



NeMLA NeWS Winter 2010

Northeast Modern Language Association

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President's Letter: Welcome to Montreal!

NeMLA will hold its 41st annual convention April 7-11 in downtown Montreal, Quebec, at the unique Hilton Montreal Bonaventure. This year's convention will be the largest in NeMLA's history with 370 sessions and with more than 1,600 participants. The program is strong with a wide range of literary, cultural, historical and theoretical areas of study and scholars from many different parts of the world. We are very grateful to our local host institution, McGill University, whose representatives have been planning many exciting and creative activities in great teamwork with us.



The convention sessions will begin at 2:15 pm Thursday, April 8th and final sessions run until 12:15pm. Sunday, April 11th. A membership brunch on Sunday will close the convention but for the afternoon members can sign up for special NeMLA scheduled events and tours.

On Thursday evening you are invited to attend NeMLA's Welcoming Reading and Reception at the adjacent Marriott Chateau Champlain in their CafCon--a "Moulin Rouge" style theatre with its own stage and truly dramatic décor. We are pleased that Gail Scott, a Canadian author with seven books and several literary prizes and recognitions, will give the traditional Thursday Reading at 7:00 pm and read from her new novel *The Obituary*. Her novel, as she has stated in her recent e-mail to me, can be considered in many ways, contemporary heir to Leonard Cohen's *Beautiful Losers*—among other things, similarly embedded in Montreal and dealing with some of the same themes as Cohen's novel. It deals as does all her work with issues of translation, transculturation, and the breaking down of the writing subject.

The Keynote Address and Reception will be held Friday night at the Hilton, featuring Alan Liu, Professor of English, UC Santa Barbara. His research interests are information, culture, new media, and

literary and cultural theory. His publications include *Local Transcendence: Essays on Postmodern Historicism and the Database* (2008) and *The Laws of Cool: Knowledge Work and the Culture of Information* (2004).

The title of Professor Liu's keynote will be "From Reading to Social Computing" and is part of his current work and collaboration with a project team. He will also give a related talk, "Friending the Past: The Sense of History and Social Computing," at McGill University on Thursday.

Saturday features a wide selection of special sessions, distinguished speakers sponsored by several language sections, and performances. Charmaine Nelson, Associate Professor in the Department of Art History and Communications at McGill, will give a special lecture on Saturday in the early afternoon. Her main area of research is "Post-Colonial & Post-Colonial Feminist Theory." Her talk title is "The Incredible Disappearing Slave: Slavery and Visibility in Nineteenth-century Jamaican Landscapes."

Saturday afternoon at 4:45pm, a group of local poets and prose writers, Johanna Skibsrud, Ian Ferrier, Kate Hall, John Goldbach, and Ian Orti, will be giving readings from their works in the Irish Embassy Pub near the conference hotel. On Saturday evening special events and receptions will be take place sponsored by the Language Areas and the Caucuses (see details in this newsletter).

Among other local events such as concerts, museums, exhibits, shows, NeMLA will sponsor presentations of the Leon Edel collection (with an important Henry James component) at McGill University Library, and guided architectural tours of

Montreal organized by Nancy Dunton, who is an expert in this field and is making her co-authored 2008 book *A Guidebook to Contemporary Architecture in Montreal* available to NeMLA members at a reduced rate.

I would like to thank all members for building a truly vibrant community of scholars with cutting edge scholarship and for making NeMLA the largest regional MLA and an exciting convention to attend. I would like to express my special thanks to the team building Board members and the dedicated and spirited current executive committee, Simona Wright, Rita Bode, and Bill Waddell. Last but not least, I want to thank Elizabeth Abele, the Executive Director, whose creative vision and incredibly hard work have led NeMLA to the next stage of scholarly and interpersonal networking.

The location of the 2011 NeMLA Convention is New Brunswick, New Jersey, the adopted state of the next NeMLA President, Simona Wright, to whom I will pass the baton at the Sunday brunch on April 11.

I look forward to seeing you in Montreal in sessions and at events.

