



The Quest Begins

On Thursday, 15 September, Tor Books, Jayhawk Ink, and KU English professor **Kij Johnson** will launch *The Dream-Quest of Vellitt Boe*, Johnson's new novella. Johnson will present and read from her work in the lobby of Jayhawk Ink on Level 2 of the Kansas Union from 5:30-7:00 pm. The book was published less than a month ago.



Kij Johnson



Vellitt Boe tips its cap to H.P. Lovecraft's *The Dream-Quest of Unknown Kadath*, but sends a female protagonist on a journey of rescue and discovery. Johnson's new piece builds on a fantasy and speculative fiction-writing career that has won national and international acclaim. She is one of a select few authors who have won a Hugo Award, a Nebula Award, and a World Fantasy Award. Congratulations, Kij!

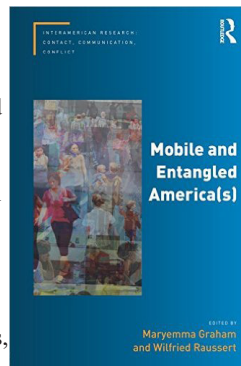
Mobile and Entangled America(s)



Maryemma Graham

Distinguished Professor **Maryemma Graham's** newest book, co-edited with Wilfried Raussert, continues her recent series of collaborations with international scholars. 2015's *Toni Morrison: Au dela du visible ordinaire/Beyond the Ordinary Visible*, published by a French press, contained six articles in French and six in English, taking a multi-lingual, multi-vocal, and multi-genre approach to its subject. This new work (Routledge, May 2016) is comprised mostly of papers given at a 2013 conference at the

Center for Inter-American Studies of Bielefeld University in Germany, "Transcultural Mobility: Traveling Ideas, Images, Sounds, Texts in America." The research network that sponsored the conference (and the collaboration between BU and KU) is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. Seventeen articles by scholars from Germany and every country in North America "closely examine a wide variety of cultural phenomena implicated in the 'entanglements' which have defined the history of the Americas. . . . Religious networks, music and dance, literary and artistic works,



[and] the mobility of people, objects, and ideas" all receive attention. Press publicity states that the volume "establishes a new interdisciplinary field attentive both to the complexities of cultural form and the pervasiveness of power relations." By the way, Graham's international connections were evident once again this summer as she and the Project

Calendar

- F 9 SAGE Meeting**, 4:00 pm, 4001 Wescoe.
- M 12 Adam Mills, PhD Exam**, 8:30 am, 3001A Wescoe (*Johnson, McKitterick, Moriarty, Rowland, Jacobson*).

Alternative Academic Careers welcomes **Mame Selbee Diouf** (PhD, '06), Resource Mobilization Specialist @ UN Women, 2:00 pm, 3001A Wescoe.
- T 13 Humanities Lecture Series**, "Good Causes, Bad Acts: Scrutinizing Ends and Means in Academic Activism," **Alice Dreger**, scholar and author, 7:30 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall; public conversation session the following morning, 10:00 am, Hall Center Conference Hall.
- W 14 Job Preparation Workshop**, "Teaching and Research Portfolios I," **Philip Barnard** and **Jonathan Lamb**, 4:15-5:30 pm, 4001 Wescoe.
- R 15 Justin Hampton, RDP**, 10:00 am, 3025 Wescoe (Conrad, Elliott, Neill)

Reading and Book Launch, *The Dream-Quest of Vellitt Boe*, by **Kij Johnson**, English, 5:30-7:00 pm, Jayhawk Ink, Level 2, Kansas Union.
- S 17 Card Table Theatre** presents a staged reading of *Love You, Bye*, by Ann Magaha, winner of the 2016 **Paul Stephen Lim Playwriting Competition**, 7:30 pm, Eagles Lodge. Lim will lead a post-play discussion (see "Announcements").
- T 20 Interdisciplinary Graduate Research Workshop**, "Educational Archipelago: Alternative Knowledges and the Production of Docile Bodies," **Creighton Brown**, English, 12:00-1:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

Voting Department Meeting, 4:00-5:00 pm, 4051 Wescoe.

