

BACLS

The British Association of Contemporary Literary Studies Biennial Conference

What Happens Now 2018

**Loughborough University
10th-12th July 2018**

Keynote Speakers

**Dr Sandeep Parmar
(University of Liverpool)**

**Professor Alison Phipps
(University of Sussex)**

**Baroness Lola Young, in
conversation with
Dr Kaye Mitchell
(University of Manchester)**

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BACLS

THE BRITISH
ASSOCIATION FOR
CONTEMPORARY
LITERARY STUDIES



**Loughborough
University**

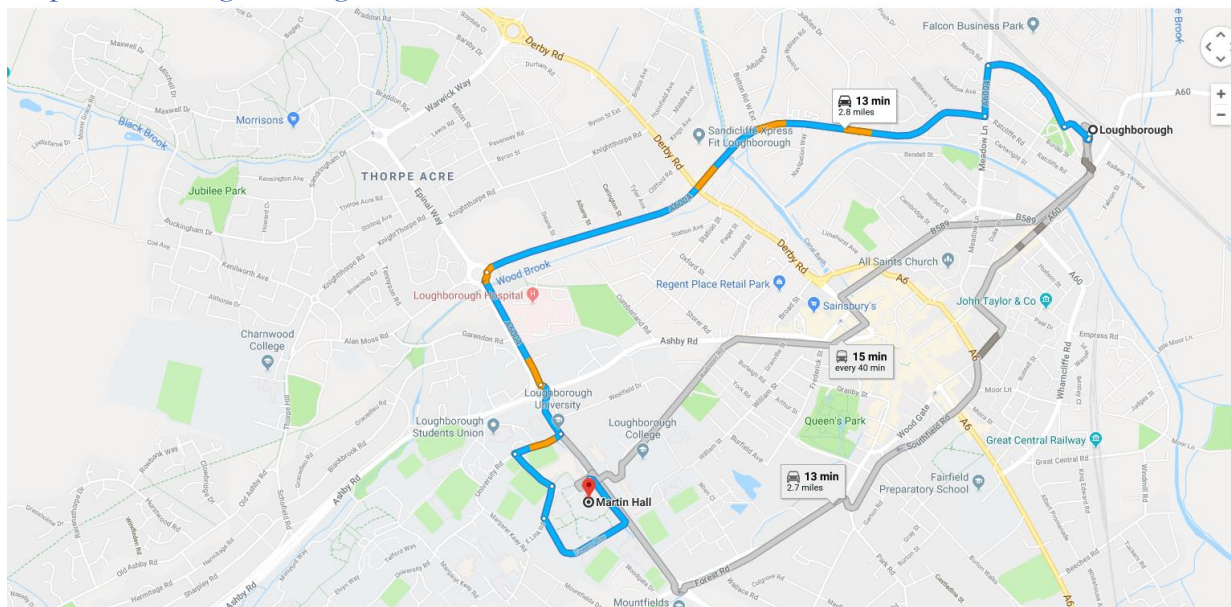
BACLS-WHN 18 Programme

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Maps

Maps from Loughborough Station



Getting to campus

Driving: Please email bacls.whn@gmail.com with your name and registration number, so that we can alert security.

Sat Nav: Please use postcode LE11 3TU for directions to Loughborough University. East Park is the entrance you want.

The bus from the train station: A company called Sprint offer a service to the campus that runs every 15 - 20 mins outside of term time and costs £1.80 for a single (best to ensure you have change). The stop is just outside the station and the single-decker little hopper buses (which are blue and yellow) clearly display 'University' as their destination. Please have the correct change. The best stop to alight at is Loughborough College. Then follow the bus's direction, cross the main road (Epinal Way), enter the main Loughborough University campus (there's a big sign) and Martin Hall is the first building on the left.

Walking: If you are staying in a hotel in town, it is likely to be within a 15-20 min walk from the station (and then campus is a further 15-20 min walk from there). Depending on when you arrive, you may prefer to walk.

