



Final Program (10 October 2012)

2012 Interdisciplinary and International Conference

Languages and Cultures of Conflicts and Atrocities

in Winnipeg, Manitoba (Canada), October 11-13, 2012

organized by *The Languages and Cultures Circle of Manitoba and North Dakota (LCMND)*
and the *University of Manitoba*

Sponsored by

the Languages and Cultures Circle of Manitoba and North Dakota (LCMND) and the University of Manitoba's Vice President's Office for Research, Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Department of German and Slavic Studies; Department of English, Film and Theatre, Department of History, Department of Native Studies, Department of Sociology, Department of Classics, Department of French, Spanish and Italian, Program for Judaic Studies, Program for Central and East European Studies, Arthur V. Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice, the Centre for Human Rights Research, the Institute for the Humanities, as well as by the Canadian Institute for the Study of Antisemitism.

Conference Committee

- Adina Balint-Babos (French Studies, University of Winnipeg)
- Elena Baraban (Slavic Studies, University of Manitoba)
- Catherine Chatterley (History, University of Manitoba)
- Stephan Jaeger (German Studies, University of Manitoba), chair / LCMND President
- Adam Muller (English and Comparative Literature and Film, University of Manitoba)
- Andrew Woolford (Sociology, University of Manitoba)

A personal thank you from the conference committee for invaluable help with the conference organization goes to Pieter Prinsloo, Rose Fiorillo, Anita King, Linwood DeLong, Alexandra Heberger, Erin Johnston-Weiss, and Kristin Yaworski, as well as to the staff of the Hotel Inn at the Forks, especially Toni Hudson, Kathy Stephens, and Angela Docouto. Without them, this conference would not have been possible.

Conference Website: http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/german_and_slavic/3278.html

Conference venues:

[University of Manitoba](http://umanitoba.ca), Fort Garry Campus (see http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/german_and_slavic/3278.html for directions) &

Hotel [Inn at The Forks](http://www.innforks.com), 75 Forks Market Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 0A2; Tel: (204) 942-6555; Toll-free (North America): 1-877-377-4100; Fax: (204) 942-6979; info@innforks.com

Background on the history of the LCMND (Languages and Cultures Circle of Manitoba and North Dakota)

The LCMND (<http://www.umanitoba.ca/outreach/lcmnd/index.shtml>) started out in 1959 as a joint initiative by faculty members of the University of Manitoba (Winnipeg) and the University of North Dakota (Grand Forks). It was intended to provide a cross-border forum for scholarly exchange, and for fifty-two years has been highly successful in realizing its aim by organizing yearly conferences both north & south of the United States/Canadian border. In the 1980s the two founding universities were joined by the University of Winnipeg, North Dakota State University (Fargo), and Minot State University. In 2009 the Linguistic Circle of Manitoba and North Dakota changed its name to the Languages and Cultures Circle of Manitoba and North Dakota. The annual LCMND conference provides a great opportunity for interdisciplinary, regional, international, and trans-continental scholarly exchange. The 2012 conference will be the 53rd LCMND conference.

Conference Registration Fees

For details visit the conference website http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/german_and_slavic/3278.html

For Presenters (Note the registration fee includes the Thursday reception, Friday banquet, Saturday keynote lunch, coffee breaks, and Friday and Saturday morning continental breakfast / coffee breaks during the conference). Send in Registration form by Sept. 17, 2012.

Full Registrants (Early Conference Registration by Sept. 17) = \$100

Graduate Students or Unwaged* (Early Conference Registration by Sept. 17) = \$75

Full Registrants (Late Conference Registration after Sept. 17 or on-site) = \$130

Graduate Students or Unwaged* (Late Conference Registration after Sept. 17 or on-site) = \$100

For Conference Participants non-presenting

Registration onsite (cheque or cash), by cheque or paypal (no registration form, but provide full name, university or other affiliation, if applicable, and email address)

Full Registrants: Both days: \$40; one day (Friday or Saturday) \$20

Graduate Students or Unwaged*: Both days: \$20; one day (Friday or Saturday) \$10

Banquet registration for Conference Participants non-presenting: \$60, reservation and payment must be received by cheque or paypal by Sept. 28.

