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*NEW VOICES 2009*

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LITERATURE AND RHETORIC  
OF THE  
**APCALYPSE**

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*FROM RAGNARÖK TO RAPTURE*

**10<sup>TH</sup> NEW VOICES CONFERENCE PROGRAM**  
October 22-24, 2009  
Georgia State University  
Atlanta, Georgia

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New Voices 2009 Conference Committee

Jennifer Basye

- Accommodations for out of town visitors.
- Conference day logistics and execution
- Distribution of presenter gift-bags
- Questions about Georgia State

Andrew Davis

- Financial logistics and budget
- Purchasing
- Web design & Registration
- Departmental/GEA Communication

Phil Purser

- Manuscript review
- Scheduling
- Communication with presenters
- Extra-departmental communication and PR

Damien Schlarb

- Creative design
- International communication and PR
- Program design and printing
- Room reservation

Welcome  
 TO THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
 NEW VOICES CONFERENCE  
 LITERATURE AND RHETORIC  
 OF THE  
**APOCALYPSE**

The 10th Annual *New Voices* Graduate Student Conference focuses on representations of the Apocalypse as they manifest throughout history, across cultures, and in language. The conference committee invites papers that draw thematically from such academic disciplines as literary criticism and theory, poetry, fiction, philosophy, religious studies, medieval and renaissance studies, art history, biblical history, cultural geography, and folklore. We also welcome papers exploring the rhetoric of the apocalypse, which may range from interrogations of the political rhetoric of alarmism to the religious rhetoric of technology-age theology.

This year's theme, *From Ragnarök to Rapture: Literature and Rhetoric of the Apocalypse*, has drawn the attention for scholars from various disciplines, such as English, comparative literature, film criticism, and the creative arts. Presenters so far on the docket include a wide variety of GSU students as well as young scholars from other departments and even from other countries.

Select presentations range from dragons as emblems of change and disaster in medieval literature, to Marilyn Manson and the capitalist consumerism of the image of the Anti-Christ, and from Samuel Beckett and the epistemology of the stage, to a post-apocalyptic reading of zombies and the undead in modern film.

To accompany this year's proceedings, the conference will offer additional activities, creative readings of original fiction, a job-market and professionalization panel, a tribute to horror and apocalypse writer H.P. Lovecraft, as well as a keynote address by Georgia State University School of Art's John Decker.

Registration fees (\$15 for presenters) will be payable at the registrations table at all days of the conference. While panel attendance, readings, and all other activities are free of charge, registrations fees cover meals provided by the conference committee and the Graduate English Association (GEA).

On behalf of all who have helped organize this conference, we thank you for attending and hope that you have exciting sessions, insightful panel discussions, and lively conversations about your scholarship. We thank you for attending and hope you enjoy your stay at Georgia State University.

--The New Voices Conference Committee

## KEYNOTE & PLENARY SPEAKERS

**John R. Decker** is assistant professor for Art History at GSU's School of Art & Design. Dr. Decker is a specialist in the art of the Netherlands and Belgium and focuses on religious and devotional images. His main research interests center on the formation of identity from the late fourteenth through the seventeenth centuries. Decker focuses his research on the roles of meditation and devotion in the formation of the soul. He is also interested in all manner of religious behavior from personal piety, to life in the monastery, to public rites such as feast days and pilgrimages.



**Lee Rozelle** is associate professor of English at the University of Montevallo. He has published one book, *Ecosublime: Green Readings in American Literature from New World to Oddworld*, and critical articles in journals such as *Twentieth-Century Literature*, *Critical Studies*, and *ISLE*.



### *Join Us for these Special Events*

**Thursday, Oct. 22, Troy Moore Library**  
*Film Screening* (10:15, after opening address)  
 Dahlan Robert Foah, *Georgia State University*  
 "Images of the Apocalypse"

*Keynote Address* (3:15- 4:00)  
 Lee Rozelle, *University of Montevallo*  
 "Defying Apocalypse in Margaret Atwood's *Oryx and Crake*"

**Friday, Oct. 23, Troy Moore Library**  
*Plenary Address* (2:00-3:00)  
 Dr. John Decker, *Georgia State University*  
 "No Fate but What We Make for Ourselves: Imagining the  
 Apocalypse in Western Art and Visual Culture"

