African Literature Association
42nd Annual Conference
Justice and Human Dignity in Africa and the African Diaspora
April 6-9, 2016 | Marriott Marquis Atlanta

Hosted by
Kennesaw State University & Emory University
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African Literature Association 2016 Conference Theme

“Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable... Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals.”

- Martin Luther King, Jr. in Stride Toward Freedom the Montgomery Story,
- Chapter XI, “Where Do We Go From Here.”

Our theme is inspired by the words of the city’s most famous son, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Historically, the pursuit of justice and dignity connects Atlanta to the varied experiences of African peoples, as the US Civil Rights Movement drew inspiration from struggles for decolonization and, in turn, inspired these struggles. Atlantans remain committed both to understanding and to pursuing civil and human rights, as attested by the presence in the city of the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site, the King Center for Nonviolent Social Change, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, and the Carter Center. The hosting universities also recognize their importance, as Kennesaw State University will hold an International Summit on Civil and Human Rights later this year and Emory University just announced the establishment of the John Lewis Chair in Civil Rights and Social Justice.

Justice and human dignity have long remained central tenets of cultural production from Africa and the African diaspora in the quest for freedom and recognition. Artists, filmmakers and writers from Africa and its diaspora often explore the possibilities for justice and the challenges to human dignity in the face of various forms of oppression. Whether they work as creators of fictional worlds or as critics of the worlds they inhabit, these artists launch a call for critical rethinking and socio-political action. The just treatment of human beings and the preservation of their dignity on the African continent and beyond recur as images, motifs and concepts for urgent consideration, critical re-imagination and scholarly enquiry. These literary and cultural texts offer alternative visions that counter the myopic and prejudicial media portrayals of Africa and its people.

Recognizing the many challenges to justice that remain—and the complicated, mediated avenues by which the arts engage with these challenges—the organizers believe that an emphasis on justice and human dignity will give room for critically reflecting on, as well as celebrating, the current state of creative work from Africa and the diaspora.
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Kwaku Korang
John Nimis

Council Terms Expiring in 2017
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Keiko Kusunose
Samuel Zadi

Council Terms Expiring in 2018
Tsitsi Jaji
Ann Elizabeth Willey

Journal of African Literature Association (JALA)
Abioseh Porter, Editor

ALA Headquarters Headquarters Director
James McCorkle

ALA Headquarters
Hobart & William Smith Colleges
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Geneva, NY 14456
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Emory University

Nathan Suhr-Sytsma
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Emory University

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Patrick Harbin
Kennesaw State University
The conveners gratefully acknowledge the support of

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Karen Robinson  
Margaret Baldwin  
Oral Moses  
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**Individuals**
Christopher Moller, Judith Levy, Jessica Reuther, Lilla Sai-Halasz, Student volunteers

*And our institutional partners*

**Sewanee: The University of the South**

**Georgia Institute of Technology**
Guidebook Instructions

• First you will need to install the free Guidebook app to your device by searching “guidebook” in the Apple, Google, or Amazon app stores.
• Once you have downloaded and installed the Guidebook app you can access the conference guide by searching “African Literature Association Conference.”
• The ALA 2016 guidebook provides a fully searchable conference schedule, index of participants, and maps. You can also use the app to personalize your own schedule and to-do list, as well as connect to the conference on social media.

Connect on Social Media

• Twitter handle @atlanta_ala2016
• Facebook page African Literature Association 2016 Conference
• Conference hashtag #AfricanLit2016

Key to Caucus Abbreviations

• Afrophone Caucus (ACALA)
• Film and Visual Media (FVM) Caucus
• Francophone Caucus (FRACALA)
• Graduate Student Caucus (GSCALA)
• Luso/Hispanophone Caucus (LHCALA)
• Translation Caucus (TRACALA)
• Women's Caucus (WOCALA)
Summary of Events

Wednesday April 6
12:00-1:30pm.................................................. Registration Begins (Atrium Level)
1:45-3:15pm.................................................... Concurrent Sessions A
3:30-5:00pm.................................................... Concurrent Sessions B
7:00pm......................................................... Opening Reception (Atrium A)

Thursday April 7
7:00-9:00am.................................................... Executive Council Meeting (L404)
8:30-10:00am.................................................. Concurrent Sessions C
10:15-11:45am.................................................. Concurrent Sessions D
12:00-1:30pm.................................................. WOCALA Luncheon (High Velocity Media Room)
1:45-3:15pm.................................................... Concurrent Sessions E
3:30-5:00pm.................................................... Concurrent Sessions F
5:15-6:45pm................................................... Keynote address by Chris Abani
8:00-9:00pm................................................... Caucus and Committee Business Meetings
9:00-11:00pm............................................... Soundings: An Evening of Readings in Mother Tongue African Languages

Friday April 8
7:00-9:00am.................................................... Executive Council Meeting (L404)
8:30-10:00am.................................................. Concurrent Sessions G
10:15-11:45am.................................................. Concurrent Sessions H
12:00-1:30pm.................................................. FRACALA /FVM Caucus Luncheon (SEAR Private Dining Room)
1:45-3:15pm.................................................... Concurrent Sessions I
1:45pm-2:45pm................................................. Lecture by Fred Kuwornu
3:00-4:00pm.................................................. Book signing with Syl Cheney-Coker, author of *Sacred River: A Novel*
3:30-5:00pm.................................................. Concurrent Sessions J
5:15-6:15pm................................................... Keynote session with Raoul Peck
7:30-9:30pm.................................................. Performance of *Night Blooms*, by Margaret Baldwin

Saturday April 9
7:00-9:00am.................................................... Executive Council Meeting (L404)
8:30-10:00am.................................................. Concurrent Sessions K
10:15-11:45am.................................................. Concurrent Sessions L
11:45am-12:30pm......................................... Book Launch: *Essais et documentaires des Africaines Francophones*
12:00-1:30pm.................................................. LHCALA Luncheon (L506)
12:00-1:30pm.................................................. Afrophone Caucus Luncheon (L507)
12:00-2:00pm................................................. Teachers’ Workshop
1:45-2:45pm.................................................. Readings from African Writing Today, featuring Namwali Serpell
3:00-5:30pm.................................................. ALA Business Meeting
7:30-8:30pm.................................................. Banquet (*those with tickets only*)
8:30pm-12:00am............................................. Awards Ceremony, Presidential Address, Dance

Sunday April 10
7:00-9:00am.................................................. Executive Council Meeting (L404)
## Film Screenings
### Atrium A

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**Film Descriptions:**
- **Haití Bride:** 8:30 am/67 min
- **Blaxploitalian:** 10:15 am/52 min + Q&A
- **Eat for this is my Body:** 1:45 pm/105 min
- **Sometimes in April:** 9:30 am/140 min
- **Sembène !:** 10:00 am/88 min
Chris Abani is an acclaimed novelist, poet, essayist, screenwriter, and playwright. Born in Nigeria to an Igbo father and English mother, he grew up in Afikpo, Nigeria, received a BA in English from Imo State University, Nigeria, an MA in English, Gender, and Culture from Birkbeck College, University of London, and a PhD in Literature and Creative Writing from the University of Southern California. He has resided in the United States since 2001.


Through his TED Talks, public speaking, and essays, Abani is known as an international voice on humanitarianism, art, ethics, and our shared political responsibility. His critical and personal essays have been featured in books on art and photography, as well as Witness, Parkett, The New York Times, O Magazine, and Bomb.

He is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, the PEN/Hemingway Award for *Graceland*, the PEN Beyond the Margins Award, the Hurston Wright Award, and a Lannan Literary Fellowship, among many honors. His work has been translated into French, Italian, Spanish, German, Swedish, Romanian, Hebrew, Macedonian, Ukrainian, Portuguese, Dutch, Bosnian, and Serbian.

Raoul Peck was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. He was educated in Haiti, Zaïre (Congo), the United States, France and Germany. His parents fled the Duvalier dictatorship in 1991, finding asylum and a new life in the Republic of Congo, which became their second home for nearly twenty-five years. Peck initially attended school in Léopoldville, later public school in Brooklyn, New York, and finally Orléans, France. He lived for an extended time in Zaïre and Germany and studied industrial engineering and economics at Berlin University. He started a Ph.D. in Development Strategies, which he chose to abandon after two years following the sudden death of his doctorate mentor. He was accepted into the competitive film program at The Berlin Germany Academy of Film, where he received a degree in 1984. Peck has worked as a journalist and photographer and film professor. He currently resides between France, Haiti and New York.

Raoul Peck has created a complex body of work from documentary (Profit and nothing but!, Lumumba: Death of a Prophet) to mini-series (The Villemin Case, The School of Power), but he is best known for his award winning feature-length fiction films. Among these are: The Man by the Shore (Cannes Competition 1993) on the Duvalier dictatorship in Haiti, Lumumba (Director’s Fortnight 2000) about the assassination of the DRC’s first democratically elected President, Sometimes in April, a film he made for HBO on the Rwandan Genocide (2005). Peck’s films have been in competition in festivals around the world including the US, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Portugal, Spain, Canada, Sweden, Switzerland, Austria, Denmark, Haiti, Japan and England.

Raoul Peck has twice earned honors from the Human Rights Watch Organization for his commitment to questions of human rights and dignity. His films have also earned awards at some of the most notable film festivals in the world (FESPACO, Cannes Film Festival, Milan Film Festival, Fribourg Festival, Festival Vues d’Afrique in Montreal, Berlin Film Festival, African Film Festival, Pan African Film Festival, etc).

Alongside his tremendous body of filmic work, Raoul Peck taught at the Berlin Film and Television Academy, La Fémis (France’s National Film School) and New York University’s Tisch School of Arts. He currently serves as President of the Board of Directors at La Fémis as well. He is the former Minister of Culture - Haiti and has authored two books: Stolen Images and Mr. Minister, Just till the End of Patience, which was a bestseller in his native Haiti.
Namwali Serpell was born in Zambia in 1980. Her story “The Sack” won the 2015 Caine Prize for African writing. In 2014, she was chosen as one of the most promising African writers under 40 for the Africa 39 anthology, a project of the Hay festival. She received a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers Award for women in 2011. Her first published story, “Muzungu,” was selected for the 2009 Best American Short Stories and shortlisted for the 2010 Caine Prize for African Writing. Her writing has appeared in Tin House, The Believer, n+1, McSweeney’s (forthcoming), Bidoun, Callaloo, The San Francisco Chronicle, The L.A. Review of Books, and The Guardian. She is an associate professor in the University of California, Berkeley English department and her first book of literary criticism, Seven Modes of Uncertainty, was published in 2014.

Fred “Kudjo” Kuwornu, an activist-producer-writer-director, was born and raised in Italy and based in Brooklyn. His mother is an Italian Jew, and his father a Ghanaian surgeon who lived in Italy since the early 60's. Fred Kuwornu holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science and Mass Media, from the University of Bologna. As a teenager, he started his career as a DJ and Producer. Later, he moved to Rome where he began working as a TV show writer for RAI public television.

After his experience working with the production crew of Spike Lee’s “Miracle at St. Anna”, Kuwornu decided to research the unknown story of the 92nd Infantry “Buffalo Soldiers” Division, discovering and documenting the journey taken by the real 92nd Infantry veterans, and the entire African American segregated combat unit, which fought in Europe during WW II.

Kuwornu thus produced and directed the Award-winning documentary Inside Buffalo (“Best Documentary” at the Black Berlin International Cinema Festival). Inside Buffalo had viewings at the Pentagon, the Library of Congress and it received a letter of congratulations by President Barack Obama. In 2012, he released “18 IUS SOLI “which examines multiculturalism in Italy but also specifically looks at questions of citizenship for the one million children of immigrants born and raised in Italy but who are not yet Italian citizens. He is the founder of the Association Diversity Italia promoting the importance of racial and ethnic diversity in Italy and Europe using film and other art forms as tools for building a more inclusive society.

Caucus Speakers

WOCALA: Chika Unigwe (writer)
FRACALA & FVM: Michelange Quay (filmmaker)
LHICALA: Leslie Feracho (University of Georgia)
ACALA: Akinloye A. Ojó (University of Georgia)
Night Blooms

Friday, April 8 7:30pm
Location: Atrium A

Playwright: Margaret Baldwin, Kennesaw State University
Director: Karen Robinson, Kennesaw State University
Featuring KSU theatre and performance studies students, faculty, and guest artist Chris Kayser.

Set in Selma during the historic voting rights march in 1965, Night Blooms looks at how families face social change. Against the backdrop of the racial tensions of the day, Lucille Stafford and her maid Geneva Willis prepare for Lucille's annual “blooming party” to view her prized night-blooming cereus. An unexpected guest arrives and changes the lives of two families forever, proving that personal relationships across generations and races are often far more complex than politics. Written by KSU Senior Lecturer Margaret Baldwin and first produced by Horizon Theatre Company in Atlanta, Night Blooms is the winner of the 2011 Gene Gabriel Moore Playwriting Award for best new play by an Atlanta playwright. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution called it “…an absorbing portrait of a crumbling social structure that articulates multiple points of view while capturing the tentative moral footing of those caught somewhere in-between. A perfect companion to the film Selma.”

