Keynote Speaker Biography

Carrie Hintz is Associate Professor of English at Queens College and the CUNY Graduate Center. Her research fields include life writing, seventeenth-century literature, children’s literature, and utopian studies. She is the author of An Audience of One: Dorothy Osborne’s Letters to Sir William Temple, 1652–1654 (University of Toronto Press, 2005) and the co-editor, with Elaine Ostry, of Utopian and Dystopian Writing for Children and Young Adults (Routledge, 2003). She recently co-edited, with Kate Broad and Balaka Basu, Contemporary Dystopian Fiction: Brave New Teenagers (Routledge, 2013). With Eric Tribunella, she co-authored a college textbook in the field of children’s literature: Reading Children’s Literature: A Critical Introduction (Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2013). She served as President of the Society for Utopian Studies from 2006 to 2010, and she continues to write about the politics and aesthetics of speculative fiction for children and young adults.

With Gratitude…

Special thanks to the 2014 Graduate Conference Committee (Angela Cerbone, Amelia Daly-Higgins, Ala Fink, Saidah Henderson, Rachel Margaritis, Camille Testa, Michelle Vacchio)!

Many thanks also to the English Department Chair, Professor Glenn Burger; Kim Smith, Tiffany Thomas, and the entire English Department staff; our keynote speaker, Professor Carrie Hintz; our panel chairs Professors Miles Grier, Annmarie Drury, Natalie Léger, William Orchard; our graduate student presenters; and the entire QC English community for your support. Thank you for making the Inaugural QC English Graduate Conference a success!
Conference Schedule

11:00 – 11:30  Welcome and Lunch

11:30 – 12:00  Opening Remarks
- Professors Andrea Walkden and Caroline Kyungah Hong (Director and Assistant Director of Graduate Studies)
- Saidah Henderson and Rachel Margaritis (on behalf of the 2014 Graduate Conference Committee)
- Professor Glenn Burger (Chair of the English Department)

12:05 – 1:20  Intersecting Identities: Gender, Sexuality, & Race
- Panel Chair: Professor Miles Grier
- Elaine Housseas, “The Empress, Gardener Queens, and Queens of Dreams: The Female Throne in Lewis Carroll’s Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland”
- Frances Romano, “‘When I First Learned the Word’: Queer Identity and Textuality in Alison Bechdel’s Fun Home”

1:30 – 2:45  Realms of Knowledge
- Panel Chair: Professor Annmarie Drury
- Ala Fink, “A ‘Crabbed Textuist’ in Paradise: Innate Knowledge and Literal Hermeneutics in Paradise Lost”
- James Mantegna, “Epistemic Trauma and Renewal: Relativity Theory, Modernism, and Narrative Innovation in The Great Gatsby and Mrs. Dalloway”
- Rob Ross, “The Urban Atmosphere in the Bildungsroman”
- Alexa Wejko, “Squaring the Circle: Individual, Society, and Iteration in Dubliners”

2:55 – 4:10  Transformation & Contradiction: Theorizing the Self, the Nation, & the World
- Panel Chair: Professor Natalie Léger
- Nilo A. Bermeo, “Reconociendo Mala Cosa: An Exploration of Translations of Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vac’a La Relación in Comparison with Benjamin’s ‘Task of the Translator’”
- Raj Dev, “Carwin’s Strength: The Cosmopolitan Voice as a Challenge to Aristocratic Authority in Charles Brockden Brown’s Wieland”
- Beth Sherman, “‘You Don’t Happen to Know This Poisonous Country as Well as I Do’: An Orientalist View of E. M. Forster’s A Passage to India”
- Marina Vlahaki, “Rewriting the Past, Reliving the Present: An Examination of the Crux of the Caribbean Identity in Derek Walcott’s Dream on Monkey Mountain”

4:20 – 5:20  The Nonhuman & the Inhuman
- Panel Chair: Professor William Orchard
- Kelly Doran, “The Nonhuman in China Miéville’s Perdido Street Station”
- Danny Dupont, “Tasty Wheat, Kung Fu, and The Illusion of Spoons: Epistemological Dialogues in the Wachowski Brothers’ The Matrix”

5:30 – 6:30  Keynote Address  – Professor Carrie Hintz (CUNY Graduate Center and Queens College), “Carbon Diaries, or, How to Talk to Young Adults about the End of the World”

6:30 – 7:00  Reception and Award Presentation