Barbara Mabee

NeMLA President, 2009-2010

Professor of German and Interim Director, Honors College
Oakland University

Non-Canadian residents:

**Don't forget to apply for a passport
and to pack it!**



McGill University Arts Building

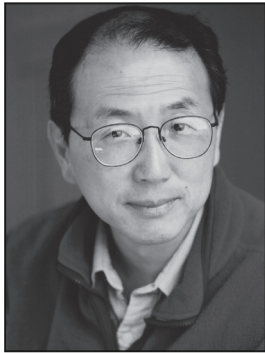
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Convention Highlights

Keynote Speaker

Alan Liu, the speaker for the 41st NeMLA convention, is Chair and Professor in the English Department at the University of California, Santa Barbara.



Among other works, he is the author of *Local Transcendence: Essays on Postmodern Historicism and the Database* (University of Chicago Press, 2008) and *The Laws of Cool: Knowledge Work and the Culture of Information* (University of Chicago Press, 2004).

Liu also founded the NEH-funded *Teaching with Technology* project at UC Santa Barbara. His central interests include information culture, new media, literary and cultural theory (especially formalism, cultural criticism, and post industrialism), cultural studies, and British Romantic literature and art.

Opening Reading

On Thursday evening, poet **Gail Scott** will be NeMLA's special guest at our opening reading, to be followed by the welcoming reception.



Scott is the author of many works, including *Spare Parts Plus Two* (Coach House Press, 2003) and *My Paris* (Mercury Press, 1999), which was named one of the ten best novels of 1999 by *Quilt and Quire*.

She has also edited a collection of essays, *Biting the Error: Writers Explore Narrative* (Coach House Press, 2004) with Robert Gluck, Mary Burger, and Camille Roy and translated various works. Scott is also the co-founder of the online journal *Narrativity*.

She teaches Creative Writing at Université de Montréal but is currently living in New York while she completes a novel and works on a new collection of stories. Her essay "The Sutured Subject" appeared in the fall issue of *The Review of Contemporary Fiction*.

Saturday Lunchtime Events

Post-Colonial & Post-Colonial Feminist Theory Charmaine Nelson,

Associate Professor in the Department of Art History and Communications at McGill, will give a lecture on "The Incredible Disappearing Slave: Slavery and Visibility in Nineteenth-century Jamaican Landscapes."

Nelson is the author of *The Color of Stone: Sculpting Black Female Subjects in Nineteenth-Century America* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2007) and the forthcoming, *Representing the Black Female Subject in Western Art* (New York: Routledge in 2010) and *Ebony Roots, Northern Soil: Perspectives on Blackness in Canada* (Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2010).



Spanish Ministry of Culture Event

Sesión especial: Teatro contemporáneo español visto desde EE.UU.: José Ramón Fernández

This year's special session on Spanish Theater will honor **José Ramón Fernández**. The event, chaired by Enrique Ruiz-Fornells (Emeritus, University of Alabama) will consist of a discussion of his work, with panelists John P. Gabriele and Linda Materna.

Cultural Studies and Film / LGBTQ Special Event

Featured speaker **Mariko Tamaki** has been invited to this special event. Mariko Tamaki is a Toronto-based writer and performer. She is the co-author of the award-winning graphic novels *Skim* and *Emiko Superstar* and author of the non-fiction collections *True Lies: A Book of Bad Advice and Fake ID*, both published by Women's Press. Her talk is entitled "Queer Content in Context."



Saturday Evening Events

German Language Area Special Event

Sponsored by the Swiss Consulate



Montreal-based, Swiss-German author, Verena Stefan will read from her work. Stefan is best known for her influential bestseller *Häutungen* (*Frauenoffensive*, 1975) translated into eight European languages. She is also the author of *Rauh, wild & frei: Mädchengestalten in der Literatur* (Fischer Taschenbuch, 1997) and *Fremdschläfer*. Roman. Ammann (Meridiane, 2007).

Women's Caucus Special Event

Co-sponsored by Comparative Language

Featured Speaker and Montreal-born **Madeleine**

Monette will give a talk, "America Is Also a Quebec Novel." Monette is a novelist and short story writer.

Her first novel, *Le Double suspect*, received the Prix Robert-Cliche in 1980, bestowed by the Québec City International Book Fair. She has written four additional novels and published numerous short stories. Ms. Monette is a member of the Académie des lettres du Québec.