Playwright: Margaret Baldwin

Margaret Baldwin’s plays and adapted works have been produced throughout the US and abroad. Her play Night Blooms won the 2011 Gene Gabriel Moore Playwriting Award for its world premiere at Horizon Theatre and was produced at Virginia Rep (2012). Night Blooms has had staged readings throughout the US and in Germany and is the focus of Baldwin’s TEDxAtlanta talk, “The Power of Dialogue.” Her new play Coyote Hour was finalist for the 2015 National Playwrights Conference and an honorable mention for The Kilroy’s 2015 list of best new plays by women playwrights. Her most recent project, The Followers, a contemporary retelling of Euripides’ The Bacchae, is in development through a partnership between 7 Stages Theatre and Kennesaw State University. Margaret serves as a Senior Lecturer and General Education Coordinator in the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies. She is the recipient of the KSU Foundation’s 2014...
Director: Karen Robinson

Karen Robinson serves as Professor and Artistic Director in the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies at Kennesaw State University (KSU) where she has taught for sixteen years. She has worked professionally as a director, dramaturg, and/or stage manager in New York, North Carolina, California, and Georgia. Her directing work includes chamber theatre, performance ethnography, contemporary and period classics, and new play development. As an Associate Artist at Georgia Shakespeare, she directed fourteen productions for the company. Recent directing projects include THE COMING OUT MONOLOGUES PROJECT at KSU and MARCUS; OR THE SECRET OF SWEET at Actor's Express in Atlanta. She directed the world premiere of NIGHT BLOOMS for Atlanta's Horizon Theatre Company and a staged reading of the play for Selma, Alabama's commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Voting Rights Marches in March 2015. A passionate advocate for global learning and intercultural art and performance, Karen served as Global Learning Coordinator for KSU's College of the Arts from 2006-2013. Her global projects have included tours of student productions to Morocco, China, and Germany. Karen is the recipient of KSU's 2009 Award for Distinguished Teaching, a 2010 University of Georgia Board of Regents Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the 2011 KSU Distinguished Professor Award.
**BlaxploItalian.** Fred Kuwornu, dir., 2016. 52 min. Italy, USA  
*Italian with English subtitles*
A documentary that explores the careers, identities and triumphs of an obscure and rarely recognized class of European entertainers: Black actors in Italian cinema. *BlaxploItalian* is a film that poignantly describes the struggles that Afro-Italian and African diasporic actors experienced and continue to experience in contemporary Italian society in their search for roles of greater significance on the cinematic screen.

**Eat, for this is my Body** (*Mange, ceci est mon corps*). Michelange Quay, dir., 2007, 1h 45 min. France, Haiti  
*French with English subtitles*
A film about the evolution of power in Quay's native Haiti and the colonial relationship between black boys and white women. A white woman, Madame, lives in a colonial fantasy in which she helps to teach, inspire and feed the wretched masses of the world.

**Fatal Assistance** (*Assistance Mortelle*). Raoul Peck, dir., 2013. 1h 39 min. France, Haiti, USA, Belgium  
*French, English and Creole with English subtitles*
A documentary that portrays a 2-year journey inside the challenging, contradictory and colossal rebuilding efforts in post-earthquake Haiti. Filmmaker Raoul Peck looks at failed efforts to rebuild post-earthquake Haiti, including the disclosure that much of the money pledged to Haiti was either never disbursed or was not applied to reconstruction efforts.

**Haiti Bride, 2014.** Robert Yao Ramesar, dir., 67 min, Trinidad and Tobago, Haiti  
*Creole with English subtitles*
The story of Marie Thérèse (Tahina Vatel), a Haitian-born woman who returns to her homeland to meet her husband Paul (Lentz Durand), who lost his memory after the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

**Murder in Pacot** (*Meurtre à Pacot*). Raoul Peck, dir., 2014, 2h 10 min. Haiti  
*French and Creole with English subtitles*
*Murder in Pacot* tells the story of couple (Alex Descas and Ayo) living in a privileged neighborhood in Haiti who rents a portion of their damaged home to a relief worker and his girlfriend to pay for repairs. The story, a traditional stranger-comes-to-town plot line examining how the earthquake upended Haiti's strongly divided class system, is loosely inspired by the 1968 mystery *Teorema* by Italian director Pier Paolo Pasolini.

**Sembène!** Samba Gadjigo and Jason Silverman, dir., 2015. 1h 22min. Senegal, USA  
*Sembène!* is a film about the life of the self-taught novelist and filmmaker Ousmane Sembène, as written by Gadjigo, author of *Ousmane Sembène: The Making of a Militant Artist* (2010). Sembène transitioned from a laborer into a powerful spokesman for Africa. Sembène is considered to be the father of African cinema.

**Sometimes in April.** 2005. Raoul Peck, dir., 2h 20m. France, USA, Rwanda.  
*Sometimes in April* is historical drama television film about the Rwandan Genocide of 1994. A Hutu soldier (Idris Elba) tries to get his family to safety during the Rwandan genocide, while years later his brother stands trial for his actions.
Performers

The Georgia Spiritual Ensemble

The Georgia Spiritual Ensemble sings traditional and arranged choral and solo spirituals that have been popularized throughout the twentieth century. Because of the strong musical legacy the spiritual possesses and the horrific conditions under which it “sprang” into existence, it continues to maintain its original haunting quality and its uncanny beauty and dignity. [http://thegeorgiaspiritualensemble.com/performance-history.html](http://thegeorgiaspiritualensemble.com/performance-history.html)

Small Axe Band

Small Ax Reggae Band has been in existence since 1994, known as Atlanta's number one reggae group. This is a very professional group with a lot of experience. Small Ax has opened up for major artists such as Beres Hammond, Buju Bantan, Burning Spear, Youssou Ndure and has headlined for major festivals such as Music Midtown in Atlanta and the Panafrican Festival in Macon GA. [http://www.sholalewis.com/](http://www.sholalewis.com/)

Taufeeq Wright

Taufeeq Wright attended Frederick Douglas High School and Morehouse College. He is an accomplished saxophonist but is also well versed in a lot of facets of music. He was in the Atlanta Boy Choir where he got the chance to travel the world at a very young age. Wright also participated in the Morehouse glee club and jazz band. He is a member of the Atlanta Allstars, one of the top corporate bands in the nation. A very accomplished producer, Wright has worked with some of the best acts in the music business including Keith Sweat, Lloyd and Monica.
How to Get to the Hotel:
If your flight arrives at the International Terminal of the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta airport, exit the terminal and take the free shuttle to the domestic terminal.

In the domestic terminal, follow signs for MARTA - Atlanta’s public transportation system. You can purchase a rechargeable Breeze card for a one-time fee of $2 (or Breeze tickets for $1 each). One-way fare: $2.50. There are also several day passes available for your purchase.

You can use the Red or Gold subway line from the airport to Peachtree Center. Once at the station, the Atlanta Marriott Marquis hotel is a short five-minute walk:

How to Get Around:
From the Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel, all of Downtown Atlanta is within walking distance, with restaurants especially during the day time, as well as the brand new National Center for Civil and Human Rights, the Georgia Aquarium, the World of Coke Museum and the Centennial Olympic Park.

You can use MARTA - see indications above - or the Atlanta Streetcar to reach different areas of Atlanta. In Midtown Atlanta, you will find numerous restaurants, bars and nightlife, as well as Piedmont Park, a park with a view on the Atlanta skyline. The Atlanta Beltline - a former railway repurposed into a walking and cycling path - links Piedmont Park and the Martin Luther King Jr. Historic District. Other areas of interest include the City of Decatur and its many renowned restaurants.
Map of the Atlanta Marriott Marquis

Lobby Level

Marquis Office Tower II
Porte Cochere
Front Entrance

Marquis Office Tower I

Marquis Level

Marquis Ballroom

A
B
C
D

Marquis Foyer

Imperial Foyer

A
B

Imperial Ballroom

Kennesaw State University
Emory University
<table>
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<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Atrium Level, near A701-708</td>
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<td>Atrium Foyer</td>
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Session A—1 - Wednesday 1:45-3:15
Location: A704
Children at Risk
- **Chair**: Rita Nnodim, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
- Rita Nnodim (Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts), “We Need New Names’ Children, Youths, and Urban Poverty – Contemporary Literary Perspectives”
- Aubrey Collins (Austin Peay State University), “Child Soldiers: Inaction and Indifference in Miano’s *L'intérieur de la nuit*
- Anthonia Umoren (University of Calabar), “Fosterage System And The Fate Of Nigerian Children In Liwhu Betiagh’s *The Cradle On The Scales*”

Session A—2 - Wednesday 1:45-3:15
Location: A706
Mapping, Movement, and the City
- **Chair**: Mahriana Rofheart, Georgia Gwinnett College
- Dominique Haensell (Freie Universität), “Confounded Time, Conflicted Movements – Genre and the Spacetime of Blackness in Teju Cole’s *Open City*”
- Maria Tavares (Queen’s University Belfast), “Remembering the city: a reading of ‘A Minha Maputo é…’ [My Maputo is…]”
- Mahriana Rofheart (Georgia Gwinnett College), “Mapping Global Inequalities: Real and Speculative Geography in Waberi’s *Aux États-Unis d’Afrique* and Chimurenga’s *New Cartographies*”
- Van Kelly (University of Kansas), “Experimental City? ‘Imperial Debris’? Dakar in Ken Bugul’s *Aller et Retour*”

Session A—3 - Wednesday 1:45-3:15
Location: A705
Prolegomenon to a Semiotic Study of Violence in African Literature
- **Chair**: Nuru Akinyemi, Kennesaw State University
- Ensley Caldwell (Kennesaw State University), “Ideological Violence in Maaza Mengiste’s *Beneath the Lion’s Gaze*”
- Diana Kovalchuk (Kennesaw State University), “A Semiotic Analysis on the Interlinked Chain of Ideological Code, Fear, and the Community which Contribute to Ethiopia’s Political Violence in *Notes from the Hyena’s Belly* by Nega Mezlekia”
- Alexandria Starks (Kennesaw State University), “Analyzing Nuruddin Farah’s novel *Sardines* through the lens of Semiotics and the concept of silencing ‘A woman’s right to write’”
- Cori Van Heukelom (Kennesaw State University), “Silencing Soyaan: Systemic Violence and the Impact of Imagery in Nuruddin Farrah’s *Sweet and Sour Milk*”

Session A—4 – Wednesday 1:45-3:15
Location: A703
Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s *Half a Yellow Sun*
- **Chair**: Romy Rajan, University of Florida
- Romy Rajan (University of Florida), “Neo-colonialism in the African Novel: An Examination of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s *Half of a Yellow Sun*”
- Chioma Opara (Rivers State University of Science and Technology), “Plain But Dignified: A Reversal of Hegemonic Mode of Power in Adiche’s *Half a Yellow Sun*”
Session B—1 – Wednesday 3:30-5:00
Location: A706

Child Soldiers in Fiction, Film, and Memoir
- **Chair:** Joya Uraizee, Saint Louis University
- Joya Uraizee (Saint Louis University), “Magical Combat: Kim Nguyen’s Use of Magic in War Witch”
- Robert Kilpatrick (University of West Georgia), “Conflict, Memory, and Media Representation in Jean-Phillipe Stassen’s L’Étoile d’Arnold”
- Joseph McLaren (Hofstra University), “Streaming African Conflict from Novel to Film: Preserving Human Dignity in Netflix’s Beasts of No Nation”

Session B—2 – Wednesday 3:30-5:00
Location: A708

Zimbabwean Fiction
- **Chair:** Laura Clapper, Indiana University
- Chido Muchemwa (University of Wyoming), “Baba Havabvunzwe – Challenging the Patriarchy in Zimbabwe”
- Laura Clapper (Indiana University), “L’indigénat: A Case Study in the Aesthetics of Justice”
- Haley Mowdy (Texas Woman’s University), “Re-evaluating the Bildungsroman: Zimbabwean Women’s Re-Appropriation of a Western Genre”
- Emily Shun Man Chow (The Chinese University of Hong Kong), “The Utopian Vision of an Outsider: The Narrative of Identities in Dambudzo Marechera’s The Black Insider”

Session B—3 – Wednesday 3:30-5:00
Location: A704

Music and Song
- **Chair:** Ebuka Igwebiike, Federal University
- Chinwe Ezeifeke (Nnamdi Azikiwe University), “Feminist Undercurrents in Selected Traditional Igbo Songs: Contemporary Igbo Women’s Voice”

Session B—4 – Wednesday 3:30-5:00
Location: A702

Résistance et littérature: Hommage à Bernard B. Dadié, cet infatigable activiste politique et culturel
- **Chair:** Viviane Uetto, Independent Scholar
- Viviane Uetto (Independent Scholar), “Entre contestation et présentation des signes avant-coureurs de la Françafrique dans Commandant Taureault de Bernard Dadie.”
- Toutoukpo Toti (Ecole Normale Superieur d’Abidjan), “Une lecture sociocritique de la résistance politique dans Commandant Taureault et ses nègres de Bernard Dadié”
- Anocha Clokou (Ecole Normale Superieur d’Abidjan), “Poésie et résistance: Lire et analyser la poésie autrement à partir d’une étude musicologique des poèmes de Bernard B. Dadié”
Session B—6 – Wednesday 3:30-5:00
Location: A707
The Aesthetics of Passivity in Postcolonial African Fiction
• Chair: Jay Rajiva, Georgia State University
• Philip Dickinson (Columbia University), “Yvonne Vera’s Heaviness”
• Christine Anlicker (Georgia State University), “Spacial Fluidity and the Work of Reformation in J.M. Coetzee’s Disgrace”
• Jay Rajiva, (Georgia State University), “Endomorphic Cognition and the Onset of Trauma in J.M. Coetzee’s The Master of Petersburg”

Session B—7 – Wednesday 1:45-3:15
Location: A602
Sierra Leonean Literature Panel 1: “Sierra Leonean War Literature”
• Chair: Eustace Palmer, Georgia College and State University
• Onipede Hollist (University of Tampa), “Women Write the Sierra Leone War: A Comparative Study of the War Fiction of Yema Lucilda Hunter, Delia Jarrett-Macauley, and Nadia Maddy.”
• Eustace Palmer (Georgia College and State University), “Post-war reconstruction and reconciliation in Sierra Leonean literature: A comparative look at Delia Jarrett-Macauley and Yema Lucinda Hunter”

Session B—8 – Wednesday 3:30-5:00
Location: M109
Ecological Justice and Literary Studies
• Chair: Yasmina Fawaz, University of Texas, Austin
• Cajetan Iheka (University of Alabama), “Aesthetics of Proximity, Multispecies Relations, and Ecological Justice”
• Byron Caminero-Santangelo (University of Kansas), “Climate Change Rhetoric, Literary Studies, and African Interventions”
• Yasmina Fawaz (University of Texas, Austin), “De-Romanticizing the Island, Environmental Crisis in Ananda Devi’s Eve de ses décombres”
• Eunice Ngongkum (University of Yaounde, Cameroon), “Environmental Risk Discourses in Contemporary Anglophone Cameroon Poetry”