Loughborough University – List of buildings by park

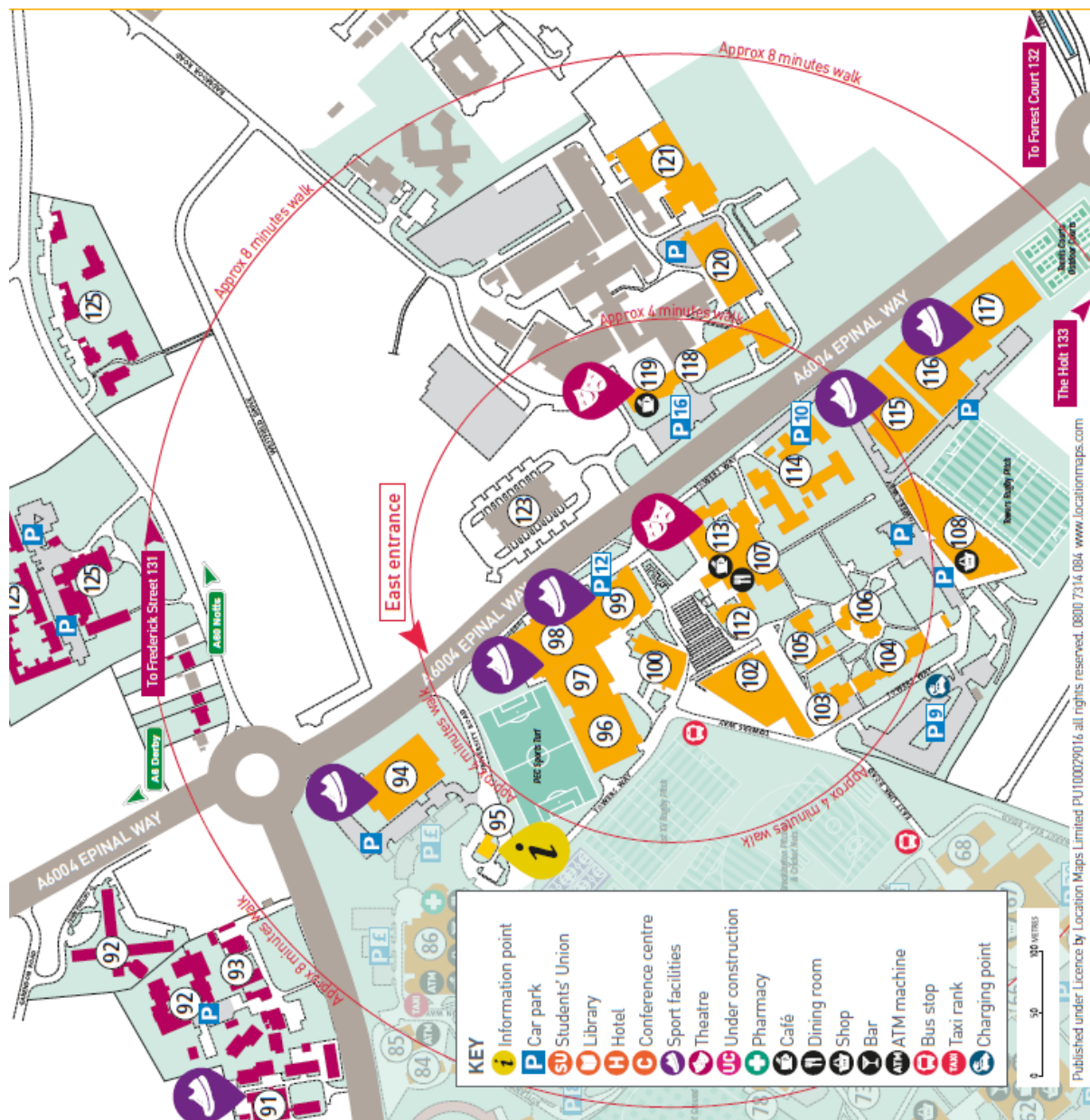
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3D Design	120
Bulter Court	BC 114
Clyde Williams	HE 99
Cope Auditorium	119
Dan Maskell Tennis Centre	TC 116
David Wallace (Sir)	SP 98
Design School	LDS 108
Edward Barnsley	118
EEIS Loughborough Performance Centre	UU 96
Fine Art Building	121
John Beckwith (Sir), Centre for Sport	JB 100
John Clements	MM 105
John Cooper	YY 103
John Hardie	QQ 112
Loughborough Technology Centre	123
Martin Hall	NN 113
Leonard Dixon Drama Studio	
LU Arts	
Sir Robert Martin Theatre	
Stanley Evernden Studio	
Matthew Arnold	ZZ 104
National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine	210 102
National Gymnastics Performance and Research Centre	
Natball/Badminton Centre	UU 97
Security Gatehouse	NB 115
Swimming Pool	SE 95
Tennis Centre	SW 94
Towers Dining Hall	LT 117
Towers	TQ/DR 107
	TO 106