French Language Area Special Event

The popular Francophone theatre Théâtre Espace Go is producing *Les Saisons*, written by Sylvie Drapeau and Isabelle Vincent and featuring a very talented cast including Annick Bergeron, Micheline Bernard, Sophie Cadieux, Pierre Collin, and Isabelle Vincent. Following the play, there will be a Rencontre d'Ariane, when the audience can interact with the actors and writers about the themes in play. For further information visit: <http://www.espacego.com>.



The Illuminated Crowd sculpture

Italian Language Area Special Event

Immediately following the Italian business meeting there will be a reception at the Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Montreal. The institute is an official body of the Italian government which aims at promoting Italian culture and language in Quebec.

Cultural Studies and Film Screening

Co-sponsored by American Literatures and the Diversity Committee

Jump at the Sun: Zora Neale Hurston Documentary

This new documentary from California Newsreel is based on the life of Zora Neale Hurston and showcases rare footage of the rural south. The film, some of sections shot by Hurston herself, traces the life of the writer through her early days in Florida through her writings and ethnographic research. **Time:** 7:30pm

Cultural Studies and Film Screening Special Exhibit

A preview exhibit – *A Revealing Selection of 'Graphic Details: Confessional Comics by Jewish Women'*: co-curated by Michael Kaminer and Sarah Lightman – will be displayed through the Convention. The full exhibition, showcasing award-winning artists, will be on display in San Francisco's Cartoon Art Museum in September 2010 and in Toronto's Koffer Center for the Arts in April 2011.





I Invented The Birdcall

by Kate Hall

I invented it with my hands, on the red-eye flight
by the light of my laptop screen.
I invented chatter then alarm,
quacking *krek-krek-krek-krek*.
At times I only managed three syllables instead of four.
In the air, everything came in tiny packages
even the dinner napkin. The man beside me
used his and let it fall to the floor.
It rested there inadvertently bird-shaped.
I made a logical fallacy and felt sorry for it.
So this was life now;
we were no longer grounded.
Mid-flight, I lost a piece of my sight.
It was jagged-edged but not dark inside.
Let the white places represent nothing
except blindness. The world was broken then
and fleeing. I was left with a series of chirps
that were mine but too small to carry anything.
I meant for them to say *Help*
but when uttered, they meant
something else.

From *The Certainty Dream* (Coach House Books, 2009).
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Saturday Evening Montreal Writers Reading

Montreal is home to one of North America's most productive and vivid arts scenes in both English and in French, and NeMLA is pleased to offer a special event to highlight some of Montreal's finest Anglophone literary talents. The poets and prose writers include Johanna Skibsrud, Kate Hall, Ian Ferrier, John Goldbach, and Ian Orti. Please join us at the Irish Embassy Pub, 1234 Bishop Street, on Saturday, April 10 at 4:30 pm to hear from Montreal's creative voices.

I Do Not Think That I Could Love a Human Being

by Johanna Skibsrud

I do not think that I could love a human being; I would not
know it if I squeezed too hard. I would be a great bear. I would
go rumbling through.
I would try to eat you. I would stand alone,
in the quiet centre of you, and roar. No, I
could not love you. I could not
love a human being.
I would get so
stuck on things. The small
flaws in you, like
the way that you will die;
it would stick in my throat, I could not love you.
And the way that, if you touched me, I would be
as if to you a solid object,
as if a boot, a stick, a stone.
And you to me. The way that I could
pick you up. That I could
hammer you against me; that I could
bruise myself on you, and still have only a
brief impression of you left there on my skin.
And, if I cried, that too would be
an imitation of the thing that I would feel.
And the pain itself, if it were real, would come as if
so separately from you that it might
equally have been a whip, a rope,
a rail with which I thrashed myself when I
thrashed myself with you.
No, I could not love a human being if they
could not leave a mark.
Even if I were a bear
and I ate you, you would
move right through me.
Even if you were a bear
and you ate me, I would
move right through you.
But I am not a bear. And will not eat you.
If I said I could, I could not.
And you are not a bear. And will not eat me.
And that is why I could not love you.
And that is why I could not love you.
And that is why I could not love you.