Session B—9 – Wednesday 3:30-5:00
Location: M107
Animals and Ecologies
• Chair: Nagueyalti Warren, Emory University
• Nagueyalti Warren (Emory University), “Goats and Horses: An Eco-spiritual Reading of Bessie Head’s Maru and Alice Walker’s Am I Blue”
• Innocent E. Akanwa (Imo State University), “The Ecologies of the Somalian War: The Example of Nuruddin Farah’s Novels”
Session B—10 – Wednesday 3:30-5:00  
Location: L503  
The Politics and Aesthetics of African Patriographies 1: Debating African Patriography  
• Chair: Carli Coetzee (SOAS, University of London)  
• Taiwo Adetunji Osinubi (University of Western Ontario), “Queer Relations in African Patriographies”  
• Katrina Daly Thompson (University of Wisconsin-Madison), “Fictive Fathers in the Field”  
• David A. Dzaka (Messiah College), “To Be, To Do: Freedom and the Sorrows of Masculinity in Adichie’s Purple Hibiscus and Dangarembga’s Nervous Conditions”  
• Ndígírígí, Gíchingíri (University of Tennessee), “From ‘Black People’s Moses’ to ‘Kamaliza’: Jomo Kenyatta in Kenyan Literature”

Session B—11 – Wednesday 3:30-5:00  
Location: M108  
Embodiment  
• Chair: TBD  
• Matthew Omelsky (Duke University), “Césairean Phenomenologies, or, Desire in the Wounded Flesh”  
• Maria-Gratias Sinon (SUNY Buffalo), “The Aesthetics of the Oppressed Transnational Black Woman in Kechiche’s Vénus Noire and Kwhaile’s Jay”  
• Omolola A Ladele (Lagos State University, Ojoo, Nigeria), “Imprints of Race and War on Female Bodies: Some African Experiences”

Wednesday April 6, 7 pm  
Opening Reception  
Featuring:  
The Georgia Spiritual Ensemble and Taufeeq Wright  
&  
Painting exhibit by local Ethiopian artists  
Yosef Berta and Eskender Seyoum Haile-Mariam  
Location: Atrium A  
(all participants are welcome)
Thursday April 7

Session C—1 – Thursday 8:30-10:00
Location: A704
African Cinema: Reverse Angle on Insiders and Outsider
- **Chair:** Boukary Sawadogo, The City College of New York
- Boukary Sawadogo (The City College of New York), “Laughing at my pains: Taafe Fanga (Skirt Power) and Une femme pas comme les autres (A Woman Unlike Any Other)”
- Kenneth Harrow (Michigan State University), “The Allothone and the Autochtone: Living in Bondage and Chocolat”
- Victoria Pasley (Ashford University), “Beyond Violence in Abderrahmane Sissako’s Timbuktu”

Session C—2 – Thursday 8:30-10:00
Location: A706
Chris Abani
- **Chair:** Daria Tunca, University of Liège
- Daria Tunca (University of Liège), “‘Living on the Edge of Death’: Irony in Chris Abani’s Song for Night”
- Bernard Ayo Oniwe (University of South Carolina), “Abani’s Abigail: Subjection, Subversion, and Becoming Human”
- Abigail Obiageli Eruaga (University of Benin), “Human Rights Violation and Revolutionary Struggle in Chris Abani’s Graceland”

Session C—3 – Thursday 8:30-10:00
Location: A708
War and Genocide Literature
- **Chair:** Deborah Nyangulu, University of Münster
- Stella Onome Omonigho (University of Benin), “Justice in War and Loss of Dignity of the African People: A Reading of Festus Iyayi’s Heroes”
- Dele Bamidele (Kogi State University), “Social Injustice and Erosion of Human Dignity in Nigerian War Literature: A Reading of Festus Iyayi’s Heroes”

Session C—4 – Thursday 8:30-10:00
Location: A705
Le documentaire africain francophone aujourd’hui: Etat des lieux
- **Co-Chair:** Odile Cazenave, Boston University
- **Co-Chair:** Patricia-Pia Celerier, Vassar College
- Daniela Ricci (Université Paris X-Nanterre La Défense), “Les voix des femmes dans les documentaires d’Angèle Diabang”
- Sonia Lee (Trinity College), “Le cinéaste juge ce qu’il montre, et il est jugé par la façon dont il le montre”
- Odile Cazenave (Boston University), “Elles (s’)écrivent avec des images: l’exemple d’Isabelle Boni-Claverie et Mati Diop”
- Patricia-Pia Celerier (Vassar College), “La question documentaire: Même pas mal (2012) de Nadia El Fani”

Session C—5 – Thursday 8:30-10:00
Location: A701
Boredom/Leisure/Free Time
- **Chair:** Carli Coetzee, SOAS, University of London
- Madhu Krishnan (University of Bristol), “Urban Geographies and the Antimonies of Boredom in West African Writing”
- Stephanie Bosch Santana (Harvard University), “Digital Distraction or Creative Engine? Boredom in African New Media Fiction”
- Kevina Kezabu (University of Tasmania), “Blinded to Reality and Responsibility: An Education of Boredom in Post-colonial Africa”
Session C—6 – Thursday 8:30-10:00
Location: A702
Queer Questions For African Literary Studies
- Chair: Taiwo Adetunji Osinubi, University of Western Ontario
- Gabeba Baderoon (Pennsylvania State University), “Queer Postcolonies: Reinvention of the Nation in Memoir, Fiction, and Visual Art.”
- Taiwo Adetunji Osinubi (University of Western Ontario), “Queer Expenditure and Marriage Plot Rationalities.”

Session C—7 – Thursday 8:30-10:00
Location: A703
Chinua Achebe at the Crossroads of Cultures
- Chair: Zeba Khan-Thomas, Indiana University
- Nkechi Juliet Obodoee (Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka Nigeria) & Nneka Racheal Ugagu-Dominic (University of Uyo, Nigeria), “Foreignization and Domestication of Culture-Specific Items in the German translation of Chinua Achebe’s Arrow of God”
- J. Obi Oguejiofor (Nnamdi Azikiwe University), “Igbo Concept of Justice In Achebe’s First Three Novels”
- Charles Bodunde (University of Ilorin) & Saeedat Aliyu (Kwara State University), “African Environmental Justice Strategies: Re-Reading Achebe’s Things Fall Apart”

Session C—8 – Thursday 8:30-10:00
Location: A707
LHCAALA-Organized Panel:
Identity: Gender and Race
- Chair: Edilza Sotero, Brown University
- Edilza Sotero (Brown University), “Regarding Carolina Maria de Jesus, a Brazilian Black Writer, and Some Dilemmas of (In)visibility”
- Diana Pardo (University of Central Oklahoma), “Dignifying Black Identity in Latin American Literature”
- Maina wa Mutonya (Pwani University), “Nadie Moreno: Africomatic Identities and Representation of Blackness in Mexico”

Session C—9 – Thursday 8:30-10:00
Location: A602
Immigrant Voices in Short Fiction
- Chair: Ada Uzoamaka Azodo, Indiana University Northwest
- Ada Uzoamaka Azodo (Indiana University Northwest), “How Osa Outwitted Oke”
- Tomi Adeaga (University of Vienna), “Mirage”
- Onipede Hollist (University of Tampa), “Okonkwo’s Revenge”
- Anthonia Kalu (University of California, Riverside), “This Heavy Lightness”
Session C—10 – Thursday 8:30-10:00  
Location: M109  
**Ecological Violence and Climate Change**  
- **Chair:** Dominique Bourg Hacker, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
- Michael Olanrewaju Agboola (Kwara State University), “Standing Social Justice and Human Dignity on the Head: Tess Onwueme’s *Then She Said it*, as Counter-narrative”  
- Romanus C. Nwoma (Federal University), “An Ecocritical Study of Climate Change in Bessie Head’s *When Rain Clouds Gather* and Shimmer Chinodya’s *Dew in the Morning*”  
- Dominique Bourg Hacker (University of Wisconsin-Madison), “Ten dams for one delta seen from Space’: Envisioning Environmental Change and Threat in Nadine Gordimer’s *Get a Life*”  
- Sule Emmanuel Egya (IBB University), “Environmental Violence in Contemporary Nigerian Fiction”

Session C—11 – Thursday 8:30-10:00  
Location: M107  
**Popular Culture**  
- **Chair:** Kanika Batra, Texas Tech  
- Kanika Batra (Texas Tech), “Imprinting Gender Justice in Durban, South Africa”  
- Ng’ang’a Muchiri (Duke University), “Justice & Human Dignity in Urban East Africa”  
- Adeshina Afolayan (University of Ibadan), “Beyond Theory: African Philosophy, Human Dignity and Popular Culture”

Session C—12 – Thursday 8:30-10:00  
Location: L503  
**African Cultural Production And The Rhetoric Of Humanism**  
- **Chair:** Lifongo Vetinde, Lawrence University  
- Lifongo Vetinde (Lawrence University), “Misanthropie ou humanisme?: Au-dessus des dunesde Louis Camara”  
- Amadou Fofana (Willamette University), “Harragas and La pirogue: The Crucible of Clandestine Crossings”  
- Adrien Pouille (Wabash College), “Intertextuality between Senegalese and Sufi Literatures”

Session C—13 – Thursday 8:30-10:00  
Location: M108  
**Revolt**  
- **Chair:** Naminata Diabate, Cornell University  
- Jude Aigbe Agho (Ambrose Alli University), “Freedom from Imperialist Domination: Organized Revolt as an Imperative in the African Novel”  
- Naminata Diabate (Cornell University), “Sex Strike, Biopolitics, and the Literary Search for Justice”  
- Michael Montesano (Indiana University), “Revolt in Retrospect: Visions of Insurrection in Aimé Césaire’s Prose, Poetry and Drama”  
- Bosede Funke Afolayan (University of Lagos), “‘Domestic Politics’: Women’s revolt in Aristophanes’ *Lysistrata*, J.P Clark’s *Wives’ Revolt* and Julie Okoh’s *Edewede*.”
Session C—14 – Thursday 8:30-10:00
Location: 1.502
Afrocentrism Today
- Chair: Kerry Manzo, Texas Tech University
- Kerry Manzo (Texas Tech University), “African Authenticity: A Discourse of Power”
- Nicolas Bader (University of Virginia), “Dismantling Scholarly Monoliths: Fictional Afrocentrisme in Abdourahman Waberi’s Aux Etats-Unis d’Afrique”
- Ama Bemma Adwetewa-Badu (Clark University), “The Power of Sight: Hybridity, Dis(re)orienting and Un(re)defining Africanness in Aidoo’s Our Sister Killjoy”

Session D—1 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: A704
Poetics of Resistance
- Chair: Debra Boyd, North Carolina Central University
- Effiok B. Uwatt (University of Abuja), “Creativity And Fledgeling Third World Democracies: Socio-Political Activism In Odia Ofemun’s Resistant Poetry”
- Debra Boyd (North Carolina Central University), “Let Your Motto Be Resistance: The Struggle against Political Oppression in the Works of Mamani Abdoulaye (Niger) and Antoine Bangui (Chad)”
- H. Oby Okolocha (University of Benin), “The Faces of Janus: Politics and Violence in Julie Okoh’s A Haunting Past and Wumi Raji’s Another Life”

Session D—2 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: A708
Migration, Mobility, and Postcolonial Dystopia in African Creative Arts
- Chair: Samba Camara, Ohio University
- Samba Camara (Ohio University), “The Drama of Illegal Boat Migration in Touré’s La Pirogue (2012) and Laila Lalami’s Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits (2006)”
- Delali Kumavie (Northwestern University), “A Meditation on Anger: Migration, Mobility and the Condition of the Angry Female”

Session D—3 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: A706
Nollywood Studies
- Chair: Carmen McCain, Kwara State University
- Irene Salami-Agunloye (University of Jos), “Bad Girls, Wicked Mothers: Negotiating Feminist Shifts In The Nollywood Film”
- Aisha M. Umar (Federal University), “Image and Significance of the Drunk in Nollywood Movies”
- Carmen McCain (Kwara State University), “This is where our Lives Will End: Fighting Apocalyptic Disaster with Cinematic Wizardry in Kannywood Films”
Session D—4 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: A701
Corps et conflits
• Chair: Edgard Coly, Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey
• Viviane Koua (Auburn University), “L’oppression dictatoriale et la quête de la justice dans le roman La Vie Et Demie de Sony Labou Tansi”
• Ngozi Iloh (University of Benin), “Le Viol Comme Arme De Combat A Travers Femmes De Centrafrique: Âmes Vaillantes Au Coeur Brisé De Mété -Nguemeu: Où Est La Justice?”