*Creative Writing Panel* (7:00-9:00)  
 An Apocalypse in Verse and Voices: A Reading of Poetry &  
 Creative Writing

## ***SCHEDULE OF EVENTS***

**THURSDAY, OCT 22<sup>ND</sup>**

**REGISTRATION: 9<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR 8:00-5:00**

**Breakfast: 9:00-10:00, Troy Moore Library**

**Opening Ceremonies: 10:00-11:00, Troy Moore Library**

“Facing the End, Finding New Beginnings” (Opening Address)—  
Damien Schlarb, *Georgia State University*

“Images of the Apocalypse” (Film Screening)—Dahlan Robert  
Foah, *Georgia State University*

**Session 1: 11:10-12:30, Troy Moore Library**

*One for the Road: Reading the Apocalyptic Through Journeys, Translations, and Travel Narratives*

1. “The Lush and the Barren: Nature in William Bartram’s *Travels* and Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*”—Scott Honeycutt, *Georgia State University*

2. “One Tattered Map: Navigation of Apocalyptic Loss Through Narrative in Allen Ginsberg’s *Kaddish* and Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*”—Sherris Anne Schwind, *University of Toledo*

3. “Deconstructing the Absent Presence: Post-Apocalypse in McCarthy’s *The Road* and Atwood’s *Oryx and Crake*”—Petra Kwong, *Hong Kong Baptist University*

**Lunch: 12:30-1:30, 9th Floor, Troy Moore Library**

**Session 2: 1:45-3:25, Troy Moore Library**

*Aim for the Head: Reading Zombies and the Undead in Post-Apocalyptic Aesthetics*

1. “From Local to Global Apocalypses: Lucio Fulci’s *Zombi 2*, *City of the Living Dead*, *The Beyond*, and *The House by the Cemetery*”—David Ray Carter, Film Critic, Birmingham

2. “Almost an Apocalypse: Max Brooks’ *World War Z* and Apocalyptic Fears in Zombie Form”—Tim Lanzendörfer, *Johannes Gutenberg-University*

3. “Paul Virilio and the Electronic Zombie Apocalypse”—Kevin Brock, *North Carolina State University*

4. “*Trailer Park of Terror*’s Zombies as the Harbingers of the Apocalypse”—Lisa Cunningham, *University of West Georgia*

“Zombies in Video Games: Our Attraction to the Apocalypse”—Jasen Bacon, *East Tennessee State University*

**Plenary Address: 3:35- 4:35, Troy Moore Library**

“Defying Apocalypse in Margaret Atwood’s *Oryx and Crake*”—  
Dr. Lee Rozelle, *University of Montevallo*

**Session 3: 4:45-6:15, Troy Moore Library**

*The End of Alternate Worlds: An Apocalypse of Time, Space, and Science Fiction*

1. “Writing to Prevent the Apocalypse: Estrangement and Naturalization in Burgess’ *A Clockwork Orange* and Heinlein’s *The Moon is a Harsh Mistress*”—Daniel Creed, *Florida Atlantic University*
2. “Temporality of the Apocalypse: Modern Eschatology in H.G. Wells’ *The Time Machine* and Joseph Conrad’s *Heart of Darkness*”—Daniel Parker, *Georgia State University*
3. “Peak Oil Apocalyptic Fiction: Visions of a Post-Petroleum World”—Matthew Schneider-Mayerson, *University of Minnesota*
4. “*Laying Waste: Playing the Post-Apocalypse of Fallout 3*”—Chris Seidl, *Georgia State University*

**FRIDAY, OCT. 23RD**

**REGISTRATION: 9TH FLOOR 8:00-5:00**

**Breakfast: 9:00-9:50, Troy Moore Library**

**Session 1, Professionalization Round Table: 10:00-11:15, Troy Moore Library**

*Wasteland Survival Guide: Tenure-Track Competition in a Post-Graduate School World*

Dr. Randy Malamud, *Georgia State University*

Dr. Eddie Christie, *Georgia State University*

Dr. Mark Noble, *Georgia State University*

Dr. Lee Rozelle, *University of Montevallo*

**Session 2: 11:30-1:00, Troy Moore Library**

*From the Mouth of God: Apocalypticism as Religious Poetry, Rhetoric, and Hope*

1. “In Pursuit of the Millennia: Robert Crowley’s Changing Concept of Apocalypticism”—Wade Razzi, *Oxford University*
2. “Doubt, Hope, and Comfort of the Apocalypse: Gerard Manley Hopkins’ Concludes the Christian Narrative with *Heraclitean Fire*”—Joseph Kelly, *Georgia State University*
3. “Reconciling Bozeman and Bercovitch: Edenic Eschatology in Early Modern New England”—Zach Hutchins, *University of North*