2Cs, 6:00 pm, Cielito Lindo, 815 New Hampshire. RSVP asladek@ku.edu.
- W 21 Job Preparation Workshop**, "Teaching and Research Portfolios II," **Philip Barnard** and **Jonathan Lamb**, 4:15-5:30 pm, 4001 Wescoe.

on the History of Black Writing served as primary hosts for fifteen scholars from Beijing Foreign Studies University who participated in the **BFSU-KU English Institute** in Lawrence. The Chinese visitors, whose disciplines ranged from Economics to Arab Studies, were given the opportunity to learn more about race and ethnic relations in the US, politics, education, business, and sports. According to Graham, English graduate student **Hui Meng**, who lived in the residence hall with the student, “made all the difference.” She also credits **Kris Coffey** and **Alyse Bense**, who, along with Hui, led an effective graduate student discussion that included **Tim Lantz**, **Simone Savannah**, and **Matt Broussard**. **Stephanie Fitzgerald**, **Giselle Anatol**, and **Marta Caminero-Santangelo** made faculty presentations and **Will Cunningham** memorialized the event with his photographs.

Presentations

Gunn, James

Convocation Talk, “Star Trek and Beyond,” Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, VA, 6 September. (Also visited two classes. Invited by **Stanley Galloway** (PhD ’93).

Herrmann, Jacob

“An Introduction to Gender and Sexuality in the Writing Center,” Greater Kansas City Writing Center Project Tutor Retreat, Overland Park, KS, 27 August.

Announcements, Notes, & News



Mame Selbee Diouf

- This week’s meeting of the **Alternative Academic Careers** English 998 group will feature an old friend. **Mame Selbee Diouf** will be presenting and joining the discussion by Skype (see “Calendar” for details).

- *Love You, Bye*, a new play by Ann Magaha, winner of the **3rd Annual Paul Stephen Lim Playwriting Competition**, will be given a staged reading by Card Table Theatre on Saturday September 17 at 7:30 PM at the Eagles

Lodge (1803 West 6th Street, behind the Dollar General Store). The play is about a young couple who, after moving into a small house in rural

Missouri, become involved in a friendship with an older neighbor, but the friendship is damaged when a land dispute becomes a battle ground as both sides square off in a struggle of wills and interpersonal strife. Lim will lead a discussion with the visiting playwright and the audience after the reading. Admission is free.

KU and Regional Events

- **Early Modern Seminar**, “Desengaños filosóficos: Fernando de Cevallos, Vicente Fernández, Valcárcel, and the Spanish Counter-Enlightenment, 1774-1797,” George Klaeren, History, 12 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

- **Place, Race & Space Seminar**, “Down, Out, and Under Arrest: Policing and Everyday Life among the Urban Poor,” Forrest Stuart, Sociology, University of Chicago, 12 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

- **Diverse Graduate Student Welcome**, “Making Community at KU,” remarks by Neeli Bendapudi, Provost; Nate Thomas, Vice Provost for Diversity and Equity; Michael Roberts, Dean of Graduate Studies, 15 September, 4:30-6:30 pm, Hancock Ballroom, The Oread Hotel.

- **Digital Humanities Seminar**, “New Technologies and Old Things: Why Study Ancient Scripture and Monuments in 3D?” Philip Sapirstein, Art/Art History, University of Nebraska Lincoln, 19 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

- **Red Hot Research**, “Health/care,” six professors from Architecture; Bioengineering; Pharmacology & Toxicology; Lifespan Institute; Social Welfare; and Special Education, 23 September, 4:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

- **Center for Online & Distance Learning**, “Accessibility and Usability for Online Courses,” Faculty Roundtable, 23 September, 2:00-3:00 pm, 6 Budig.

- **Gordon Parks Celebration**, 3-5 November, Fort Scott Community College, Fort Scott, KS. 2016 “Choice of Weapons Award” honoree: Kevin Wilmott, Film, University of Kansas.



Participants in the **BFSU-KU English Institute**, July 14-25, 2016, with Chancellor **Bernadette Gray-Little**, **Maryemma Graham**, **Hui Meng**, and invaluable HBW administrator, **Sarah Arbuthnot Lentz**.