

**Arkansas Philological Association**

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**Southern Accents:  
(Re)Configurations and (Re)Considerations**

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**Thirty-sixth Annual Meeting  
The Basin Park Hotel  
Eureka Springs, Arkansas**

**October 8-10, 2009**

Hosted by the University of Central Arkansas  
Department of English



Thursday, October 8

**Registration**

6:00 p.m. – Foyer

**SESSION ONE**

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Panel 1: “I’d rather go naked than wear the coat the world has made for me”: Dorothy Allison Reconsidered**  
The Atrium

Moderator: Wayne Stengel, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ “Southern Hungers: A Reevaluation of *White Trash*”

*April Thompson, Department of English, University of Arkansas*

✠ “‘To Tell Somebody Something’: Telling Stories and Defining Self in *Bastard out of Carolina* and *Saving Grace*”

*Amanda Ritter-Maggio, Department of English, Foreign Languages and Philosophy, Henderson State University*

**Panel 2: Truly Bad Cinema: Tommy Wiseau’s *The Room***

The Ozark Room

Moderator: Charles Bane, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ “Tommy Wiseau’s *The Room*, Inside and Out, as Unintentional, yet Effective Carnavalesque”

*Antony Oldknow, Department of Languages and Literature, Eastern New Mexico University*

✠ “Audience Reaction and *The Room*”

*Cyndy Hendershot, Department of English and Philosophy, Arkansas State University – Jonesboro*

**Panel 3: Explorations of the South**

Grand Ballroom

Moderator: Mary Ruth Marotte, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ “Goodbye, Arkansas” (Memoir)

*Barrett Hathcock, Department of English, Rhodes College*

✠ “The Grass Widow” (Novel Excerpt)

*Robbi Pounds, Department of English, Xavier University*


✠ “Lessons from the Promised Land” (Selected Poetry)

*Kay Walter, School of Arts and Humanities, University of Arkansas – Monticello*

**Mixer**

8:00 p.m. – The Billiards Room





Friday, October 9

**Registration**

8:00 a.m. – Foyer

**SESSION TWO**

8:00 – 9:15

**Panel 4: “Getting ready to stay dead a long time”: Faulkner Reconsidered and Reconfigured**

The Ozark Room

Moderator: Jeff Smithpeters, Department of Languages and Literature, Delta State University

✠ “Body Language: Predestination and Freewill in *As I Lay Dying*”

*Katy Kirk, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

✠ “Treasure in the Ground: *Getting Mother’s Body’s* Dialogue with *As I lay Dying*”

*Terrell Tebbetts, Department of English, Lyon College*

✠ “*Light in August*: Faulkner’s Feminist Frame”

*Gregory Borse, School of Arts and Humanities, University of Arkansas – Monticello*

**Panel 5: “Signifyin’ Sumthin’”: Rhetoric and Semiotics**

The Atrium

Moderator: Paige Reynolds, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ “The Voice of Saruman: Wizards and Rhetoric in *The Two Towers*”

*Jay Ruud, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

✠ “The Legend of Big Gump’s Button: Minority Resistance Semiotics, Dialogism, and the Rhetoric of Hegemonic Identity in Hollywood’s Southern Fairy Tales”

*Jerry Stinnett, Department of Languages and Literature, Northeastern State University*

✠ “Towards a Model for Semiotic Meaning of Consciousness”

*Jason Chism, Department of English, Foreign Language and Philosophy, Henderson State University*

**Panel 6: Southern Women Sound-off: Reconsidering Welty, O’Connor, and Chopin**

Grand Ballroom

Moderator: John Han, Division of Humanities – Department of English, Missouri Baptist University

✠ “‘Where is the Voice Coming From?’ Performance, Vocalization, and Structure in Two Short Stories of Eudora Welty”

*Wayne Stengel, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

✠ “Revaluating the Southern Belle: How Flannery O’Connor and Eudora Welty’s Grotesque Characters Challenge Southern Femininity”

*Meg Yates-Grizzle, Department of English, Foreign Language and Philosophy, Henderson State University*

✠ “Kate Chopin’s Reconsideration of W. D. Howells: ‘What Cannot Love Do?’”

