

Coastal Cultures/Islands and Rims:
Remapping the Realm of American Studies

February 17-20, 2005

Bi-annual meeting of the Southern American Studies Association
(SASA)
Lod Cook Conference Center
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Co-sponsored at LSU by the Program in Louisiana and Caribbean Studies; The
Department of English; The Department of History;
and by The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities

This conference will consider the ways in which culture spills over regional, national,
and geographical boundaries, and indeed, how various cultures seem to be portable.
As always, however, any proposal in the fields of American Studies will be considered.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Professor Eric Sundquist, UCLA

A Reading by Louisiana novelist Ernest J. Gaines

PLENARY SPEAKERS

Professor Ted Ownby, University of Mississippi

Poet and Professor Mona Lisa Saloy, Dillard University

The Conference banquet will feature Louisiana cuisine
and Cajun/Zydeco Music

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, February 17th
Registration, Lobby, Cook Conference Center

2:30

Welcome: John Lowe, Professor and

**Director, Program in Louisiana and Caribbean Studies,
Louisiana State University, and Vice President, SASA**

Professor Tom Bonner, Xavier University, SASA President

Plenary Poetry Reading: Professor Mona Lisa Saloy,

Dillard University

Introduction by Professor Laura Mullen, LSU

3:30 Plenary Opening Session

_____ Plenary Address: Professor Ted Ownby
University of Mississippi
"The Troubles with Brotherhood in Southern Culture,
1920s-1960s"

Moderator: Dennis Moore, Florida State University

Respondents: John Lowe

Gaines Foster, Louisiana State University

4:30-6:00

MARDI GRAS INDIANS AND THE BOUNDARIES OF CULTURE

Lecture/Performance: Larry Bannock, Big Chief of the Gold Star Hunters
Respondent, Carolyn Ware, Louisiana State University

'IMAGE IS EVERYTHING ': CREATING AND CONCEALING MEANING IN
POPULAR CULTURE

Chair: Edward Tang, University of Alabama

"Pretty in Pink-O: Class, Status, and THE BREAKFAST CLUB" - Mary Alice Adams,
University of Alabama

"Neutered: The Loss of Choice and Art in Music and Film" - Jay Hughes, University of
Alabama

"Brand Name Beatniks: Memory, Identity, and Politics in Contemporary Consumer
Culture" - Andrew Marcum, University of Alabama

6:00- 7:00 Opening Reception and Cash Bar

FRIDAY, February 18th

8:30-10:00

PECULIARITIES OF COASTS AND LANDSCAPE

Chair: Ed White, Louisiana State University

"Swamp Sublime: Chateaubriand's Florida" - M. Allewaert, Duke University

"A Road that Defines a Nation: The National Park's Trail Ridge Road" - Derek Taff, University of Alabama

"Crossing the Familiar: The Rainbow Bridge in History and Literature" Susan Hays Bussey, Wake Forest University

CARIBBEAN CONNECTIONS

Chair: Bainard Cowan, Louisiana State University

"Schooling Creole Desire: Chamoiseau's SCHOOL DAYS and Michelle Cliff's NO TELEPHONE TO HEAVEN " - Stacy Grooters, University of Washington

"I Stole the Torturer's Tongue': Exile and Feminist Agency in Nalo Hopkinson's MIDNIGHT ROBBER" - Kimberly Nichele Brown, Texas A&M

"Re-mapping Historical Traces in the Migratory Literatures of Michelle Cliff and Caryl Phillips" - Andrea Opitz, University of Washington

10-10:15 Coffee and Conversation

10:15-11:45

AFRICAN AMERICAN WRITERS AND THE REINSCRIPTION OF HISTORY

Chair: Angeletta Gourdine, Louisiana State University

"THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MISS JANE PITTMAN: The World Historical Black Woman as Survivor, Warrior, and Griot" - K. Jahi Adisa, University of Connecticut

"Returning to the Native Land: Places in Gaines A LESSON BEFORE DYING and Du Bois's "Of the Coming of John" - Denise Karachuk Feikema, University of Connecticut

"The Contrapuntal Historiography of Toni Morrison's Paradise: Unpacking the Legacies of the Kansas and Oklahoma All-Black Towns." - Sharon Jessee, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse

REMAPPING SOUTHERN STUDIES: TRANSNATIONAL APPROACHES TO NATIVE AND AFRICAN AMERICAN FICTION

Chair: Martyn Bone, University of Copenhagen

"The (Transnational) South of Black Folk: Discursive Displacement and Migrant Labor in Zora Neale Hurston's Fiction" - Martyn Bone

"'Carrying Our People's Bones': The Native American South via Spain, Mexico and the U.S. Southwest in Louis Owen's BONE GAME" - Melanie R. Benson, Boston University

"Revising Cultural Comparisons: From the Jim Crow South to Dachau in John Williams' CLIFFORD'S BLUES" - Kristi Southern, East Carolina University

11:45-1:30 Lunch - box lunches available (reservation required)
SASA Executive Committee Luncheon - LSU Faculty Club

1:30-3:00

MYTHIC FIGURES/CROSSED BOUNDARIES IN FICTION AND FILM

Chair: Carl Freedman, Louisiana State University

"America's Transgressive Planter Figure in Fiction and Film" - Margaret E. Wright-Cleveland, Florida State University

"'The Woman, the Legend, the Power: Representations of Marie Laveau in Novels by Robert Tallant, Jewell Parker Rhodes, and Barbara Hambly" - Elizabeth C. Neidenbach, College of William and Mary

"COOL HAND LUKE is a Fugitive from a Chain Gang" - Matthew Mancini, St. Louis University