Carolina, Chapel Hill

4. “Feels Like the End of the World: Jesuit Robert Southwell’s *Mary Magdalens Funeral Teares* as Literary Ministry to Persecuted Catholics in Elizabethan England”—Mark Benedict, *Georgia State University*

**Lunch: 1:00-2:00 9th Floor, Troy Moore Library**

**Plenary Address: 2:00-3:00, Troy Moore Library**

“No Fate but What We Make for Ourselves: Imagining the Apocalypse in Western Art and Visual Culture”—Dr. John Decker, *Georgia State University*

**Session 3: 3:15-4:45, Troy Moore Library**

*Sympathy for the Devil: Eucatastrophe, Eugenics, and Satan*

1. “Anxiety of the Modern: *On the Boiler* and Yeats’ Eugenic Apocalypse”—Yair Solan, *New York University*

2. “‘The Sky is Falling!’ Apocalyptic Posturing in Thomas Pynchon’s *Against the Day*”—Edward G. Schaumburg, *Whitman University*

3. “Heaven and Hell: Infernal Heroism in Blake and Byron”—Kathryn Nuernberger, *Ohio University*

4. “The Tension Between Public and Private Spaces in Apocalyptic Narration: *A Journal of the Plague Year*”—Cumhur Yilmaz Madran, *Pamukkale University*

**Session 4: 5:00-6:15, Troy Moore**

*One MORE For the Road: Revisiting the Apocalyptic Vision of Travel*

1. “Dead Reckoning: *The Road* as Cormac McCarthy’s Revision of the Apocalyptic”—Rod McRae, *University of West Georgia*

2. “The Simulacra within Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*”—James Phillips, *University of West Georgia*

3. “Memories and Dust”—Nathan Wagner, *Georgia State University*

***An Apocalypse in Verse and Voices: A Reading of Poetry & Creative Writing***

**7:00-9:00, Troy Moore**

(Panel Moderator: Sara Hughes)

Katy Huie (Dramatic Monologue)

Bob Pfeiffer (Poetry)

Kathy Kincer (Poetry)

Stephan McCormick (Sonnet Sequence)

Christine Swint (Poetry and Video-Screening)  
 Sarah Winterfield (Fiction)  
 Robin Kemp (Poetry)  
 Ashleigh Whelan (Haiku Series)  
 Matt Sailor

**SATURDAY, OCT. 24<sup>TH</sup>**

**REGISTRATION: 7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR 8:00-5:00**

**Breakfast: 9:00-9:50, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 1081**

**Session 1a: 10:00-11:30, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 718**

*NeoTokyo is About to Explode! Visions of the Apocalypse in Anime and Manga*

1. "Psychic Powers and Biker Gangs: Post-Apocalyptic Japan in Katsuhiro Otomo's *Akira*"—Neil Alhanti, *Georgia State University*
2. "Lethe and Apocalypse: The Manga of Naoki Urasawa"—Chad Burwick, *Georgia State University*
3. "*Girls' Love* Manga: Cultural Power and Catastrophe Post-1944"—Shelley Stevens, *Georgia State University*
4. "Stray Cats: The Orphan Trope in Anime"—Natasha Walker, *Georgia State University*

**Session 1b: 10:00-11:30, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 1081**

*Watch the Skies! Dragons, Plagues and Other Apocalyptic Phenomenon in Medieval Literature & Art*

1. "The Barrow-Guardian in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Four Natures of the *Beowulf* Dragon in Translation"—Jimmy Crowder, *Georgia State University*
2. "The Prototype of All Inhumanity: How the Black Death Changed Late Medieval Art"—Larisa Grollemond, *City University of New York*
3. "Camelot Must Fall: Assigning Blame in the Alliterative *Morte Arthure* and Tennyson's *Idylls of the King*"—Michelle Abbott, *Georgia State University*

**Session 2a: 11:45-1:00, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 718**

*Αποκάλυψις and Apokálypsis: Examining Historical Elision of Saltwater Geechee Lexical Heritage*