*Jean Witherow, Department of English, Louisiana State University*

SESSION THREE

9:30 – 10:45

**Panel 7: Learning to Live with Loss (Creative Fiction)**

The Ozark Room

Moderator: John Vanderslice, Department of Writing, University of Central Arkansas

✠ "The Promise"

Gary McCullough, Department of Speech - Language Pathology, University of Central Arkansas

✠ "His to Give"

C.D. Albin, Department of English, Missouri State University – West Plains

✠ "Reading one of his Middle Eastern Stories"

Garry Craig Powell, Department of Writing, University of Central Arkansas

**Panel 8: Shaking up the Stage and Rocking the House: Reconfiguring Gender**

The Atrium

Moderator: Jay Ruud, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ "Rhetorical Crossdressing: Performing Masculinity in Early Modern Drama"

Paige Reynolds, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ "Blue Butterfly Wings: Characterizing Liminality Throughout *Spring Awakening*"

Amanda Girard, Department of Writing, University of Central Arkansas

✠ "Revamping the Vamp in Gayl Jones's *Eva's Man*"

Deborah Wilson, Department of English, Arkansas Tech University

**Panel 9: Detecting Changes: Reconsidering Poe and Doyle**

Grand Ballroom

Moderator: Jim Fowler, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ "'An Exact Science': The Representation of Logic in Conan Doyle's *The Sign of Four*"

Brian Brost, Department of English and Philosophy, University of Central Missouri

✠ "Dupin as Monster: The Latent Threat in Poe's Detective Fiction"

Jeff Smithpeters, Department of Languages and Literature, Delta State University

✠ "The Battle of 'Nevermore': Race as Contended Signifier in 'The Raven'"

Grant Bain, Department of English, University of Arkansas

SESSION FOUR

10:45 – 12:00 p.m.

**Panel 10: Witches, Priests, and Parents (Creative Fiction)**

The Atrium

Moderator: Robbi Pounds, Department of English, Xavier University

✠ "Season of the Witch"

Jim Fowler, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ "Say Goodbye to the Age of Reason"

Jennifer Key, Department of English, Southern Methodist University

✠ "An Excerpt from the Memoir of High Priest Anuttara"

Phillip Huddleston, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

**Panel 11: "Arousing the old-time prophets": Romantic Writers Reconsidered**

Grand Ballroom

Moderator: Paul Lorenz, Department of English, University of Arkansas – Pine Bluff

✠ "A Romantic Disciple: Shelley, Keats, and Thomas Wade"

*Phillip Anderson, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

✠ "The Prose of Robert Stephen Hawker"

*Kay Walter, School of Arts and Humanities, University of Arkansas – Monticello*

✠ "E.T.A. Hoffmann's *Das Fräulein von Scuderi* and the Uncanny"

*Chad Kieffer, Department of English, University of Arkansas*

**Panel 12: "A Place of Their Own": Constructing and Resisting Language**

The Ozark Room

Moderator: Paulette Bane, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ "Truly Chastened Things: Kantian Metaphysical and Ethical Constructs in Kay Ryan's Poetry"

*Kathleen Chatman, Division of English and Fine Arts, Arkansas State University – Beebe*

✠ "The Vast Gulfs of Desire: George Sterling and the Genesis of American Inhumanist Poetics"

*William Vaughn, Department of English and Philosophy, University of Central Missouri*

✠ "The Agonistic Relationship between Developmental English and the University: Need Structure, and Resistance"

*Geoffrey Clegg, Department of English, Louisiana State University – Alexandria*

**LUNCH (On Your Own)**

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

**SESSION FIVE**

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**Kevin Brockmeier**  
**Grand Ballroom**  
**Introduction by Garry Craig Powell**

**SESSION SIX**

2:45 – 4:00 p.m.

**Panel 13: Papa, PhD: Essays on Fatherhood by Men in the Academy**

Grand Ballroom

Moderators: Mary Ruth Marotte and Paige Reynolds, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ "Balancing Diapers and a Doctorate: The Adventures of a Single Dad in Grad School"

*Charles Bane, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

✠ "The Precarious Private Life of Professor Father Fiction Chef and Other Possible Poignancies"

*Gary McCullough, Department of Speech – Language Pathology, University of Central Arkansas*

✠ "On Fecundity, Fidelity, and Expectation: Reflections on Philosophy and Fatherhood"

*J. Aaron Simmons, Department of Philosophy, Hendrix College*

**Panel 14: Echoes of the Past: Troy and Pompeii Reconsidered and Reconfigured**

The Atrium

Moderator: Gregory Armstrong, College of Languages and Communication, University of Arkansas – Fort Smith

✠ “Homer and the Post-Homeric *Trojan Epic* of Quintus of Smyrna”