From *I Do Not Think That I Could Love a Human Being*
(Forthcoming Gaspereau Press, 2010)
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NeMLA Sponsored Local Activities

NeMLA is happy to sponsor a series of scheduled events for its members attending the 41st annual convention. These events are categorized below by date. Reservations must be made for these organized group events; to book your reservations, please visit Acteva: <http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaID=196565>.

NeMLA is delighted to underwrite Montreal architectural walking tours for. These architectural tours are researched and designed by local author and instructor Nancy Dunton. These one and-half-hour long walking tours will be presented by young professionals with a background in architecture, art history, or art education. The emphasis will be on understanding Montreal and the significance of a particular neighbourhood to the city.

We have additionally suggested other points of interest in the Montreal area, including several museums, libraries, and theatre companies. Check out the free walking tour podcasts if you are compelled to learn more about the city. Purchase a Montreal Museums Pass and visit several of the many history museums or take in an orchestra performance if the arts are calling you in Montreal! Costs and details are listed below for a wide variety of suggested destinations. We hope you enjoy your adventures in Montreal.

Thursday, April 8

Les Mélodînes: Marianne Lambert

Music lovers should not miss Marianne Lambert's concert at Montreal's Place des Arts. The coloratura soprano is in full command of her beautiful voice and uses it in the service of interpretive insight through her rich, warm sound. Her programme will include works by Offenbach, Debussy, Delage, Donizetti, Haendel, and Brown. For more information, visit: <http://laplacedesarts.com>

Time: 12 p.m. **Cost:** \$11

Architectural Walking Tour of Old Montreal

These one-and-half-hour long walking tours will be presented by young professionals with a background in architecture, art history, or art education. The emphasis will be on understanding Montreal and the significance of a particular neighbourhood to the city. In this tour of the old city, Vieux Montréal, you will find traces of the 18th century fortified town still visible

in the densely-built 19th century historic district.

Departure point: Metro Champ-de-Mars

Time: 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$17.50

Tour of Leon Edel Archive

Rare Books and Special Collections

McLennan Library, McGill University

In May of 1989, McGill purchased Leon Edel's literary and professional papers. Now, on the fourth floor of the McLennan Library in the Rare Books and Special Collections Division, in boxes opened only for cursory examination and in folders and notebooks yet uncatalogued, there abides almost seventy

years worth of the accumulated correspondence, research files, photo files, drafts, galleys, proofs, diaries, journals, and memoirs of the late Leon Edel (1907-98), biographer and editor of Henry James, student of the Bloomsbury circle, editor of the diaries of Edmund Wilson, and McGill graduate (B.A. 1927, M.A. 1928). Tour will include a talk "Leon Edel Returns to McGill". **Cost:** \$2.00



Hotel de Ville

Friday, April 9

Architectural Walking Tour of Quartier International de Montréal

This entertainment district was a "made-to-measure" quartier that has repaired a hole in the urban fabric and set new standards for coherent design.

Departure point: Bonaventure Hilton Street Entrance

Time: 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$17.50

Grupo Corpo (Brazil)/ Danse Danse Festival

Théâtre Maisonneuve, Place des Arts Double Bill: Breu and Parabelo; Choreographer: Rodrigo Pederneiras; Eagerly awaited by its legions of fans, this renowned Brazilian dance company will present a double bill contrived by Rodrigo Pederneiras. The troupe's resident choreographer since 1978, Pederneiras owes his international success to his unique style: "a fusion of Brazilian dance—with its swaying rhythms and hybrid influences—and neoclassical dance" (*Le Figaro*). The company's remarkably polished craftsmanship and the magnetism of its dancers make each performance a voyage of discovery and of rediscovery. For more information, visit:

<http://www.dansedanse.net>

Time: 8 p.m. **Cost:** \$53 and \$25. Please book by Feb. 15

Saturday, April 10

Architectural Walking Tour of Faubourg des Récollets

This historic, early industrial area at the mouth of the Lachine Canal was first transformed by artists and then by high tech companies.

