2018 Classical & Modern Languages and Literatures Symposium

The Metaphor of The Monster

Program

The Mill Convention Center
September 21 - 22
Friday, September 21
Morning Sessions

8:00AM  Breakfast served. Check-in desk opened

8:30AM - 9:30AM

**RIVERS CONFERENCE ROOM**

PANEL TITLE: DIASPORIC AND (POST-)COLONIAL MANIFESTATIONS OF THE MONSTER
Panel Chair: Anna Debicka-Dyer, Mississippi State University

Benjamin Sparks, The University of Memphis.
“Minotaurs, Myths, and L’indicible in Qui se souvient de la mer”

Adriana Vázquez, University of California, Los Angeles. “Giants in a Landscape: Autochthony, Gigantomachy, and a Mythology of National Identity in the Brazilian Colonial Period”

Subbah Mir, Louisiana State University.
“Satire as Source of Infection and Purgation in the Drama of African Diaspora”

**DELTAS CONFERENCE ROOM**

PANEL TITLE: REPRESENTATIONS OF FEMININE MONSTROSITY (I)
Panel Chair: Sol Peláez, Mississippi State University

Bonnie Whitener, The University of Alabama.
“McFate and the Maiden: America and Monstrous Little Girls in Lolita”

Shannon Dullard, The University of Alabama.
“The Sympathetic Monster of Florence Marryat’s Blood of the Vampire”

Patricia Thomásio Quinelato and Betsi Yamileth Gómez Ballesteros, The University of Mississippi. “Societies View of the Female Monster in The Kiss of the Spider Woman by Manuel Puig”

9:00AM - 10:00AM

**FOOTHILLS CONFERENCE ROOM**

PANEL TITLE: SUBVERSIVE MONSTERS/MONSTROUS SUBVERSIVES
Panel Chair: Diane Marting, The University of Mississippi

Dylan Goldblatt, The University of Mississippi. “Kafka and Benn and the Monsters Within”


10:00AM - 11:00AM

**RIVERS CONFERENCE ROOM**

PANEL TITLE: MONSTROSITY IN THE AGE OF INFORMATION
Panel Chair: Peter Corrigan, Mississippi State University

Michael Frazer, Auburn University. “Jean-Claude van Itallie’s Motel and the Monstrous Body of Consumerism”

David Scott Diffrient, Colorado State University.
“‘Three-Headed Monsters’ and ‘Ugly Americans’: Demonizing the Working-Class in Multi-Camera Sitcoms and TV Animation”

**DELTA CONFERENCE ROOM**

**PANEL TITLE: REPRESENTATIONS OF FEMININE MONSTROSITY (II)**
Panel Chair: Sol Peláez, Mississippi State University

Elisa Carandina, Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (France).
“‘Maybe something I never wanted will be born’: Etgar Keret’s Monstrous Dream of Motherhood”

Nicholas Helms, The University of Alabama.
“Inferring the Mind: Parasites and the ‘Monstrous Thought’ in Early Modern Drama”

Sol Peláez, Mississippi State University.
“Sovereign Imagination and the Monstrous Fantasy of Literature. Reading Pizarnik and Rivera Garza”

**10:30AM - 12:30PM**

**FOOTHILLS CONFERENCE ROOM**

**PANEL TITLE: PEDAGOGICAL APPROACHES TO TEACHING MONSTROSITY**
Panel Chair: Kelly Moser, Mississippi State University

Sarah Coluccio, St. John’s University.
“‘Of Monsters and Mirrors—What Makes a Monster?’ Examining The Literary Divide Between Man and Monster”

Silvia Arroyo, Mississippi State University.
“Teaching Monstrosity in Spanish Early Modern Literature”

Devon Pizzino, Borough Manhattan Community College/ St. Francis College.
“We Live in a Time of Monsters’: Teaching Writing and Literature Courses with a Focus on the Theme of Monsters and Monstrosity to Challenge and Engage Students”

Neil Barrett, The Webb School
“Milton’s Monster”