1. "*I'll Fly Away*: A Sociolinguistic Analysis of African-American Homecomings"—Jeanne Bohannon, *Georgia State University*
2. "Apocalyptic Change on Sapelo Island: Reasons for Educational and Societal Disconnect in the Geeche Gullah Language and



Culture”—Ellen Kubica, *Georgia State University*

3. “*The South in Her: The Use of the Sea Islands Landscape in Naylor and Shange*”—Natasha Walker, *Georgia State University*

**Session 2b: 11:45-1:00, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 1081**

*Do You See What I See?: The Apocalyptic Vision of Charles W. Chesnutt*

1. “Eye, ‘i’: Dialect as Social Status in Charles Chesnutt’s Short Stories”—Leigh Jacobsen, *Georgia State University*

*Other papers within this panel will be presented by:*

Karen Resha

Debra Lydon

Nelson Stewart

**Lunch: 1:00-2:00, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Troy Moore Library**

**Session 3a: 2:15-3:30, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 718**

***The Long Road Home: Epistemological and Ontological Exhaustion on the Modern Stage***

1. “Ontological Disintegration in Edward Albee’s *Three Tall Women*”—Fiona McWilliam, *Florida State University*

2. “Happy Last Days: Beckett’s Theatre of Exhaustion”—Paul Ardoin, *Florida State University*

3. “Anticipating the End that Never Comes in Samuel Beckett’s *Endgame*”—Amber Estlund, *Georgia State University*

**Session 3b: 2:15-3:30, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 1081**

*A-Pop-Calypso: The Apocalyptic in Popular Culture... Or “No Riding the Bomb Down!”*

1. “Crafting the Anti-Christ as Superstar: Marilyn Manson and the Mechanics of Eschatological Narrative”—Patrick Osborne, *Georgia State University*

2. “Playing with Dolls: Joss Whedon’s “Epitaph One” and the Posthuman Identity Politics of the Techno-Apocalypse”—Casey McCormick, *Georgia State University*

3. “Two Riders Were Approaching”: Performed Literature and the End of the World in “All Along the Watchtower”—Owen Cantrell, *Georgia State University*

**Session 4: 3:30-5:00, Troy Moore Library**

*This, Too, Must End: The Meta-Narrative of Linguistic and Global Change*

1. “Applying Post-Modern Ethics to Climate Change”—Cassie

Anderson, *Georgia State University*

2. “*The Present Only Toucheth Thee*: The Meta-Narrative Topographies of Walt Disney World”—Larrie Dudenhoeffer, *Georgia State University*

3. “In the Shadow of Language: Misinterpretation and Mistranslation in *A Canticle for Leibowitz*”—Sharon Henry, *University of Akron*

4. “*By Many a Ruined Tower*: “Eighteen Hundred and Eleven,” 9/11, and DeLillo’s ‘Ruins of the Future’”—Shane McGowan, *Georgia State University*

**Closing Remarks: 5:10-5:30, Troy Moore**

Damien Schlarb



**SELECT PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES**

**Michelle Abbott** (Georgia State University) is a second-year doctoral student. Abbott focuses on Medieval and Victorian literature. She is an instructor of English at Georgia Highlands College and a registered nurse at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Email: mabbott5@student.gsu.edu

**Neil Alhanti** (Georgia State University) received his BA in creative writing from the University of Central Florida, and his MATE from Georgia State University. He focusing on using comic books as an educational resource in the classroom along with Web 2.0 and other digital literacies. Outside of the classroom, he strives to create modern graphic novels utilizing theories from classical literature.

Email: neilalhanti@hotmail.com

**Cassie Anderson** (Georgia State University) is an undergraduate student at Georgia State University whose major is Middle East Studies with a minor in Arabic. Aside from international studies, Cassie is interested in existential, feminist, post-modern, post-structural, and moral philosophy.

Email: canderson40@student.gsu.edu

**Paul Ardoin** (Florida State University) specializes in nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature and theory. His PhD research includes affect studies, game-theory approaches to coalition-formation and the implications of neighbor-intervention in theater.

Email: pa09d@fsu.edu

**Jasen Bacon** (East Tennessee State University) is working towards his M.A. in English with a particular interest in folklore and how its transmission has changed in our digital culture.