Departure point: Bonaventure Hilton Street Entrance

Time: 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$18

Théâtre Espace Go: *Les Saisons*

Sponsored by the French Language Area

This popular Francophone theatre is producing *Les Saisons*, written by Sylvie Drapeau and Isabelle Vincent and featuring a very talented cast including Annick Bergeron, Micheline Bernard, Sophie Cadieux, Pierre Collin, and Isabelle Vincent. NeMLA members are invited to meet for a glass of wine prior to the production. For more information, visit: <http://www.espacego.com/saisons.php> and <http://www.espacego.com/activites.php>

Time: 8 p.m. **Cost:** \$12.50

La Otra Orilla (Québec) / Série Cinquième Salle - Danse Danse Festival

A new production by Miriam Allard and Hedi "El Moro" Graja. Complex rhythms, heart-rending chants, intense and solemn dance: flamenco literally casts a spell. This art form traces its origins to 16th-century Spain and constitutes a tradition that remains very much alive, constantly enriching itself. For more information, visit: <http://laplacedesarts.com/>

Time: 8 p.m. **Cost:** \$25. Must be booked by Jan. 30

Sunday, April 11

Architectural Walking Tour of Quartier Latin

The cultural mecca of francophone Montréal in the early 20th century is now home to cultural institutions such as the Grande Bibliothèque, completed in 2005.

Departure point: Metro Champ-de-Mars

Time: 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$18

Montreal Flavours Tour

Montreal has often been dubbed the North American capital for French cuisine and can certainly be considered an epicentre of gastronomy in general! Discover the city from a different point of view, while our tour guide gives you historical background, you'll also learn about the ethnic influences on this culinary "community." From "Little Italy" to "Chinatown" and including the Greek, Portuguese, and

Jewish neighbourhoods, you'll visit some of the most popular food stops and try some of the specialities.

Time/ Duration: 12:30pm-3:30pm/ 4 hours including round-trip transportation by mini-bus, a professional tour guide, and tastings at each stop. **Cost:** \$ 84

Additional Suggested Events

Montreal Museums Pass

The Pass gives access to 34 museums and major attractions in Montreal for three consecutive days and includes a three day transit card. A great value for only \$45. For more information, visit: <http://www.museesmontreal.org>

Bibliothèque et Archives Nationale du Québec

This recent addition to the city comprises our national library and archives. A 45-minute tour of the archives centre will be offered by a bilingual guide. The archives are extensive but are of special interest in regard to Quebec history, culture, and literature. For more information, visit: <http://www.banq.qc.ca>

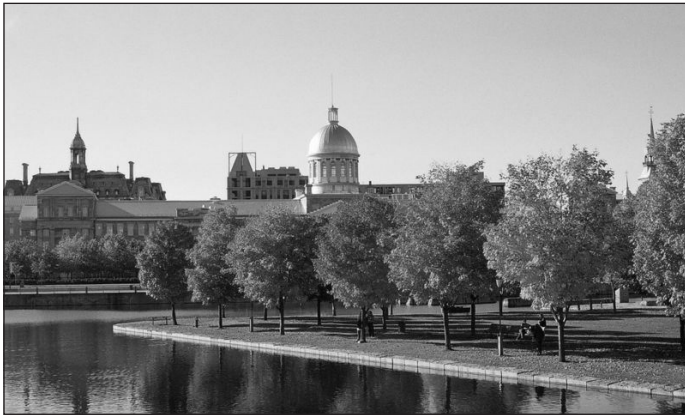
Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal (Montreal Museum of Fine Arts)

Along with their extensive permanent collection, which always offers free admission, the special exhibit of the Musée is called "A Passion for Colour," and showcases the work of Louis C. Tiffany (1848-1933). His work is famous for the original and spectacular effects of colour and light that he achieved in his blown vases, stained glass windows and lamps. A Canadian first, this exhibition focuses on Tiffany's outstanding contribution to design and the technology of glass. For more information, visit: <http://www.mbam.qc.ca/en/index.html>

Time: Wednesday to Friday 11-5 (Permanent Exhibit) and 11-9 (Tiffany Exhibit); Saturday and Sunday 10-5. **Cost:** \$7.50-15



Pears at market



Marché Bonsecours

Musée d'Art Contemporain

Reflecting the main trends in contemporary art, as well as the diversity of disciplines and media—painting, sculpture, drawing, printmaking, video, installation—the collection provides a solid base for a continuum of activities: historical, thematic, monographic and travelling exhibitions, along with a varied program of guided tours, educational workshops and meetings with artists. For more information, visit: <http://www.macm.org/en/index.html>

Time: Tuesday to Sunday 11-5. **Cost:** \$6

Redpath Museum

McGill University's Natural History Museum, free for the general public, is a popular favourite with children and families. For more information, visit: <http://www.mcgill.ca/redpath>

Time: Monday to Friday 9-5; Sunday 12-5. **Cost:** Free.

