

Sound at MLA 2013

Liana M. Silva

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Abstract

It is that time of year again: the winter holidays, the new year, and, yes, the Modern Language Association Annual Convention—which finally returns to the East Coast after two years on the West Coast. It will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, from January 3rd to January 6th, 2013.

Keywords

Music (Subfield), American Studies, Archival, Asian And Asian American Studies, Black Studies, Chican@/Latin@ Studies



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Image

It is that time of year again: the winter holidays, the new year, and, yes, the [Modern Language Association](#) Annual Convention—which [finally returns to the East Coast](#) after two years on the West Coast. It will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, from January 3rd to January 6th, 2013. MLA is one of the most present academic conferences on social media, with the active twitter hashtag [#MLA13](#), the individual hashtags for each session ([#s](#)–followed by the session number), convention-wide free wifi, and an attentive twitter account ([@MLAConvention](#)), so it is easy to get overwhelmed by the commotion even if you are physically away from the conference. However, we’re hoping to make this year’s program (795 official panels in all!) a little easier to digest by bringing you the round-up of the panels with presentations related to sound studies.



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This year’s MLA will be preceded by several preconference workshops as well as [THATCamp MLA](#) (on January 2nd, 2013, at Northeastern University). Our editor-in-chief, [Jennifer Stoevers-Ackerman](#), will be attending and sharing *Sounding Out!* as one of the examples at “Evaluating Digital Work for Tenure and Promotion: A Workshop for Evaluators and Candidates,” while I will be at “[Getting Started in Digital Humanities with Help from DH Commons](#)” (off-site, at Northeastern University, which explains why it’s not in the program). The editorial staff at *Sounding Out!* has been thinking for a while about digital humanities and how our work here could be classified as such. (Digital humanities has been defined both [in terms of its tools](#) as well as [its practices](#).) Jennifer and I are eager to engage with other DH scholars, ask questions, and think of different ways that sound studies intersects digital humanities.

The digital humanities are becoming more and more prominent at MLA; [Jennifer posited last year](#) that the number of DH panels could be related to last year’s location, Seattle. On the other hand, [Mark Sample points out](#) that this year there are more panels on digital humanities subjects

than the last two years (if you are interested, he has [a comprehensive round-up](#) of the digital humanities panels at this year's MLA). It's fitting then, that some of the sound-related posts in our round-up come from the digital humanities angle. We have also included some session that look at digital humanities methods and practices (like session #639, **Two Tools for Student-Generated Digital Projects: WordPress and Omeka in the Classroom**) and that may be of interest to sound-studies scholars.

However, the DH panels are not the only panels for sound studies enthusiasts. In addition to several presentations addressing aural phenomena in literature, there are several panels on disability studies that include presentations on deafness. Some of these panels focus on literary representations of disability, but others focus on the disabilities themselves. For example, session 236, titled **"Representations of Cultural Resistance: Deafness and Power"** includes a presentation by Rebecca Garden called "Reproducing Deafness: Visual Culture and Pathology." These panels fit into the Presidential Theme of the conference, ["Avenues of Access."](#)

Lastly, Jennifer, regular contributor [Osvaldo Oyola](#), and I will be presenting at this year's MLA. Jennifer is participating in a roundtable Saturday at 3:30; look out for session #588, "Race and Poetics: On Aesthetic Practice in Ethnic Studies," which considers cultural difference as seen in different genres and media. Osvaldo is presenting on Junot Diaz's *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* in session #97, **"American Linguistic Plurality."** I will be presenting at a non-sound-studies panel on Friday at noon titled "How Did I Get Here? Our 'Altac' Jobs" (s#270). My topic will be how I moved from an adjuncting job to an alternative academic position and how this moved changed my ideas of a career in academia.

If you are not present at MLA, please follow along via Twitter! You can check out the #MLA13 hashtag, but if you're interested in a particular session from the ones below, you can also search on Twitter for the session number during its scheduled time. You can also check out the conference action by following the official [Sounding Out! twitter account](#) (commandeered by our Editor-in-Chief) or following my personal account, [@literarychica](#), for our live-tweets from MLA 2013.

Please comment to let us know what you think—both before and after MLA 2012. If I somehow missed you or your panel in this round up, please let me know!: lms@soundingoutblog.com

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[Liana M. Silva](#) is co-founder and Managing Editor of Sounding Out!.

[Jump to THURSDAY, January 3](#)

[Jump to FRIDAY, January 4](#)

[Jump to SATURDAY, January 5](#)

[Jump to SUNDAY, January 6](#)



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[Back to menu](#)

THURSDAY, January 3

Thursday, January 3

8:30–11:30 a.m.

3. Evaluating Digital Work for Tenure and Promotion: A Workshop for Evaluators and Candidates

Republic A, Sheraton

Program arranged by the MLA Office of Programs. Presiding: Alison Byerly, Middlebury Coll.; Kathleen Fitzpatrick, MLA; Katherine A. Rowe, Bryn Mawr Coll.

Facilitated discussion about evaluating work in digital media (e.g., scholarly editions, databases, digital mapping projects, born- digital creative or scholarly work). Designed for both creators of digital materials and administrators or colleagues who evaluate those materials, the workshop will propose strategies for documenting, presenting, and evaluating such work.

Preregistration required.

12:00-1:15

22. Expanding Access: Building Bridges within Digital Humanities

205, Hynes

A special session.