Email: jasen.bacon@gmail.com

**Mark Benedict** (Georgia State University) teaches freshman composition, studies Renaissance literature and tutors in GSU's Writing Studio. His MA thesis centers on Robert Southwell's "Marie Magdalens Funeral Teares."

Email: engmrb@langate.gsu.edu

**Jeanne Bohannon** (Georgia State University) is a second year doctoral student in rhetoric and composition. Her research finds its base in third wave feminism. Her primary research focus is nineteenth-century marginalized rhetoric.

Email: engjbo@langate.gsu.edu

**Chad Burwick** (Georgia State University) is an MA student in literary studies whose interests include American science fiction and Japanese animation. He is ardently devoted to including these passions in the classroom and in his research.

Email: engcbb@langate.gsu.edu

**Kevin Brock** (North Carolina State University) is a first-year PhD student in the Communication, Rhetoric, and Digital Media program at North Carolina State University, where he studies digital rhetoric and the construction of online identities

Email: kmbrock@ncsu.edu

**Owen Cantrell** (Georgia State University) is an MA student in Literary Studies, and holds a literature BA Miami University. His academic interests are nineteenth-

century American literature, Southern Literature, philosophy, and literary theory.  
Email: owencantrell@gmail.com

**David Ray Carter** (Independent Scholar) is a Birmingham-based film critic. Carter's areas of focus include the genres of horror & "fringe-cinema." His essay "Is it Just a Movie?—Reality as Transgression in Exploitation Cinema" is a chapter in *From the Arthouse to Grindhouse* by Wayne State University Press.  
Email: david@shockingimages.com

**Daniel Creed** (Florida Atlantic University): Daniel Creed is currently pursuing his MA in Science Fiction and Fantasy literature. He is applying to the PhD application process, where he hopes to study Eighteenth Century Trans-Atlantic movements and literatures.  
Email: dcreed76@gmail.com

**Jimmy Crowder** (Georgia State University) holds a BA in English and French from Auburn University, an MA from Southern Polytechnic University, and is a PhD candidate at Georgia State University where studies Anglo-Saxon literature.  
Email: cetuswhale@hotmail.com

**Lisa Cunningham** (University of West Georgia) is pursuing her MA in English at the University of West Georgia. Her main focus of work is on Film Studies, with special focus on trash-aesthetic, and cult cinema, and director Frank Henenlotter.  
Email: lisaawesome@gmail.com

**Larrie Dudenhoefter** (Georgia State University) is assistant professor of English at Kennesaw State University and a doctoral candidate at Georgia State University specializing in critical theory, film studies, and classical rhetoric.  
Email: ldudenho@kennesaw.edu

**Amber Estlund** (Georgia State University) is a PhD student in literary studies with interests in twentieth-century American and African American literature, and drama. She holds an MA from Florida Atlantic University and a BA from Florida State University.  
Email: langale@langate.gsu.edu

**Dahlan Foah** (Georgia State University) has been the principal audiovisual consultant to the United Nations for the past thirty years, Dahlan Foah holds a BA from Centre College, a PhD in art history at the University of Missouri, and an MA in Italian literature from Middlebury College. Dahlan is trained extensively in the fine arts, and it is in this arena that he served as assistant to naturalist photographer Ansel Adams. Currently, Dahlan is pursuing his MFA.  
Email: design@visioneering.com

**Larisa Grollemond** (City University of New York) is pursuing her MA in Art History with a concentration in medieval art. She focuses on issues surrounding death and dying in the Middle Ages, particularly the aesthetic repercussions of the Black Death.  
Email: larisa.grollemond@gmail.com

**Sharon Henry** (University of Akron) is currently pursuing an MA in Literature and a Certificate in Composition at the University of Akron. She is a TA in freshman composition, and her interest are contemporary American literature, critical theory, and linguistics.  
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**Scott Honeycutt** (Georgia State University) is a PhD candidate in American literature, and for the past eight years, he has taught high school English in Henry County. In 2004, Scott was named “STAR” teacher for Henry County High School, and in 2006, he earned Luella High School’s title of “Teacher of the Year.”  
Email: shoneycutt@henry.k12.ga.us

**Sara Hughes** (Georgia State University) is pursuing her PhD in Creative Writing, and holds an MFA in poetry from Georgia College & State University, and a BA in English from Mercer University. Her poems have appeared in *Rattle*, *Rosebud*, *Arts & Letters*, and the anthology, *Love Songs and Other Messages for Bruce Springsteen*.  
Email: engsph@langate.gsu.edu