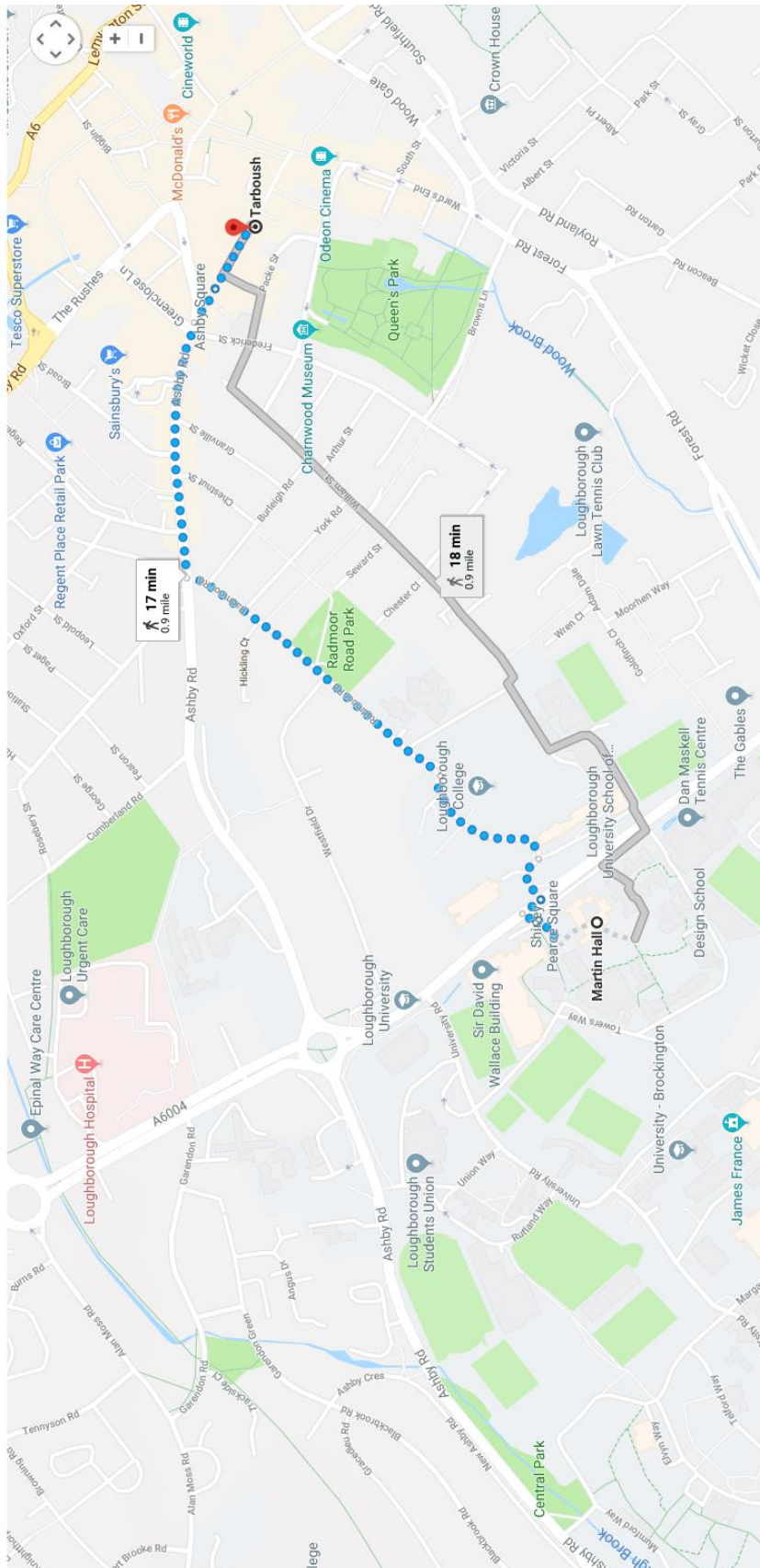
93	OFF CAMPUS
ECB Residences	
HF 125	
MR 91	
William Morris	
Informal learning area	
Student dance studio	
William Morris Hall	
92	

93 ECB Residences
Harry French Hall
William Morris
Informal learning area
Student dance studio
William Morris Hall



Map for conference dinner at Tarboush

Wednesday night's dinner is at Tarboush, 12A Market St, Loughborough LE11 3EP.



Wifi, etc.

Eduroam is available across the University campus

Connecting to the Imago Wi-Fi

- To connect to the Wi-Fi search for “imago” & select.
- Then click on the self- registration link at the top of the page.
- Enter the details as required & the daily login code (available at reception if not on display).
- If internet access is required on consecutive days, select the number of days you require access for and the code will remain valid for the duration selected.
- Please note that there will be no internet service from 3 pm until the end of the day on Weds 11th July.

Contacts

Conference team members and BACLS Executive members will be present and circulating throughout the 3 days and we're happy to help. Our badges will say if we're with Loughborough/BACLS.

In case of an emergency you can contact Jen Cooke on 07828 125 494

Cafes

The Bistro cafe in Martin Hall will be open from 8.30 am to 3.30 pm during the conference.

Publisher Tables/Bookshelves

To celebrate our collective labour and imagination, there will be a bookshelf for us to deposit our own books and journals, monographs, edited collections, special issues.

This is a browsing shelf, but if you do want to give away books put a post-it or something on them to tell people they can take them.

Please do bring along your books to deposit on the shelves for the duration of the conference.

And don't forget to pick them up before you leave!

Palgrave and Bloomsbury will host publishers' tables throughout the conference. These will be set up in the foyer of Martin Hall—please do say hi to Ben Doyle (Palgrave) and David Avital (Bloomsbury). We will also have a table of flyers for publishers you might be interested in.

Plenaries, Performances, Exhibitions

Keynotes

Still not a British subject: Race and UK Poetry

Professor Sandeep Parmar (University of Liverpool)

Chair: Dr Jennifer Cooke (Loughborough University)

Tuesday 10th July, 6-7pm, Robert Martin Theatre

This talk builds on a 2015 essay published in the *Los Angeles Review of Books* 'Not a British Subject: Race and UK Poetry' and will consider recent work by poets of colour and the changing landscape of representation, belonging and identity in British poetry. Prizes, poetry criticism and reviews, and the market more generally, will also be discussed, as well as the centrality of poetic values such as authenticity in lyric subjectivity as well as whiteness in the avant-garde. It will ask how the poetic subject and the subject of identity politics in literary debates forms a reductive axis, constrained by existing conventions of readership and poetry culture.