CROSSING AND CREATING BOUNDARIES

Chair: Virginia Spencer Carr, Georgia State University

"We is All People": The Marginalized East-Indian in Lovelace's DRAGON CAN'T DANCE." - Masood Raja, Florida State University

"Bursting Home Boundaries: A Teen-aged Ernest Hemingway Creates a Public Persona." - John Fenstermaker, Florida State University

"Steinbeck Explores America" - Joseph M. Flora, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Response: Virginia Spencer Carr

3:00-4:30

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

"Diaspora, Slavery, and Holocaust in Paule Marshall's
The Chosen Place, The Timeless People

Eric Sundquist, UCLA Professor of English, UCLA

4:30-5:30

RECEPTION AND CASH BAR

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19th

8:30-10

THE U.S. SOUTH IN NATIVE AMERICAN CONTEXTS

Chair: Eric Gary Anderson, George Mason University

"From New Orleans to Navajo Country: Remapping Fiction and Ethnography in the Writings of Oliver La Farge" - Annette Trefzer, University of Mississippi

"Sacred Geography, Ghost Geography: The Landscape of Oklahoma in Contemporary Native American Writing" - Stephanie Gordon, Auburn University

"Where the South Has No Name: Indian Serial Killers and the Damaged Geographies of Roadside America" - Eric Gary Anderson

GEOGRAPHIES OF LOCATION

Chair: Ed White, Louisiana State University

"The Limits of Regionalism: Charles W. Chesnutt and the Generic (Re)Construction of Racial Subjects" - Lauren Coats, Duke University

"River Panoramas and National Narratives" - Anne Baker, North Carolina State University

"Willa Cather's Argument with Modernism" - Stephanie Herron, University of Delaware

10-10:15 COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

10:15-11:45

“PUTTING A HAT ON CHRIST’: ERNEST J. GAINES AS WRITER, TEACHER, AND COLLEAGUE. A Roundtable discussion..

Chair: Reggie Young, University of Louisiana, Lafayette

Panelists:

Reggie Young

Marcia Gaudet, University of Louisiana, Lafayette

Wiley Cash, University of Louisiana, Lafayette

SOUTHERN ISLANDS ON THREE COASTS

Chair: Tiwana Simpson, Louisiana State University

“Access on a Barrier (Island): Class, Race, and Tobacco in Kate Chopin's The Awakening” - Michelle Ladd, California State University, Los Angeles

“No Man is an Island (On the Land): Black and White Southerners in 1920s Southern California” - Daniel Cady, Claremont Graduate University

“Excavating Home: The Island Self in Julie Dash's Novel, DAUGHTERS OF THE DUST” - Katherine Henninger, Louisiana State University

11:45-1:30 Lunch (box lunches available - reservation required)

1:30-3:00 PLENARY READING BY ERNEST GAINES
PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH,
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA, LAFAYETTE

3:00-4:30

BOUNDARIES OF ETHNICITY, LANGUAGE, AND POWER

Chair: Sylvie Du Bois, Louisiana State University

"Rough Translations: The Francophone Literature of 19th Century Louisiana in American literary History" - M. Lynn Weiss, College of William and Mary

"Writing on the Hyphen: Problems of Language, Culture, and Identity in Contemporary Latino-American Memoirs" - Paul Witkowsky, Radford University

"New Asian American Cartographies: Notes on Geopolitics and the Popular-Power Complex"
- Christopher Shinn, Florida State University

"Recentring the World of Slavery in Charles Testut's Le Vieux Salomon" - Heidi Kathleen Kim, Northwestern University

READING, WRITING, AND RELOCATING NEW ORLEANS

Chair: Lynnell Thomas, Emory University

"Evocations of the City in the Poetry of New Orleans Poet Brenda Marie Osbey" - Violet Harrington Bryan, Xavier University

"Up in Flames: An Experiment in Failure in Kate Chopin's 'Desiree's Baby'" - Deborah Lewis, Dillard University

"Bob Kaufman: San Francisco Beat Poet as Southern Writer" - Mona Lisa Saloy, Dillard University

5:00-6:00 Happy Hour/Cash Bar

6:00-8:00 Conference Banquet

Entertainment provided by Zydeco Band and audience Cajun Dancing

Sunday, February 20th

9:00-10:30

TRANSNATIONALISM, REGIONALISM, AND THE POLITICS OF REPRESENTATION

Chair: Brannon Costello, Louisiana State University

"Southern Expatriate in the Pacific Rim: Pearl Buck, Transnational Evangelism, and the Liberal Lost Cause" - Jaime Harker, University of Mississippi

"A Barren Burning Sand': Antebellum British Travel Accounts of the Georgia Low Country" - Christopher Lawton, University of Georgia

"DOCTRINAIRE: Beneficiaries of Literacy Along the Rio Grande after the Pueblo Revolt" - Michelle Saucedo-Halliday, University of New Mexico

10:30-10:45 Coffee and Conversation

10:45-12:15

'RE-CREATING PLACE IN AMERICAN CULTURE

Chair: Stacey Morgan, University of Alabama

"Ain't Got No Home in This World Anymore: Woody Guthrie's Dust Bowl Ballads."

- Rich Megraw, University of Alabama

"Hiding in Plain Sight: Gay Men, Public Parks, and the Search for Identity" - Joshua Burford, University of Alabama

Drew Lopenzina, University of New Hampshire "A Tale of Two Settlements: Brotherton, Cooperstown and the Imagining of Wilderness Community in the 18th Century"

12:45-2:15 Farewell Roundtable Luncheon, Parrain's Restaurant
(reservations required)

Roundtable topic:

"Post-National American Studies"

Book exhibits daily in the lobby featuring publications of LSU Press, University Press of Mississippi, and The Scholar's Choice