Presiding: **Trent M. Kays**, Univ. of Minnesota, Twin Cities; **Lee Skallerup Bessette**, Morehead State Univ.

Marc Fortin, Queen's Univ.

Alexander Gil, Univ. of Virginia

Brian Larson, Univ. of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Sophie Marcotte, Concordia Univ.

Ernesto Priego, London, England

36. Languages of the Occupy Movement

307, Hynes

Program arranged by the Division on Language and Society. Presiding: **Frank Farmer**, Univ. of Kansas

Corinne Seals, Georgetown Univ., “Examining the Linguistic Landscape of Occupy”

Corey J. Frost, New Jersey City Univ., “Occupy and Rhetorics of Amplification”

Keith Spencer, Carnegie Mellon Univ., “Class, Race, and the ‘Common Man’: Interviews with Occupy Pittsburgh”

Respondent: **Frank Farmer**

40. Hearing and Seeing Anew: Ralph Ellison’s Aural and Visual ;8Registers

Beacon A, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Horace Porter**, Univ. of Iowa

Shanna Greene Benjamin, Grinnell Coll. “Listening inside a Glass Box: Mary Rambo’s Lessons for *Invisible Man*”

Herman Beavers, Univ. of Pennsylvania, “The Noisy Lostness: Oppositionality and Acousmatic Subjectivity in *Invisible Man*”

Lena Michelle Hill, Univ. of Iowa, “Silent Sights of Fatherhood in *Three Days before the Shooting...*”

Respondent: **Kenneth W. Warren**, Univ. of Chicago

3:30–4:45 p.m

94. Modernism and the Senses

Beacon D, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Alex Niven**, Univ. of Oxford; **Stephen Ross**, Univ. of Oxford, Saint John’s Coll.

Jonathan Day, Univ. of Oxford, Saint John’s Coll. “Cognitive Realism and the Problem of Qualia”

Matt Langione, Univ. of California, Berkeley, “Modernizing Modernism: Intentionality, Neuroscience, and the Sense of Modernist Poetry”

97. American Linguistic Plurality

203, Hynes

Program arranged by the Discussion Group on Literature of the United States in Languages Other Than English. Presiding: **Heidi Kathleen Kim**, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Audrey Wu Clark, United States Naval Acad., “Dialects of Regionalist Modernism in Sui Sin Far’s *Mrs. Spring Fragrance*”

Benjamin A. Railton, Fitchburg State Univ., “Vocal Color: Recovering an Alternative, Multilingual American Literary Realism”

Osvaldo Oyola, Binghamton Univ., State Univ. of New York, “Traduciendo de el Dork: Cultural and Lingual Syncretism in Junot Díaz’s *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*,”

Melissa Dennihy, Graduate Center, City Univ. of New York “Hybrid Tongues: Linguistic Innovations and Inventions in Contemporary Multiethnic United States Literature”

102. Digital Diasporas

Public Garden, Sheraton

Program arranged by the Division on Black American Literature and Culture. Presiding: **Shelley Fisher Fishkin**, Stanford Univ.

Corrie Claiborne, Morehouse Coll., “Living Word”

Adam Banks, Univ. of Kentucky, “Digital Griots”

Marcyliena Morgan, Harvard Univ., “Hip- Hop Archives”

107. The Linguistic Construction of Narrative Space

313, Hynes

Program arranged by the Division on Linguistic Approaches to Literature. Presiding: **Monika Fludernik**, Univ. of Freiburg

Robert Troyer, Western Oregon Univ., “Locating Action in the Postapocalyptic Text World of Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*”

Birgitta Svensson, Stockholm Univ., “Acting, Being, Sensing, and Saying: Analyzing Characters with a Functional Language Approach,”

Pauline Bleuse, Grand Valley State Univ., “Burgess’s *A Clockwork Orange*; or, The Use of an Unfamiliar Language to Relate Controversy”

5:15–6:30 p.m.

125. Translating for (and from) the Italian Screen: Dubbing and Subtitles

201, Hynes

Program arranged by the American Association for Italian Studies. Presiding: **Philip Balma**, Univ. of Connecticut, Storrs

Anna Belladelli, Univ. of Verona, “Misrepresentations and Re- representations of Otherness in the Italian Dubbing of United States TV Series,”

Giulia Centineo, Univ. of California, Santa Cruz “Dubbing Hollywood and Difference,”

Daniele Fioretti, Miami Univ., Oxford, “*Qualunquista* Equals Socialist? Political Issues in the Subtitling of Pier Paolo Pasolini’s *La ricotta*,”

129. Teaching in the Shallows: Reading, Writing, and Teaching in the Digital Age

Berkeley, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Robert R. Bleil**, Coll. of Coastal Georgia; **Jennifer Gray**, Coll. of Coastal Georgia.

Speakers: **Susan Cook**, Southern New Hampshire Univ.; **Christopher Dickman**, Saint Louis Univ.; **T. Geiger**, Syracuse Univ.; **Jennifer Gray**; **Matthew Parfitt**, Boston Univ.; **James Sanchez**, Texas Christian Univ.

Respondent: **Robert R. Bleil**

Nicholas Carr’s 2008 article “Is Google Making Us Stupid?” and his 2010 book *The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains* argue that the paradigms of our digital lives have shifted significantly in two decades of living life online. This roundtable unites teachers of composition and literature to explore cultural, psychological, and developmental changes for students and teachers.