Sandeep Parmar is Professor of English Literature at the University of Liverpool. She is author of *Reading Mina Loy's Autobiographies: Myth of the Modern Woman*, scholarly editions for Carcanet Press of the *Collected Poems of Hope Mirrlees* and *The Collected Poems of Nancy Cunard* as well as two books of her own poetry: *The Marble Orchard* and *Eidolon*, winner of the Ledbury Forte Prize for Best Second Collection. She is a BBC New Generation Thinker and Co-Director of Liverpool's Centre for New and International Writing. In 2017, she founded the Ledbury Emerging Poetry Critics Scheme for BAME reviewers and the Citizens of Everywhere project which focuses on broadening ideas of citizenship and belonging.

Lola Young, Baroness Young of Hornsey in conversation with Dr Kaye Mitchell (University of Manchester)

Wednesday 11th July, 12.30-13.30pm, Robert Martin Theatre

Baroness Young is an independent crossbench peer, formerly professor of Cultural Studies at Middlesex University and head of culture at the Greater London Authority. Baroness Young has been on the boards of a number of cultural bodies, including the National Theatre and the Southbank Centre. She was instrumental in developing the Black Cultural Archives and oversaw for a time the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts. She was appointed a member of the House of Lords in 2004, and holds honorary doctorates from Middlesex University, the University of the Arts London and Sussex University. Baroness Young has chaired the judging panels of the Orange Prize for Fiction and the Caine Prize for African Writing.

Kaye Mitchell is a literary and cultural critic with interests in modern and contemporary literature, literary theory, gender and sexuality studies, and experimental writing by women. She has published books on literary intention (*Intention and Text*, Continuum, 2008) and contemporary literature (*A.L. Kennedy*, Palgrave, 2007; *Sarah Waters*, ed. collection with Bloomsbury, 2013). Her work in progress includes a monograph on the politics and poetics of shame in contemporary literature, and a special issue on women's experimental writing for the OUP journal, *Contemporary Women's Writing*.

The Lincoln Lecture

MeToo, but he's worth more than you: markets, harassment and violence

Professor Alison Phipps (University of Sussex)

Chair: Dr Ruth Charnock (University of Lincoln)

Thursday 12th July, 9.30-10.30am, Robert Martin Theatre

This paper sets sexual harassment and violence in the context of the neoliberal university. Drawing on over 12 years of research, I explore practices of 'institutional airbrushing' which protect the reputation of the institution through erasing either acts of violence or those (usually privileged men) who perpetrate them. However, I argue that 'exposing the blemish' in the 'outrage economy' of the contemporary media is not necessarily the solution, and ask questions about alternative ways of speaking out (and speaking in).

Alison Phipps is Professor of Gender Studies at Sussex University. She is author of *The Politics of the Body: gender in a neoliberal and neoconservative age* (Polity Press), and co-author of the first national study of 'lad culture' in UK universities. She is currently co-leading the Changing University Cultures collective.

Early Career Roundtable

Wednesday 11th July, 5.45-6.30pm, MHL 1.17a&b

This session builds on discussion taking place on Twitter and in our corridors, with colleagues and students, about precarity in the academy. Precarity is not only an early career issue but is integral to Humanities provision in the academy today; it is an increasing norm for whole academic careers (Oakley and Jones 2018). The focus of this roundtable is on the early career stage. We will consider this stage in terms of the specificity of transition from PhD to postdoctoral life, and on how that transition is working in the context of the post-Browne landscape of UK HEIs. This roundtable includes academics at various stages of their career, and in multiple kinds of contract. From this discussion we hope to generate suggestions to give focus to future BACLS early career support and advocacy work.

Panel participants:

Dr Ben Davies (University of Plymouth)

Dr Peter Ely (Kingston University)

Dr Sophie Jones (Birkbeck, University of London)

Dr Rebecca Pohl (University of Manchester)

Professor Nicky Marsh (University of Southampton)

Professor Katy Shaw (University of Northumbria)

Chair: Zara Dinnen (Queen Mary University of London)

The Decline and Fall of the Home Office

A performance by Lisa Jeschke and Lucy Beynon

Tuesday 10th July 2018

Robert Martin Theatre, Martin Hall



The Decline and Fall of the Home Office

A large person applies for permission to remain in the UK despite not being from there and also crime.

Lucy Beynon (London) and Lisa Jeschke (Munich/CAU Kiel) have made theatre together since 2008, most recently *The Tragedy of Theresa May* (2015; published by Tipped Press, 2018).

Re-Imagining Citizenship



Martin Hall, on until midday Thursday 12th July

An exhibition collectively curated by the Politicized Practice/Anarchist/Theatre and Performance Research Groups.

In government parlance, being a citizen means to be recognised as a 'subject or national'. What is at stake in re-imagining new forms of citizenship and modes of civic participation? How can the notion of citizenship - in our trans/post-national society - be reconfigured without subjection?

This exhibition centres on the concept of the citizen-artist/artist-citizen to explore the potential for art practices to re-imagine citizenship. It brings together a range of audio-visual and text-based responses with contributions by artists and researchers from across and beyond the University.