**Katy Huie** (Georgia State University) holds a BA from Furman University with a major in English and a minor in theatre arts. She is a devout playwright who is currently working toward her MA in English with a concentration in Drama. Her second play, *Snow Angels*, was a semi-finalist with the Lakeshore Players 5<sup>th</sup> Annual 10-Minute Play Contest and Theatre Oxford’s 2008 National 10-Minute Play Contest.  
Email: engkmh@langate.gsu.edu

**Zach Hutchins** (UNC, Chapel Hill) examines the apocalyptic and Edenic aesthetics of early modern New England. A portion of his dissertation appears in *Early American Literature*, and another portion was named the “Best Essay in Women’s Language and Literature” by the 2009 NEMLA Women’s Caucus.  
Email: zach\_hutchins@yahoo.com

**Leigh Jacobson Willmann** (Georgia State University) is a student in the M.A.T program at GSU. Leigh is currently teaches at Cross Keys High School in DeKalb County; after graduation, she hopes to teach language arts in a Middle School here in Georgia.  
Email: ljacobsen3@student.gsu.edu

**Joseph Kelly** (Georgia State University) holds a BA from Swarthmore College, has served as Artistic Director of the Atlanta Contemporary Dance Company, and has performed in Alliance Theatre productions of *Brigadoon*, *The King and I*, and his own one-man show, *Rogue’s Gallery*. He currently practices law with the firm of Schulten, Ward & Turner.  
Email: jlk@swtlaw.com

**Robin Kemp** (Georgia State University) named “Best Poet in New Orleans” in 2000, Robin Kemp holds a BA from Georgia State and her MFA from the University of New Orleans. A Hambidge Teaching Fellow in Creative Writing, Robin’s book of poetry, *This Pagan Heaven*, was released last month by Pecan Grove Press.  
Email: engrkx@langate.gsu.edu

**Kathy Kincer** (Georgia State University) was awarded her M.F.A. in creative writing this August and has entered the Ph.D. Program at Georgia State University. She also hosts *Melodically Challenged*, a two hour radio program devoted to poetry that airs every Thursday at midnight on WRAS, Georgia State’s student-run radio station.  
Email: kkincer@langate.gsu.edu

**Ellen Kubica** (Georgia State University) has been studying at GSU since fall 2008. She received her undergraduate education at Mainz University, Germany, and is

interested in culture studies, autobiography and drama, African American literature, and minority literature.

Email: Ellen.Kubica@gmx.de

**Petra Kwong** (Hong Kong Baptist University) is a Master of Philosophy student in the Department of English Language and Literature of Hong Kong Baptist University and researches the relationship between apocalyptic imagination and notions of past, present, and future.

Email: petrakwong@gmail.com

**Tim Lanzendörfer** (Johannes Gutenberg-University) PhD student and lecturer in the Department of American Studies, Tim recently earned his *Staatsexamen* English and Geography. His primary areas include Early Republican biography, maritime narratives, zombie fictions, and theories of American and Culture Studies. One of his essays appears in *A Companion to American Cultural History*.

Email: tim.lanzendorfer@gmx.net

**Casey McCormick** (Georgia State University) is a first-year graduate student of Literary Studies at Georgia State University, where she also earned her B.A. in English in 2008 *summa cum laude*. She studies twentieth-century American literature, with a focus on representations of media, technology, and communication in postmodern fiction.

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**Stephen McCormick** (Georgia State University) holds a BA in English from Georgia State University and is pursuing an MFA. Stephan now lives in Milledgeville and enjoys exploring the ruins of Central State Hospital and southern ghost towns.

**Rod McRae** (University of West Georgia) currently studies British and American literature at the University of West Georgia. He also teaches freshman composition there, and is slated to graduate in 2010.

Email: rod.mcrae@gmail.com

**Fiona McWilliam** (Florida State University) is a PhD candidate studying twentieth-century literature with an emphasis on Southern literature, Fiona has published research on the role of Library of Congress subject headings in classifying and constructing Southern literature. Her current interests include Southern gothic and African American literatures and postmodern drama.

