

# 2011 CISLE CONFERENCE

CENTRE FOR  
THE INTERNATIONAL  
STUDY OF LITERATURES  
IN ENGLISH, UNIVERSITY OF INNSBRUCK

LITERATURES IN ENGLISH:  
NEW ETHICAL, CULTURAL,  
AND TRANSNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

HOSTED BY THE  
SCHOOL OF CANADIAN IRISH STUDIES AND  
DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND COMPUTATION ARTS

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY  
MONTREAL CANADA  
JULY 10-13, 2011



## SUNDAY JULY 10

5:00-6:00PM EARLY REGISTRATION EV 7.745 OPENING RECEPTION EV 11.725

6:00PM READINGS BY PATRICK MCCABE AND JANETTE TURNER HOSPITAL EV 1.615

Irish writer **PATRICK MCCABE** is the author of twelve novels as well as several plays and short stories. His novels include *The Butcher Boy* (1992) and *Breakfast on Pluto* (1998), both of which were shortlisted for the prestigious Booker Prize for Fiction and adapted for the screen by Irish filmmaker Neil Jordan. McCabe, who calls his style of writing "bog gothic," has received numerous literary awards. His most recent novel is *The Stray Sod Country* (2010). McCabe is currently teaching in the Department of English at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana.

**JANETTE TURNER HOSPITAL** is Carolina Distinguished Professor Emerita at the University of South Carolina and an internationally acclaimed novelist. Born in Australia, she has taught in universities in Australia, Canada, England, France and the United States. Her first novel, *The Ivory Swing*, won Canada's \$50,000 Seal Award in 1982. She lived for many years in Canada and in 1986 she was listed as by the *Toronto Globe & Mail* as one of Canada's "Ten Best Young Fiction Writers." *The Last Magician*, her fifth novel, was listed by *Publishers' Weekly* as one of the 12 best novels published in 1992 in the USA and was a *New York Times* 'Notable Book of the Year'. *Oyster*, her sixth novel, was a finalist for Australia's Miles Franklin Prize Award and for Canada's Trillium Award. In 2003, Hospital received the Patrick White Award, as well as a Doctor of Letters *honoris causa* from the University of Queensland. *Orpheus Lost*, her most recent novel, was one of five finalists for the \$110,000 Australia-Asia Literary prize in 2008.



# MONDAY JULY 11

9:00AM KEYNOTE LECTURE BY JOHN MCLEOD EV 1.615

## FINDING NEW PERSPECTIVES: TRANSCULTURAL, COSMOPOLITAN, POSTCOLONIAL?

**JOHN MCLEOD** is Professor in English at the University of Leeds. His work is primarily in the field of postcolonial studies, with a particular interest in postcolonial representations of London, England and Britain. His books include *Postcolonial London: Rewriting the Metropolis* (Routledge 2004), *Beginning Postcolonialism* (Manchester University Press, 2010), *J. G. Farrell* (Northcote House Publishers, 2007), *Routledge Companion to Postcolonial Studies* (Routledge, 2007), and, co-edited, *The Revision of Englishness* (Manchester University Press 2004). He serves on the editorial boards of *Moving Worlds*, *Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, *New Literatures Review*, *Journal of Commonwealth Literature* – and he has guest-edited two issues of *Kunapipi*. He is an Associate Member of the Centre d'Études et de Recherches sur les Pays du Commonwealth (CERPEC) at the Université Paul Valéry, Montpellier III, France, and on the Advisory Board of the Nordic Network of Literary Transculturations based at the University of Bergen, Norway.

10:15–10:30AM COFFEE EV 7.745

1 10:30AM–12:00PM

### 1A GLOBAL FUTURES IN 21ST-CENTURY CANADIAN LITERATURE EV 6.735

CHAIR: **MARK LIBIN** (University of Manitoba)

**SUSAN INGRAM** and **MARKUS REISENLEITNER** (York University), Zero History for Monolinguals: William Gibson's Global Concerns

**BRIGITTE GLASER** (University of Göttingen), The Impact of Globalization and Transnationalism on Contemporary English Canadian Writing

**ANDREA STRÖTZ** (Innsbruck University), "Trees standing in the water": Toronto's 'Visible Minorities' in Dionne Brand's *What We All Long For* (2005)

### 1B NEW ARRIVALS IN THE BRITISH ISLES EV 7.735

CHAIR: **JACQUELINE HURTLEY** (University of Barcelona)

