



Melville and Race



Randall Fuller

KU English's Herman Melville Distinguished Professor of American Literature, **Randy Fuller**, has organized and will host a **Mini-Symposium on the Bicentennial of Melville's Birth** in the week following Spring Break. Scheduled for 21 March at the Spencer Research Library, "Melville and Race" will feature afternoon presentations by three prominent Melvilleans as well as a display of Melville-, slavery-, and abolition-related items from the SRL's collections. A 4:30 pm reception will conclude the symposium events. At 2:30 pm, **Wyn Kelley**, Senior Lecturer in Literature at MIT, will deliver a paper entitled "Retouching Whiteness: Racial Ambivalence in Melville's Late Work."



Wyn Kelley

Kelley is a founding member of the Melville Society Cultural Project and is currently Associate Director of the *Melville Electronic Library*, an interactive archive of Melville's texts, sources, and adaptations. Following Kelley, **Ivy Wilson**, Associate Professor of English and Director of American Studies at Northwestern University, will address "Darker Than Blue: Sound and Racial Formation in *Moby-Dick*." Wilson teaches courses on the comparative literatures of the black diaspora and U.S. literary studies with a particular emphasis on African American culture. He is the author of *Specters of Democracy: Blackness and the Aesthetics of Nationalism* (Oxford, 2011) and the co-editor of *Unsettled States: Nineteenth-Century American Literary Studies* (NYU, 2014). The concluding speaker at the mini-symposium will be **Robert S. Levine**, Distinguished University Professor in English at the University of Maryland. His talk is entitled "Race, Emigration, and Nation in *Redburn*." Levine's most recent book (of many) is *Race, Transnationalism, and Nineteenth-Century American Literary Studies* (Cambridge, 2017). He edited *The New Cambridge Companion to Herman Melville* (1998), not to mention serving as General Editor of *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. He has also published widely-respected editions of works by Melville, Hawthorne, Douglass, and Stowe, among others. There can't be too many scholars who have received an NEH fellowship and a Guggenheim Fellowship in consecutive years (2013-2014 and 2014-2015). In 2014, the American Literature Section of the Modern Language Association awarded him the Hubbell Medal for Lifetime Achievement in American literary studies.



Ivy Wilson



Robert S. Levine

Calendar

M 11-F15 Spring Break

M 18 Interdisciplinary Graduate Research Workshops, "Uncorseted: Victorian Studies and the Romance Novel," **Hannah Scupham**, English, 12:00-1:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

Graduate Student Recruitment Visits, details TBA.

T 19 Celebration of Books Published by Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts Faculty in 2018, 4:00-6:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall. Among the books to be featured, works by **Amy Devitt**, **Iain Ellis**, and **Stephen Johnson**.

W 20 Deadline for all English Awards submissions

R 21 Herman Melville Display, items from the Spencer Research Library's collections, 1:00-2:30 pm, Johnson Room, Spencer Research Library.

Melville and Race: A Mini-Symposium on the Bicentennial of Melville's Birth, 2:30-4:30 pm, North Gallery, Spencer Research Library. Reception follows.

F 22 SAGE Meeting, 4:00-5:00 pm, 4033 Wescoe.

S 23 HBW's 35th Anniversary Event: Symposium on Mass Incarceration, featuring **Patrick E. Alexander**, English, University of Mississippi; **Jerry W. Ward, Jr.**, English, Dillard University (Emeritus); **Brian Daldorph**, English, KU; Jennifer Wilmot; and Marla Jackson, 2:00-6:00 pm, Lawrence Public Library Auditorium

HBW's 35th Anniversary Event: Reading and Book Signing, "A Bound Woman Is a Dangerous Thing," **DaMaris Hill** (PhD '12), English, University of Kentucky, 7:00 pm, Crystal's Spot, 704 Massachusetts.

N 24 HBW's 35th Anniversary Event: Writers Workshop with DaMaris Hill, 4:00-6:00 pm, Lawrence Public Library, Meeting Room A.

T 26 Voting Department Meeting, 4:00 pm, 4051 Wescoe.

R 28 Disability Studies Seminar, "Teaching Literature and Disability Through Superhero Comics," **Mikaela Warner**, English, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

IDRH Event, "Maker Spaces: Ideas, Questions, Possibilities," **Whitney Sperrazza**, English, Hall Center Digital Humanities Post-Doc, 3:30-5:00 pm, Watson Library, 455.