The exhibition includes artworks produced by staff and students at the Institut Supérieur des Beaux-Arts of Besançon (France) with whom the Politicized Practice/Anarchist Research Groups and the Theatre and Performance Research Group has an ongoing dialogue around themes related to art, performance and political activism.

Schedule, Panels, Papers

[n.b. Presenters and Chairs: Please arrive for your session 5 minutes early. We suggest you bring any PowerPoint presentations on a USB stick. All computers will be PCs.]

Tuesday 10th July 2018

09.30-12.00: Registration (Martin Hall Foyer)

10.00-11.30: AGM (Robert Martin Theatre)

11.30-11.50: Coffee (Martin Hall Foyer)

11.50-12.10: Welcome from BACLS Executive (Robert Martin Theatre)

12.15-13.45: PANEL SESSION RED

Post-Secular Writing

Room: MHL 0.07

Chair: Katy Shaw (Northumbria University)

Rose Harris-Birtill (University of St Andrews), Towards a Plural Post-Secular

Dan O'Gorman (Oxford Brookes University), Intersecting Extremisms in Michel Houellebecq's Submission

Mike Witcombe (Bath Spa University), Straight Outta Hendon: Gender and Religious Identities in the work of Naomi Alderman

Retelling and Rewriting

Room: MHL 1.17a

Chair: Beatriz Domínguez-García (University of Huelva)

Amy Crawford (Independent Scholar), Subverting the Monomyth

Abram Foley (University of Exeter), A Blazing World: Danielle Dutton's *Dorothy*, a publishing project

María Martínez-Alfaro (University of Zaragoza), Fairy Stories meet The Shoah: The Power of Words in Holocaust Anti-Tales

Negative Mobilities, or Precarity

Room: Stanley Evernden Studio

Chair: Phil O'Brien (University of Manchester)

Joseph Anderton (Birmingham City University), Regarding Homelessness: Berger's King: A Street Story and McGregor's Even The Dogs

Martin Goodhead (Keele University) Working Class Literature: From haunting through refusal to (re)invention

Grazia Micheli (University of Nottingham) Doomed to the Road: Negative Mobility and Transnationalism in Hualing Nieh's Mulberry and Peach

13.45-14.30: Lunch (Martin Hall Foyer)

14.30-16.00: PANEL SESSION BLUE

Poetry as Resistant Form

Room: MHL 0.07

Chair: Clare Hutton (Loughborough University)

Helen Charman (University of Cambridge), 'I work to earth my heart': purpose, labour and (re)production in the poetry of Denise Riley and Andrea Brady

Rebecca Cullen (Nottingham Trent University), 'What time is it O'Clock?' Mastering time and temporality in the Poetry of Susan Howe

Hugh Foley (University of Liverpool), 'The Saddest of Formalisms': Acadamese in Contemporary Anglophone Poetry

Shareveillance: Data and Identity in the Twenty-First Century

Room: Stanley Evernden Studio

Chair: Coco d'Hont

Dorothy Butchard (University of Birmingham), Tracking Transience, Tracking Selves

Chelsea Kern (University of California, Los Angeles), Reading Online: Super Sad True Love Story and the Future of Public Reading

Rob Lederer (Arcadia University), Surveillance and the Database

Rachel Sykes (University of Birmingham), 'Our excessive selves': confession and precarity in the neoliberal university

Zadie Smith, The Panel

Room: MHL 1.17a

Chair: Kristian Shaw (Lincoln University)

Huw Marsh (Queen Mary University of London), Zadie Smith and Laughter: 'talking about things we didn't want to talk about'

Fiona Martinez (Sheffield Hallam University), Zadie Smith: Female Sexuality and Romantic Love in *White Teeth* (2000)

Daniel South (University of York), Zadie Smith's Liberal Imagination

Theorising the Novel Now

Room: MHL 1.17b

Chair: Nick Bentley (Keele University)

Maria Christou (Oxford Brookes University), Kazuo Ishiguro's 'Non-Actors'

Ben Davies (University of Portsmouth), The Darkness-within-the-Light of Contemporary Fiction: Agamben's Missing Reader and Ben Lerner's 10:04

Anna Travis (University of Brighton), The New Sincerity of Inauthentic Poetry

David Wylot (Queen Mary University of London), From Writing to Matter in the Contemporary Novel

16.00-16.20: Coffee (Martin Hall Foyer)

16.20-17.50: PANEL SESSION YELLOW

Contemporary Life Writing and its Gender Dynamics

Room: MHL 0.07

Chair: Alexandra Parsons (UCL)

Ricarda Menn (Goethe University Frankfurt), I – you – he: Male, Self and Other in Serial Autofictions

Melissa Schuh (Queen Mary University of London), Private Writing/Public Reading – The Case of Karl Ove Knausgaard and Elena Ferrante

Mariana Thomas (University of Southampton), ‘Cave Research’: The Need for a Matricentric Narrative

Media Infrastructure and Literary Aesthetics

Room: Stanley Evernden Studio

Chair: Martin Eve (Birkbeck)