140. Illness and Disability in Asian American Literature

Hampton, Sheraton

Program arranged by the Division on Asian American Literature. Presiding: Anita Mannur, Miami Univ., Oxford

Cynthia Wu, Univ. at Buffalo, State Univ. of New York, “Daniel K. Inouye’s Journey to Washington: Disability and the Hidden Privileges of Local Japanese Ascendancy in Hawai’i,”

Ellen Samuels, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, “Multilinguality and ‘Deaf Speech’ in Betty Quan’s *Mother Tongue*,”

Rick H. Lee, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, “SIN, HIV, SFO: AIDS, the Body, and Justin Chin’s Corpus,”

James Kyung-Jin Lee, Univ. of California, Irvine, “Against Asian American Health: Vibrant Secularities and Medical Narratives of Illness”

142. What’s Place Got to Do with It? Voices and Vision in Midwestern Literature

Beacon G, Sheraton

Program arranged by the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature. Presiding: **Marilyn Judith Atlas**, Ohio Univ., Athens

Andy Oler, Indiana Univ., Bloomington, “‘High and Fervently They Were Singing’: Voice, Space, and Midwestern Modernity in Langston Hughes’s 1930 Novel *Not without Laughter*”

Alexander Engebretson, Graduate Center, City Univ. of New York, “The Midwest Seen New Englandly: Regional Tensions in Marilynne Robinson’s *Gilead*”

James Alfred Lewin, Shepherd Univ., “Sara Paretsky’s ‘Other’ Chicago”

7:00–8:15 p.m.

152. Political Trauma and Literary Alchemy: *Testimonios* and the Regenerative Power of Language

202, Hynes

A special session. Presiding: **Jennifer Browdy De Hernandez**, Bard Coll. at Simon’s Rock

Speakers: **Nicole Caso**, Bard Coll.; **Martha Helena Montoya Velez**, Universidad Autónoma de la Ciudad de México; **Alicia Partnoy**, Loyola Marymount Univ.; **Maria del Carmen Sillato**, Univ. of Waterloo; **Y. L. Mariela Wong**, Coll. of Mount Saint Vincent

To mark the fortieth anniversary of the Pinochet coup in Chile and nearly forty years since the military takeover in Argentina, this session features three Southern Cone testimonialists, who will read passages from their works, and three respondents, who will lead a discussion on the

power of narrative to resist a legacy of violence and fear. For excerpts from the three testimonials, visit bethechange2012.wordpress.com/mla-2013-testimonios.

155. Movements, Incantations, and Parables of Queer Performance

201, Hynes

A special session. Presiding: **Ann Pellegrini**, New York Univ.

Sean Edgecomb, Univ. of Queensland, "Queer Movement: The Mystique of Alexander Guerra's Traveling Rabbit"

Eng- Beng Lim, Brown Univ., "Incantatory Pinkness from Singapore to Utah"

Carrie J. Preston, Boston Univ., "Queer Christian Submission in Drag: Benjamin Britten and William Plomer's *Curlew River*"

165. Beyond the PDF: Experiments in Open-Access Scholarly Publishing

Hampton, Sheraton

A special session

Speakers: **Douglas M. Armato**, Univ. of Minnesota Press; **Jamie Skye Bianco**, Univ. of Pittsburgh; **Matthew K. Gold**, New York City Coll. of Tech., City Univ. of New York; **Jennifer Laherty**, Indiana Univ., Bloomington; **Monica McCormick**, New York Univ.; **Katie Rawson**, Emory Univ.

As open- access scholarly publishing matures and movements such as the Elsevier boycott continue to grow, open- access publications have begun to move beyond the simple (but crucial) principle of openness toward an ideal of interactivity. This session will explore innovative examples of open-access scholarly publishing that showcase new types of social, interactive, mixed- media texts.

For abstracts and discussion, visit beyondthepdf.wordpress.com/ after 1 Nov.

167. Digital Humanities and Theory

Riverway, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Stefano Franchi**, Texas A&M Univ., College Station

Geoffrey Rockwell, Univ. of Alberta, "Theoretical Things for the Humanities"

Stefano Franchi, "From Artificial Intelligence to Artistic Practices: A New Theoretical Model for the Digital Humanities,"

David Washington, Loyola Univ., New Orleans, “Object- Oriented Ontology: Escaping the Title of the Book”

For abstracts, visit dhcommons.tamu.edu.

177. Hybridity and Multilingualism in Yiddish

308, Hynes

Program arranged by the Discussion Group on Yiddish Literature. Presiding: **Sarah Ponichtera**, Columbia Univ.

Ken Frieden, Syracuse Univ., “Mysticism and Its Discontents: Hasidic and Anti- Hasidic Narratives between Hebrew and Yiddish”

Nikki Halpern, Université Paris Diderot 7, “Memory Palace, Yiddish Ghetto (Isaac Bashevis Singer and That Vexatious Yiddish Identity)”

Saul Zaritt, Jewish Theological Seminary, “The Master from Krochmalna Street: Isaac Bashevis Singer and World Literature,”

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[Back to menu](#)

Friday, January 4

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

8:30–9:45 a.m.