Session D—5 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: A702
EC-Sponsored Seminar on Theory 1: Living in the Interstitial: Jeyifo and Postcolonial Thought
• Chair: Akin Adesokan, Indiana University Bloomington
• Tejumola Olaniyan (University of Wisconsin-Madison), “The Affirmative, the Interstitial: Jeyifo and an Inventory of Postcolonial Theory and Criticism”
• Eileen Julien (Indiana University Bloomington), “Duality”

Session D—6 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: A703
Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s Americanah
• Chair: Kathleen Hanggi, Doane College
• Louisa Uchum Egbonike (Manchester Metropolitan University), “From Orality or Augmented Reality: Social Justice and the Digital Realm in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s Americanah”
• Dorcas Iranwo-Oluwa Ewejobi (Redeemer’s University), “Identity And Racism: A Diasporic Expression (Adichie’s Americanah)”
• Kathleen Hanggi (Doane College), “Political and Sexual Passions: The Fantasy of President Obama in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s Americanah”
• Chinyere Otuu Egbuta (Abia State Polytechnic), “Representations of London in Contemporary Nigerian Fiction: The Example of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s Americanah”
• Chibueze Prince Orie (Abia State Polytechnic), “Women Meet Dystopia in Their America: A Feminist Study Of Americanah”

Session D—7 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: A707
Linguistics and Discourse
• Chair: Peter Vakunta, University of Indianapolis
• Peter Vakunta (University of Indianapolis), “Mapping Linguistic Vulnerability and Political Militancy in Cameroon”
• Michael M. Kretzer (Justus-Liebig University, Giessen), “Multilingual Linguistic Repertoire and Varieties of Code-Switching at Secondary Schools in Botswana: Case Study in Kgatleng, South-East and Southern Region”
• Ngozi Ezenwa-Ohaeto (Nnamdi Azikiwe University), “Recreating Femality: Reviewing the Implications of Igbo Gender-Based Expressions”
• Lekan Oyegoke (University of Botswana), “Aesthetic Ambivalence, Injustice And Collateral Damage in African Writing”
• Akin Adetunji (Emmanuel Alayande College of Education), “Anti-Culture Verbo-Cognitive Actions In Yoruba Postproverbial Discourse”
Session D—8 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: A602
Motherhood
• Chair: Cheryl Sterling, The City College of New York
• Cheryl Sterling (The City College of New York), “The Darker Mother, The Darker Other”
• Asabe Kabir Usman (The City College, CUNY), “Validity of Femininity and Womanhood: Childlessness as seen in the Hausa Film Na Hauwa (Hauwa’s very Own)”
• Kristen Nicole Reynolds (University of North Carolina Charlotte), “Economic turmoil and the legacy of the American Dream in Ann Petry’s The Street”

Session D—9 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: M109
Forms and Principles of the African Novel
• Chair: Michelle Decker, Scripps College
• Joel Nickels (University of Miami), “Nonstate Space and the Mass Strike in Ousmane Sembene’s Les bouts de bois de Dieu”
• Michelle Decker (Scripps College), “Hungry Poetics (Or, an Obscene Humanism)”
• Alex Wanjala (University of Nairobi), “Kenyan Literature and the Postcolonial Gothic”
• Mukti Mangharam (Rutgers University), “People Aren’t Things: Zakes Mda’s Black Diamond and Local Forms of Personhood”
• F. Odun Balogun (Delaware State University), “Novelistic Strategies for Promoting Justice And Human Dignity: What Do Danticat and Adichie Have in Common With Toni Morrison?”

Session D—10 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: M107
Africa and its Civil Rights Struggle for Justice and Human Dignity
• Chair: Carol Ijeoma Njoku, University of Nigeria, Nsukka
• Carol Ijeoma Njoku, Apollonia Anaele Nwosu & Cletus Obasi (University of Nigeria, Nsukka), “Transcending the Boundaries of Gender Rights of Headship and Inheritance”
• Carol Ijeoma Njoku (University of Nigeria, Nsukka), “Unmasking the Politics of International Criminal Justice: Narrativizing Justice Beyond the Court”

Session D—11 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: L503
Roundtable: Flora Nwapa on the 100 Naira Note: The Politics of Positioning Women into Nigeria’s Governing and Leadership Groups
• Chair: Obioma Nnaemeka (University of Nigeria, Nsukka)
• Marie Linton Umeh (CUNY), Roundtable Organizer
• Uzoma Nwakuche (Tana Press, Ltd., Enugu, Nigeria)
• Ifi Amadiume (Dartmouth College)
• Kema Chikwe
• Njideka Nwapa Ibuaka (African Abroad USA)
Session D—12 – Thursday 10:15-11:45
Location: M108
A Study of Violence in African Literature: “Child Soldiers Literature”
- Chair: Oumar Cherif Diop, Kennesaw State University
- Laura McCarter (Kennesaw State University), “Allah Is Not Obliged”
- Samantha Maxwell (Kennesaw State University), “A Long Way Gone”
- Hannah Smith (Kennesaw State University), “Beasts of No Nation”
- Amanda Slaughter (Kennesaw State University), “Johnny Mad Dog”

Session E—1 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: A704
Publics, Platforms, and Mobilities
- Chair: Moradewun Adejunmobi, University of California, Davis
- Lokangaka Losambe (University of Vermont), “The New African Diaspora Writer and His/Her Publics”
- Akin Adesokan (Indiana University), “From Pamphlets to Concert Party Theaters: Lagos’ Consuming Publics”
- Nathan Suhr-Sytsma (Emory University), “Reversed Extraversion? The Publics of New Nigerian Publishing”

Session E—2 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: A706
Images of Africa: challenging Italian national identity
- Chair: Simona Muratore, Emory University
- Laura Garrison (University of Georgia), “The Ethical Considerations of ‘il buonismo’: Photographic Representations of the Nigerian Sex Worker in Italy”
- Simona Muratore (Emory University), “Outside Looking In: Africa, Italian Language and Personal Identity”
- Fred Kuwornu [Independent filmmaker (Italy)], “A New Generation of Young Black Italian Leaders in Contemporary Italy”
- Angela Porcarelli (Emory University), “Notes Towards an African Orestes: Pier Paolo Pasolini e l’Africa”

Session E—3 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: A708
Space in Fiction and Performance
- Chair: Andrew H. Armstrong, University of the West Indies
- Jane Battisson (Emory University), “A Becoming Space – The Migrant Identity in Mabanckou’s Bleu Blanc Rouge”
- Dotun Ayobade (The University of Texas at Austin), “We Were On Top of the World!: Afrobeat Queens, Agency and the Poetics of Space”
- Sharon M. Babb (University of the West Indies), “Eric Walrond's Colon Man? The Problem of Blackness in Walrond's Panama Stories”
- Andrew H. Armstrong (University of the West Indies), “Mapping (Sacred) Space in Leila Aboulela’s Fiction”
- Kayode Omoniyi Ogunfolabi (Obafemi Awolowo University), “Space, Horror, and the Silenced Voices of Chika Unigwe’s On Black Sisters’ Street”
Session E—4 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: A705
Politics of Post-Independence
- Chair: Felisa Reynolds, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
  - Cary Campbell (Antioch College), “Ivoirité Always Already Allegorized: The National Imaginary in Attita Hino’s Le grand masque a menti”
  - James Straker (CO School of Mines), “Coming of Age after Allah Is Not Obliged: Of ‘Global Shadows’ and Youthful Optimism in Guinea’s Forest Region”
  - Felisa Reynolds (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign), “Maryse Condé’s La vie sans fards: Cahier d’un retour au pays natal?”
  - Aaron Cole (Western Carolina University), “The Capitalism of Colonialism as a See d for Neocolonialism in Ngugi Wa Thiong’o’s Petals of Blood”

Session E—5 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: A701
Creative Writing – Panel 1
- Chair: Mohamed Kamara (Washington and Lee University)
  - Faith Ben-Daniels (University of Education - Winneba, Ghana), “Gray Skies” (Short Story)
  - Chielozona Eze (Northeastern Illinois University), Survival Kit (Poems)
  - Elizabeth Nyager (University of Jos, Nigeria), “The Challenge of Faith” (Play)
  - Mohamed Kamara (Washington and Lee University), “The Way we Pray” (Short Story)
  - Soraya Mekerta (Spelman College), “Rhapsodie pour l’entre deux or, Rhapsodie for the In-Between”

Session E—6 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Nnedi Okorafor and Science Fiction
- Chair: Cassandra L. Jones, University of South Carolina Upstate
  - Cassandra L. Jones (University of South Carolina Upstate), “Decentering the West: Alien Invasion and Decolonization in Nnedi Okorafor’s Lagoon”
  - Emily Davis (University of Delaware), “Reimagining Human Rights in Nnedi Okorafor’s Who Fears Death”
  - Laura Edmunds (Perimeter College at Georgia State University), “Technology, Storyverse, and the Possibility of Justice in the Fiction of Nnedi Okorafor”
  - Sheila Smith McKoy (North Carolina State University), “Justice, Posthumanism and the Specter of Biopower in Octavia Butler’s Fledgling and Nnedi Okorafor’s The Book of the Phoenix”
  - Foluke Aliyu-Ibrahim (University of Ilorin), “Difference, Social Injustice And African Writers: The Case Of Nnedi Okorafor And Abubakar Adam Abdullahi”

Session E—7 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: A703
Critical Reflections on the Idea of Justice
- Chair: Bernth Lindfors, University of Texas at Austin
  - Ngozi Chuma-Udeh (Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University), “Conceptualizing Retributive Justice and Human Dignity in Chinua Achebe’s Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God”
  - Julia Udoifa (University of Uyo), “Justice, Human Rights And Human Dignity: A Study Of Sefi Atta’s Everything Good Will Come”
  - Bernth Lindfors (University of Texas at Austin), “Dennis Brutus’s Statement from the Dock and the Question of Justice”
  - Kuldip K. Kuwahara (North Carolina Central University), “Injustice Anywhere is a Threat to Justice Everywhere.’ Reflections on the Ideas of Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, and Nelson Mandela”
  - Guillaume Coly (University of South Carolina), “Double standards in Mourning”
Session E—8 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: A707
- **Chair:** Clarissa Vierke, Bayreuth University
- Akintunde Akinyemi (University of Florida), “Yoruba Playwrights as Human Right Activists: A Study of Songs of Protests and Resistance in Selected Drama of Akin Isola and Femi Osofisan”
- Annachiara Raia (University of Napoli & Bayreuth University), “The social commitment of Swahili poetry. Taking the example of Mahmoud Mau’s tenzi poetry”
- Clarissa Vierke (Bayreuth University), “How to be Good: The Moral Concern Across Swahili Literary Genres”

Session E—9 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: A602
Roundtable: Quest for the Right to Be: Women’s Rights Violations in African Literature and Film
- **Chair:** Helen Chukwuma (Jackson State University), Chair
- Anthonia C. Kalu (University of California Riverside)
- T. Akachi Ezeigbo (Federal University, Ndufu-Alike)
- Asabe Kabir-Usman (University of Jos)
- Irene Agunloye (University of Jos)
- Chioma Opara (Rivers State University of Science and Technology)
- Thelma Pinto (Hobart and William Smith Colleges)

Session E—10 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: M109
FRACALA-Sponsored Panel: Old and New Directions in Francophone Studies
- **Chair:** Edgard Sankara, University of Delaware
- Herve Tchumkam (Southern Methodist University), “Littératures francophones et devoir d’indignation: théorie d’une pensée intempestive”
- Ramon A. Fonkoue (Michigan Technological University), “Un passé qui ne passe pas: L’expérience de la Traite transatlantique dans Hummusde Fabienne Kanor etLa saison de l’ombre de LéonoraMiano”
- Gerard Keubeung (University of Tennessee Knoxville), “Viscéral de Rachid Djaïdani ou la chronique du désespoir dans les banlieues françaises”

Session E—12 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: L503
Redefining Identity in Twentieth Century Diasporic Texts
- **Chair:** Mahriana Rofheart (Georgia Gwinnett College)
- Kelly Glass (Georgia Gwinnett College), “The Folly of Leaving Africa Behind: The Construction of Black Identity through Assimilation”
- Spencer Baker (Georgia Gwinnett College), “Reshaping the Past through Historical Fiction in I, Tituba, Black Witch of Salem”
- Julie Thompson (Georgia Gwinnett College), “Marxist Feminism and Black Beauty Symbols”
- Maria Windom (Georgia Gwinnett College), “Literature as Being: Caribbean Identity in the Works of Jamaica Kincaid and Edward Kamau Brathwaite”
Session E—13 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: M108
**Folklore in African Literature as a Tool in the Defense of Human Dignity and Justice**
- **Chair:** Allison Pine, Georgia State University
- Allison Pine (Georgia State University), “A Toad Does Not Run in the Daytime for Nothing: The Interplay of Gender and Folklore in *Things Fall Apart*”
- Elizabeth Olaoye (Baze University, Abuja, Nigeria), “Reclaiming the Dignity of Womanhood Through Myth in Two Novels by Nnedi Okorafor”
- Elżbieta Binczycka (Jagiellonian University), “The Fathers May Soar and the Children May Know their Names: Women Storytellers and the Flying Africans Myth”

Session E—14 – Thursday 1:45-3:15
Location: M107
**Roundtable: Writing “America” through South Africa**
- **Chair:** Ronit Frenkel, University of Johannesburg
- Shane Graham (Utah State University)
- Kirk Sides (University of Witwatersrand)
- Andrea Spain (Mississippi State University)

Session F—1 – Thursday 3:30-5:00
Location: A704
**LHCALA-Sponsored Panel: Im/Mobilities in Times of Transnational Movements: Hispano-African Drama, Poetry, and Narrative**
- **Co-Chair:** Julia Borst, University of Bremen
- **Co-Chair:** Juliane Tauchnitz, University of Leipzig
- Julia Borst (University of Bremen), “Being Im/Mobile: Migrant Characters in Afro-Spanish Narratives”
- Juliane Tauchnitz (University of Leipzig), “The Challenge of the Strait. From the Migratory Drama in the Mediterranean to the Hispano-Maghrebian Dramatic Text”
- Dorothy Odartey-Wellington (University of Guelph), “Walls, Borders, and Fences in Hispano-Saharawi Creative Expression”

Session F—2 – Thursday 3:30-5:00
Location: A706
**Film and Visual Media Caucus-Sponsored Roundtable: Cinemas of Haiti/Haiti in Cinema**
- **Co-Chair:** MaryEllen Higgins, Penn State University
- **Co-Chair:** Doris Posch, New York University
- Michelange Quay (Filmmaker)
- Regine O. Jackson (Agnes Scott College)
- Julie Papaioannou (University of Rochester)
Session F—3 – Thursday 3:30-5:00
Location: A708
**After Violence: Narratives of Post-Conflict in African Literature and Film**
- **Chair:** George MacLeod, University of Pennsylvania
- Michelle Bumatay (Willamette University), “Congo 50: Drawing (on) Fifty Years of Struggle”
- George MacLeod (University of Pennsylvania), “Waiting for Violence: Trauma and its Aftermath in Francophone African Film”

Session F—4 – Thursday 3:30-5:00
Location: A705
**African Cinema**
- **Chair:** Oumar Cherif Diop, Kennesaw State University
- Kasongo Kapanga (University of Richmond), Popular Discourse of Justice and Dignity in Choirs, Video Plays and Cinema in the D. R. Congo.
- Seydina Diouf (University of South Carolina), The African identity and the global agenda: the search for the universal in African cinema
- Thérèse De Raedt (University of Utah, Salt Lake City), “Conquering the Atlantic Waves”
- Minata Kone (University of Cocody-Abidjan), “The Ngugario or marriage in Fiction and Real Life”

