

AMERICAN CARNAGE – DRAFT PROGRAM (31 AUGUST)

Friday, October 23rd

Registration: CHEB Atrium

- **Lunch Meeting for Executive Committee Members: 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. (CHEB 266)**

Session 1: 1:30-2:50 p.m.

1.1 “Nasty” Canada (CHEB 266: Note: room seats 30)

Chair: Jennifer Andrews

- Jennifer Andrews (Dalhousie University), “Canadian Carnage: Depictions of Abortion Law in Leni Zumas’ *Red Clock*”
- Bridget Baldwin (University of Guelph), “Remembrances and Reminders of American Imperialism in Mirvish’s *Come from Away*”
- John W. Bessai (Independent Scholar), “After the Liberal Order: American Carnage, Canadian Values, and the Aporetic Condition”

Session 2: 3:00-4:20 p.m.

2.1. Once Upon a Time in American Crime (CHEB 266)

Chair: Peter Brown

- Sayeed Bin Ataur Rahman Aditta (Canadian University of Bangladesh), “Rehearsing the End: Active Shooter Drills, Dystopian Young Adult Fiction, and the Carnage-Ready Child in American Cultural Production”
- Magdalena El-Masry (Dalhousie University), “1970s Anti-Feminist Backlash and *Looking for Mr. Goodbar*”
- Peter Robert Brown (Mount Allison University), “From Carnage to Culture: Truman Capote’s *In Cold Blood*”
- Marta Usiekniewicz (University of Warsaw), “Kissing and Eating: Cannibalism as Sexual and Alimentary Consumption in American Crime Fiction”

2.2 Scary Movie? (CHEB 268)

Chair: Geordie Miller

- Rohan Ghatage (University of New Brunswick), “Bloodsucking liberalism in Ryan Coogler’s *Sinners*”
- Emma Gibb (University of British Columbia), “Boys with(out) Guns: *Our Hero Balthazar*”
- Alya Hussain (Independent Scholar), “From Bureaucratic Orchestration to Populist Extremism: Surveilling the Patterns of Racialised Violence in *The First Purge* (2018) and *The Forever Purge* (2021)”
- Geordie Miller (Mount Allison University), “*Eddington*’s 2020 Vision”

4:30 – 6:00 p.m. (CHEB 170)

Stephen Schryer (UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK), Plenary

Followed by reception with welcoming address, 6:00-7:00 p.m. (CHEB Atrium)

Saturday, October 24th

Registration: CHEB Second Floor

Session 3: 9:00-10:20 a.m.

3.1 American Horror Stories (CHEB 266)

Chair: Bernadette V. Russo (Mount Saint Vincent University)

- Anna Kurowicka (University of Warsaw), "University Built on Carnage: Dark Academia's Reckoning with American 'Original Sins'"
- Helen Pinsent (Dalhousie University), "Genre, Violence, and Why It's Still Worth Talking About *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*"
- Miriam Richer (University of New Brunswick), "'Well-worn words': American Folk Horror and Fantasies of Gender in Catherine Lacey's *Pew*"
- Bernadette V. Russo (Mount Saint Vincent University), "An American Tradition of Carnage: Blood-Soaked Ground and the Works of Stephen Graham Jones"

3.2 Worlding America and Playing with Meat (CHEB 268)

Chair: Sara Polak (Leiden University)

- Kirsty Rolfe (Leiden University), "Flesh Time: Carnage and Consumption in the Colonial Imaginary"
- Roisin Lambert (Leiden University), "Devouring America: Picturing a Nation Consumed in 19th-Century Newspaper Cartoons"
- Manon Portos Minetti (Leiden University), "Crusader Cannibalism in America? The Transgressive Game of U.S. Politicians Playing Crusades"
- Sara Polak (Leiden University), "Muskism's Sadistic Hunting Games"

3.3 Liberation Horizons (Tupper, Theatre D)

Chair: TBD

- Miranda A. Green-Barteet (Western University), "The Least Favorite March Sister: Redeeming Amy in Alcott's *Little Women*"
- Alyssa MacLean (Western University) and Ronique Gillis (Western University), "On White Archives and Black Women: Researching Mrs. --- Brown for the Black Londoners Project"
- Molly Dineen (Dalhousie University), "The Construction and Application of 'The Archival Closet': Harnessing the Closet as an Inherently Queer Archive of Resistance and Perseverance"

Session 4: 10:30-11:50 a.m.

4.1 Bloody Poetry (CHEB 266)

Chair: Peter Sinnema (University of Alberta)

- Jan Maramot (University of California, Irvine), "The Violence in American Poetry"
- James Steward (University of Calgary), "'In Fear and Blood and Milk': The Protean Erotic Body and Maternal Sexual Desire in the Poetry of Sharon Olds"
- Andy Weaver (York University), "Theodore Enslin's Poetry of Idling Attention"
- Nicola Nixon (Concordia University), "Disgusting Bodies; Civil War Carnage"

4.2 State(s of) Carnage (CHEB 268)

Chair: TBD

- Mikaela Cameron (Dalhousie University), "Restarting History; Or, the Fabulous Fukuyama's Fascistic Fantasies"
- Jason Demers (University of Regina), "The J6 Investigation is Fake News, Prove me Wrong"
- Emily Gilbert (University of Toronto), "American Carnage: From the US War on Drugs, to the War on Terror, and Back Again"
- Sheheryar Sheikh (Dalhousie University), "Caligula's Protégé: Mastering the Art of Declining Empires"

4.3 Neoliberal Figures in Contemporary American Literature (Tupper, Theatre D)

Chair: Mary Esteve

- Stephen Schryer (University of New Brunswick), "'Shape Self': Neoliberal Personhood in Octavia Butler's *Parable* Series"
- Mary Esteve (Concordia University), "'Connectivist' Learning Theory in Lockwood's *No One Is Talking About This*"
- Sean McCann (Wesleyan University), "The Gift of Prestige: Upward Mobility Narrative After the Crisis of Neoliberalism"

LUNCH 12-1:30 p.m.