**11:30AM - 12:30PM**

**RIVERS CONFERENCE ROOM**

**PANEL TITLE: IMAGES OF THE MONSTROUS (I)**
Panel Chair: Karina Zelaya, Mississippi State University

Matt Peisen, Indiana University.
“Images of Splendor: Marvelous, Monstrous Portraits in El mayor monstruo del mundo”

Christian Gallichio, The University of Georgia.
“Shelley’s Nightmare: Filmic Representation of Byron’s Villa Diodati Party”

**DELTA CONFERENCE ROOM**

**PANEL TITLE: HYBRIDITY AND TERATOLOGY**
Panel Chair: Salvador Bartera, Mississippi State University

Kelly Shannon-Henderson, The University of Alabama.
“Monsters and Medicine: Galen and Phlegon of Tralles on Centaurs”

James Seth, Auburn University.
“Strange Fish (and Toads): Caliban and the Early Modern Amphibian”
Friday, September 21
Afternoon Sessions

1:00PM - 3:00PM - Lunch Break

3:00PM - 4:30PM

RIVERS CONFERENCE ROOM

PANEL TITLE: IMAGES OF THE MONSTROUS (II)
Panel Chair: Robert Harland, Mississippi State University

Susanna Coleman, Southern New Hampshire University.
“‘You’d Better Hurry, My Mother’s Coming’: Monsters as the Fear of Parenthood in David Lynch’s Eraserhead and Twin Peaks”

Robert Harland, Mississippi State University.
“It Eats Your Brains! The Horrifying Camp Fascination of the Truly Terrible Film The Brainiac / El Barón del Terror (1961) by Chano Urueta”

Xosé Pereira Boán, Rhodes College.
“Franco-Spain’s Creations: The Monster-Child in Peninsular Film”

3:00PM - 4:00PM

FOOTHILLS CONFERENCE ROOM

PANEL TITLE: THE LIMINAL SPACE OF MONSTROSITY
Panel Chair: Sally Gray, Mississippi State University

Albert Watanabe, Louisiana State University.
“The Edges of the World in Hellenistic Greece and Epic India”

Mindy Adams, Texas State University, San Marcos.
“Monster of Vacancy, Ghost of Culture, Instrument of Clarity: Cultural and Textual Analysis of the Function of the Sonoran Desert as Monster in Luis Alberto Urrea’s The Devil’s Highway”

5:00PM - 6:30PM

DELTA CONFERENCE ROOM

PANEL TITLE: THE ECOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE METAPHOR OF THE MONSTER
Panel Chair: Keith Moser, Mississippi State University

Sara Wellman, The University of Mississippi.
“Monstrous Women and Sustainability in Rousseau’s Fictional Families”

Keith Moser, Mississippi State University.

M.K. Foster, The University of Alabama.
“Tearing limb from limbe: Metonymy, Synecdoche, and Homonymic Language as monstrum in Edmund Spenser’s The Faerie Queene”

5:00PM - 6:30PM

KEYNOTE EVENT - DELTA CONFERENCE ROOM

Dr. Jonathan Krell, University of Georgia.
“Mélusine from the 14th Century to the Age of homo detritus”

Jonathan Krell teaches Business French and 20th- and 21st century French literature at the University of Georgia. His current research interests are in the contemporary French novel and its relationship to ecology. He is the author of The Ogre’s Progress: Images of the
Ogre in Modern and Contemporary French Fiction (U of Delaware P, 2009) and Tournier élémentaire (Purdue UP, 1994), and translator of Michel Tournier’s Le Miroir des idées (The Mirror of Ideas) and Eléazar, ou La Source et le buisson (Eleazar: Exodus to the West) (University of Nebraska Press, 1998 and 2002). He is currently preparing a book entitled Ecocritics and Ecoskeptics: A Humanist Reading of Recent French Ecofiction, to be published by Liverpool UP.