Canadian Centre for Architecture

Based on its extensive Collection, exhibitions, programs, and research opportunities, the CCA is a leading voice in advancing knowledge, promoting public understanding, and widening thought and debate on architecture, its history, theory, practice, and role in society today. For more information, visit: <http://www.cca.qc.ca>

Time: Wednesday to Sunday 11-6; Thursday 11-9. **Cost:** \$10

Pointe-à-Callière

(Montreal Museum of Archaeology and History)

The museum of a site, a history and a city, Pointe-à-Callière delves into the past to foster a debate on urban issues both local and global, and to encourage visitors to reflect on the future. For more information, visit: <http://www.pacmusee.qc.ca>

Time: Tuesday to Friday 10-5; Saturday and Sunday 11-5. **Cost:** \$8-14

FRAG: Art Installation Walking Tour Podcasts

FRAG (for fragments of history, of life, and of culture) is a permanent 24/7 visual journey along Boulevard Saint-Laurent offering a suite of graphic installations dotting this main artery's façades and bearing powerful testimony to the manifold currents and impulses which have marked its urban, social, cultural, and economic history. This exhibit highlights the history of Blvd. St-Laurent, locally called the "Main" because it is a main North-South street and traditionally was considered to separate Montreal's Francophone East End and the Anglophone downtown and West End. For more information, visit: <http://www.atsa.qc.ca/pages/frags2home.asp>

Cost: Free

McCord Museum (Montreal History)

This McGill-associated museum offers a permanent exhibit called *Simply Montreal: Glimpses of a Unique City*, which is a unique presentation by turns dazzling and dark, dignified and frivolous, steamy-hot and icy-cold, of Montreal—city of a thousand spires, crossroads of a continent. Like a tune that lingers in the mind, its history speaks to the hearts of all: Montrealers, people experiencing its charm for the first time, and those who just keep coming back. For more information, visit: <http://www3.nfb.ca/cinerobotheque>

Time: Tuesday to Friday 10-6; Saturday and Sunday 10-5. **Cost:** \$5.50-\$13

The National Film Board

Visit the Montréal Ciné Robotheque to watch 10,000 films from the NFB collection, to create animated films in one of their workshops, and to discuss with other film fan and filmmakers. For more information, visit: <http://www3.nfb.ca/cinerobotheque>

Time: Monday to Friday 9-9; Saturday and Sunday 12-9. **Cost:** \$7-\$13

Centaur Theatre Company:

The Madonna Painter, or The Birth of a Painting

Montreal's premiere Anglophone theatre will be producing the first English-language showing of *The Madonna Painter, or The Birth of a Painting*, written by Québécois playwright Michel Marc Bouchard, translated by Linda Gaboriau, and directed by Roy Surette. For more information, visit: <http://www.centaurtheatre.com/>

Time: 8 p.m. **Cost:** \$31

McGill Symphony Orchestra and McGill Sinfonietta

Alexis Hauser, conductor. Berlioz: *Les Nuits d'été* for solo voice and orchestra, Op. 7; Schubert: *Symphony No.9* in C major, D. 944. Pollack Hall. Tel.: 514-398-4547. For

Time: Friday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.
Cost: \$12

The Biodome

An oasis in the heart of the city, the Montreal Biodôme recreates some of the most beautiful ecosystems of the Americas, including the lush and humid Tropical Forest, the season orientated Laurentian Forest, St. Lawrence Marine ecosystem's Estuary and Gulf, and the Polar Worlds of the Arctic and Antarctic. For more information, visit: <http://www2.ville.montreal.qc.ca/biodome>
Time: Daily 9-5. **Cost:** \$16