204. Theorizing Indigenous Literatures in Latin America

303, Hynes

A special session. Presiding: **Kelly S. McDonough**, Univ. of Texas, Austin

Ulises Juan Zevallos-Aguilar, Ohio State Univ., Columbus, "Diglossia and Linguistic Registers: Toward a Sociolinguistic Reading of Peruvian Quechua Literature/ Hacia una lectura sociolingüística de la literatura quechua peruana"

Susan Foote, Univ. of Concepción, Chile, "Mapuche Testimony and Poetry in Chile: Poetic and Prose Discourse over Time"

Adam Coon, Univ. of Texas, Austin, "Icnotlahtolli / Migrant Words: Indigenous Theoretical Approaches to Migration in Contemporary Nahua Literature"

Ramsey Tracy, Trinity Coll., CT, "Indigenous Narrative from Oral Performance to Text: Semantic and Structural Aesthetic Concerns as Applied to the Work of Literary Translation"

209. Humanities in the Twenty- First Century: Innovation in Research and Practice

Commonwealth, Sheraton

Program arranged by the Division on Teaching as a Profession. Presiding: **Christine Henseler**, Union Coll., NY

Lynn Pasquerella, Mount Holyoke Coll., "The Promise of Humanities Practice"

David Theo Goldberg, Univ. of California, Irvine, "Making the Humanities 'Count'"

Jane Aikin, National Endowment for the Humanities, "The National Endowment for the Humanities"

Christine Henseler, "The Humanities in the Digital Age"

220. Image, Voice, Text: Canadian Literature

Beacon D, Sheraton

Program arranged by the Discussion Group on Canadian Literature in English. Presiding:

Sophie McCall, Simon Fraser Univ., Burnaby

Sunny Chan, Univ. of British Columbia, "AvantGarde.ca: Toward a Canadian Alienethnic Poetics of the Internet"

Hannah McGregor, Univ. of Guelph, "Intermedial Witnessing in Karen Connelly's *Burmese Lessons*"

Sarah Henzi, Univ. of Montreal, "Aboriginal New Media: Alternative Forms of Storytelling"

For abstracts, write to smccall@sfu.ca after 15 Nov.

10:15–11:30 a.m.

223. "Spanglish" and Identity within and outside the Classroom

206, Hynes

Program arranged by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

Presiding: **Domnita Dumitrescu**, California State Univ., Los Angeles

Robert Train, Sonoma State Univ., "Becoming Bilingual, Becoming Ourselves: Archival Memories of Spanglish in Early Californian Epistolary Texts"

Jorgelina Fidia Corbatta, Wayne State Univ., "Gloria Anzaldúa's Discourse as a Mestiza and Queer Writer"

Ana Sánchez-Muñoz, California State Univ., Northridge, "'Who soy yo?': The Creative Use of Spanglish to Express a Hybrid Identity in Chicano/a Heritage Language Learners of Spanish"

Regan Postma, Albertson Coll. of Idaho, "'¿Por qué leemos esto en la clase de español?': The Politics of Teaching Literature in Spanglish"

236. Representations of Cultural Resistance: Deafness and Power

Hampton, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Rebecca Garden**, Upstate Medical Univ., State Univ. of New York

Christopher Becker Krentz, Univ. of Virginia, “Deaf Literature, Medicine, and the Paradoxes of Identity”

Rebecca Garden, “Reproducing Deafness: Visual Culture and Pathology”

Lennard J. Davis, Univ. of Illinois, Chicago, “Cochlear Wars: Deaf Culture against Science?”

237. Access to What? A Roundtable on Public Scholarship, Community Engagement, and Diversity

Fairfax A, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Bruce Burgett**, Univ. of Washington, Bothell

Speakers: **Jodi Melamed**, Marquette Univ.; **Ifeoma C. K. Nwankwo**, Vanderbilt Univ.; **Imani Perry**, Princeton Univ.; **Chandan Reddy**, Univ. of Washington, Seattle; **Doris Sommer**, Harvard Univ.

Respondent: **Gregory S. Jay**, Univ. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Questions of access in higher education most often focus on who gets in, who is left out, and how the sorting of life chances plays out across the larger institutional landscape. (is roundtable shifts that conversation by linking the question of “Access for whom?” to the equally pressing issue of “Access to what?”

239. Representing Race: Silence in the Digital Humanities

Gardner, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Adeline Koh**, Richard Stockton Coll. of New Jersey

Speakers: **Moya Bailey**, Emory Univ.; **Anne Cong-Huyen**, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara; **Hussein Keshani**, Univ. of British Columbia; **Maria Velazquez**, Univ. of Maryland, College Park

Respondent: **Alondra Nelson**, Columbia Univ.

This panel examines the politics of race, ethnicity, and silence in the digital humanities. How has the digital humanities remained silent on issues of race and ethnicity? How does this silence reinforce unspoken assumptions and doxa? What is the function of racialized silences in digital archival projects?

For links and participant biographies, visit www.adelinekoh.org/blog/2012/04/02/racend/.

12:00-1:15 pm

270. How Did I Get Here? Our “Altac” Jobs

Back Bay B, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: Brenda Bethman, Univ. of Missouri, Kansas City

Speakers: **Donna M. Bickford**, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; **Brian Croxall**, Emory Univ.; **Kathryn Linder**, Suffolk Univ.; **Liana Silva**, Univ. of Kansas; **Sarah Werner**, Folger Shakespeare Library

Respondent: **C. Shaun Longstreet**, Marquette Univ.