**IRIL DIDOU** (Concordia University), "The true alpine garden spirit": Himalayan plant-hunting, gardening manuals and transculturation in the English (rock) garden

**ECKHARD BREITINGER** (University of Bayreuth), Ukrainian Tractors and the Berliner Kaminer: Speculations about Post Wall Literatures

**AINE MCSLYSN** (University of Toronto), Reinventing Ireland: The culture of a changing nation

12:15PM LUNCH AT THE MUSÉE DES BEAUX-ARTS DE MONTRÉAL

2 2:00–3:30PM

### 2A FEMINIST/ETHICAL PERSPECTIVES EV 6.735

CHAIR: **RHONA RICHMAN KENNEALLY** (Concordia University)

**SARAH DOWLING** (University of Pennsylvania), The Necessity of Lyric Reading in M. NourbeSe Philip's *Zong!*

**JESSIE FORSYTH** (McMaster University), Sindiwe Magona's *Mother to Mother*: Cross-Epistemological Conversation as Ethical Practice

**LAKSMISREE BANERJEE** (Kolhan University), Ethical Perspectives & Cultural Nationalities in the Writings of Global Indian Women Poets

### 2B MIGRANT VOICES IN DIASPORIC LITERATURES EV 7.735

CHAIR: **BRIGITTE GLASER** (University of Göttingen)

**MYRTLE HOOPER** (University of Zululand), Caritas and Habitus in Dan Jacobson's *The Zulu and the Zeide*

**ELLEN MCWILLIAMS** (Bath Spa University), George Moore, James Joyce, and the Reluctant Emigrant in Colm Tóibín's *Brooklyn*

**MARK LIBIN** (University of Manitoba), Anti-Ethics and Cross-Cultural Encounters in the Novels of Rawi Hage

3:30–3:45PM COFFEE EV 7.745

3 3:45–5:45PM

### 3A HYBRIDIZATION AND TRADITION IN AFRICAN LITERATURES EV 6.735

CHAIR: **MYRTLE HOOPER** (University of Zululand)

**CHRISTIAN ANIEKE** (Godfrey Okoye University), Criteria for Aesthetic Judgment in the Igbo Traditional Culture (Paper read by Nonye Ahumibe, Godfrey Okoye University)

**IAN P. MACDONALD** (Columbia University), Do Africans Dream of Electric-Regular Sheep?: Kojo Liang and the Indigenization of Science Fiction

**IGHO UBASIKENE** (Enugu State University of Science and Technology), Cultural Hybridization in Modern African Dramatic Literature in English: The Nigerian Example – Wole Soyinka, J. P. Clark, Femi Osofisan, Tess Onwueme, and Esiaba Irobi

### 3B THE WANDERING IRISH AND FLUID IDENTITIES EV 7.735

CHAIR: **SUSAN CARILLI** (Concordia University)

**JACQUELINE HURTLEY** (University of Barcelona), Maps, Melodies and Myth: Dr Starkie's Travels

**SAITO NDRUYISHI** (Doshisha University), Lafcadio Hearn's Identity Formation through Fantastic Optics

**ANDRE FURLANI** (Concordia University), Beckett Minority

**CHRISTOPHER MORRISON** (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Godot and the Wandering Jew

6:15PM READINGS BY MEIRA CHAND, KAREN KING-ARIBISALA, AND SATENDRA NANDAN EV 1.615

Includes the launch of Satendra Nandan's most recent book *Sea-shells on the Sea-shore: A Pair of Black Shoes and Other Stories*.

Novelist and academic **MEIRA CHAND** is of Indian-Swiss parentage and was born and educated in London. She currently lives in Singapore where she teaches at the University of Singapore. The themes of Meira Chand's novels explore the search for identity and belonging. Her novels include *The Gossamer Fly*, *Last Quadrant*, *The Bonsai Tree*, *The Painted Cage*, *A Choice of Evils*, *House of the Sun* (which was adapted for the stage in 1990 and had a successful run at Theatre Royal Stratford East, London), *A Far Horizon*, and most recently *A Different Sky*, which takes place against the backdrop of colonial pre-Independence Singapore. Meira Chand is an associate member of the Centre for the Arts, National University of Singapore and has been Chairperson for the Commonwealth Writers Prize for the region of South East Asia and South Pacific. She is involved in several programmes in Singapore to encourage and mentor young writers and to raise awareness in the country of the pleasures of reading.

