

## ALTERNATIVE/MAINSTREAM: DETAILED CONFERENCE PROGRAM

FRIDAY, Oct. 12

11:30 AM-1 PM                      REGISTRATION, LUNCH (FOYER)

1:00-2:30 PM                      SESSION 1: Antebellum Antagonisms

Luke Bresky

Civil Impertinence: The Domestic Manners of Henry David Thoreau

Craig Stensrud

“Scorching Irony”: Historicizing the Anti-hypocrisy of Abolitionist Fiction

David Mitterauer

Countering post-truth in the Anti-Tom Novel

2:30-2:45 PM                      COFFEE, SNACKS (FOYER)

2:45-4:15                          SESSION 2: Criminal Places, Criminal Minds

Markus Reisenleitner

Fiddling with Southern California's Transformations during Reaganomics: A.E. Maxwell's Mystery Series

Susan Ingram

L.A. x.O: A New Paradigm in Noir Fiction and Film

Art Redding

“What Would Robert Mitchum Do?” Post-Pulp Virilities and Hard-Boiled Crime Writing During the 1960s.

4:15-4:30 PM                      COFFEE, SNACKS (FOYER)

4:30-7:00 PM                      VIRGINIA ROCK PLENARY

**Chris Shellen: Making *Marwencol* (Big)**

Chris Shellen is a writer, producer and marketing strategist based in California. A former film executive at Paramount Pictures, her marketing expertises include the development of transmedia storytelling and the evolving habits of consumers. Her career in film production also continues to evolve. With her partner, Jeff Malmberg, she founded Open Face, LLC., the production company that gave us *Marwencol* (the focus of her plenary); she also authored a companion art/storybook entitled *Welcome to Marwencol*, which was named one of Amazon.com's Best Books of 2015. Most recently, she has produced a second remarkable documentary, *Spettacolo*, about Italy's acclaimed Teatro Povero di Monticchiello.

This plenary will frame a screening of *Marwencol* (2010), the award-winning documentary that Shellen produced in collaboration with director Jeff Malmberg, with an introduction and question period addressing the conference theme. Describing the making and marketing of the documentary, she will also assess its appeal and adaptability for the purposes of the Hollywood feature, *The Women of Marwen* (directed and produced by Robert Zemeckis, starring Steve Carell as Mark Hogancamp), to be released in November 2018, a

few weeks after the conference. (On Saturday, Shellen will also participate in a roundtable discussion with academic specialists in Film Studies.)

**7:00-8:00 RECEPTION (FOYER)**

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**SATURDAY, October 13**

**9:00-10:30 AM SESSION 3: Politics and Populism**

Trent Davis

Enhancing Tolerance in a Populist Age

Cory Wright-Maley

Populism and Protest: the Pedagogy of the Possible

Michael Macleod

From 9/11 to 11/9: Political Shock in the Age of Trump

Trevor Shelley

Making the Common Good Great Again: The Reform Conservatism of Yuval Levin and the Political Liberalism of Mark Lilla

**10:30-10:45 AM COFFEE, SNACKS (FOYER)**

**10:45-12:15 AM SESSION 4: *Marwencol* (Frames and Positions)**

This session will feature a roundtable discussion, building on our plenary screening; participants will include Chris Shellen; Mike O'Driscoll; Mark Simpson, (Therèse Boyle?)

**12:15-1:30 PM LUNCH; CAAS EXECUTIVE MEETING**

**1:30-3:00 PM SESSION 5: Contemporary Literature**

Lindsey Banco

The Haunted House and "Alt-Ac": Horror, Homeownership, and the Failed Academic

Daniel McKay

Sexless Iraq: Reading Phil Klay's "In Vietnam they had Whores"

Sheheryar Sheikh

"Rebirthing the Referents: Nuclear Criticism and Post-Apocalyptic Signifiers in Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*"

**3:00-3:15 PM COFFEE, SNACKS (FOYER)**

**3:15-4:45 PM SESSION 6: Film's Possibilities, Real and Imagined**

Peter Brown

Neorealism, Native Americans, and Bunker Hill in "The Exiles"

Susan R. Lonac

The Mainstreaming of American Queer Cinema

Dawn Dietrich

Cine-Truth in the Age of “Fake News”: Why Contemporary Social Justice Filmmakers are Embracing an Iconic Language of Truth

Shama Rangwala

“Liberatory Alternatives and Liberal Containment in *Black Panther*”

**4:45-5:15 PM**

**CAAS AGM**

**5:15-6:00 PM**

**RECEPTION (FOYER)**

**6:00-7:30 PM**

**ROBERT WHITE PLENARY**

**Elizabeth Jameson: American Borderlands: Rethinking Margins and Mainstreams**

Dr. Jameson is Professor Emerita of History at the University of Calgary; she retired as Imperial Oil - Lincoln McKay Chair in American Studies in 2017. Professor Jameson is author of *All That Glitters: Class, Conflict and Community at Cripple Creek*, and *Building Colorado: The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America in the Centennial State*; she has co-edited several other volumes, including *One Step over the Line: Toward a History of Women in the North American Wests*, and *Writing the Range: Race, Class and Culture in the Women’s West*. Beyond her work on Labour, the North American West, and Women’s history, her countless articles reflect the even broader range of her interests, among (many) other things, in sites of memory, regionalism, multiculturalism, immigration, and migration.

Dr. Jameson’s talk will reflect, from the vantage of varied professional experiences, the re-conceiving and rethinking of American history and culture from a series of margins—notably the margins designated by race, class, and gender, but also the margins of the profession, and the useful margins of social, regional and national borderlands. Dr. Jameson will problematize critical questions as to whose experience, whose documents, etc., qualify as mainstream, and whose remain alternative.

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**SUNDAY, October 14**

**9:00-10:30 AM**

**SESSION 7: Moving Through Spaces**

Mackenzie Read

“Is it Really New York City?”: Pulling the Curtain Back on New York City in AMC’s *Mad Men* and HBO’s *The Deuce*

Dimitrios Latsis

Films at the Fairs: The Birth of Hollywood and Early Cinematic Historiography

Elena Siemens

High Fashion Meets the Street: from Paris to Texas

**10:30-10:45AM**

**COFFEE, SNACKS (FOYER)**

**10:45 AM-12:15**

**SESSION 8: Moderns, Alternatives**

Rita Bode

“A smaller kernel of fact:” Edith Wharton’s *Bunner Sisters*

Faye Halpern

Unreliability as Political Resistance: The Case of Charles Chesnutt’s *Conjure Tales*

Jennifer Harris

Fashioning Zara Wright: the uses of African American Print Culture

Eric Sandeen

“Challenging the Mainstream During Challenging Times: an Appreciation of Randolph Bourne”