English Visiting Writers’ Series Welcomes Melissa Buzzeo

The second presenter in this year’s English Department Graduate Visiting Writers’ Series is Melissa Buzzeo, a versatile author who teaches creative writing, feminism, and the poetics of healing at Pratt Institute in New York City. Her most recent book, Devastation (2015) was a Lambda Literary Award finalist in Poetry, but it has also been described in press publicity and by critics as a “performance novel.” Buzzeo is also the author of For Want and Sound (2013), Face (2009), and What Began Us (2007). She is currently at work on a variation of a memoir called simply Writing. Her work has commonly been described as “a literature of encounter, but also: descent, healing, refusal.” Melissa Buzzeo will read from and discuss her writing on 2 November, at 7:00 pm, at The Commons, Spooner Hall. The event is co-sponsored by The Commons and the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Melissa Gilstrap Wins Outstanding Thesis Award

Melissa Gilstrap (MA ’16) has been awarded this year’s Outstanding Thesis Award for her MA thesis, “Re-Placing the Prostitute: Ruth Hall and the Spatial Politics of the Streetwalker.” The award is given annually by KU’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Committee on Graduate Studies. It includes a cash prize of $500. She was nominated for the award by Professor Laura Mielke. Gilstrap writes that her work “engages with recent critical conversations on urban space and gendered modern subjectivities in Fanny Fern’s Ruth Hall (1854).” Asked about her current plans, Melissa notes, somewhat mischievously, “Like Ruth, I’m currently in a bit of a transitional state.” She continues, “Until I start my teaching position in Wuhan, China in early February 2017, I’ll be editing my thesis for publication, practicing my Mandarin, and enjoying some non-grad school time in Lawrence. After my contract in China is up, I’m considering either continuing as an ESL teacher or pursuing a Ph.D. in 19th-century transatlantic women’s literature.” Gongxi ni (Congratulations), Melissa.

Publications

Bensel, Alyse

Evans, Stephen F.

Grund, Peter

Presentations

Patterson, Jonathan

Calendar

W 2 Department of English Visiting Writers Series welcomes Melissa Buzzeo, Pratt Institute, 7:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

R 10 Kansas African Studies Center Lecture, “From Root to Branch: Travels in the Footsteps of the Enslaved,” Aminatta Forna, Poetics/Creative Writing, Georgetown and Bath Spa Universities, 7:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall. Book signing will follow. Co-sponsored by English


M 14 Resident Fellows Seminar, “Christine de Pizan’s ‘Epistre Othea’ in England: Two Middle English Translations,” Misty Schieberle, English, 12:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.

T 15 Voting Department Meeting, 4:00 pm, 4051 Wescoe.

Thonus, Terese

Accepted for Publication

Bensel, Alyse

KU and Regional Events

● CTE Event, “Supporting Learning Among Students with Disabilities: A Team Effort,” Andrew Shoemaker, AAAC; Amy Rossomondo, Spanish and Portuguese, 1 November, 12:00-1:00 pm, 135 Budig.

● CTE Coffee Hour, 2 November, 9:00-10:00 am, 135 Budig.

● The Langston Hughes Visiting Professor Lecture, “Gendering Federal Indian Law,” Sarah Deer, LHVP, School of Law, 2 November, 3:30 pm, Kansas Union Ballroom. Reception follows.

● Colonialism Seminar/Early Modern Seminar, “The Geography of Memory – Revisioning Cultural Chronologies in Early Modern and Colonial Scholarship,” Kathleen Ann Myers, Spanish & Portuguese, Indiana University, 3 November, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

● Gender Seminar, “Translating a Plague into Power: Early AIDS in the United States Heartland,” Kate Batza, WGSS, 3 November, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

● Gordon Parks Celebration, Fort Scott, KS, 3-5 November.

● KU Center for Online & Distance Learning, “Developing and Teaching Online Courses,” 4 November, 12:00-1:00 pm, 6 Budig.

● Red Hot Research, “New Applications of Network Science,” panelists from Psychology, Linguistics, and Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, 4 November, 4:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

● 2016 Lindley Lecture, “Moral Learning and Artificial Intelligence,” Peter Railton, Philosophy, University of Michigan, 4 November, 8:00 pm, Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union.

● Conflict & International Change Seminar, “Feeding Cities of the Global South: The State of Food Insecurity in Harare, Zimbabwe,” Abel Chikanda, Geography, AAAS, 7 November, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

● Poetry Reading, “Sanctity, Mysticism, and Everyday Poetry,” Alan Toltzis, 9 November, 7:00 pm, Lawrence Jewish Community Congregation, 917 Highland Drive.

● The Urban Experience Seminar, “Foreclosure Risk and Community Health: Does Social Capital Have a Protective Effect?” Holly Goerdel, Dort Daley, John Pierce, and Renee Dinsmoor, School of Public Affairs & Administration, 10 November, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

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