Novelist and academic **KAREN KING-ARIBISALA** was born in Guyana. She has studied in Barbados, Italy, Nigeria and England. She is now a Professor of English in the Department of English, University of Lagos, Nigeria. Karen is a writer of non-fiction and fiction. Her first collection of short stories, *Our Wife and Other Stories*, won the Best First Book Prize in the Commonwealth Prize (African Region) 1990/91. Her second work, *Kicking Tongues*, is a blending of poetry and prose, in which she transposes Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* to modern-day Nigeria. She has also published the novel, *The Hangman's Game*. She is the recipient of two James Mitchner Fellowships for creative writing at the University of Miami, a Ford Foundation Grant and British Council grants. She received a Camargo Foundation Fellowship (France) in 2008 and a Djerassi Foundation Fellowship (California) in 2008. Karen King-Aribisala won the Best Book Prize in the Commonwealth Literature Prize (African Region) in 2008.

Novelist and academic **SATENDRA NANDAN** is the Foundation Dean and Professor, The School of Humanities & Arts, The University of Fiji. He is a writer, scholar, parliamentarian and a former cabinet minister. He has taught at several universities and is a Professor Emeritus University of Canberra and an Adjunct Professor at CAPPE, CSU, ANU & Melbourne. He's also a Director Transparency International, Fiji, and the Director of the Gandhi & Tappoo Ashram for Writing, Dialogue and Peace Studies. He's a former Chair of ACLALS, and President of International PEN, Canberra. His works include *Requiem for a Rainbow* (2001), *The Wounded Sea* (200), *Lines Across Black Waters* (1997) and *Fiji: Paradise in Pieces* (2000), and most recently, *Sea-shells on the Sea-shore: A Pair of Black Shoes and Other Stories*.



9:00AM KEYNOTE PANEL : CHALLENGING LITERATURES EV 1.615

CHAIR: WOLFGANG ZACH (Innsbruck University)

SATENDRA NANDAN (University of Fiji), The Ethics of Teaching New Literatures in English: The Teacher as the Writer - Challenges of Multiculturalism

KIRPAL SINGH (Singapore Management University), The Writer Today: Transnationalism & The Ethical Challenge

10:15-10:45AM COFFEE EV 7.745

4 10:45AM-12:15PM

4A NEGOTIATING MULTICULTURALISM AND DIFFERENCE EV 6.735

CHAIR: JOHN UGASIKENE (Enugu State University of Science and Technology)

GEOFFREY DAVIS (RWTH Aachen University), "What Kind of England do we want?": Not Black and White in Britain

IZOMA ENSOWANKE (University of Toronto), The inward turn: the melancholic afterlife of race in postapartheid South Africa

WOLFGANG ZACH (Innsbruck University), Naming 'the Other': From Ethnocentricity to Cultural Relativism

4B NARRATING NATIONAL TRAUMAS AND WAR EV 7.735

CHAIR: ANDRE FURLANI (Concordia University)

JANETTE TURNER HOSPITAL (University of South Carolina), SOMETHING TO DECLARE: lost language, smuggled heritage, and undeclared trauma at border crossings

CHITRA SANKARAN (National University of Singapore), Ethnicity, Landscape and Painful Encounters in Jean Arasanayam's *All is Burning*

RÜDIGER AHRENS (University of Wuerzburg), Identity and Alterity in Post-colonial Film versions: *A Passage to India* and *Apocalypse Now*

5 1:15PM-2:45PM

5A LOCAL LITERATURES IN TRANSNATIONAL CONTEXT EV 6.735

CHAIR: JYOTI NANDAN (University of Fiji)

OTTO HEIM (University of Hong Kong), Literary Citizenship in the Writing of Oceania: The example of Samoan Literature

MASARU USUI (Doshisha University), Hawaii's Local Voice Enclosed in a Transnational Sphere

5B AUSTRALIAN ART AND LITERATURE AND CROSS-CULTURAL READING EV 7.735

CHAIR: SATENDRA NANDAN (University of Fiji)

SANTOSH SARFEE (Jawaharlal Nehru University) Cross-Cultural Reading: 'Marked' Reading or Misreading

CYNTHIA VANDEN BRIESEN (Edith Cowan University) The 'Other' Within: Issues of Identity, Belonging and Hybridity in the Australian Context

HELVIGRE WIEBÜRGER (University of Klagenfurt) Indigenous Australian paintings: Cultural texts for art lovers

2:45-3:00PM COFFEE EV 7.745

6 3:00-5:00PM

6A GENDERING POSTCOLONIAL AND DIASPORIC LITERATURES EV 6.735

CHAIR: LAKSMISREE BANERJEE (Kolhan University)