Session F—5 – Thursday 3:30-5:00
Location: A701
**Creative Writing – Panel 2**
- **Chair:** Samuel Zadi, Central Connecticut State University
- Fidelis Odun Balogun (Delaware State University), “The Interview” (A short story)
- Deborah Nyangulu (University of Munster), “Bikini Patient” (Short story)
- Doug Kaze (Rhodes University), “Pieces of Broken Sun” (Poetry)
- Elinettie Chabwera (Independent Scholar), “The Cost of Love” (Short story)
- Dorcas Iranwo-Oluwa Ewejobi ( Redeemer’s University, Nigeria), “Rising Sun” (Short story)

Session F—6 – Thursday 3:30-5:00
Location: A702
- **Chair:** Ernest Emenyonu, University of Michigan-Flint
- Helen Chukwuma (Jackson State University)
- Maureen Eke (Central Michigan University)
- Bernth Lindfors (University of Texas at Austin)
- Eustace Palmer (Georgia College and State University)
- Kwawisi Tekpetey (Central State University)

Session F—7 – Thursday 3:30-5:00
Location: A703
**Global Health**
- **Chair:** Alvan Ikoku, Stanford University
- Alvan Ikoku (Stanford University), “Health and Modern Literature in Kenya”
- Babafemi Babatope (Lagos State University), “Social Justice, Human Dignity and the Intercourse of Fiction and Reality in Yinka Egbokhare’s *Dazzling Mirage*”

Session F—8 – Thursday 3:30-5:00
Location: A707
**Roundtable: Remembering Assia Djebar, her life, her works, her legacy**
- **Chair:** Mimi Mortimer, University of Colorado, Boulder
- Marjolijn de Jager
- Anne Donadey (San Diego State University)
- Sonia Lee (Trinity College)
- Odile Cazenave (Boston University)
- Pamela Pears (Washington College)
Session F—9 – Thursday 3:30-5:00  
Location: A602  
Flora Nwapa’s Efuru at 50!  
• Chair: Ifi Amadiume, Dartmouth College  
• Mokoko Akongo Louis Marain (Université Marien Ngouabi, Congo/Brazzaville), “Male Characters in Flora Nwapa’s Efuru”  
• Marie Linton Umeh (CUNY), “The Priestess Reigns Supreme in Flora Nwapa’s Novels Efuru and The Lake Goddess”  
• T. Akachi Ezeigbo (Federal University, Ndufu-Alike), “Uwa Umunwanyi, Uwa Oma: Flora Nwapa and Women’s History and Culture in Efuru and Idu”  
• Nonnyelum Chibuzo Mba (University of Abuja), “Womanist Alternatives, Rights and Social Justice in Flora Nwapa’s Efuru”  

Session F—11 – Thursday 3:30-5:00  
Location: M107  
Feminine Authority  
• Chair: Nneka Nora Osakwe, Albany State University  
• Enajite Eseoghene Ojaruega (Delta State University), “Damaged Identities and their Restoration: Patriarchy as Social and Psychological Injustice in African Women’s Novels”  
• Terri Fleming-Dright (CSU Dominguez), “Intimacy Voiced: The Social Structures that Subvert and (re) Translate Images of Womanhood in A Very Long Letter”  
• Chinyere Nwahunanya (Abia State University), “Violence on Women, Violence by Women: Re-Reading Justice and Human Dignity in Ken Saro Wiwa’s Lemoa’s Tale”  
• Nneka Nora Osakwe (Albany State University), “Writing Rights and Responsibilities: Analysis of Select Works of Women Writers”  

Session A—10 – Thursday 3:30-5:00  
Location: M109  
The Discursive Quality between South Africa and its Diaspora  
• Chair: James McCorkle, Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
• Keiko Kusunose (Kyoto Seika University), “How women are depicted in the South African novels?”  
• Thelma Pinto (Hobart and William Smith Colleges), “Intersectionality and Nadia David’s An Imperfect Blessing; and Lewis Nkosi’s Underground People”  
The Politics and Aesthetics of African Patriographies 2: African Father Writing and Critique in the Novel

• Chair: Carli Coetzee, SOAS, University of London
• Nabutanyi Edgar (Makerere University), “Autocratic Fatherhood, Violent Sexuality, and Critique in Mark Behr’s The Smell of Apples”
• Megan Cole Paustian (North Central College), “The Practice of Diasporic Fatherhood”
• Magdalena Pfalzgraf (Goethe University Frankfurt), “Adoption and Postcolonial Critique: Petina Gappah’s The Book of Memory”
• Adwoa Atta Opoku-Agyemang (University of Toronto), “Patriography and Death in Chuma Nwokolo’s Diaries of a Dead African”

Session F—13 – Thursday 3:30-5:00
Location: M108
WOCALA-Sponsored Panel: Unacknowledged Women and Social Justice

• Chair: P. Jane Splawn, Livingstone College
• Anthonia E. Ezeugo (Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University), “Widowhood Rites A Bane of Human Rights: Re-echoing Feminism in Ngozi Chuma”
• Elizabeth Nyager (University of Jos), “Negotiating Patriarchy for Women Empowerment and Emancipation: A case study of Zainab Alkali’s The Descendants”
• Chuma-Udeh Munachukwuso (Univeristy of Nigeria), “Gender Issues, Repression And Derogation In Ngozi Chuma-Udeh’s Echoes Of A New Dawn”
• Virginia Phiri, “Invisible Liberators – Sex Workers Of The 1970s”

Session F—14 – Thursday 3:30-5:00
Location: L502
Twenty-First Century South African Literature: Combating Current Human Rights Abuses

• Chair: Renée Schatteman, Georgia State University
• Paige Sullivan (Georgia State University), “Fitting Within Liminal Spaces: The Contested Space of the Albino Female Body in Meg Vandermerwe’s Zebra Crossing”
• Adamu Pangmeshi (University of Maroua), “Illusion of Freedom and Traumatic Memories in J.M Coetzee’s Disgrace and Zakes Mda’s The Heart of Redness”
• Andy Fentem (Georgia State University), “Suicide and Witchcraft in Phaswane Mpe’s Welcome to Our Hillbrow: Modes of Denial in Stigma and Taboo”
• Renée Schatteman (Georgia State University), “Literary Representations of HIV and AIDS in South Africa: Writing Polemic and Beyond”

Thursday April 7, 5:15-6:45pm

Chris Abani

Keynote Lecture:
“The Price of the Ticket: A Meditation on Fluidity and Identity”

Location: Atrium A

Book-Signing to Follow

With special thanks to:
Sewanee: The University of the South
Georgia Institute of Technology
Kennesaw State University
Caucus & Committee Business Meetings
Thursday 8:00-9:00pm

Afrophone Caucus (ACALA)
Location: A705

Luso/Hispanophone Caucus (LHCALA)
Location: A702

Film and Visual Media (FVM) Caucus
Location: A707

Translation Caucus (TRACALA)
Location: A703

Francophone Caucus (FRACALA)
Location: A706

Women’s Caucus (WOCALA)
Location: A704

Graduate Student Caucus (GSCALA)
Location: A701

Teaching & Research Committee
Location: A708

“Soundings: An Evening Of Readings In Mother Tongue African Languages”

Sponsored by TRACALA
Thursday April 7, 9-11pm

Convener: Pamela J. Olübünmi Smith (University of Nebraska & Omaha)

Location: Atrium A

For the scholar-translators engaged in the translation of African mother tongue literary works, this annual TRACALA-sponsored “Soundings: An evening of Readings in Mother Tongue African Languages” presentation is a delightful, edifying, and affirming evening of performance readings, validating the source of the literary works from which we translate. The readings span the entire gamut of traditional African literature: fiction, poetry, songs, dirges, oriki, folk tales, adages, etc. As with past readings, a named-group of presenters kicks off the session after which the audience is invited to a remarkable impromptu, “free-for-all,” participatory, “no-limits” contribution of: sample traditional dance-steps, women’s palaver reenactments, classic highlife tunes of yester years, childhood games, folk tale songs & refrains, proverbs, riddles & jokes, etc.

Participants:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Akintunde Akinyemi</td>
<td>Yoruba (Nigeria)</td>
<td>University of Florida, Gainesville</td>
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<td>Ada Azodo</td>
<td>Igbo (Nigeria)</td>
<td>Purdue University, Calumet</td>
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<td>Ernest Emenyonu</td>
<td>Igbo (Nigeria)</td>
<td>University of Michigan-Flint</td>
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<td>Joyce Dixon-Fyle</td>
<td>Krio (Sierra Leone)</td>
<td>DePauw University</td>
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<td>Eustace Palmer</td>
<td>Krio (Sierra Leone)</td>
<td>Georgia College</td>
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<td>Irene D’Almeida</td>
<td>Fon (Benin)</td>
<td>University of Arizona</td>
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<td>Peter Vakunta</td>
<td>Camfranglais (Cameroon)</td>
<td>University of Indianapolis</td>
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<td>Joyce Ashuntantang</td>
<td>Kenyang (Cameroon)</td>
<td>University of Hartford</td>
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Session G—1 – Friday 8:30-10:00
Location: A704
New Media and African Futures
- Chair: Marame Gueye, East Carolina University
  - Marame Gueye (East Carolina University), “Shredding the News: Hip Hop, Creativity, and Freedom of Speech”
  - Babasimisola Fadirepo (Ezra University), Social Media As Protest Literature: An Appraisal Of Arab Uprising
  - Kwabena Opoku-Agyemang (West Virginia University), “InstaCoat!: Social Media, Globalization, and the Ghanaian Digital Space”
  - Ann Reading (University of Pennsylvania), “The Representation of Human Rights, Social Justice, and Africa in Video Games”

Session G—2 – Friday 8:30-10:00
Location: A706
Memory and Conflict
- Chair: Aly Hanan Hashem, Michigan State University
  - Brandon Guernsey (St. Mary’s - Maryland), “Commemorating the Thiaroye Massacre: Calls for justice in Francophone African Literature and Film”
  - Paul Toure (Millikin University), The Ethics of Storytelling: Colonial Archives and the Production of Cultural Memory in Mont Plaisant by Patrice Nganang”
  - Aly Hanan Hashem (Michigan State University), “Dispossession And The Aesthetics Of Resistance In Yasmina Bouraoui’s Tomboy”
  - Christopher N. Okonkwo (University of Missouri), “A Portrait of the Diarist/Artist as a Mugabe Green Bomber: Brian Chikwava’s Harare North”

Session G—3 – Friday 8:30-10:00
Location: A708
Diaspora in Text and Performance
- Chair: Nihad M. Farooq, Georgia Institute of Technology
  - Nihad M. Farooq (Georgia Institute of Technology), “Performing Diaspora: Katherine Dunham and The Science of Speaking (for) Haiti”
  - Cherie Maiden (Furman University), “Adichie and Selasi: Culture, Identity, and Social Justice”
  - Ngwarsungu Chiwengo (Creighton University), “Loss and regeneration of African and Diasporic dignity and Liberation: Mpoyi Buatu, Ayi Kwei Armah, Alice Walker and Gloria Naylor”
  - Amany Dahab (Western University), “Radwa Ashour: Interweaving Africa’s Issues into a Woman Writer’s Circles of Life and Literature”

Session G—4 – Friday 8:30-10:00
Location: A705
Feminist Imaginaries
- Chair: Jill Planche, Brock University
  - Eyiwumi Bolutito Olayinka (University of Ibadan), “Product of the Uncanny Whirlwind, Presented in the Uncanny: the Simulacra of (wo)human Rights and the Postmodern Francophone Feminist”
  - Jill Planche (Brock University), “The ‘Feminist Geopolitical Imaginary’ in For the Mercy of Water and What the Water Gave Me”
  - Mary Kolawole (Kwara State University), “A Question of Right: (Re)imagining Women’s Dignity in New generation African Literature”
  - Ibeku Ijeoma Ann (Federal University of Oye-Ekiti), “Female Identity and Voice in Toni Morrison’s Paradise and Buchi Emecheta’s Kebinde”
Session G—5 – Friday 8:30-10:00
Location: A701
Futurity and Emancipation
- Chair: Sandra Sousa, University of Central Florida
- Renée Larrier (Rutgers), “Imagining Justice in 21st-century Haiti: Dictatorship, Postmemory, and Fiction”
- Haythem Guesmi (Université de Montréal), “The Problem with Transitional Justice: The Case of Tunisia’s Truth and Dignity Commission”
- Simeon Osazuwa (Ambrose Alli University), “The Quest For Humanism And Justice In The Works Of Sony Labou Tansi”
- Nina H. B. Jørgensen (The Chinese University of Hong Kong), “Transitional Justice and Temporality from Homer to Okri”

Session G—6 – Friday 8:30-10:00
Location: A702
Roundtable: Secrets, gossip, ethnography
- Chair: Carli Coetzee, SOAS, University of London
- Jacob Dlamini (Princeton University)
- Harry Garuba (University of Cape Town)
- Grace A. Musila (Stellenbosch University)

Session G—7 – Friday 8:30-10:00
Location: A703
- Co-Chair: Cilas Kemedjio, University of Rochester
- Co-Chair: Valérie Loichot, Emory University
- Kirk B. Sides (University of the Witwatersrand), “Relating to and Through Land: An Ecology of Relations in Thomas Mofolo’s Chaka”

Session G—8 – Friday 8:30-10:00
Location: A707
North African Cinema Between Home and Diaspora: Global Circulation, Language, and Identity
- Chair: Ziad Bentahar
- Suzanne Gauch (Temple University), “Dark Dispersals: Film Noir and Recent Moroccan Cinema”
- Daniela Merolla (Leiden University), “Amazigh/Berber Cinema in North Africa and Europe”
- Ziad Bentahar (Towson University), “The Cinematic Legacy of Assia Djebar: The Language of Identity in La Nouba des femmes du Mont Chenoua”

Session G—9 – Friday 8:30-10:00
Location: A602
Language Politics
- Chair: Meg Arenberg, Indiana University
- Meg Arenberg (Indiana University), “Genres of Exclusion: Swahili Language and Resistance to Nation in M.G. Vassanji’s Fiction”
- Tomi Adeaga (University of Vienna), “Multilingualism and African Literatures”
- Beatrice Chinaka (University of Port Harcourt), “Pidgin English as an Apparatus of the ‘Alter-Native’ Tradition: Ezenwa Ohaeto’s Stylistic Perspective”