Biodome

Botanical Gardens and Insectarium

With its collection of 22,000 plant species and cultivars,

10 exhibition greenhouses, some thirty thematic gardens, and teams of researchers and activities staff, the Montréal Botanical Garden ranks as one of the world's largest and most spectacular botanical gardens. The Montréal Insectarium is home to a multitude of treasures just waiting to be discovered. Dazzling, jewel-like beetles, giant walking sticks, butterflies with multicoloured wings, and furry spiders to enchant visitors young and old. For more information, visit: <http://www2.ville.montreal.qc.ca/jardin/jardin.htm> and <http://www2.ville.montreal.qc.ca/insectariums/>
Time: Tuesday to Sunday 9-5. **Cost:** \$13.50

Planetarium

With a special emphasis on youth education, the Planetarium uses high-quality sky simulations, coupled with a rich audio-visual environment, to provide a memorable experience of learning about the latest in astronomy and space exploration. For more information, visit: <http://www.planetarium.montreal.qc.ca/Planetarium>

Time: Tuesday to Thursday 1-5; Friday 1-5 and 7-9:30; Saturday and Sunday 9:30-5 and 7-9:30. **Cost:** \$8

Revising Categories for 2011 Sessions

At their last meeting the NeMLA Board spent considerable time discussing appropriate categories for session proposals, balancing inclusiveness against clarity and fragmentation.

As the Board continues to wrestle with these questions, we have tried to address these issues in some revised categories that appear in our Call for Sessions and Call for Papers:

Anglophone Literatures (Other) – session for literatures in English other than American, British, and/or Canadian

Comparative Languages/Literatures – sessions examining literatures from various languages

Cultural Studies and Film – combines the previous areas of “Popular Culture” and “Film”

Comparative Languages/Literatures – sessions examining literatures from various languages

Cultural Studies and Film – combines the previous areas of “Popular Culture” and “Film”

Transnational Literatures – for sessions that examine literatures across national boundaries

World Literatures (Other) – for literatures in languages other than the currently established NeMLA language areas.

The value of NeMLA is the opportunity provided for language scholars to share their work across language, period, and genre. Our goal is to promote this interdisciplinary exchange while maintaining academic rigor. Sessions proposals for 2011 New Brunswick, **due April 22**, will likely be competitive this year. The online proposal form will be available late March.



Executive Board members Bill Waddell, Barbara Mabee and Rita Bode

2010 Convention Hotels

The Hilton Bonaventure has been described as a penthouse hotel because it features 2.5 acres of rooftop green space. Centrally located in the heart of downtown Montreal, the hotel is easily accessible by the Metro (literally located under the hotel and surrounded by underground shops, boutiques and restaurants). The hotel is steps away from the business district, Old Montreal, and Saint Catherine Street shopping.

Less than two blocks away, the Marriott Montreal Champlain is the tallest hotel in Montréal: 133-meter and 38-floors. It was built for the Expo 67 and has panoramic views of the city through half moon windows (its affectionate nickname is “The Cheese Grater”) overlooking Mont-Royal, Old Montreal, and the St.-Lawrence River. It is also directly connected to the underground city. The Marriott Chateau Champlain also offers its guests free wireless access.

Hilton Bonaventure (SOLD OUT) / 900 de La Gauchetiere West

Marriott Chateau Champlain / 1050 de la Gauchetiere West



Marriott Chateau Champlain



Hilton Bonaventure Rooftop

For current availability and rates, check the NeMLA website:
<http://www.nemla.org/convention/hotel.html>

****Please book early: the deadline for NeMLA's discounted rates is March 1, 2010****

New Board Members

NeMLA is delighted to welcome four new members to the 2010-2011 Board of Directors. New board members will begin their service Sunday, April 11, 2010.

Second Vice President:

Natalie Edwards, Assistant Professor of French and Italian, Wagner College

French Languages and Literatures Director:

Moussa Sow, Assistant Professor of Francophone Literatures and Cultures and African-American Studies, The College of New Jersey

Spanish Languages and Literatures Director:

Christina Santos, Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese, Brock University

Popular Culture Director:

Michael Chaney, Assistant Professor of English and African American Studies, Dartmouth College

Please welcome your new representatives!