- **Annual General Meeting: everyone welcome! Lunch Provided (Tupper, Theatre D)**

Session 5: 1:30-2:50 p.m.

5.1 Is It a Game, or is It Real? (CHEB 266)

Chair: Krista Collier-Jarvis

- Krista Collier-Jarvis (Mount Saint Vincent University), "'You can't deny that view': Post-Apocalyptic Landscapes and Beyond Carnage in Video Games"
- Anthony Enns (Dalhousie University) and Anne Kustritz (Utrecht University), "Nuclear Necropolitics: The Gamification of Atomic War"
- Jessica Hawkes (Independent Scholar), "Some Men's Carnage is Society's Opportunity: The Future Beyond Apocalypse in 'Emergency Skin'"
- Zohreh Ramin (University of Tehran / Acadia University), "Can Silence Be Measured? Reading Literary Resistance Between Kristevan Subjectivity and Computational Sentiment"

5.2 Pop Carnage (CHEB 268)

Chair: Art Redding

- Heather Dail (University of South Alabama), "An Insight into the Commodification and Carnage of the Animal as a Food Logo"
- Kylie Petrovich (Georgia Institute of Technology), "Protest, Policed Space, and Legitimated Killing in *The Purge: Anarchy*"
- Art Redding (York University), "'I'm sure there's a wish for Shangri-La in everyone's heart': American Afterlives of *Lost Horizon*"
- Julia M. Wright (Dalhousie), "'When I seizure, I see': Neurodiversity and Pandemic Gothic"

Session 6: 3:00-4:20 p.m.

6.1. Cross-Cultural (Mis)Translations (CHEB 266)

Chair: Ross Bullen

- Ross Bullen (OCAD University), "The Voyage of the Wet Orchid: Crossing Borders and Radical Pedagogy in the 1970s"
- Shoshannah Ganz (Memorial University), "Ruth Ozeki's *A Tale for the Time Being*: Morphing Heian Japanese Literature and pre-Modern Buddhist Philosophy to Address Contemporary American Carnage"
- Ksenija Kondali (University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina), "'That Little Tableau of Violence': Struggling with the American Dream in C. Pam Zang's *How Much of These Hills is Gold*"
- Ryan Neck (University of Kansas), "Nuclear Death-Worlds: How the United States Imagined the Soviet Citizen"

6.2 Transcend, Resist, Recuperate...Repeat? (CHEB 268)

Chair: TBD

- Syeda Memoona Ali (Kinnaird College for Women University), "Sustainable Climate Communities: Transcending the Limitations of American Carnage"
- Ellie Houlihan (Independent Scholar), "OUR RELIGION – LIFE: MOVE's Everyday Resistance as Decompositional Performance"
- Kofi Opam (University of Missouri), "Metabolizing Fear: A Black Trans Autotheory of Affect and Resistance"
- Mike Thorn (Dalhousie University), "Narrative Structure and Philosophical Pessimism in Colson Whitehead's *The Nickel Boys*"

6.3 Workshop #1 (Tupper Theatre D; adjacent building)

Turning Your Conference Paper into an Article

4:30 – 6:00 p.m. (Tupper Theatre D)

Novotny Lawrence, Plenary

Sunday, October 25th

Session 7: 9:00-10:20 a.m.

7.1 Performing American and Americanandian Carnage through the Inter/Disciplines (CHEB 266)

Chair: Frances Condon

- Frances Condon (University of Waterloo), "Broken Soul"
- Vershawn Young (University of Waterloo), "Teaching Black Language and literature in AmeriCanada: A Performance Ethnography"
- Deborah Elizabeth Whaley (University of Kansas), "The Carnage of Aprons, Petticoats, and Pearls: White Women Escaping into Multiple Selves"

7.2 Redefining Family and Community (CHEB 268)

Chair: TBD

- Marisa Bordonaro (Western University), “‘The Mind We Were In’: Collective Mental Distress and Resistance in Sylvia Plath’s *The Bell Jar* and Patricia Lockwood’s *No One is Talking About This*”
- Natasha Farrell (Memorial University), “The Original Desperate Housewife: Lizabeth Scott and *Too Late for Tears*”
- Florian Pichon (Université de Montréal), “The Cute Blonde Enemy Within in William March’s *The Bad Seed*”

7.3 Workshop #2 (CHEB Room 170)

Turning Your Dissertation into a Book

Session 8: 10:30 – noon

8.1 Q: Are We Not Carnage? A: We Are Devo! (CHEB 266)

Chair: TBD

- Adam Beardsworth (Memorial University), “The True use of the Whale: Carnage and the Birth of Empire”
- Luke Bresky (St. Mary’s University, Calgary), “John Brown, James Redpath, Mark Twain”
- Scott Ennis (Independent Scholar), “From Fire to Finance: Coney Island and the Evolution of American Carnage”
- Meabh McGuigan (West Virginia University), “Rusting Hills and Drenched Creeks: Industrial apocalypse in the works of Breece D’J Pancake and Ann Pancake”

8.2 Stranger Things (CHEB 268)

Chair: Jason Haslam

- Brad Congdon (University of Saskatchewan), “*Weird Tales* of American Carnage”
- Jason Haslam (Dalhousie), “No Island is a Man: The Carnage of Petropatriarchy in Francis Stevens’ ‘Friend Island’”
- Peter W. Sinnema (University of Alberta), “A Universe of ‘Proportionate Limits’: Koreshanity and the Consolations of a Hollow Earth”