



Hagula!



Giselle Anatol

Giselle Anatol jetted to Germany to deliver a keynote address in January (see “Presentations” below), then returned in time to answer questions from the *DNB* about her new monograph, just off the press from Rutgers UP. *DNB*: “Is that your new book, Giselle?” Anatol: “Yes, it is.” *DNB*: “Can I have a copy for the display case?” Not a probing interview, but a productive one (see display case that also features the new books by **Amy Ash** and **Maryemma Graham**). The book is *The Things That Fly in the Night: Female Vampires in Literature of the Circum-Caribbean and African Diaspora*, a volume in the Critical Caribbean Studies Series from Rutgers. It “explores images of vampirism in Caribbean and African diasporic folk traditions and in contemporary fiction,” focusing on the “soucouyant,” or Old Hag, an aged female nocturnal bloodsucker. Anatol traces “relevant folklore through the English- and French-speaking Caribbean, the U.S. Deep South, and parts of West Africa,” according to press publicity, and shows how the tales about this figure do cultural work in those societies. She also “considers the explosion of [these] narratives among writers of Caribbean and African heritage who in the past twenty years have rejected the demonic image of the character and used her instead to urge for female mobility, racial and cultural empowerment, and anticolonial resistance.” Authors considered include Toni Morrison, Edwidge Danticat, Octavia Butler, and Nalo Hopkinson. Congratulations Giselle!

Publications

Anatol, Giselle

The Things That Fly in the Night: Female Vampires in Literature of the Circum-Caribbean and African Diaspora. Rutgers University Press. 2015.

Presentations

Anatol, Giselle

Keynote Lecture, “Blood is Money, Blood is Race, Blood is Sex: Using the Vampire to Challenge Sexual Norms in Caribbean Literature,” Society of Caribbean Research (SoCaRe) Junior Research Conference, “Cultures of Resistance? Theories and Practices of Transgression in the Caribbean and its Diasporas,” Bielefeld University, Bielefeld, Germany, 22-24 January.

Accepted for Publication

Cunningham, Will

“‘I Won’t Stay in this Dead Country’: *The Gilded Age* and the Problem of Geography,” *Mississippi Quarterly* 2015.

Fischer, Iris Smith

“Paradoxes of Reason and Inquiry in the Aesthetics of Francois Delsarte,” *Semiotics* 2014. Toronto; Legas, forthcoming 2015, 107-118.

Wuehle, Candice

Rpt. “Pedagogy” (poem). *Best Indie Lit New England (BILINE)*, Volume Two (best fiction and poetry published by independent journals in New England from 2012-2014), forthcoming, April 2015.

HBW News

Calling all American Lit grad students! The Project on the History of Black Writing is currently accepting applications for “Black Poetry after the Black Arts Movement,” a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute to be held July 19-August 1, 2015 at KU. Stipend is \$2,100. The NEH is “strongly” encouraging more advanced graduate

Calendar

N 22 Taproom Poetry Series presents **Amy Ash**, KU English; **Beth Schultz**, KU English; **Sara Henning**, English, University of South Dakota, 5:00 pm, Eighth Street Taproom, downtown Lawrence.

M 23 FSE/GTAL Event: Peer Grading Workshop, 4:00-5:00 pm, 4019 Wescoe.

T 24 Workplace Violence Workshop, open to all KU English members, with KU Public Safety representatives, attendance optional, 4:00 pm, 4019 Wescoe.

W 25 Kris Coffey, RDP, 9:00 am, 3025 Wescoe (*Graham*, Harrington, K. Johnson).

Black Literary Suite: Black Authors with a Kansas Connection, month-long poster display with audio component, opens 3:-4:30 pm, 4th Floor, Watson Library, light refreshments, HBW staff members on-hand for discussion.

R 26 2Cs, 6:00 pm, O’Cafe (1520 W 6th Street, Lawrence). RSVP to Charlene Summers by 2/24.

