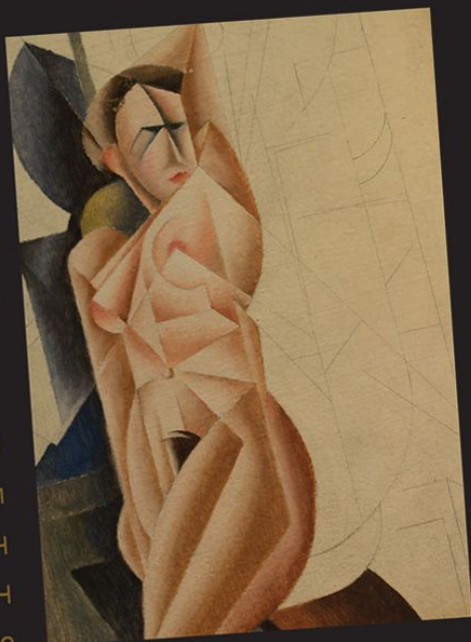


GREGORY BETTS



AVANT-GARDE
CANADIAN LITERATURE
THE EARLY MANIFESTATIONS

LECTURE



Image detail: pg 17 from Jordan Abel's *The Place of Scraps* (Talon 2013). Used with permission.

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UNSETTLING APPROPRIATIONS: Writing at the Intersection of Indigenous Decolonization and the Canadian Avant-Garde

MARCH 16, 2015
10.15am

HS 3
Humanities Building
Innrain 52, Innsbruck

Organized by:

Canadian Studies Centre
Department of American Studies
American Corner Innsbruck



Prof. Gregory Betts
Brock University

It has become noteworthy that the avant-garde in Canada is increasingly attuned to the re-emergence of the aboriginal populations in North America and their rising influence in the Canadian quotidian. Indeed, a new garde in Canada is emerging through the combination of art and politics, keeping the avant-garde mode of textual playfulness, indeterminacy, and comfort with ambiguity while incorporating a necessary re-imagining of settler-aboriginal relations. This talk will consider an array of experimental texts and textual practices— by Rachel Zolf, Shane Rhodes, Neil Hennessy, Lee Maracle, and Jordan Abel—that engage with the desettling of Canadian colonial practices of First Nations people, and examine how these authors begin decolonization by first implicating themselves as carriers of its ideology and ruinous legacy. The talk will furthermore address the paradoxical practice of using art focussed on the past to help steer the future.