6:30PM  Hors D’Oeuvres and Cash Bar

Saturday, September 22
Morning Sessions

8:00AM  Breakfast served. Check-in desk opened

8:30AM - 9:30AM
RIVERS CONFERENCE ROOM

PANEL TITLE: MONSTROUS ENCOUNTERS WITH THE OTHER
Panel Chair: Silvia Arroyo, Mississippi State University

Laurent Ditmann, Georgia State University. “Dragons, Chasseurs, Smugglers, and Beasts: The Militarization of Hunting in 18th Century France”

Bobby Nixon, Columbus State University (Georgia). “Encounters with the Other in Iberian Jewish, Islamic, and Christian Travel Literature of the Middle Ages”

9:00AM - 10:00AM
DELTA CONFERENCE ROOM

PANEL TITLE: PROBING THE MONSTROSITY OF LITERARY FORMS (I)
Panel Chair: Brian Davisson, Mississippi State University

Sophie Vainer, Georgia State University. “Monsters Portrayed through Literature”

José Estrada, The University of Chicago. “Prodigy and Imagination: Examples of Monstrosities in Ruiz de Alarcón’s El desdichado en fingir”

Brian Davisson, Mississippi State University. “The Other ‘Loose, Baggy Monsters’: Antonio José de Irisarri’s Early Attempts at the Central American Novel”

Foothills Conference Room

PANEL TITLE: THE SYMBOLISM OF WITCHES AND VAMPIRES IN THE COLLECTIVE HUMAN IMAGINATION
Panel Chair: Peter Corrigan, Mississippi State University

Clarisse Scarlett, Middle Tennessee State University. “Monstrous Witches and the Terror They Inspire”

Alyssa Holan, University of Wisconsin – Platteville. “Vamping it up: Identity Performance, Homoerotics and Intoxicated Bloodlust in the Poetry of Eduardo Haro Ibars”

Amy Wilson, West Virginia University and Fairmont State University. “Lonely Monsters: How Vampires Speak to a Disconnected Human World”

10:00AM - 11:00AM
RIVERS CONFERENCE ROOM

PANEL TITLE: THE METAPHORICAL VALUE OF MONSTERS IN CULTURE AND FOLKLORE (I)
Panel Chair: Karim Simpore, Mississippi State University
Robert Wolverton, Mississippi State University. “The ‘Father’ and ‘Mother’ of Greek Monsters”


Scott Truesdale, Mississippi State University. “How a Monster Became a Hero: An Understanding of Camusian Morality Through the Absurdist Hero, Don Juan”

Michelle Piersol, Texas State University. “A Bold Demon Who Waited in Darkness: Influences of the Monster Beowulf in Cormac McCarthy’s Child of God”

Frederick Whiting, The University of Alabama. “Nativity, Invisibility, Pathology: Postwar African American Subjectivity and the Bildungsroman”


Wladimir Márquez, Regis University. “Myrmidons, Cow-Eaters and Bandits in El Escambray: Politics of Testimonial Literature in Cuba”

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

**Delta Conference Room**

**Panel Title: Probing the Monstrosity of Literary Forms (II)**

Panel Chair: Silvia Arroyo, Mississippi State University

Antón García-Fernández, The University of Tennessee at Martin. “Social Monstrosities: The Science Fiction Novels of Emilio Carrere”

Francesca Wadlington, Mississippi State University. “When Augusto Met Miguel: Unamuno’s Overturn of Ordinary Authorship in Niebla”

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**Rivers Conference Room**

**Panel Title: The Metaphorical Value of Monsters in Culture and Folklore (II)**

Panel Chair: Sally Gray, Mississippi State University

Michael Rice, Middle Tennessee State University. “Friedrich Torberg’s ‘Golems Wiederkehr’: A Tale of Persecution and Survival”

Sonja Hedgepeth, Middle Tennessee State University. “The Horrified Self: The Specter of Antisemitism in Gustav Meyrink’s The Golem”

10:30AM - 12:30PM

**Foothills Conference Room**

**Panel Title: Pathogens, Parasites, Psychopaths: The Medicalization of Monsters**

Panel Chair: Keith Moser, Mississippi State University

Dr. Silvia Arroyo
Dr. Salvador Bartera
Ms. Chassidy Boyd
Dr. Peter Corrigan
Dr. Robert Harland
Ms. Julia Kraker
Dr. Keith Moser
Ms. Arleana Moya
Dr. Rosa Vozzo

**Symposium Organizing Committee**