Emily Horton (Brunel University London), Viral Gateways and Social Media Portals: Technology, Migration, and Genre in Hari Kunzru’s *Transmission* and Mohsin Hamid’s *Exit West*

Sarah Jackson (Nottingham Trent University), ‘International Day of Telephones’: Barghouti, Derrida and Calling Jerusalem

Jessica Oliver (University of Sussex), ‘Transcendent Ethereality and Complex Materiality’: J.R. Carpenter’s *The Gathering Cloud*

Doug Stark (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), Glitch Myths: Narrativizing Error in the Video Game Novel

Intersectional Ethics

Room: MHL 1.17a

Chair: Caroline Wintersgill (University of Winchester)

Lola Boorman (University of York), Grammatical empathy: the conjugation of racial difference in the early work of David Foster Wallace

Phil O'Brien (University of Manchester), Race, class, and the social abject in contemporary British fiction

Sara Upstone (Kingston University), *The Morally Dim Witted*: Intersectional Politics in Zadie Smith’s *NW*

Reading Affect

Room: MHL 1.17b

Chair: Sibyl Adam (University of Edinburgh)

Alice Bennett (Liverpool Hope University), ‘Let it Branch out Horizontally’: The Direction of Attention in Ben Lerner’s *10:04*

Sophie Jones (Birkbeck, University of London), Fictions of Molecular Desire in Paul B. Preciado’s *Testo Junkie* and Laurie Weeks’ *Zipper Mouth*

Ruth Charnock (University of Lincoln) and Karen Schaller (University of East Anglia), Absorption and Contemporary Literary Practice

17.50-18.00: Break

18:00-19:00: Host’s Lecture, Professor Sandeep Parmar (University of Liverpool), “Still not a British subject: Race and UK Poetry”, Chaired by Dr Jennifer Cooke (Loughborough University), (Robert Martin Theatre)

19.30-20.30: Dinner (Towers Dining Room)

20.30-21.30: Lisa Jeschke and Lucy Beynon's *The Decline and Fall of the Home Office* (Robert Martin Theatre)

Wednesday 11th July 2018

09.15-10.45: PANEL SESSION GREEN

Writing Women: Subjectivity and Selfhood in Contemporary American Fiction

Room: MHL 0.07

Chair: Beatriz Domínguez-García (University of Huelva)

Tricia Malone (Queen's University Belfast), Thinking Through Theory: Double Vision in Jennifer Egan's *Look at Me*

Sarah McCreedy (University College Cork), Domestic Apocalypse: Gender and Neoliberal Identity in the New Naturalist Novel

Angela Sparks (University of Hertfordshire), "My body is accomplishing impossible things": The female body, agency and slavery in Louise Erdrich's *Future Home of the Living God*.

Neoliberal Subjects

Room: Stanley Evernden Studio

Chair: Chris Vardy (University of Manchester)

Siân Adiseshiah (Loughborough University), 'Out of Time: Ageing Women and the Contemporary in Caryl Churchill's *Escaped Alone*'

Liam Connell (University of Brighton), Sex work, globalization and fiction

Dearbhaile Houston (Trinity College Dublin), Domestic Space and Postfeminist Daughters in Anne Enright's *The Green Road*

The Problem with Now

Room: MHL 1.17a

Chair: Melissa Schuh (Goethe University Frankfurt)

Kevin Brazil (University of Southampton), The Extended Present and the Present Tense Novel

Nicky Marsh (University of Southampton), Finding Dorothy: Credit in American Fiction

Lian Patston (University of Southampton), "As if any human experience couldn't be bridged": The Deferment of Affinity in Dana Spiotta and Chris Kraus

10.45-11.00: Coffee (Martin Hall Foyer)

11.00-12.30: PANEL SESSION PURPLE

Contemporary Canonicity (or, what not to read) Workshop (all welcome)

Room: MHL 0.07

Diletta De Cristofaro (University of Birmingham)

Arin Keeble (Edinburgh Napier University)

Rachel Sykes (University of Birmingham)

Queer Being

Room: Stanley Evernden Studio

Chair: Ben Davies (University of Portsmouth)

Peter Ely (Kingston University), Queer Kinship in Jackie Kay's *The Adoption Papers* (1991)
Raphael Kabo (Birkbeck, University of London), The Utopian Body in Contemporary
Literatures of Crisis
Alex Parsons (UCL), Colour and the body: Derek Jarman's *Chroma* and Maggie Nelson's *Bluets*
and *The Argonauts*

Utopian Readings

Room: MHL 1.17a

Chair: Emilie Walezak (Université Lumière Lyon 2)

Caroline Edwards (Birkbeck, University of London), The Multivalent Times of Miraculous
Realism

Sean Grattan (University of Kent), Intertidal Temporalities: New York 2140 and the Slow Time
of Revolution

Katie Stone (Birkbeck, University of London), The Speed of Childhood in Utopianism and
Science Fiction

12.30-13.30: Lola Young, Baroness Young of Hornsey in conversation with Dr Kaye Mitchell
(Robert Martin Theatre)

13.30-14.15: Lunch (Martin Hall Foyer)

14.20-15.50: PANEL SESSION PINK

Experimental Writing

Room: MHL 0.07

Chair: Sarah Dillon (University of Cambridge)

Dan Barrow (Birkbeck, University of London), "Swanky aubergines": narrative voice,
subjectivity and reification in Claire-Louise Bennett's *Pond* (2015)

Jo Dixon (Nottingham Trent University), Oswald's 'tear in the veil': epiphany in *Woods* etc.