Paul Lorenz, Department of English, University of Arkansas – Pine Bluff

✠ “Shakespeare’s Critical Lucrece”

Ron Boling, Department of English, Lyon College

✠ “Pompeii as a Lesbian Utopia”

Juping Wang, Department of English and Foreign Language, Southern Arkansas University

**Panel 15: Reconfiguring Historical Figures (Creative Fiction)**

The Ozark Room

Moderator: Edward Eller, Department of English, University of Louisiana – Monroe

✠ “The True Story of Huckleberry Finn in Indian Territory”

Conrad Shumaker, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ “Manson and Carson at the Undisclosed Bruncheon”

Jesse Holcomb, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ *Yellow*, a novel in progress

John Vanderslice, Department of Writing, University of Central Arkansas

SESSION SEVEN

4:15 – 5:30

**Panel 16: Mind, Body, and Soul: Reconsidering Morrison, Hurston, and Larsen**

The Atrium

Moderator: Lisa Hinrichsen, Department of English, University of Arkansas

✠ “‘No Gift for the Beloved’: A Psychoanalytic Reading of Pecola Breedlove’s Madness in *The Bluest Eye*”

Jerrica Ryan, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ “‘Seeking Confirmation of the Voice and Vision’”: The Struggle for Janie’s Soul in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*”

LuElla Putnam, Department of English, Oklahoma State University

✠ “Trickster Migrations: Helga Crane’s Crash Landing in Nella Larsen’s *Quicksand*”

Isiah Lavender, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

**Panel 17: “Ah, youth...”: Memories and Stories of Childhood (Creative Fiction)**

The Ozark Room

Moderator: Conrad Shumaker, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ “Findo’s Keep”

Rusty Rogers, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ “Oreos”

Sara Shumaker, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ “Dos Mujeres”

Michael Smith, Department of Languages, Literature, and Philosophy, Mississippi University for Women

**Panel 18: "I claim not to have controlled events, but confess plainly that events have controlled me":**

**Transformative Politicians**

Grand Ballroom

Moderator: Juping Wang, Department of English and Foreign Language, Southern Arkansas University

✠ "Beauty, Brains, and Child-bearing Hips: One Southern Feminist's Struggle with the Palin Allure"

*Mary Ruth Marotte, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

✠ "Derision and Subversion in the Middle Scots *Lancelot of the Laik*"

*Clinton Atchley, Department of English, Foreign Language and Philosophy, Henderson State University*

✠ "Lincoln's Revolutionary Rhetoric in Doris Kearns Goodwin's *Team of Rivals* and the Political Writings of Walt Whitman"

*Christopher Black, Department of English, Oklahoma State University*

## **Keynote Address**

### **Listening to the Loas:**

### **The Effect of the Haitian Revolution on Southern Literature**

**Dr. John Lowe**

**Louisiana State University**

**5:45 – 6:45 p.m.**

7:00 – Dinner

The Conservatory, The Crescent Hotel,

75 Prospect Ave., Eureka Springs (Please Carpool)



**Saturday, October 10**

#### **Breakfast and Meeting**

7:30 a.m. – Grand Ballroom

#### **SESSION SEVEN**

9:00 – 10:15

#### **Panel 19: Society, Gender, Religion: Victorian Reconsiderations**

The Ozark Room

Moderator: Rusty Rogers, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ "Madame Max and the Question of Trollope's Attitude toward Women"

*Justin Tinsley, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

✠ "The Catholic Vision of American Life in Mary Anne Sadlier's *The Blakes and Flanagans* and *Bessy Conway*"

*John Han, Division of Humanities – Department of English, Missouri Baptist University*

✠ "Tawdry Glamour: A Study of Relationships and Social Roles in *Vanity Fair*"

*Mary Leigh, Department of English, Foreign Language and Philosophy, Henderson State University*

#### **Panel 20: "A Stir of Echoes": Unlikely Influences**

The Atrium

Moderator: Moderator: Conrad Shumaker, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas

✠ "Over the Garden's Walls: Shades of Milton in Cormac McCarthy's *Outer Dark*"

*Chris Hough, Department of Philosophy, National Park Community College*

☒ "Biblical Language in Pablo Neruda's *Canto general*"

Gregory Armstrong, *College of Languages and Communication, University of Arkansas – Fort Smith*

☒ "Tennessee Williams' Short Stories and the French Influence"

Michael Smith, *Department of Languages, Literature, and Philosophy, Mississippi University for Women*