T 3 Humanities Lecture Series, “Poetry and History: An Evening with Former U.S. Poet Laureate Natasha Tretheway” 7:30 pm, Woodruff Auditorium, Kansas Union.

students to apply. This exciting opportunity will be filled with innovative scholarship, rich dialog, and fertile opportunities for advancing research. Subjects: What is poetry today? What has changed? How do we read/teach/write poetry in the 21st century? How do we transform students' passion for performance into meaningful analysis? This Institute seeks to strengthen the connections between foundational and contemporary forms of poetry, and between the practice of African American poetry and ethnic/American poetry. Institute faculty include Director **Maryemma Graham** (KU); Resident Faculty **Evie Shockley** and **Howard Rambsy**; and Visiting Faculty **Stephanie Fitzgerald** (KU), **Joanne Gabbin**, **Billy Joe Harris** (KU), **Meta DuEwa Jones**, **Lauri Ramey**, **James Smethurst**, **Keith Leonard**, and **Jerry W. Ward**. Poets joining us on site include: **Megan Kaminski** (KU), **Tyehimba Jess**, **Harryette Mullen**, **Brenda Marie Osbey**, **Ed Pavlic**, **Kathy Lou Schultz**, **Frank X Walker**, and **Kevin Young**. Fall webinars with **Nikky Finney**, **Sonia Sanchez**, **Kwame Dawes**, **Nathaniel Mackey**, **Mariahaddessa Ekere Tallie**, **Jessica Care More**, **Jericho Brown**, **Thomas Sayes Ellis**, and **Sharon Strange**. Note: Participation in an NEH Institute is always a plus for the academic job market. Visit www.blackpoetry.ku.edu for more details, including application instructions. Application deadline is 2 March.

KU and Regional Events

- **Latin America & Its Diasporas Seminar**, "Honor and Glory: Economies of Prestige in the Narratives of the Golden Ages of Miconian and Sinaloa Banditries," Rafael Acosta, Spanish & Portuguese, 23 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Digital Humanities Seminar**, "Saeculum: Approaching (Ancient Roman) Culture through Game Design," David Fredrick, Classical Studies, University of Arkansas, 25 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Disabilities Studies Seminar**, "Music, Meaning, and Mental Health," Abbey Dvorak, Music Therapy, 26 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **University Theatre** presents *A Raisin in the Sun*, by Lorraine

Hansberry, 27-28 February, 6-7 March, 7:30 pm, 1, 8 March, 2:30 pm, Crafton-Preyer Theatre, Murphy Hall.

- **Theatre Lawrence** presents *Clybourne Park*, by Bruce Norris, same dates as above for *A Raisin in the Sun*. The two plays are being run simultaneously as an innovative collaboration. *Clybourne Park* is a 2011 Pulitzer-Prize winning play written as a "sequel" to *Raisin* (1959) fifty years later. The action in *Clybourne Park* begins one hour after *Raisin* ends.

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

- **London in Love**, The Literary London Society Annual Conference, 22-24 July, Institute of English Studies, University of London. Deadline: 28 February.

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

- **Department Teaching Grants 2015**, Center for Teaching Excellence \$5000 grants (with potential for renewal) to departments to develop teaching initiatives of their choosing at the undergraduate or graduate level. Possibilities listed on flyer. If anyone is interested in applying for one of these grants via the English Department, please see Professor Neill.
- **High Plains Book Awards**, nominations are open for books published for the first time in 2014 in numerous categories. Deadline: 13 March.
- **International Travel Fund for Humanities Research – Summer 2015**, four grants of up to \$3000 each for a Summer 2015 research project, tenured and tenure-track faculty in humanities disciplines eligible. Deadline: 3 March.

**Black Literary Suites:
Black Writers with a Kansas Connection**

**Wednesday, February 25, 2015
3:00-4:30 p.m.
Watson Library, Floor 4**

Refreshments provided

Sponsored by the Project on the History of Black Writing and KU Libraries 