Carly Robinson (Birkbeck, University of London), Winning Experiments: Literary prize culture
and the rise of women's experimental fiction

Jaroslav Kušnir (University of Prešov), The "Post" Aesthetics and Identity in Salvador
Plascencia's *The People of Paper*

Videogames as (Comparatively) Contemporary Literature

Room: Stanley Evernden Studio

Chair: Samuel Cooper (University of Nottingham)

Rob Gallagher (King's College London), From Bildung to Coding: Novelizing the Development
of Videogame Development

Darshana Jayemanne (Abertay University), Chronotypology: A Comparative Method for
Analysing Nonlinear Narrative

Melissa Kagen (Bangor University), Archival Adventuring

Rory Summerley (Falmouth University), Musical and Pornographic Approaches to Game Fiction

Bodily Affects

Room: MHL 1.17a

Chair: Deidre O'Byrne

Emily Direen (University of Melbourne), To Hold His Body: Liminality and Mourning in Lincoln in the Bardo.

Beatriz Domínguez-García (University of Huelva), Kate Atkinson's Life After Life: Vulnerability and Resilience

Caroline Magennis (University of Salford), 'Heureux dans sa peau': The Imaginative Possibilities of Skin in Northern Irish Short Fiction

Chris Vardy (University of Manchester), Abusive Historicity

Haunting as Resistance in Contemporary Writing

Room: MHL 1.17b

Chair: Sarah Jackson (Nottingham Trent University)

Katharine Harris (University of Sussex), 'We must all learn to live together, the living and the dead': Achronological hauntings and post-postmodern narrative

David Hering (University of Liverpool), Occupying Ghosts

Ian Hickey (University of Limerick), 'A ghost never dies, it remains always to come and to come-back': Virgilian Hauntings in the Later Poetry of Seamus Heaney.

15.50-16.10: Coffee (Martin Hall Foyer)

16.10-17.40: PANEL SESSION ORANGE

Political Efficacy and the Novel

Room: MHL 0.07

Chair: Siân Adiseshiah (Loughborough University)

Jon Begley (Bishop Grosseteste University), Cultural Trauma & Political Solidarity: The Representation & Reconfiguration of the 1984/5 Miners' Strike in the Twenty-First Century

Richard Bromhall (Nottingham Trent University), Continuity, collectivity, and repeatability: Nostalgia in Jonathan Coe's Number 11 (2015)

Nick Hubble (Brunel University London), "Now come, you filth!": Why It's All Kicking Off in Fantasyland, UK

Rebecca Pohl (University of Manchester), On resistance in The Carhullan Army

New Media Literary Studies

Room: Stanley Evernden Studio

Chair: Zara Dinnen (QMUL)

Rich Bingham (University of Birmingham), Systemic Vagueness: Realism after Technocapitalism

Rebekah Cunningham (University of Birmingham), The Author and the Cyberbard: Creative Entities in Videogame Production

Sam Cutting (University of Brighton), Cyborg Reading for the 21st Century Literary Novel

Emily Fisher (University of Surrey), 'No one there was part of anyone else's world': Digital Participation as Collective Reading Enterprise in Doug Dorst and JJ Abrams' S. (2013)

Kate Wilkinson (Queen Mary University of London), Media Archaeology and novels

Vicki Williams (University of Birmingham), Corpo(un)reality: Mediation and Mutation in the Digital Contemporary

Feminist Documents

Room: MHL 1.17a

Chair: Helen Charman (University of Cambridge)

Jennifer Cooke (Loughborough University), What Happens When We Make Demands: Twenty-first-century Feminist Manifestos

Katrina Longhurst (University of Leeds), Mental Illness, Trauma, and Testimony in Elissa Washuta's My Body is a Book of Rules.

Georgina Colby (University of Westminster), Forms of Solidarity: Feminist Experiment and Political Resistance

Marli Roode (University of Liverpool), "Slightly more mortal": Nomadic Subjectivity in Rachel Cusk

17.45-18.30: Early Career Roundtable (MHL 1.17a&b)

19.30: Dinner at Tarboush (Loughborough Town Centre) and BACLS Prize Announcement

Thursday 12th July 2018

09.30-10.30: Lincoln Lecture, Professor Alison Phipps (University of Sussex), "MeToo, but he's worth more than you: markets, harassment and violence", Chaired by Dr Ruth Charnock (University of Lincoln), (Robert Martin Theatre)

10.30-10.45: Coffee (Martin Hall Foyer)

10.45-12.15: PANEL SESSION SILVER

Formations of the Human

Room: MHL 0.07

Chair: Zara Dinnen (QMUL)

Emily J. Hogg (University of Southern Denmark), Housing the Crisis: Precarious Homes in Contemporary Culture