**Panel 21: "Frankenstein and Vampires and Werewolves, Oh My!": Reconfiguring the 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

Grand Ballroom

Moderator: Chad Kieffer, *Department of English, University of Arkansas*

☒ "*The Twilight Saga*: While Visions of Austen and the Brontës Dance in Their Heads"

Kris LeJeune, *Department of English, Louisiana State University – Eunice*

☒ "Mimicking Dr. Frankenstein in *Windchill Summer* and *Farther Along*"

Deborah Sesser, *Department of English, Foreign Language and Philosophy, Henderson State University*

☒ "'I have taken with my Kodak...': Technology and Problem-Solving in *Dracula*"

Kate Stewart, *School of Arts and Humanities, University of Arkansas – Monticello*

SESSION EIGHT

10:30 – 11:45

**Panel 22: Immigrants and Minorities: Identity and Ideology Reconsidered**

The Ozark Room

Moderator: Jeff Johnson, *Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

☒ "Ethnic Minorities in Gao Xingjian's *Soul Mountain*"

Biling Chen, *Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

☒ "Love Laws: Interpellating Ideology and the Careeral Society in Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*"

Kurt Cavender, *Department of English, Harding University*

☒ "Immigrant Identities: The Intersection of Cultures and Landscape in Willa Cather's *O Pioneers!* and *My Ántonia*"

Sheila Czech, *Department of English, University of Arkansas*

**Panel 23: "Holy Smoke!": Religion in Hell and other Southern Locales**

The Atrium

Moderator: Kris LeJeune, *Department of English, Louisiana State University – Eunice*

☒ "Crooked Appalachia: The Laughter of the Melungeon Witches in Mike Mignola's *Hellboy*"

Joseph Sommers, *Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

☒ "*Holy Ghost People* and the Holiness Tradition: Southern Religious Fervor as a Source of Pride"

Kathryn White, *Department of English, Foreign Language and Philosophy, Henderson State University*

☒ "'Who Forgives God?': Religion in Michael Tolkin's *The Rapture* and Tim Blake Nelson's *Eye of God*"

Richard Noggle, *Department of English, University of Kansas*

**Panel 24: Reconfiguring Language: Poetic Forms and Poetic License (Creative Poetry)**

Grand Ballroom

Moderator: Clinton Atchley, *Department of English, Foreign Language and Philosophy, Henderson State University*

☒ Selected Poems

Matt Boyleston, *College of Arts and Sciences, Houston Baptist University*

☒ Selected Poems

Paulette Bane, *Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

☒ Selected Poems

*Jennifer Key, Department of English, Southern Methodist University*

☒ Selected Poems

*John Han, Division of Humanities – Department of English, Missouri Baptist University*

SESSION NINE

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

**Panel 25: Pirates, Feuds, and Good Manners: Reconsidering Southern Legacies**

The Ozark Room

Moderator: C.D. Albin, Department of English, Missouri State University – West Plains

☒ “Mark Twain and the American Feud”

*Jeff Johnson, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

☒ “Lyle Saxon: His Literary Legacy to Louisiana”

*Laura Carroll, Department of Language and Communication, Northwestern State University – Louisiana*

☒ “‘Look like nothing ain’t...what it used to be’: Changing Times and Ada Jack Carver’s ‘Old People of Color’”

*Donnis Taylor, Department of English and Foreign Language, Southern Arkansas University*

**Panel 26: “You Can’t Go Home Again, Can You?”: Southern Re-Transplants**

Grand Ballroom

Moderator: Sheila Czech, Department of English, University of Arkansas

☒ “Symbolism, Absence, and Understatement in Peter Taylor’s *A Summons to Memphis*”

*Kathy Qualls, Department of English, Foreign Languages and Philosophy, Henderson State University*

☒ “Fantasies of Return: Willie Morris, Autobiography and the Reconstruction of Historical Memory”

*Lisa Hinrichsen, Department of English, University of Arkansas*

**Panel 27: Transcending Place: Reconfiguring Landscapes**

The Atrium

Moderator: Mary Leigh, Department of English, Foreign Language and Philosophy, Henderson State University

☒ “Progression through Nature when Crane’s *Bride Comes to Yellow Sky*”

*Ashley Byrd-Pharr, Department of English, University of Central Arkansas*

☒ “The Transcendental Moment: Emerson and Melville in Rebellion against European Transcendentalism”

*Edward Eller, Department of English, University of Louisiana – Monroe*