Session G—10 – Friday 8:30-10:00
Location: M107
Financialization and its Discontents
- Chair: Bryan C. Chitwood, Emory University
- Bryan C. Chitwood (Emory University), “Valuing Nigerian Poetry, 1990-Present”
Session G—11 – Friday 8:30-10:00  
Location: L503  
**Feminism, Gender, and Sexuality**  
- Chair: Jennifer Donahue, The University of Arizona  
- Immaculate Kizza (The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga), “Rethinking Polygyny in Africa: African Women Writers’ Stance”  
- Paul Kennedy Ndubuisi Enesha (Imo State University), “The Touchstones Of Feminism And The Poetics Of Human Rights In Mustafa Sophia’s Broken Reed And Mariama Ba’s So Long A Letter”  
- Shimawua Atimga (University of Abuja), “Sexuality, Gendered Justice and Dignity”  

Session G—12 – Friday 8:30-10:00  
Location: M108  
**Revisiting Ken Saro-Wiwa’s Sozaboy**  
- Chair: Gretchen Busl, Texas Women’s University  
- Edward Royston (North Lake College), “The Affect of Rotten English”  
- Tonya Blivens (Tarrant County College), “Ken Saro-Wiwa’s Sozaboy: An Argument for Multilingualism?”  
- Dulce De Castro (Collin College), “The Power of Sozaboy’s ‘Rotten English’”

Session G—13 – Friday 8:30-10:00  
Location: L502  
**Immigrés en quête de dignité**  
- Chair: Lucie Viakinnou-Brinson, Kennesaw State University  
- Jeffrey Zajdel (Kennesaw State University), “Les visages de l’immigration”  
- Nicole Ward (Kennesaw State University), “Racisme et rejet de l’autre dans les nouvelles de Fatou Diome”  
- Christian Ahihou (Creekside High School), “Représentations des thèmes de migration transafricaine et de dignité humaine dans le roman d’expression française d’Afrique subsaharienne”

Session H—1 – Friday 10:15-11:45  
Location: A704  
**Migration, Identity and Human Dignity in African and African Diasporic Texts**  
- Chair: Anne F. Carlson, Spelman College  
- Anne F. Carlson (Spelman College), “Migration, Identity and Human Dignity in Kadija Leclere’s La Sac de farine”  
- Bronwyn Averett (Emory University), “Currents: Remembering the Transatlantic Slave Trade in the Discourse of Migration”

Session H—2 – Friday 10:15-11:45  
Location: A706  
**Pedagogies of African Literature and Culture**  
- Chair: Dale Byam, Brooklyn College  
- Tor J. Iorapu (University of Jos), “Narratives of Displacement and the Challenges of Missing Pedagogies of Culture and Social Justice in Central Nigeria.”  
- M. Africanus Aveh (University of Ghana), “Ananse in the Land of Idiots: Teaching Social Justice and Human Dignity through African Drama and Film”  
- Dale Byam (Brooklyn College), “Shifting The Paradigm—Revisiting Anansi As Interloper In The Classroom”  
- Peter Vakunta (University of Indianapolis), “Poetic Logorrhea: Emerging Pedagogical Perspectives on the Poetry of Bate Besong”
Session H—3 – Friday 10:15-11:45
Location: A708
Art and Writing
• Chair: Sue E. Houchins, Bates College
• Onoda Fuko (Osaka University), “The Image of Circle in the Swahili Author Euphrase Kezilahabi’s Works”
• Ashleah Wimberly (Mississippi State University), “‘You Are as Privileged as Any Sculptor’: Reclaiming an Identity through the Construction of Art in David Dabydeen’s Disappearance”
• Sope Maithufi (University of South Africa), “Dissonant cadences of reclamation in Zwelidumile Feni’s Art”
• Kevin Hickey (Albany College), “Un Nègre à Deutschland—Africans Abroad and Changing Visions of “Blackness” and “Whiteness”
• Sue E. Houchins (Bates College), “Textual Alchemy: The Power of the Word in Gloria Naylor’s Mama Day”

Session H—4 – Friday 10:15-11:45
Location: A705
History and Fiction in African Culture
• Chair: Geetha Ramanathan, West Chester University
• Valerian DeSousa (West Chester University), “The Time of the Other in the History of the Nation”
• Jennifer Henton (Hofstra University), “The Future of the Seditious Past: Afro-Futurism and Psychoanalysis in Nnedi Okorafor’s Who Fears Death”
• Geetha Ramanathan (West Chester University), “History and Fiction in Nadine Gordimer’s Novels”

Session H—5 – Friday 10:15-11:45
Location: A701
LHCAULA-Organized Panel:
Identity Formation and Memory in Lusophone Africa
• Chair: Nicola Trowbridge Cooney, Princeton University
• Nicola Trowbridge Cooney (Princeton University), “Que África ensina o professor de português?” Reflections on Teaching “Lusophone Africa” in the American Classroom”
• Satty Flaherty-Echeverria (University of Minnesota), “Jornal Cultura: Defending Art, History, and the Creation of Angolan Letters”
• Xiaoxi Zhang (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor), “Re-Imagining Identity: Two versions/visions of Rainha Ginga”

Session H—6 – Friday 10:15-11:45
Location: A702
EC-Sponsored Seminar on Theory 2: Ethics of Reading: Revisiting Jeyifo’s Scholarship
• Chair: Tejumola Olaniyan, University of Wisconsin-Madison
• Ato Quayson (University of Toronto), “A Critic Reading Writing: Biodun Jeyifo on The Road”
• Moradewun Adejunmobi (University of California, Davis), “Reading BJ’s Nollywood”
• Olakunle George (Brown University), “Reading The Yoruba Popular Travelling Theater of Nigeria (1984)”
Session H—7 – Friday 10:15-11:45
Location: A707
**Human Rights and Issues Committee-Sponsored Panel: Does Blackness Matter to African Literature?**
- **Chair:** Tsitsi Jaji, Duke University
- Julie Cairnie (University of Guelph), “Do Black Lives Matter in Canada?”
- Shane McCoy (University of Washington), “Teaching the “Outsider Within”: Counter-Narratives in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s Americanah (2013)”

Session H—8 – Friday 10:15-11:45
Location: A602
**Dignity, Ideology, and African Critical Theory**
- **Chair:** Emmanuel Yewah, Albion College
- Emmanuel Yewah (Albion College), “Re-Imagining the Concepts of Justice and Dignity in the African Text”
- Akin Olaniji (The Polytechnic), “Towards an Indigenous Ideology for African Literary Interpretation”
- Chika Mba (Rhodes University), “The Dialectis of Emancipatory Universalism: Engendering Fanon’s Political Aesthetics in a World of Neoliberal Dominance”
- T. M. E. Chukwumezie (University of Nigeria, Nsukka), “Conflicting Views About Justice In Achebe’s Fictions”

Session H—9 – Friday 10:15-11:45
Location: M109
**Revisiting Anthologies of African Poetry: Texts and the Politics of Representation**
- **Chair:** Oyeniyi Okunoye, Obafemi Awolowo University
- Kofi Anyidoho (University of Ghana), Discussant
- Oyeniyi Okunoye (Obafemi Awolowo University), “Badilisha Poetry X-Change and the Imperative of Rethinking the Possibilities of Anthologizing African Poetry”
- Shola Adenekan (Universität Bremen), “Class and Contemporary Nigerian and Kenyan Poetry in a Digital Age”
- Kadija George (University of Brighton), “Hope in Unity in the Poetry of Lotus”

Session H—10 – Friday 10:15-11:45
Location: M107
**African Literature, World Literature and Unevenness**
- **Chair:** Susan Andrade, University of Pittsburgh
- Monica Popescu (McGill University) “Aesthetic Difference, the Afro-Asian Writers Association and the Cold War”
- Susan Andrade (University of Pittsburgh), “World Literature, Globalization, Commodification and Transcendent Value”
- Kenneth Harrow (Michigan State University), “‘Where ya from?’ Teju Cole, Boris Diop and the World”

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**Kennesaw State University**

**Emory University**

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Session H—11 – Friday 10:15-11:45
Location: L503
Violence feminine
• Chair: J. Ariane Ngabeu, Middlebury College
• J. Ariane Ngabeu (Middlebury College), “Identité féminine chez Angèle Rawiri: Une lecture de Fureurs et cris de femmes”
• Lise Mba Ekani (Lousiana State), “D’une violence à une autre: la justice au féminin chez Aïda Mady Diallo et Lyonel Trouillot”
• Fatou Toure Cisse (Université Felix Houphouet-Boigny), “L’engagement littéraire d’une femme ivoirienne contre l’excision en Afrique: Le cas du couteau brûlant d’Hami Traoré”
• Patoimbasba Nikiema (West Virginia University), “Ombre Sultane: Au-delà de l’écriture, une reconstruction du regard de l’autre”

Session H—12 – Friday 10:15-11:45
Location: M108
Nawal El Saadawi and Her Contemporaries
• Chair: Oumar Cherif Diop, Kennesaw State University
• Omolola A Ladele (Lagos State University), “Art, Theology, and Ideology and the Quest for Justice in the Dramaturgy of Nawal el Saadawi”
• Oumar Chérif Diop & Lucie Viakinnou-Brinson (Kennesaw State University), “Fiction Writing: Women, Authority and Agency in Nawal Al Saadawi and Sony Labou Tansi”
• Mary Nwakaego Okolie (University of Nigeria), “The Girl Child And Africa: Mutilation And Rape In Ngugi Wa Thiong’o’s The River Between And Nawal El Saadawi’s Women At Point Zero”

Session H—14 – Friday 10:15-11:45
Location: A703
Sierra Leonean Literature Panel 2: “Justice and Human Dignity in Sierra Leonean literature”
• Chair: Ernest Cole, Hope College
• Ernest Cole (Hope College), “The In(Dignity) of Dying: Human Rights and the Culture of Violence in Sierra Leone”
• Abioseh Michael Porter (Drexel University), “All Tehm for Tiff Man, Wan Dey for Buk Pipul Dehm: Sierra Leonean Authors and the Resurgence of Human Dignity in West African Fiction”
• Mohamed Kamara (Washington and Lee University), “The Anatomy of Violence in the Novels of Aminatta Forna”
• Joyce Dixon-Fyle (DePauw University), “The Crisis of (in)dignity in two novels by Eustace Palmer: A Pillar of the Community and A Tale of Three Women”

Friday 12:45-1:45
Location: Routledge Booth, Atrium Foyer
“Meet the JALA Editor Reception” (sponsored by Routledge)

Friday 1:45pm
Lecture: Fred Kuwornu
“Diversity in the Media”
Location: Atrium A
Session I—1 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: A704
Education and Human Rights Advocacy in Africa and the Diaspora
  • Chair: Otrude N. Moyo, University of Michigan-Flint
  • Lulama O.M. Hawkes (Clark University), “Human Rights Uptake at Grassroots: Children’s Literature, Spoken Word in the Diaspora”
  • Otrude N. Moyo (University of Michigan-Flint) & Lulama O.M. Hawkes (Clark University), “Unlearning Apartheid; Speaking the Unspeakable; Cultivating Human Rights and Social Justice through Ubuntu: A Case Example from Eastern Cape, South Africa”

Session I—2 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: A706
Projecting Trauma in African Cinema
  • Chair: MaryEllen Higgins, Penn State University
  • MaryEllen Higgins (Penn State University), “Traumatized Subjects in Sembène’s Cinema”
  • Jane Bryce (University of the West Indies), “April is the Cruellest Month: Time, Myth and Trauma in the Rwandan Genocide Film”
  • Frank Ukadike (Tulane University), “Politics, Narrative and Subjectivities in Fanta Regina Nacro’s The Night Of Truth”
  • Maureen N. Eke (Central Michigan University), “Trauma and Visual Narrative: Reflections on Select South African Films”

Session I—3 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: A708
  • Chair: Alessandra Benedicty-Kokken, The City College of New York
  • Subha Xavier (Emory University), “From Immigration to Terrorism: Reflecting on Abderrahmane Sissako’s Cinematic Ethics of Migrancy”
  • Christian Flauge (SUNY Buffalo), “The Matter of Haitian Mobility: Agnant, Depestre, and Disability”
  • Trésor Simon Yoassi (St. Lawrence University), “The Staging of Sacrifice: Léonora Miano L’Intérieur de la Nuit and Contours du jour qui vient”

Session I—4 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: A705
Ben Okri
  • Chair: Daria Tunca, University of Liège
  • Marissa Compton (Brigham Young University), “Ritualized Rebirth and Maternal Claiming: Bathing in The Famished Road”
  • Chike Okoye (Nnamdi Azikiwe University), “Tr(e)ading Experiences: Social (In)Justice in Ben Okri’s The Famished Road and Yvonne Vera’s The Stone Virgins”
Session I—5 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: A701
**Human Rights and Issues Committee-Sponsored Panel: Dissenting Voices**
- **Chair**: Eleni Coundouriotis, University of Connecticut
- Evan M. Mwangi (Northwestern University), “Sentence, Dissidence, and National Trauma in Yvonne Owuor’s Dust”
- Eleni Coundouriotis (University of Connecticut), “The Historian as Dissident”
- Monica Popescu (McGill University), “Transition Magazine and Cultural Dissidence during the Cold War”
- Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut), “Dissidence as Celebrity, Dissidence as Commodity”

Session I—6 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: A702
- **Chair**: Cajetan Iheka, University of Alabama
- Cajetan Iheka (University of Alabama), Book discussant
- Brady Smith (University of Chicago), Book discussant
- Duncan Yoon (University of Alabama), Book discussant
- Byron Caminero-Santangelo (University of Kansas), Respondent

Session I—7 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: A703
**Justice in Vernacular Performance**
- **Chair**: Edith Awogu-Maduagwu, Covenant University
- Mercy Agha Onu (Ebonyi State University), “Conceptualizing Violence in Edda Traditional Society: The Epic Of Ina Ajapam