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**Kathryn Nuernberger** (Ohio University) is a PhD candidate at Ohio University. She focuses on creative writing and nineteenth-century literature. Her creative work has appeared in *Mid-American Review*, *Smartish Pace*, and *Florida Review*.

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**Patrick Osborne** (Georgia State University) holds a BA in English from the University of Georgia. His scholarly interests include nineteenth-century British literature, cultural studies, folklore, theories of deviance, and the works of Thomas De Quincey.

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**Daniel Parker** (Georgia State University) is a second-year literature studies MA student whose academic pursuits include the aesthetics of modernism and post-colonialism and their involvement in both collective and personal identities.

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**James Phillips** (University of West Georgia) began his study of English literature at the University of West Georgia in 2003, where he currently is the final year of his MA program. His interests include representations of the apocalyptic, aesthetics of violence and catharsis, gender discourse, and science fiction.  
Email: jamesp@westga.edu

**Wade Razzi** (Oxford University) is a PhD student in English at Merton College, Oxford University. Wade is in the final stages of preparing his dissertation, which centers on the writings of Robert Crowley during the reign of Edward VI. Razzi's research also includes early modern print culture, apocalypticism, reform and utopian writing, and Shakespeare.  
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**Matt Sailor** (Georgia State University) is currently pursuing his MFA in Fiction. His creative interests center on incorporating the Apocalypse and cyborgs into character-based literary fiction.  
Email: msailor1@student.gsu.edu

**Edward Schaumberg** (Whitman College) researches manifestations of the outlaw/gangster culture in American Literature and popular media. His paper is part of a larger project that examines other intersecting binaries in Pynchon's 2006 novel *Against the Day*.  
Email: schaumeg@whitman.edu

**Matthew Schneider-Mayerson** (University of Minnesota) is a PhD candidate whose primary interests are post-war American cultural history and popular fiction. He is currently working on a journal article centering on race in professional basketball during the 1970s. His dissertation examines the literature and politics of the Peak Oil movement.  
Email: matthewschneidermayerson@yahoo.com

**Sherris Anne Schwind** (University of Toledo) is completing graduate work in literature at the University of Toledo with an emphasis in Composition and Rhetoric. Her recent studies examine divergent invention techniques of on-site versus online writing communities.  
Email: sschwind@rockets.utoledo.edu

**Chris Seidl** (Georgia State University) is towards his MA in Literary Studies. He is currently working on technical writing projects involving electronic bibliographic research.  
Email: seidl@verbhut.com

**Yair Solan** (New York University) holds a BA from Rutgers University. His MA areas of specialization include twentieth-century American literature, modernism and modernity, issues of canon formation, early and classical cinema.  
Email: ys852@nyu.edu

**Shelley Stevens** (Georgia State University) is an art historian specializing in African diasporas. She holds degrees from Ohio University and Emory University. Her dissertation title is "Haiti: Developing Visions of Vodun, 1913-33."  
Email: engss@langate.gsu.edu

**Christine Swint** (Georgia State University) is a former high school teacher of Spanish. She used to recite sonnets by Borges to her students and has now become a poet in her own right.

**Nathan Wagner** (Georgia State University) is working on his MA with a focus on American Renaissance literature, modernism, and the relationship between film and literature. He has worked as film critic for the *Auburn Plainsman* and *The Corner*, and as a production assistant for *Filmmaker Magazine*.  
Email: [nwagner3@student.gsu.edu](mailto:nwagner3@student.gsu.edu)

**Natasha Walker** (Georgia State University) focuses on James Baldwin, Return South Migration, and African American Literature in her PhD research. She teaches composition through the lenses of pop culture and youth subculture.  
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**Ashleigh Whelan** (Georgia State University) is a second-year MA student at GSU.  
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## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE PROFILES



**Jennifer Basye** is a PhD student at Georgia State University. Her primary concentration is Literary Theory. She entered the English Department at GSU in 2002 and has completed her MA in English Literature in 2006. She earned a BFA from Brenau University in 2000. Hopefully, she will complete her PhD by 2011. Her research interests involve psychoanalytic theory and the comic genre.



**Andrew Davis** is a graduate student in the Department of English at Georgia State University. His research interests include Renaissance literature, the early-modern imagination of Catholicism in literature, business communication, and writing center studies. He resists the inclination of cultural historians to understate the significance of form in literature, and argues instead that competent historical readings usually correlate directly to more-traditional formalist readings. His pedagogy emphasizes the integrity of the written product and the efficiency and effectiveness of correct process in English Composition and Business Writing.



