Slaves"

Jerzy Kamionowski, University of Białystok

"Out of the Time Endlessly Rocking: Audre Lorde's Use of Dahomean Myths"

Session 7 "Episodes of the Past"

Chair: Radosław Rybkowski

Paweł Laidler, Jagiellonian University, Cracow

"Does the Original Intent Count? The Past and the Present in the U.S. Supreme Court's Decision-Making Process"

Małgorzata Martynuska, University of Rzeszów

"Redefining the *American Dream* – A History of an Idea Which Shaped the Nation"

Session 8 "Histories in Black: Fiction by African American Women"

Chair: Dominika Ferens

Aneta Dybska, University of Warsaw

"The Uses of Spatial Discourse in Gloria Naylor's 1985 Novel *Linden Hills*"

Ewa Kłęczaj-Siara, UMCS, Lublin

"Restoring Black Women's Images in Faith Ringgold's Picturebook *Dinner at Aunt Connie's House*"

Emilia Borowska, Catholic University of Lublin

"Gayl Jones' *Corregidora*: A Post-Cartesian Response of the Past Which Is Not Her Own"

Session 9 "Popular Culture; Historicizing and Historicized"

Chair: Ewa Grzeszczyk

Włodzimierz Batóg, UJK, Kielce

"The American 1960s: Historians' Debate"

Jacek Romaniuk, University of Warsaw

"1960s at 40: The Uses of the 1968 Trope in the USA"

Mirosław Aleksander Miernik, University of Warsaw

"Zeitgeist, Change, and Subculture: The Case of Emo"

Session 10 "Ethnic Past(s) and Present(s)"

Chair: Anna Sosnowska

Anna Bartnik, Jagiellonian University, Cracow

"The Past and the Present of Hispanics in American Society"