Session I—8 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: A707
**African Autobiography**
- **Chair**: John C. Hawley, Santa Clara University
- Rebecca Fasselt (University of Pretoria), “Revisiting the Idea of Pan-Africanism in Es’kia Mphahlele’s The Wanderers and Kole Omotoso’s Season of Migration to the South”
- John C. Hawley (Santa Clara University), “Exile and the Prophet’s Voice”
Session I—9 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: M109

**Edwidge Danticat**
- **Chair:** Barbara Webb, Hunter College / CUNY
- Moussa Thiao (Indiana University), “Growing up Away from Home: The Tropes of Memory and Belonging in Edwidge Danticat’s *Breath, Eyes, Memory* and Moses Isegawa’s *Abyssinian Chronicles*”
- Simone A. James Alexander (Seton Hall University), “Edwidge Danticat’s Quest for Social Justice”
- Barbara Webb (Hunter College / CUNY), “Memory, Mourning and the Crisis of the Present: Edwidge Danticat’s *The Farming of Bones*”
- Pauline Ada Uwakweh (North Carolina A & T State University), “Unsettling Journeys: Gender Violence and the Quest for Freedom in Edwidge Danticat’s *Breath, Eyes, Memory*”

Session I—10 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: A602

**Roundtable: Oxford Street, Accra**
- **Chair:** Carli Coetzee, SOAS, University of London
- Harry Garuba (University of Cape Town)
- Ato Quayson (University of Toronto)

Session I—11 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: M107

**Jeux et enjeux linguistiques dans la création littéraire africaine**
- **Chair:** Djah Célestin Dadié, Université Alassane Ouattara
- Gohy Mathias Irié Bi (Université Alassane Ouattara), “Rencontre de langues par la littérature comme facteur d’intégration et de développement en Afrique”
- Kouakou Roland Kouassi (Université Alassane Ouattara), “La Subversion linguistique dans la littérature africaine: une rencontre de l’autre et des cultures”
- Léon Yépri (École Normale Supérieure), “Création poétique et tensions linguistiques”
- Gnoto Zié (École Normale Supérieure), “Le plurilinguisme dans La Bible et le fusilde Maurice Bandama: Déconstruction et construction langagière”
- Djah Célestin Dadié (Université Alassane Ouattara), “L’Universalité créatrice de la poésie africaine par la reappropriation et l’insertion des genres littéraires”

Session I—12 – Friday 1:45-3:15
Location: L503

**Gender and African Literature**
- **Chair:** Nonyelum Chibuzo Mba, University of Abuja
- Minna Niemi (University of Turk), “Pressures of Apartheid Masculinity: Narratives of White Gay Complicity and Marginalization”
- Nonyelum Chibuzo Mba (University of Abuja), “Gender Justice and Human Dignity in Africa via Literary Concerns: Women as Centre Focus”
- Romanus C. Nwoma (Federal University), “Hegemonic Masculinity: Sexploitation in Amma Darko’s *Beyond the Horizon*”
- Mbuh Tennu Mbuh (University of Bamenda), “Reconstructing Gender Perspectives in Osonye Tess Onwue’s *Tell it to Women* and Bole Butake’s *Lake God*”
- Ofure O. M. Aito (Federal University), “Belonging in Exile: Freedom and Identity in *When Rain Clouds Gather* and *A Question of Power*”
African and African American Theater
- **Chair:** Judith Miller, New York University
- Ngozi Udengwu (University of Nigeria), “The Logic of War” and the Loss of Human Dignity: A Focus on Women of Own by Femi Osofisan”
- Onyeka Iwuchukwu (National Open University of Nigeria), “The Quest For Human Dignity in Ama Ata Aidoo’s Anowa And Efua Sutherland’s Edifa”
- Theophilus Amenaghawon Edokpayi (Federal College of Education), “Victims or Villains?: Justice And Colonization in Selected Nigerian Drama”

Publishing
- **Chair:** Nana Ayebia Clarke, Ayebia Clarke Publishing Ltd

Friday 3:00-4:00
Book signing with Syl Cheney-Coker, author of Sacred River: A Novel
Location: Ohio University Press Booth, Atrium Foyer

The reincarnation of a legendary nineteenth-century Caribbean emperor as a contemporary African leader is at the heart of Syl Cheney-Coker’s Sacred River. Ambitious in scope, Sacred River is a diaspora-inspired novel that marks the return to fiction of one of Africa’s major writers.

An “innovative epic by Sierra Leone native Cheney-Coker.”

Visual Art and Representation
- **Chair:** Savannah Hall, Indiana University–Bloomington
- Savannah Hall (Indiana University-Bloomington), “Modernity Under Re-vision: Images of Human Dignity in Mid-Twentieth Century West African Portraiture”
- Sami Lamine (University of Wisconsin-Madison), “When the Revolution Becomes a Joke: The Representation of the Arab Spring in the Cartoons of _Z_”
- Dusty Ross (University of North Carolina at Greensboro), “Mthethwa’s Brave Ones: Gender, Violence, and Poverty on the Margins”

New Icons of Africa: Approaches to the Child Soldier Narrative
- **Chair:** Kaelyn Kaoma, University of Toronto
- Kaelyn Kaoma (University of Toronto), “Exploited Minor or Freedom Fighter? Child Soldier Narratives and the Soweto Novels”
- Maureen Moynagh (Saint Francis Xavier University), “Anatomy of a Famous Character: The African Child-Soldier Figure in Literature and Human Rights Discourse”
- Joya Uraizee (Saint Louis University), “From the Page to the Screen: Fukunaga’s Transformation of Iweala’s Beasts of No Nation”
Session J—3 – Friday 3:30-5:00  
Location: A708  
• **Chair**: Alessandra Benedicuity-Kokken, City College of New York  
• Sage Goellner (UW-Madison), “Moments of Contact: Haunting and the Postcolonial”  
• Scott Lyngaas (IES Paris French Studies), “Labor and the Vestiges of Slavery: Rue Cases-nègres and Pluie et vent sur Télumé Miracle”  
• Molly Krueger Enz (South Dakota State University), “Revealing Haitian History and Forgotten Heroes: Maryse Condé’s Haïti chérie and Marie-Cèlie Agnant’s Alexis d’Haïti”

Session J—4 – Friday 3:30-5:00  
Location: A705  
**Nigerian Drama and (In)justice**  
• **Chair**: Ismaila Rasheed Adedoyin, University of Lagos  
• Theophilus Amenaghawon Edokpayi (Federal College of Education), “The Eye of the Beholder?: Justice and Colonization in Selected Modern Nigerian Drama”  
• Ismaila Rasheed Adedoyin (University of Lagos), “The Changing Phases of Law and Justice in Nigeria: Adegoke’s *The Incorruptible Judge*, Osanyin’s *Our Patriot* and Yerima’s *Hard Ground in Focus*”  
• Anthonia E. Ezeugo (Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University), “Violence, Oppression and Injustice in the Drama of Niger Delta: Tess Onwueme and Ahmed Yerima”

Session J—5 – Friday 3:30-5:00  
Location: A701  
**EC-Sponsored Roundtable: The Caine Prize and African Literature**  
• **Chair**: Moradewun Adejunmobi, University of California, Davis  
• Namwali Serpell (University of California Berkeley), Caine Prize Winner 2015  
• Juliana Makuchi Nfah-Abbenyi (North Carolina State University)  
• Tsitsi Jaji (Duke University)  
• Onipede Hollist (University of Tampa)

Session J—6 – Friday 3:30-5:00  
Location: A702  
**LHCALA-Sponsored Panel: Trauma and Resistance in Lusophone African Narratives**  
• **Chair**: Ana Teixeira, Emory University  
• Ana Teixeira (Emory University), “Agents of History in Manuel Rui’s *Yes, Comrade!: A Nation Being Dreamed*”  
• Brianna Medeiros (Brown University), “Resisting Nature: The Maintenance of Human Dignity in Os Flagelados do Vento Leste”  
• Kevin Huselid (University of Minnesota), “The Cultural History of Infrastructure and the Poetics of Disagreement in Mozambique”  
• Arthur Hughes (Ohio University), “Traumatizing Gender in Lilia Monplé’s Neighbors: The Story of a Murder and Paulina Chiziane’s *Nïtketêbe*”

Session J—7 – Friday 3:30-5:00  
Location: A703  
**Roundtable: “Fela No Go Die O”**  
• **Chair**: Carli Coetzee, SOAS, University of London  
• Temitope Abisoye Noah (New York University)  
• Garhe Osiebe (University of Birmingham)  
• Pelumi Folajimi (University of Wisconsin-Madison)  
• Harry Garuba (University of Cape Town)  
• Tejumola Olaniyan (University of Wisconsin), respondent
Session J—8 – Friday 3:30-5:00
Location: A707
NoViolet Bulawayo’s *We Need New Names*
• Chair: Rose A. Sackeyfio, Winston Salem University
• Rose A. Sackeyfio (Winston Salem University), “Childhood’s End or the Age of Indignity: Postcolonial Ruptures in *We Need New Names* by NoViolet Bulawayo”
• Ijeoma C. Nwajiaku (Federal Polytechnic), “Plangents of Freedom; Shades of Dignity: Glimpses from *We Need New Names* and *Edible Bones*”
• Jonas Egbedu Akung (University of Calabar), “Re-thinking Migration and Diasporic Identity in Noviolet Bulawayo’s *We Need New Names*”
• Anthony Ebebe Eyang (University of Calabar), “Toward Social Justice and Human Dignity: Metaphor and the Representation of a Broken Nation in NoViolet Bulawayo’s *We Need New Names*”

Session J—9 – Friday 3:30-5:00
Location: A602
**Publishing, Teaching, Networking, and Service: A Roundtable for Graduate Students, Adjuncts, and Pre-Tenure Faculty (GSCALA-Sponsored)**
• Chair: Matthew Omelsky, Duke University
• Laura Murphy (Loyola University)
• Ato Quayson (University of Toronto)
• Eileen Julien (Indiana University)
• Nasrin Qader (Northwestern University)

Session J—10 – Friday 3:30-5:00
Location: M109
**Immigration et retour**
• Chair: Awah Mfossi Sidjeck, University of Calgary
• Katherine Bazemore (Kennesaw State University), “Le Temps d’Exil”
• Elsie Barthole (Kennesaw State University), “Intolérance et dignité humaine”
• Charly Verstraet (Emory University), “Le silence des Clandestins: néocolonialisme et mythe de la réussite chez Alain Mabanckou”
• Andre Djiffack (University of Oregon), “Migration et crise d’identité dans ‘Au pays’ de Tahar Ben Jelloun”
• Awah Mfossi Sidjeck (University of Calgary), “Littérature canado-haïtienne : l’écriture ambiguë d’un inconfort identitaire et psychologique”

Session J—11 – Friday 3:30-5:00
Location: M107
**Libération et engagement politique**
• Chair: TBD
• Patricia Seuchie (Christopher Newport University), “Immigration textuelle en contexte postcolonial entre oppression et libération: Une étude des parcours des jeunes chez Nathalie Etoké”
• Amevi Bocco (Tennessee Wesleyan College), “L’Afrique et impasse politique: l’écriture engagée, la voie par excellence du salut ?”
• Isaac Joslin (University of Denver), “L’ivoirité et ses après-coups: lire entre les lignes des discours identitaires”
• Ndiabou Séga Touré (Cheikh Anta Diop University), “La Littérature Engagée Sénégalaise De La Négritude À Y En A Marre”
• Sana Alaya Seghair (University of Virginia), “La terre ou l’imaginaire du trauma dans L’Esclave vieil homme et le molosse de Patrick Chamoiseau”
Session J—12 – Friday 3:30-5:00
Location: L503

**Film and Struggle**

- **Chair**: Anthony Carlton Cooke, Emory University
  - Anthony Carlton Cooke (Emory University), “Tilaï and the Law of the Father”
  - Tama Lynne Hamilton-Wray (Michigan State University), “Ava DuVernay’s *Middle of Nowhere* (2012) and the Struggle for Social Justice”
  - Yvette Ngum (Universität Bayreuth), “Outed: A painful Reality and Malooned as (an) Alternative Narrative (s) in Negotiating Identities in Spaces of Marginalization/ Differences”
  - Christopher Joseph Odhiambo (Bayreuth University & Moi University), “Outed: A painful Reality and Malooned as (an) Alternative Narrative(s) in Negotiating Identities in Spaces of Marginalization/ Differences”

Session J—13 – Friday 3:30-5:00
Location: M108

**Dance and Performance**

- **Chair**: Ketu H. Katrak, University of California, Irvine
  - Ketu H. Katrak (University of California, Irvine), “Quest for Human Justice: Jay Pather’s Dance-Theater in Post-Apartheid South Africa”
  - Gichingiri Ndigiiri (University of Tennessee), “A Cry for Justice: Ngugi wa Thiong’o’s *Maitu Njug’ira*”

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Friday 5:15-6:15
Location: Atrium A

**Raoul Peck**

Keynote Session:

“Witnessing Injustice and Dignity in the African Diaspora: A Conversation with Raoul Peck”

Moderators:
Rachel Gabara (University of Georgia)
Regine O. Jackson (Agnes Scott College)

Book and DVD signing to follow

With special thanks to:
Sewanee: The University of the South
Georgia Institute of Technology
Emory Dept. of French & Italian

Friday 7:30-9:30
Location: Atrium A

**Night Blooms**

Playwright: Margaret Baldwin
Director: Karen Robinson
Session K—1 – Saturday 8:30-10:00
Location: A704
**Intertextuality and Aesthetics in Francophone African Film and Literature: Expressions of Social (In)Justice, Human Dignity, and the Post-Urgent**
- **Chair:** Anna Keefe, University of Virginia
- Vlad Dima (University of Wisconsin, Madison), “Posters as Fetishes of Social (In)Justice in West African Cinema”
- Anna Keefe (University of Virginia), “Chaplin and Silent Film in Francophone Sub-Saharan African Cinema”
- Corbin Treacy (Florida State University), “Post-Urgent: Algerian Film and Literature in the Twenty-First Century”
- Mary Anne Lewis (Ohio Wesleyan University), “Beyond Nation: Cosmopolitanism, Movement, and Circulation in Nadir Moknèche’s *Viva Laïdjeriè*”
- Kandioura Dramé (University of Virginia), Discussant