This roundtable features “alternative academics” who will discuss the paths to their “altac” job, including opportunities and challenges that come with altac positions, strategies universities might employ to maximize and leverage PhD- prepared administrators, preparing graduate students for altac jobs, the role of mentoring, and differences between altac, adjunct, and tenure-track jobs.

For a longer description of the panel and panelists’ bios, see bit.ly/JqjHdj

1:30–3:30 p.m.

295. Getting Funded in the Humanities: An NEH Workshop

210, Hynes

Program arranged by the Office of the Executive Director. Presiding: Jason+C. Rhody, National Endowment for the Humanities

This workshop will highlight recent awards and outline current funding opportunities. In addition to emphasizing grant programs that support individual and collaborative research and education, the workshop will include information on the NEH’s Office of Digital Humanities. A question-and-answer period will follow.

1:45–3:30 p.m.

296. Tuning In to the Phoneme: Phonetic and Phonological Nuances in Second Language Acquisition

306, Hynes

A forum arranged by the Linguistic Society of America and the MLA. Presiding: **Bryan Kirschen**, Univ. of California, Los Angeles

Christine Shea, Univ. of Iowa, “Orthography Modulates Phonological Activation in a Second Language”

Jane Hacking, Univ. of Utah; **Rachel Hayes- Harb**, Univ. of Utah, “Orthographic and Auditory Contributions to Second- Language Word Learning: Native English Speakers Learning Russian Lexical Stress”

Polina Vasiliev, Univ. of California, Los Angeles, “Native English Speakers’ Perception of Spanish and Portuguese Vowels: The Initial State of L2 Acquisition”

Viola Miglio, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara; **Eva Wheeler**, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara, “Pronunciation of Basque as L2 by American English Native Speakers: Problems and L1 Interference”

The difficulties L2 learners have in perceiving and producing target- language sounds accurately manifest themselves in the perception and production of vowels, consonants, and suprasegmental features like intonation and stress, as well as in word recognition. Each presentation brings a different perspective on these issues, demonstrating a variety of means and methodologies available in exploring such themes.

For further details, visit www.linguisticsociety.org/meetings-institutes/annual-meetings/2013.

3:30–4:45 p.m.

343. All Ears: Listening as a Way of Understanding Literature

Independence East, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Chiara Alfano**, Univ. of Sussex

Speakers: **David Ben- Merre**, State Univ. of New York, Buffalo State Coll.; **Paul Gordon**, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder; **May Peckham**, Washington Univ. in St. Louis; **Jessica Teague**, Columbia Univ.

This roundtable seeks to start a discussion on the interface between accounts of listening to literature and listening as reading literature. Although the specific focus will be on literature and theory of the twentieth century, the roundtable will resonate with all who are interested in learning to read with their ears.

350. Puerto Rican Print Cultures

208, Hynes

Program arranged by the Discussion Group on Puerto Rican Literature and Culture.

Presiding: Tomás Urayoán Noel, Univ. at Albany, State Univ. of New York

Kahlil Chaar-Pérez, Harvard Univ., “Letters of Bondage: Blackface and the Merengue Craze in *El Ponceño*, 1852– 54”

Anne Garland Mahler, Emory Univ., “The Linguistic Politics of Piri Thomas: African American Vernacular English and Racial Discourse in *Down These Mean Streets*”

Juan Rodriguez, Georgia Inst. of Tech., “Poesía, imagen y tecnología en *Rizoma* de Áurea María Sotomayor”

Respondent: **Rubén Ríos Ávila**, Univ. of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras

353. Avenues of Access: Digital Humanities and the Future of Scholarly Communication

Republic Ballroom, Sheraton

A linked session arranged in conjunction with *The Presidential Forum: Avenues of Access (112)*.

Presiding: **Michael Bérubé**, Penn State Univ., University Park

Matthew Kirschenbaum, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, “The Mirror and the LAMP”

Cathy N. Davidson, Duke Univ., “Access Demands a Paradigm Shift”

Bethany Nowviskie, Univ. of Virginia, “Resistance in the Materials”

The news that digital humanities are the next big thing must come as a pleasant surprise to people who have been working in the field for decades. Yet only recently has the scholarly community at large realized that developments in new media have implications not only for the form but also for the content of scholarly communication. This session will explore some of those implications—for scholars, for libraries, for journals, and for the idea of intellectual property.

363. African Testimonial Literature

209, Hynes

Program arranged by the Division on African Literatures. Presiding: **Joya F. Uraizee**, Saint Louis Univ.

Kimberly Nance, Illinois State Univ., “‘Use Beginning, Middle, and End’: Testimonial Narrative as Reintegrative Therapy in Delia Jarrett- Macauley’s *Moses, Citizen and Me*”

Tamara Moellenberg, Univ. of Oxford, Brasenose Coll., “New Lacunae: Silence and the Child Soldier”

James D. B. McCorkle, Hobart and William Smith Colls., “In the Shadow of Rwanda: Boubacar Boris Diop, Tierno Monénembo, and Véronique Tadjo and the Literature of Testimony”

Jessica Roberts, Queen’s Univ., “Contested Testimonials: Child Soldier Memoirs”

5:15–6:30 p.m.

399. Term Limits: The Language of the Presidential Campaign

Commonwealth, Sheraton

Program arranged by the Division on Language and Society. Presiding: **Bruce W. Robbins**, Columbia Univ.