**Sara Hughes** earned her BA from Mercer University in 2002, and earned her MFA in Creative Writing from GC&SU in 2004. She is currently working on a PhD in Poetry Writing.



**Phil Purser** is a former state ranger and freelance writer turned scholar. Phil Purser received his BA at the University of Georgia, his MA at the University of West Georgia, and is currently pursuing his PhD at Georgia State University. His major area of concentration is Medieval Studies, with particular interests in Anglo-Saxon and Scandinavian literature and folklore, as well as Germanic paganism and myth.



**Damien Schlarb** holds a MA in American literature from Georgia State University (2006) and a Magister Artium in American Studies from Johannes Gutenberg-University in Mainz, Germany (2007). He is currently working on his PhD at Georgia State University. His research focuses on nineteenth-century American literature and theory. He is the layout editor for the *South Atlantic Review* (since 2006), the journal of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association

(SAMLA).

## MAP OF ATLANTA



- |                             |                                     |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> Atlantic Station   | <b>7</b> Centennial Olympic Park    |
| <b>2</b> High Museum of Art | <b>8</b> CNN Center                 |
| <b>3</b> Fox Theatre        | <b>9</b> Martin Luther King Center  |
| <b>4</b> The Varsity        | <b>10</b> Underground Atlanta       |
| <b>5</b> World of Coca Cola |                                     |
| <b>6</b> Georgia Aquarium   | <b>M</b> North Avenue MARTA Station |

**RESTAURANTS IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA**

PRIZE CATEGORIES	\$	= under \$ 10 per entrée
	\$\$	= \$ 10-15 per entrée
	\$\$\$	= \$ 15-25 per entrée
	\$\$\$\$	= \$ 25 on up per entrée

**Cafe Pharr Out**

759 W Peachtree St NW  
Atlanta, GA  
404-347-8005  
Price: \$

**Willy's Mexicana Grill**

725 W Peachtree St NW  
Atlanta, GA  
404-819-2539  
Prize: \$

**Spotted Dog**

30 North Ave NW  
Atlanta, GA  
404-347-7337  
Prize: \$\$

**Toast**

817 W Peachtree St NW # E125  
Atlanta, GA  
404-815-9243  
Prize: \$\$

**Pleasant Peasant**

555 Peachtree St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-874-3223  
Prize: \$\$\$

**Mick's**

557 Peachtree Street  
Atlanta, GA  
404-875-6425  
Prize: \$

**Apache Cafe**

64 3rd St NW,  
Atlanta, GA  
404-876-5436  
Prize: \$

**Coco Java Cafe**

730 Peachtree St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-815-5299  
Price: \$

**The Globe**

75 5th St NW  
Atlanta, GA  
404-541-1487  
Prize: \$\$

**Baraonda Caffé Italiano**

710 Peachtree St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-879-9962  
Prize: \$\$

**Gladys Knight Chicken & Waffles**

529 Peachtree St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-874-9393  
Prize: \$\$

**Eno**

800 Peachtree Street  
Atlanta, GA  
404-685-3191  
Prize: \$\$\$

**Gordon Biersch Brewery**

848 Peachtree St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-870-0805  
Prize: \$\$

**Ecco (only dinner)**

40 7th St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-347-9555  
Prize: \$\$\$

**Spice**

793 Juniper St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-875-4242  
Prize: \$\$\$\$

**South City Kitchen**

1144 Crescent Ave NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-873-7358  
Prize \$\$\$

**Mitra**

818 Juniper St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-875-5515  
Prize: \$\$\$

**Veni, Vidi, Vici**

41 14th St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-875-8424  
Prize: \$\$\$

**Mu Lan Chinese Restaurant**

824 Juniper St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-877-5797  
Prize: \$\$\$

**The Varsity**

61 North Avenue  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
404-881-1706  
Prize: \$

**Little Azio's**

903 Peachtree St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-876-7711  
Prize: \$\$

**MF Sushibar**

265 Ponce De Leon Ave NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-815-8844  
Prize: \$\$\$

**Max Lager's American Grill &  
Brewery**

320 Peachtree St NE  
Atlanta, GA  
404-525-4400  
Prize: \$\$

## NOTES