Publications

Schieberle, Misty

“*The Lytle Bibell of Knyghthod*, Christine de Pizan’s *Epistre Othea*, and the Problem with Authorial Manuscripts,” *Journal of English and Germanic Philology* 118.1 (2019): 100-128.

Presentations

McKitterick, Chris

“A Creative Approach to Group Presentations” (with Phil Baringer), CTE C21 Teaching Demonstrations Event, University of Kansas, 1 March.

Accepted for Publication

Hall, Christopher

“Tarkovsky’s *Solaris*: Settling the Otherworldly Self,” *SFRA Review* 327 (2019): 41-45.

HBW News

The Project on the History of Black Writing is celebrating its 35th anniversary with several events taking place over the weekend of March 23-24 (see “Calendar”). More details will appear in the 3/22 issue of the *DNB*, but watch for other print and digital publicity about these gatherings.

Announcements, Notes & News

• **Michael K. Johnson** (PhD '97), Professor of English at University of Maine at Farmington, has published a new book. *Can't Stand Still: Taylor Gordon and the Harlem Renaissance* is just out from University Press of Mississippi as part of its Margaret Walker Alexander Series in African American Studies. Emmanuel Taylor Gordon, with his musical partner, J. Rosamond Johnson, helped popularize black spirituals. Gordon became an internationally-famous singer and memoirist in the 1920s before gaining further celebrity as a radio star in succeeding years.

KU and Regional Events

• **Global & International Studies Lecture**, “Ireland, Brexit, and the EU,” Mary Mitchell O’Connor, Irish Government Minister of Higher Education, 18 March, 1:30 pm, Centennial Room, Kansas Union. Q&A to follow.

• **Place, Race & Space Seminar**, “The Struggle to Save the Quindaro Site,” Fred Whitehead, 18 March, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Global Food for Thought**, “About the End of the World: Toward a Cosmopolitanism of Loss,” Mariano Siskind, Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard University, 20 March, 12:00 pm, Big 12 Room, Kansas Union. Free light lunch served.

• **The Urban Experience Seminar**, “‘The Country Club School’: A Socio-Historical Case Study of an Urban School Evolution,” Lauren Coleman-Tempel, ELPS, 21 March, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Red Hot Research**: “Research and Policy,” speakers from Communications Studies; Psychology; Physics and Astronomy; Geography & Atmospheric Sciences, 22 March, 4:00-5:30 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

• **Resident Humanities Fellows**, “Free Land: Homesteading the U.S. West,” Sara Gregg, History, 26 March, 12:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.

• **CTE Workshop**, “Approaching All Students as Language Learners,” with Kim Warren, History/WGSS and Meaghan Patterson, CTE/Educational Psychology, 26 March, 12:30-1:30 pm, 135 Budig.

• **Research on the Leading Edge**, “Philosophy Within Its Proper Bounds,” Edouard Machery, History and Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, 27 March, 3:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room. RSVP by 15 March to receive a free copy of Machery’s new book of the same name: hallcenter@ku.edu.

• **TGIT**, for faculty and staff, 28 March, 4:00-6:00 pm, Adams Alumni Center.

• **Colonialism Seminar**, “Panama’s Black King,” Robert Smale, History, University of Missouri, 29 March, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

Calls for Papers, Conferences, Symposia, Etc. (Posted)

• **a2ru** (The Alliance for Arts in Research Universities) **National Conference**, 7-9 November, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS. Submissions deadline: 5 April.

• **Humanities in the Wild**, a monthly evening of humanities presentations, puzzles, games, demos, and more as part of the Final Fridays art walk in downtown Lawrence. Presentations should reveal how humanities scholars are “grappling with a wide array of questions related to the great outdoors. Suggested presentations deadline: 25 March.

Fellowships, Contests, Awards, Scholarships, Etc. (Posted)

• **12th Annual Sustainability Leadership Awards**, to recognize students, faculty, and staff, as well as programs and projects that have made important contributions to sustainability and have promoted the values of environmental, economic, and social responsibility. Nomination deadline: 29 March.

• **63rd Annual Snyder Book Collecting Contest**, graduate and undergraduate divisions, cash prizes, possible nomination to national contest. Deadline for submissions: 17 March.