Speakers: **David Bromwich**, Yale Univ.; **Donald E. Pease**, Dartmouth Coll.; **Hortense Jeanette Spillers**, Vanderbilt Univ.

Three perspectives by distinguished scholars on the language used by the candidates in the 2012 presidential campaign.



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[Back to menu](#)

SATURDAY, January 5

SATURDAY, January 5

8:30–9:45 a.m.

432. Aural Literature and Close Listening

Beacon H, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: Michelle Nancy Levy, Simon Fraser Univ., Burnaby

Matthew Rubery, Univ. of London, Queen Mary Coll. “The Case against Audiobooks”

Cornelius Collins, Fordham Univ., Bronx, “Aural Literacy in a Visual Era: Is Anyone Listening?”

Justin St. Clair, Univ. of South Alabama, “Novel Sound Tracks and the Future of Hybridized Reading”

Lisa A. Hollenbach, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, “Poetry as MP3: PennSound, Poetry Recording, and the New Digital Archive”

For abstracts, write to mn1@sfu.ca

442. Reading Aloud to Revise: Exploring the Role of Intonation in Silent Written Language

Fairfax B, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Peter Elbow**, Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst

Reading aloud to revise is a celebrated practice, but it is too little taught as a concrete skill and too little analyzed from a linguistic point of view. In this workshop, participants will explore this valuable teaching technique. We will work on sample passages by reading them aloud with attention to rhythm and sound and will analyze the linguistics of intonation to show why the tongue is a reliable guide to strong clear prose.

For two chapters from Elbow’s recent book, write to elbow@english.umass.edu.

12:00 noon–1:15 p.m.

497. Redefining the “Fossilized” Language of the Twenty- First Century

201, Hynes

Program arranged by the Discussion Group on General Linguistics. Presiding: **Marnie Jo Petray**, California Polytechnic State Univ., San Luis Obispo

Bryan Kirschen, Univ. of California, Los Angeles, "Contemporary Linguistic Features of 'Cervantine' Judeo- Spanish"

Nassima Neggaz, Georgetown Univ., "Syria's Arab Spring: Language Enrichment in the Midst of Revolution"

Covadonga Lamar Prieto, Univ. of California, Riverside, "Fossilized Features in 1:45–3:00 p.m. Contemporary California Spanish and Their Relation with Historical California Spanish"

1:45–3:00 p.m.

539. Gendered Blues Subjectivities and Racial Politics across Southern History

Beacon F, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Adam Gussow**, Univ. of Mississippi

Adam Gussow, "Thee Devil's Son-in- Law: Blues Masculinity, Interracial Sexuality, and the Infrapolitics of Jim Crow"

Courtney George, Columbus State Univ., "'What Would the Music Be Like?': Revolutionary Music in Alice Walker's *Meridian*"

Nicholas Gorrell, Univ. of Mississippi, "'If Your Heart Been Broken, Call on the Handy Man': Female Sexuality and Revisionist Masculinities in Contemporary Southern Soul-Blues"

Respondent: **R. A. Lawson**, Dean Coll.

For abstracts, write to ngorrell@olemiss.edu after 15 Nov.

546. Taste, Touch, Hear: Race, Science, and the Senses in the Nineteenth Century

Beacon A, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Kyla Wazana** Tompkins, Pomona Coll.

Uri McMillan, Univ. of California, Los Angeles, "An Echo across Centuries: Joice Heth's Sonic of Dissent"

Kyla Schuller, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, "Touching Time: Frances E.W. Harper's Evolutionary Aesthetics"

Kyla Wazana Tompkins, "Lifestyle Eugenics: Joel Chandler Harris and the Birth of Victim Citizenship"

550. The Classroom as Interface

Hampton, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Kathi Inman Berens**, Univ. of Southern California

Elizabeth Mathews Losh, Univ. of California, San Diego, "The Campus as Interface: Screening the University"

Jason Farman, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, "Being Distracted in the Digital Age"

Kathi Inman Berens, "Virtual Classroom Software: A Medium-Specific Analysis"

Leeann Hunter, Georgia Inst. of Tech., "The Multisensory Classroom"

566. Wonder and Marvel in Cross- Cultural Encounter

207, Hynes

Program arranged by the Discussion Group on Romance Literary Relations. Presiding: **Lynn Ramey**, Vanderbilt Univ.

Paula Park, Univ. of Texas, Austin, "The Utopian Impulse to Archive New Sounds in Alejo Carpentier's *The Lost Steps*"

Laure M. Marcellesi, Dartmouth Coll., "Sexual Misunderstandings: First European Encounters with Tahiti"

Danielle Carlotti-Smith, Univ. of Virginia, "Le choc avec le réel: Intertextual Encounters in the French West Indies"

For abstracts, visit my.vanderbilt.edu/lynnramey/mla2013/.

569. One Hundred Years of *The Rite of Spring*

305, Hynes

Program arranged by the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages. Presiding: **Rebecca Jane Stanton**, Barnard Coll.

Francoise Rosset, Wheaton Coll., MA, "*The Rite of Spring*: Roerich's Pagan Past"

Marilyn Sizer, Seattle, WA, "*The Rite of Spring*: Stravinsky's Mysterium"

Carol Rowntree Jones, Nottingham, England, "*The Rite of Spring*: Pina Bausch; Danger; and a Woman, Writing"

Respondent: **Harlow L. Robinson**, Northeastern Univ.

