

Reconstruction at 150: The Flickers of Possibility

working program

Friday, November 11

History's Returns and Memory's Monuments (8:30-10:00)

Cody Marris (chair)

Elizabeth Duquette, “‘Le retour de Napoléon’: Victor Séjour and the Spectacle of Empire”

Justine S. Murison, “Sectional Infidels: Thomas Paine in the Civil War”

Christopher Hanlon, “Inside Information: The Civil War Memories of John Frederick Peto”

Kristen Treen, “Broken Homes & Injured Furnishings: Narrative Renovations in the Postbellum South”

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History, Memory, and Revolutionary Time (10:15-11:45)

Gregory Laski (chair)

Jeffrey Insko, “Looking Out upon the Boundless Sea of the Future: Douglass, Dred Scott,
#blacklivesmatter”

Derrick Spires, “Two ‘Truths’: Frances E. W. Harper’s Reconstruction Revisions and Revolutionary
Time”

Nathan Grant, “A Legend of American Forgetting: The Curiously Doubled Consciousness of the
Ex-Coloured Man”

John Levi Barnard, “Sites of Memory: National Monuments and the Residue of History”

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Becoming a Script Advisor (12:00-12:30)

Julia Stern (chair)

Jane E. Schultz, “In Your Dreams: Reconstructing the Civil War on PBS’s *Mercy Street*”

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Border Fracture / Border Suture: A Roundtable (2:30-4:00)

Timothy Sweet (chair)

Martin T. Buinicki, “Harriet Beecher Stowe and the American Tract Society’s Civil War”

Vanessa Steinroetter, “The Mean Face of War: Moral Borderlines and Sectional Conflict in the Civil War
Stories of Rebecca Harding Davis”

Jean Franzino, “The Strange Case of ‘The Case of George Dedlow’: S. Weir Mitchell and Literary
Rehabilitation”

Andrew Kopec, “‘Immediately Mustered Out’: Poetry, Demobilization, and the Power of Motion”

Ian Finseth, “Antinomies of Reconstruction: The Civil War Village Tale”

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New and Noteworthy: Forgotten Readers? (4:15-5:45)

Kathleen Diffley (chair)

Barbara McCaskill, “William and Ellen Craft, the Georgia Fugitives, in Black Atlantic Print Culture:
Love, Liberation, and Escaping Slavery on the International Stage”

Eric Gardner, “Textured Records: Revisiting *Black Print Unbound*”

Benjamin Fagan, “The Promise of Black Print: Archives and Agendas for *The Black Newspaper and the Chosen Nation*”

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Saturday, November 12

Gender and Genre in the Cultures of the Civil War (8:30-10:00)

Jane E. Schultz (chair)

Faith Barrett, “‘The Fair Sex’ and ‘The Abolition Cause’: Intersections of Gender and Race in Two Friendship Albums”

Eliza Richards, “The Aesthetics of Violence in Women’s Civil War Poetry”

Rachel Blumenthal, “Nurse Narratives and the Epistemology of Injury”

Elizabeth Young, “Shooting Men: Gender and Civil War Medical Photography”

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Picturing War: A Roundtable (10:15-11:45)

Benjamin Fagan (chair)

Danielle Brune Sigler, “*Harper’s [Bizarre] Pictorial History of the Great Rebellion*”

Alex W. Black, “Fabricating Freedom: Abraham Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation”

Christopher Hager, “Ketching Tories: Letters and Warfare in the Mountains”

James Berkey, “‘Mysteries and Miseries of Ford City, Texas’: Handwriting the News in Civil War Prisons”

Coleman Hutchison, “Verses upon the Burning of William Gilmore Simms’s House, February 1865”

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Roundtable on Reconstruction: Always Already Doomed? (2:30-4:00)

Mike Owens (chair)

Benjamin Fagan, “The Caribbean Currents of Black Reconstruction”
Michael Stancliff, “A Poetics of White Restraint: Herman Melville and the Thirty-Ninth Congress”
Sam Graber, “The Transatlantic Reconstructions of *Poems by Walt Whitman*”
Timothy Sweet, “Pastoral, Georgic, and the Postwar Voices of the South”
Kathleen Diffley, “Low Whistle: Douglass’s *New National Era* and Sudden Opportunity”

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Celluloid Reconstruction: A Roundtable (4:15-5:45)

Sam Graber (chair)

Ryan Jay Friedman, “Reconstruction and Remix: DJ Spooky’s *Rebirth of a Nation*”

Cody Marris, “*Gone with the Wind* and the Agrarian Mythos”

Gregory Laski, “*Django Unchained*, the Archive, and the Unfinished Reconstruction: Race, Reunion, Revenge”

Melissa Rauterkus, “*Birth of a Nation* and the Genesis of the Black Male Rapist Myth”

Julia Stern, “Reconstructing Hattie McDaniel”

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