NONYE AHUMIBE (Godfrey Okoye University), The 21st Century African Woman and the Issue of Identity. A study of Akachi Adimora's *The Children of the Eagle*

JYOTI NANDAN (University of Fiji), 'Difference' and Beyond 'Difference'

SUSAN CAHILL (Concordia University), "All my clean, white bones": Gender, Bodies, Memory in Anne Enright's *The Gathering*

LISA GREKUL (University of British Columbia), (En)gendering Diasporic Desire: Problematic Patriotism in *A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian*

6B RELATIONALITY AND BLACK ATLANTIC EXCHANGE EV 7.735

CHAIR: IZOMA ENSOWANKE (University of Toronto)

JOSEPH KEITH (State University of New York- Binghamton), Labor and Citizenship in C.L.R James' *The "Mariners, Renegades, and Castaways"*

STEPHANE ROBBIN (Rutgers University), Place and Race in the Works of Wright and Abrahams

TAIWO OSINUBI (University of Montréal), Diaspora, Memory Work and the Possibilities of Poethics

JANET NEIGH (Penn State Erie, The Behrend College), Imagining Diasporic Social Voice in Black Atlantic Poetry

6:00PM READINGS BY STEPHANIE BOLSTER, KATIA GRUBISIC, KATE HALL, AND JOHANNA SKIBSRUD EV 1.615

Readings by four celebrated writers associated with Concordia University's Creative Writing Program

CHAIR: JANETTE TURNER HOSPITAL (University of South Carolina)

STEPHANIE BOLSTER's first book, *White Stone: The Alice Poems*, won the Governor General's Award in 1998. Her fourth book, *A Page from the Wonders of Life on Earth*, is forthcoming in fall 2011. The editor of *The Best Canadian Poetry in English 2008*, she teaches creative writing at Concordia.

KATIA GRUBISIC's poetry, fiction, criticism and translations have been published in Canada and internationally. She guest-edited the acclaimed Montreal issue of *The New Quarterly* and the journal's non-fiction supplement, and is the editor of *Arc Poetry Magazine*. Her collection *What if red ran out* won the Lampert award for best first book.

KATE HALL's first book, *The Certainty Dream* (Coach House Books, 2009) won the A.M. Klein Prize for Poetry and was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize. A graduate of Concordia University's M.A. program, she lives in Montreal and teaches at Dawson College.

JOHANNA SKIBSRUD is the author of the 2010 Giller Prize winning novel, *The Sentimentalists*, and two collections of poetry, *Late Nights With Wild Cowboys* and *I Do Not Think That I Could Love A Human Being*. A collection of short fiction, *This Will Be Difficult to Explain and Other Stories* will appear in fall, 2011.

WEDNESDAY JULY 13

9:00AM KEYNOTE PANEL: POSTCOLONIAL IDENTITIES AND GLOBALIZED LITERATURES EV 1.615

CHAIR: JILL BIDUB (Concordia University)

MEIRA CHAND (University of Singapore), Transcending a socially and nationally constructed self: the impact of migrations and imaginative processes on a postcolonial identity

KAREN KING-ARIBISALA (University of Lagos), The Quest for Twinship in four Nigerian novels

10:15-10:45PM COFFEE EV 7.745

7 10:45-12:45PM

7A WRITING AND REPRESENTING SLAVERY AND ANTI-SLAVERY EV 6.735

CHAIR: MAURICE BRIC (University College Dublin)

HELMUT MEIER (Innsbruck University), Precarious Utopias: James Ramsay, the Representation of Africans and the Negotiation of Identities in the British Debate on the Slave Trade

ULRICH PALLUA (Innsbruck University), The Rhetoric of the Nation: Cultivating Images of African Slaves in the Drama of the Abolition Period: 1772-1838

CYNTHIA RAUTH (Innsbruck University), The Image of the Master in African-British Slave Narratives

7B LITERATURE OF ASIAN DIASPORAS EV 7.735

CHAIR: RÜDIGER AHRENS (University of Wuerzburg)

YASUH ARIMITSU (Doshisha University), Nam Le's *The Boat: A Reflection on Multiple Selves*

LILY ROSE LOPE (University of the Philippines), The Foreign Educated: Failed Hybridities in Selected Philippine Novels

YOUNGMIN KIM (Dongguk University), Transnational Othering beyond Post-colonial Double Consciousness