For abstracts, visit <http://mlaslavic2013.blogspot.com/>.

3:30–4:45 p.m.

577. Science and Technology in Afro-Modern Literature

Beacon D, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Marques Redd**, Marquette Univ.

Marques Redd, "The Technology of the Ancient Egyptian Future: The Cosmic Poetry of Sun Ra"

Zakiyyah Jackson, Univ. of Virginia, "The Future Is a Parasite: Octavia Butler and Posthumanism"

Beth M. Coleman, Harvard Univ., "Race as Technology: Ideologies and Literatures of 'Post- Race' Identity"

583. Intellectual and Cognitive Disability Studies

Beacon F, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **John N. Allen**, Milwaukee Area Technical Coll.

Sarah Pett, Univ. of York, "'Aphasia's Fingerprints': Language Impairment, Autobiography, and Fiction in Paul West's *The Shadow Factory*"

Michelle Jarman, Univ. of Wyoming, "The Savant and the Silent Subject: Challenging the Hierarchy of the Autism Spectrum"

John N. Allen, "The Reception of The Memory Keeper's Daughter and the Discourse of Down Syndrome"

588. Race and Poetics: On Aesthetic Practice in Ethnic Studies

Beacon A, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Nathan Grant**, Saint Louis Univ.

Speakers: **John Alba Cutler**, Northwestern Univ.; **Samantha Pinto**, Georgetown Univ.; **Libbie Ri-in**, Georgetown Univ.; **Jennifer Stoevers-Ackerman**, Binghamton Univ., State Univ. of New York

Respondent: **Kandice Chuh**, Graduate Center, City Univ. of New York

This roundtable will consider cultural forms of difference across a range of genres, including the lyric, collaborative authorship, and radio. We will focus on how aesthetics shifts some of the major tenants of ethnic studies, looking at major as well as neglected authors across African American, Latino/a, Asian American, and anglophone postcolonial studies.

5:15-6:30 pm

616. Poetic Occupations: From the Great Depression to the “Great Recession”

Independence East, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Sarah Ehlers**, Univ. of South Dakota

John Marsh, Penn State Univ., University Park, “Percentile Poetics and Distributive Justice”

Sarah Ehlers, “‘The Left Needs Rhythm’: Poetry Speaks the Depression”

Paula Rabinowitz, Univ. of Minnesota, Twin Cities, “Class Ventriloquism: Women’s Letters, Lectures, Lyrics”

621. Reading, Reading Machines, and Machine Reading

Gardner, Sheraton

Program arranged by the Discussion Group on Media and Literature. Presiding: Jessica Pressman, American Council of Learned Societies.

Matthew Rubery, Univ. of London, Queen Mary Coll., “Phonographic Reading Machines”

Katherine Wilson, Adelphi Univ., “Mechanical Mediations of Miniature Text: Reading Microform”

Mara Mills, New York Univ., “Between Human and Machine, a Printed Sheet: (e) Early History of OCR (Optical Character Recognition)”

631. Literary Theory and American Sign Language Literature

Hampton, Sheraton

Program arranged by the MLA Committee on Disability Issues in the Profession. Presiding: Jill Marie Bradbury, Gallaudet Univ.

Rebecca Terese Sanchez, Fordham Univ., Bronx, “‘Human Bodies Are Words’: The Poetics of Deaf Voice”

“The Gaze: Film Studies and the Flying Words Project,” Pamela Kincheloe, Rochester Inst. of Tech.

“ASL Protest Poetry and Refashioning the Traditional Oral Epic,” Kristen C. Harmon, Gallaudet Univ.

639. Two Tools for Student- Generated Digital Projects: WordPress and Omeka in the Classroom

Back Bay B, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: Gabrielle Dean, Johns Hopkins Univ., MD

Speakers: Amanda L. French, George Mason Univ.; George Williams, Univ. of South Carolina, Spartanburg

This “master class” will focus on integrating two digital tools into the classroom to facilitate student-generated projects: Omeka, for the creation of archives and exhibits, and WordPress, for the creation of blogs and Web sites. We will discuss what kinds of assignments work with each tool, how to get started, and how to evaluate assignments. Bring a laptop (not a tablet) for hands-on work.



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In the background is the Hynes Convention Center*

[Back to menu](#)

SUNDAY, January 6

Sunday, January 6

8:30–9:45 a.m.

692. Baroque Forces

303, Hynes

Program arranged by the Division on Colonial Latin American Literatures. Presiding: **Anna H. More**, Univ. of California, Los Angeles

Ivonne del Valle, Univ. of California, Berkeley, “Colonial Baroque: Violence as History”

Lisa Voigt, Ohio State Univ., Columbus, “Festive Forces in Potosí”

José Francisco Robles, El Colegio de México, “Sigüenza y Vico”

Rachel Spaulding, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque, “The Baroque Voice: Syncretic Afro-Catholic Performance and Power in the Visions of Early Modern Brazil’s Rosa Maria Egipçíaca”

693. Theorizing Digital Practice, Practicing Digital Theory

Liberty A. Sheraton

Program arranged by the MLA Committee on Information Technology. Presiding: **Victoria E. Szabo**, Duke Univ.

Tanya E. Clement, Univ. of Texas, Austin, “What Text Mining and Visualizations Have to Do with Feminist Scholarly Inquiries”

Dana Solomon, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara, “Building the Infrastructural Layer: Reading Data Visualization in the Digital Humanities”

Stephanie Boluk, Vassar Coll., “What Should We Do with Our Games?”