Session K—2 – Saturday 8:30-10:00
Location: A706
**Pan-Africanism**
- **Chair:** Cheikh Thiam, The Ohio State University
- Vieux Toure (Penn State University), “Pan-Africanism at the Crossroads in *Supra-Negritude* by Kemi Seba”
- Abel Joseph (Federal University), “Resisting Colonialist Fantasies and Imagining Black Future in Ferdinand Oyono’s *Houseboy*”
- Cheikh Thiam (The Ohio State University), “The Uncompleted Argument: Gilroy and the Illusion of Time”

Session K—3 – Saturday 8:30-10:00
Location: A705
**African and African Diaspora Writers, Voluntary/involuntary Exile and the Longing for Home in Literature**
- **Chair:** Patricia Jabbeh Wesley, Penn State University
- Patricia Jabbeh Wesley (Penn State University), “Children of the African Diaspora, Writing Black, Writing Africa, Writing a Tradition: An Examination of Kwame Dawes’ *Duppy Conqueror: New and Selected Poems*”
- Maureen Ngozi Eke (Central Michigan University), “Home and the wounds of childhood in Chris Abani’s *Becoming Abigail*”

Session K—4 – Saturday 8:30-10:00
Location: A705
- **Chair:** Bhakti Shringarpure, University of Connecticut
- Gaurav Desai (Tulane University), Book Discussant
- Kenneth Harrow (Michigan State University), Book Discussant
- Eleni Coundouriotsis (University of Connecticut), Respondent
Session K—5 – Saturday 8:30-10:00
Location: A701
Migration / Immigration
• Chair: Aissata Sidikou, United States Naval Academy
• Chinnaya Ifi (Abia State Polytechnic), “Immigration, Identity and Survival in the Ethiopian Novel: Sheila Kohler’s The Bay of Foxes and Dinaw Mengestu’s The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears”
• Aissata Sidikou (United States Naval Academy), “The Poet, the Stranger and the Dignity in Difference: Revisiting Francis Bebey’s Poem on Immigration”
• Olayemi Jacob Ogunniyi (University of Ibadan), “Nature and Causes of Migration Patterns in Africa: Historical Analysis”
• Mathias Donfouet (Tübingen Universität), “The Poetics of Hospitality in Sénouvo Agbota Zinsou’s Le Médicament”

Session K—6 – Saturday 8:30-10:00
Location: A702
Gender, Domestic Violence and Human Dignity in African and African Diasporic Women’s Writing and Film
• Co-Chair: Obioma Nnaemeka, Indiana University
• Co-Chair: Naomi Nkealah, University of South Africa
• Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka (University of Kansas, Lawrence), “Converging Violence at Gendered Spaces of Power”
• Naomi Nkealah (University of South Africa, Co-Chair), “Male Violence, the State and the Dehumanization of Women in three South African novels”
• Chinyere Okafor (Wichita State University), “Women and Child Abuse: Interdisciplinary Examples from Nigeria & USA”

Session K—7 – Saturday 8:30-10:00
Location: A703
Labor
• Chair: Sonja Darlington, Beloit College
• Reshmi Hebbar (Oglethorpe University), “Maid in African America: The Aesthetics Of Justice And Domestic Service In Jacobs, Morrison, And Adichie”
• Tracey Walters (Stony Brook University), “The Defiant Domestic Worker’s Subversive Voice in the Short Stories of Alice Childress and Sindiwe Magona”
• Sonja Darlington (Beloit College), “Reading Class: The Significance of Work and Play in Sefi Atta’s Swallow and NoViolet Bulawayo’s We Need New Names”

Session K—8 – Saturday 8:30-10:00
Location: A707
Maghrebi Women, State, Violence, and Revolution
• Chair: Douja Mamelouk, University of Tennessee
• Douja Mamelouk (University of Tennessee), “The New Tunisian Muslim Woman: A Post-Revolutionary Literary Perspective”
• Carla Calargé (Florida Atlantic University), “Les ruses de Shéhérázade se déclinent à l’infini’ : Muslim woman as plural signifier in Saphia Azzeddine’s Bilqiss”
Session K—9 – Saturday 8:30-10:00
Location: A602
Women Writing
- Chair: Meta L. Schettler, California State University
- Olayinka. A. Egbohakere (University of Ibadan), “Buchi Emecheta’s Promotion of Literacy For Women Empowerment in some of her Novels”
- Meta L. Schettler (California State University), “May She Sleep Where It Rains’ Self-Sacrifice, Wholeness and Social Justice in African and African Diasporic Women’s Writing”
- Aisha M. Umar (Federal University), “Female Dignity And The Demand For Justice: Exploring Recent Northern Nigerian Female Authored Novels”
- Toni Duruaku (Heritage Theatre Network Owerri, Nigeria), “The Present-Past and Re-emancipating the Nigerian Woman: Ogunyemi’s Queen Amina and Nwabueze’s The Dragon’s Funeral”

Session K—10 – Saturday 8:30-10:00
Location: M109
Apartheid and Post-Apartheid South Africa
- Chair: Brady Smith, University of Chicago
- Brady Smith (University of Chicago), “Farms and Other Fictions: Landscapes of South African Liberalism, 1883-1948”
- Simon Lewis (College of Charleston), “Al wakind is’: Iconic Images of Children in Apartheid-Era South African Poetry”
- Stéphane Robolin, Critical (Rutgers University), “Groundwork’ in a Post-Apartheid South Africa”
- Alexie Taguekou Kenfack (University of West Cape (South Africa), “The Social Protection of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in South Africa”

Session L—1 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: A704
Francophone Afropean Literatures: Origins, Contours, and Futures
- Chair: Katelyn Knox, University of Central Arkansas
- Christopher Hogarth (University of South Australia), “Questions of Afropean Generations and Cultural Cosmopolitanism Within and Beyond France Today”
- Natalie Edwards (University of Adelaide), “Tracing Francophone Afro-European Women’s Writing: Gender and Generation(s)”
- Katelyn Knox (University of Central Arkansas), “Family, History, and Afropeanism in Léonora Miano’s Blues Pour Élise”
- Marion Tricoire (Emory University), “Afropean Writing, Afropean City: Paris in Alain Mabanckou’s Bleu, Blanc, Rouge and Black Bazar”

Session L—2 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: A706
LHCALA-Organized Panel: The Works of Juan Tomás Ávila Laurel
- Chair: Joanna Boampong, University of Ghana-Legon
- Joanna Boampong (University of Ghana-Legon), “Justice and Human Dignity in Juan Tomás Ávila Laurel’s Writings”
- Dosinda Alvite (Denison University), “Foreign Aid and the Production of Poverty: Avlia Laurel’s View of Social Justice”
- Mahan Ellison (Bridgewater College), “Ghosts that No One Knows: Annobón & The Postcolonial Crisis in the Works of Juan Tomás Ávila Laurel”
Session L—3 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: A708
**Film and Visual Media Caucus-Sponsored Panel: Migrations in African Cinema**

- **Chair:** Julie Papaioannou (University of Rochester), “Communities in transit in Moussa Touré’s *La pirogue*”
- Olivier Tchouaffe (Southwestern University), “*La Pirogue* (2014): Thoughts on Migration Rhetoric and the production of Ignorance”
- MaryEllen Higgins (Penn State University), “Speculative Migration and the Project of Futurity in Sylvestre Amoussou’s *Africa Paradise*”

Session L—4 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: A705
**Narratives of Enslavement: From Classic to Contemporary**

- **Chair:** Elisabeth Bekers, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- John H. Hanson (West Chester University of Pennsylvania), “Rhetorical Analysis of the Writings of Frederick Douglass”
- Stephanie Iasiello (Emory University), “Slavery and its Afterlives: Kara Walker & the Zong Massacre”

Session L—5 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: A701
**Senghor and King: A Universal and Enduring Humanism**

- **Chair:** Mohamed Kamara, Washington and Lee University
- Janice Spleth (West Virginia University), “An Inescapable Network of Mutuality”: The Conversation between Senghor’s Philosophy and King’s Vision in “The Elegy for Martin Luther King”
- Kasongo Kapanga (University of Richmond), “La dialectique par la métaphore dans L’Élégie pour Martin Luther King de Senghor: De l’impensable au possible”
- Mohamed Kamara (Washington and Lee University, Chair), “The Poetics and Politics of Space in the Thoughts of Martin Luther King, jr. and Léopold Sédar Senghor”

Session L—6 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: M108
**WOCALA-Sponsored Panel: Girlhood Stories and Injustice**

- **Chair:** P. Jane Splawn, Livingstone College
- P. Jane Splawn (Livingstone College), “*A’Brown Girl* Comes of Age in South Carolina and New York in Jacqueline Woodson’s *Brown Girl Dreaming*”
- Munachukwuso Chuma-Udeh (University of Nigeria), “Patriarchy, Power, and Oppression: Subaltern-ism in Ngozi Chuma-Udeh’s *Echoes of A New Dawn* and *The Presidential Handshake*”
- Bryan Udeh (Anambra State University), “Patriarchy, Power, and Oppression: Subaltern-ism in Ngozi Chuma-Udeh’s *Echoes of A New Dawn* and *The Presidential Handshake*”
- Ngozi Chuma-Udeh (Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University), “X-raying the Implications of War, Conflict Management, Justice and Human Dignity of Women under War Situations in the African Literary Context”
- M. J. Simms-Maddox (Livingstone College), “Reading from *Priscilla*”
Session L—7 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: A703
EC-Sponsored Seminar on Theory 3:
Desperate Optimism: Jeyifo’s Public Interventions and Engagements

• Chair: Moradewun Adejunmobi, University of California, Davis
• Laura Murphy (Loyola University, New Orleans), “Biodun Jeyifo on Freedom and Complexity in The(Captive)Nation”
• Jane Bryce (University of the West Indies), “Desperate Optimism: Biodun Jeyifo and Talakawa Journalism”
• Adeleke Adeeko (The Ohio State University), “Epigraphs: Jeyifo’s Turn Towards Tradition”
• Akin Adesokan (Indiana University Bloomington), “African Marxist Discourses on the Cusp of Globalization”

Session L—8 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: A707
Nigeria-Biafra War Narratives

• Chair: Helen Chukwuma, Jackson State University
• Anthonia C. Kalu (University of California, Riverside), “Igbo Women and the Nigerian Civil War: Justice, Women’s Rights and Fractured Citizenship”
• Chinyere Okafor (Wichita State University), “Beyond the Politics of War: Citizenship and Gender in Okechukwu’s No Say in the Matter”

Session L—9 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: A702
Resistance, Freedom and Justice in South African Literature

• Chair: Blessing Diala-Ogamba, Coppin State University
• Blessing Diala-Ogamba (Coppin State University), “Social Change And Women’s Struggle In Zukiswa Wanner’s The Madams”
• Chinyelu Ojukwu (University of Port Harcourt), “Remission, Reconciliation and Magnanimity as Vital Ingredients for Societal Development: Athol Fugard’s Master Harold... and the Boys; Playland; and Sorrows and Rejoicings”
• Juliana Daniels (University of Education), “The ‘Self’ as a Despot: Objectification of the Female Body in JM Coetzee’s Disgrace”
• Dan Gover (Kean University), “Can Themba: Intellectual Tsotsi [gangster]?"

Session L—10 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: M109
Roundtable: The Secular, the Religious, and African Writing

• Chair: Nathan Suhr-Sytsma, Emory University
• Mary Anne Lewis (Ohio Wesleyan University)
• Carmen McCain (Kwara State University)
• Sara Nimis (Sewanee: The University of the South)
Session L—11 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: M107
Teaching and Research Committee-Sponsored Panel: Teaching Social Justice and Human Dignity through African and Diasporic Texts
- **Chair**: Anne F. Carlson, Spelman College
- Estelle L. Finley (Spelman College), “Framing Concepts of Social Justice: Diasporic Texts in World Languages and Literature”
- Tatiana McInnis (Vanderbilt University), “Teaching the New Civil Rights Movement: Black Lives Matter in the University Classroom”

Session L—12 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: A602
**Cartographies and Cities**
- **Chair**: Molly M. Slavin, Emory University
- Molly M. Slavin (Emory University), “‘The Lure of the Monster Was Hard to Resist’ Human Dignity in *Welcome to Our Hillbrow*”
- Antje Ziethen (University of Kansas), “Heteropolis or the Poetics of Interference: City and Narration in *Transit* and *Harare North*”
- Laura White (Middle Tennessee State University), “Positioning Maps: Environmental Justice and the Cartographic Imagination in Henrietta Rose-Innes’ *The Rock Alphabet*”

Session L—13 Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: L503
FRACALA-Sponsored Panel: Perceptions and Expressions of Identity in Fiction
- **Chair**: Amadou Ouedraogo, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Amadou Ouedraogo (University of Louisiana at Lafayette), “Créolité et motifs identitaires dans Chronique des sept misères de Patrick Chamoiseau”
- Christophe Konkobo (Austin Peay State University), “Espaces de quêtes singulières dans la dramaturgie d’Aristide Tarnagda”

Session L—14 – Saturday 10:15-11:45
Location: L502
**Tanure Ojaide**
- **Chair**: Edoama Frances Odueme, University of Lagos
- Effiok B. Uwatt (University of Abuja), “Ecological Threats And Environmental Justice: Ecoactivism In Tanure Ojaide’s *The Activist* And Adamu Kyuka Usman’s *The Death Of Eternity*”
- Ojo Olusegun Olorunleke (Lagos State University), “Ojaide’s ‘The Fate of Vultures’ and ‘Delta Blues and Home Songs’”
- Edoama Frances Odueme (University of Lagos), “Quest For Equity In Resource Allocation And Social Justice In Tanure Ojaide’s Poetics”
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<td><strong>Teachers’ Workshop</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Readings from African Writing Today</strong>&lt;br&gt;Namwali Serpell (University of California Berkeley), Caine Prize Winner 2015&lt;br&gt;Juliana Makuchi Nfah-Abbenyi (North Carolina State University and ALA Vice President)&lt;br&gt;Tsitsi Jaji (Duke University)</td>
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<td>Atrium A</td>
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