2011: NeMLA in New Brunswick, NJ

Simona Wright
First Vice-President

I am delighted to announce that the 2011 NeMLA Convention will be held in New Brunswick, NJ at the Hyatt Hotel New Brunswick, April 6-10. We are very fortunate to have the academic sponsorship of Rutgers University, which will be our host institution. The Rutgers University Administration and Faculty are working closely with NeMLA to schedule a series of exciting cultural and artistic events that include high profile speakers from their distinguished faculty, a speaker of renown who will give the keynote address at the conference, and recognized poets who will inaugurate the convention.

Plans are well underway for a successful conference, which will integrate intellectually stimulating panels and visits to special sites and cultural events. The recently renovated Hyatt New Brunswick boasts a central location, as it is in walking distance from Rutgers University, the Zimmerli Museum, the train station, restaurants, and shops. For the Convention, the Hyatt will give NeMLA members a very favorable rate. New Brunswick is easily accessible from Newark Airport and is only a short train ride to New York City.



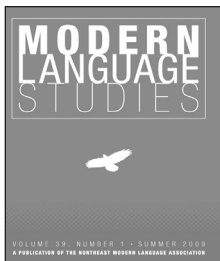
Downtown New Brunswick

Propose a session! (panel, roundtable, seminar or creative event)

The deadline for session proposals is April 22, 2010. If members prefer to present only, be sure to read the Call for Papers for the pre-approved panel list, which will be posted on the website and newsletter in the summer. Deadline for abstracts for most sessions will be Sept. 30, 2010.

Modern Language Studies

Council of Editors of Learned Journals 2005 Phoenix Award Runner-Up for Significant Editorial Achievement



Modern Language Studies offers contributors, subscribers, and editors an opportunity to examine and discuss compelling issues in all areas of English, American, and comparative literature, and the literatures of the modern languages. Articles and reviews in MLS reflect the eclectic interests of NeMLA members, and part of the journal's mission is to provide members with a broad range of publishing opportunities. MLS appears twice a year, in the summer and winter, is divided into a number of sections:

Articles (6,000-10,000 words): Articles should speak to the broad interests of the MLS subscribers. We are particularly interested in, and welcome submissions of, unpublished letters; annotated writers' notebooks or other primary documents of literary historical interest; edited and annotated translations of poems, short stories, and plays by writers in literatures of the modern languages; and interviews with writers and artists.

Profession & Pedagogy (4,000-7,000 words): Essays may address pedagogical theory, practical teaching strategies, faculty/student collaboration, curriculum development, information technology, small college/research university dynamics, interdisciplinary work, institutional politics, graduate and faculty unionization, part-time faculty, tenure and promotion, and other related topics. Creative non-fiction that explores and dramatizes similar terrain, and that observes and articulates what is at stake in these issues for people and communities, is also welcome.

Reviews (2,000-5,000): Reviews must be of significant, intriguing, or unusual primary source materials. These reviews will assess and underscore those materials' importance either for various research profiles or for curricula and classroom syllabi. Of particular interest for this section are short reviews of scholarly editions, hypertext/internet literatures, visual culture, popular culture, and, of course, novels, short stories, poetry, plays, films, comic books, and creative non-fiction.

NeMLA Notes: Runs once a year in the Winter issue in advance of the Spring NeMLA convention. This section provides a forum for publicizing information, calls for papers, awards, and deadlines as well as items of general interest to the members. Full submission guidelines can be found at <http://www.nemla.org/mls/guidelines.html>.

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Key Dates for 2011

March 1: Deadline for Newberry Library Fellowship

April 22: Deadline for Panel Proposals for 2010
Convention

June 15: Call for Papers for 2010 posted at www.nemla.org

Sept. 30: Manuscript deadline for NEMLA Book Prize

Sept. 30: Deadline for abstracts for 2010 Convention

Upcoming NEMLA Conventions:

2011: April 6-10; New Brunswick, NJ

2012: March 15-18; Rochester, NY

2013: March 21-24; Boston, MA



Northeast Modern Language Association