Respondent: **Victoria E. Szabo**

For abstracts, visit people.duke.edu/~ves4/mla13/.

10:15–11:30 a.m.

698. Intonation and Poetic Convention

Dalton, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Natalie E. Gerber**, State Univ. of New York, Fredonia; **Benjamin Glaser**, Skidmore Coll.

Benjamin Glaser, “Libraries of Rhythm”

Thomas Cable, Univ. of Texas, Austin, “When Free Verse Is Not Free Enough”

Steve Willard, Univ. of California, San Diego “Suffused Selves: Intertextual Poetics, Intonation, and Prosody,”

Respondent: **Natalie E. Gerber**

For abstracts, write to gerber@fredonia.edu.

700. May 4 Voices: Teaching about the 1970 Kent State Shootings through Oral History and Drama

Back Bay A, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Robert Balla**, Univ. of Akron

Speakers: **Robert Balla**; **Kenneth Bindas**, Kent State Univ., Kent; **Katherine Burke**, Theatre of the Oppressed, Inc.; **David Hassler**, Kent State Univ., Kent

Roundtable discussion of *May 4 Voices*, an oral history play about the Kent State student shootings of 1970. The session will explore the play’s usefulness in multiple pedagogical settings. Panelists will describe their experiences with *May 4 Voices* in diverse disciplines and elicit audience responses, along with ideas for incorporating the play into humanities curricula.

701. Trauma, Affect, and Genre in African American Culture

Riverway, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Cherise Smith**, Univ. of Texas, Austin

Speakers: **Stephanie Batiste**, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara; **Sonnet Retman**, Univ. of Washington, Seattle; **Christina Sharpe**, Tufts Univ.; **Cherise Smith**; **Lisa Thompson**, Univ. of Austin

In this roundtable, we turn to a range of cultural media, from plays and photographs to novels and musicals, to explore the ways that various African American artists historicize and politicize racial trauma through the innovative use of genre and its affective possibilities.

702. South Asian- izing the Digital Humanities

209, Hynes

A special session. Presiding: **Rahul Gairola**, Univ. of Washington, Seattle

Suchismita Banerjee, Univ. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, "Creating Alternate Voices: Exploring South Asian Cyberfeminism"

Waseem Anwar, Forman Christian Coll., "Digitizing Pakistani Literary Forms; or, E/Merging the Transcultural"

Rashmi Bhatnagar, Univ. of Pittsburgh "Reimagining Aesthetic Education: Digital Humanities in the Global South"

Respondent: **Amritjit Singh**, Ohio Univ., Athens

For abstracts, write to rgairola@uw.edu after 1 Dec 2012.

708. Victorian Oral Culture, circa 1861–1901

Public Garden, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: Anne Zwierlein, Univ. of Regensburg

John Plunkett, Univ. of Exeter, "Ways with Words: Peepshows, Panoramas, and the Showman-Lecturer"

Janice Schroeder, Carleton Univ., "The Schooled Voice: Sound and Sense in the Reports of the School Inspectorate"

John M. Picker, Massachusetts Inst. of Tech., "Siri Love, circa 1900: Voice Engine Fictions in the Age of Synergy"

For abstracts, visit www.uni-regensburg.de/sprache-literatur-kultur/anglistik/staff/zwierlein/index.html

715. Philip Roth's Music

Liberty B, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: **Aimee Lynn Pozorski**, Central Connecticut State Univ.

Ira Nadel, Univ. of British Columbia, "Philip Roth and the Music of Seduction"

Aimee Lynn Pozorski, "Nationalism, Lyricism, and Self- Loathing in *I Married a Communist* and *Indignation*"

Matthew Shipe, Washington Univ. in St. Louis, “Dream a Little Dream: Music as Counternarrative in Philip Roth’s Late Fiction”

Respondent: **B. Jane Statlander- Slote**, Miami International Univ. of Art and Design

For abstracts, visit rothsociety.org after 15 Dec.

1:45–3:00 p.m.

793. Anthropomorphism

206, Hynes

Program arranged by the Division on Comparative Studies in Romanticism and the Nineteenth Century. Presiding: **Sara Guyer**, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison

Helmut Heinz Müller- Sievers, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder, “Making the *Gestell* Sing: Romantic Music Theory, Virtuoso Performance, and the Aesthetics of Machines”

Jessica Kuskey, Syracuse Univ., “Industrial Anthropomorphism and the Victorian Factory Question”

Monique Allewaert, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, “Antimorphism”

795. Literature and Digital Pedagogies

Fairfax A, Sheraton

A special session. Presiding: Anaïs Saint- Jude, Stanford Univ.

“Teaching Modernism Traditionally and Digitally: What We May Learn from New Digital Tutoring Models by Khan Academy and Udacity,” Petra Dierkes- Thrun, Stanford Univ.

“Digital Resources and the Medieval- Literature Classroom,” Robin Wharton, Georgia Inst. of Tech.

“Toward a New Hybrid Pedagogy: Embodiment and Learning in the Classroom 2.0,” Pete Rorabaugh, Georgia State Univ.; Jesse Stommel, Marylhurst Univ.

For abstracts, visit litilluminations.wordpress.com/ after 1 Dec.



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