Rafael Lubner (King's College London), Geologies of the human: Lithic Temporalities in Contemporary Science Fiction and Experimental Music

Christine Okoth (King's College London), Recycling, Racialized Labour, and Contemporary Migrant Fiction

Realisms

Room: Stanley Evernden Studio

Chair: Oliver Haslam (Loughborough University)

Tom Travers (Birkbeck, University of London), 'Natura Morta'; or, Falling Man and the Antinomies of Homeland Realism

Emilie Wazelak (Université Lumière, Lyon 2), Realism in Contemporary British Women Writing

Mark West (Glasgow University), The Contemporary Sixties Novel: Post-postmodernism and Historiographic Metafiction

Working with Authors, Archives and Questions of Authority

Room: MHL 1.17a

Chair: Kerry Featherstone (Loughborough University)

John Roache (University of Manchester), David Foster Wallace's Archival Poetics: An Introduction

Charlotte Terrell (University of Sussex), Reading with Toni Morrison
Nonia Williams (University of East Anglia), Between the Two: the textuality of correspondence
between Doris Lessing and Muriel Spark

12.15-13.00: Lunch (Martin Hall Foyer)

13.00-14.30: PANEL SESSION GOLD

Teaching Contemporary Literature Beyond the Book

Room: MHL 0.07

Chair: Sarah Dillon (University of Cambridge)

Clare Hutton (Loughborough University), From Fan Fiction to YouTube: Navigating The
Digital Literary Sphere

Kerry Myler (Newman University), Entering the literary scene: learning about contemporary
literature through local events and virtual spaces

Marxist Literary Criticism in the Contemporary

Room: Stanley Evernden Studio

Chair: Toby Manning

Daniel Hartley (University of Leeds), Impersonality as Resistance in Contemporary South
African Fiction

Andrew Rowcroft (University of Lincoln), Kim Stanley Robinson: Revolutions in, against, and
beyond capital

Elinor Taylor (University of Westminster), Jonathan Lethem's Dissident Gardens, Contemporary
Genre and Communist Historiography

Ecology and Writing Beyond Human

Room: MHL 1.17a

Chair: Timothy Baker (University of Aberdeen)

Hollie Johnson (University of Nottingham), A Crisis of Representation: Addressing
Environmental Change in the Dystopian Novel

Allan Rae (University of Stirling), The Hyperobjectivity of Weird Things: Ecocritical Concerns in
China Miéville's "Polynia" and "Covehithe"

Sam Solnick (University of Liverpool), The Drill to Power: Oil and Contemporary Literature

National Encounters

Room: MHL 1.17b

Chair: Dan O'Gorman

Anjali Daimari (Gauhati University), Internal Instabilities: Nationalism and India's 'Northeast

Toby Manning (Queen Mary University of London), Liberal Hawks: Homeland and the War on
Terror

Sylvia Solakidi (University of Surrey), 'Don't fool yourselves. This is the story of the complete
lack of nationalism!': Processional Contemporaneity of Jan Fabre's Carnival Parades moving
towards the re-invention of Belgian Nationality in Belgian Rules/Belgium Rules (2017)

José Yebra (University of Zaragoza), British Cosmopolitanism in Alan Hollinghurst's Fiction

14.30-14.45: Coffee (Martin Hall Foyer)

14.45-16.15: PANEL SESSION TEAL

Human and Nonhuman Nature

Room: MHL 0.07

Chair: Hollie Johnson (University of Nottingham)

Timothy C. Baker (University of Aberdeen), 'Everything is slowly being killed': Vulnerability, Animal Life, and Photography in Sara Baume's *A Line Made by Walking*

Coco d'Hont (Independent Scholar), Penetrating the "Pink Wasteland": Gender and Environmentalism in Edward Abbey's *The Monkey Wrench Gang*

Catherine Parry, (University of Lincoln), Shared and Hefted Lives in the Twenty-First Century Shepherd's Calendar

Reading Matters

Room: Stanley Evernden Studio

Chair: Ricarda Menn (Goethe University Frankfurt)

Zoe Bulaitis (University of Exeter), Valuing the Human within the Context of Catastrophic Crisis

Olga Dzhumaylo (Southern Federal University, Russia), 'The conflict of interpretation' in Kazuo Ishiguro *'Nocturne'* (2009)

Martin Paul Eve (Birkbeck, University of London) Close Reading with Computers

Caroline Wintersgill (University of Winchester), Crafting the Novel at a Time of Crisis: Precarious Authorship, Endings and the Literary Marketplace

Writing Brexit

Room: MHL 1.17a

Chair: Jennifer Cooke (Loughborough University)

Sibyl Adam (University of Edinburgh), 'It was the worst of times, of it was the worst of times': Brexit and Literary Mood in Ali Smith's *Autumn*

Chloe Ashbridge (University of Nottingham), 'It aye like London, you know': Brexit Fiction and the Post-Industrial 'North'

Robert Eaglestone (Royal Holloway, University of London), Cruel nostalgia and the memory of the Second World War

Kristian Shaw (University of Lincoln), *BrexLit: Fate of the Nation*

16.30-17.30: Closing remarks, Wine & Snacks (Martin Hall Foyer)