(all payments in Canadian Dollar; if you pay in US\$ use the exchange rate 1:1)

*Unwaged means without a full-time salary, income less than \$40000 a year

The Keynote lectures by Alison Landsberg (Oct. 11) and James Dawes (Oct. 12) are open to the public and free; to listen to the Lunch Keynote by Jill Scott (Oct. 13) a one-day registration for Oct. 13 is required.

You can either pay by PayPal with your Credit Card by selecting your payment category at the conference website.

or by sending a cheque (made payable to Languages and Cultures Circle of Manitoba and North Dakota) to:

Dr. Stephan Jaeger / LCMND Conflicts and Atrocities Conference, Department of German and Slavic Studies, University of Manitoba, 326 Fletcher Argue Building, Winnipeg, MB R3T 5V5, Canada

Keynote Lecture 1 (Thursday, October 11, 19:00-21:00. University of Manitoba, Fort Garry Campus, 306 Tier Building)

[Alison Landsberg](#) (Associate Professor at George Mason University):



Dr. Landsberg, a scholar in History and Art History, specializes in memory studies and U.S. history, including early cinema, race and self-making, museums and the installation of memory. She is the author of *Prosthetic Memory: The Transformation of American Remembrance in the Age of Mass Culture* (Columbia UP 2004), in which she considers the way in which individuals are increasingly able to take on memories of events they did not live through. She is interested in the potential of such memories to produce empathy and to become the grounds for progressive politics.

Translating Atrocity: The Materiality of Virtual Sites of Experience

Museums and memorials devoted to atrocities are premised on the idea that sharing in another group's trauma can be constructive both socially and politically. But what exactly does it mean to *share* in someone else's experience of atrocity? What would be required to make atrocity meaningful—while maintaining its historical specificity—across disparate cultures, geographies, temporalities and spaces? Any such inquiry must begin from the premise that it is impossible to ever fully capture another's experience. And yet, there is both a moral and political imperative to *try* to understand the nature and effects of distant atrocities. In this paper I will suggest that such work might be constructively theorized as, in effect, a project of translation. Inherent in the notion of translation, is the notion of incommensurability, of approximating rather than achieving verisimilitude. To consider this process as translation is to foreground its inevitable partiality, incompleteness, imperfection. The translation of atrocity would necessarily be a material, not simply linguistic process, and as such would have both a cognitive and an affective dimension. It would need to convey the specific, material details of historical experience but also the sensory, affective dimension. Finally, I will consider the extent to which certain virtual sites associated with atrocity museums, such as The Secret Annex Online (on the Anne Frank House website), might be particularly well suited to this sort of translation. As my paper will suggest, the virtual experience is both material and immaterial—material in that it is iconically connected to the real Anne Frank House and experienced by an embodied viewer, and yet immaterial in its profound artificiality as a graphically constructed space.

Keynote Lecture 2 (Friday, Oct. 12, 13:30-15:15, Hotel Inn at the Forks, Forks Ballroom East)

James Dawes (Professor, Macalester College):



Dr. Dawes, a scholar of American and Comparative Literature, is Chair and Professor of English at Macalester College and Founder and Director of the Program in Human Rights and Humanitarianism at Macalester College and specializes in literary and aesthetic theory, international law and human rights, trauma, and war studies. He is the author of *That the World May Know: Bearing Witness to Atrocity* (Harvard UP 2007) and *The Language of War: Literature and Culture in the US from the Civil War through World War II* (Harvard UP 2002). His current manuscript is entitled *Evil Men*.

Confessions of a War Criminal

This paper is about atrocity and representation. Based on interviews I have conducted with convicted war criminals, it analyzes the different ways people have tried to make sense of our astonishing capacity for evil. The perpetrators interviewed for this project had committed atrocities, caused incalculable suffering, but they had also experienced trauma – indeed, had experienced their own crimes as a kind of trauma. What is the meaning of their grief and their apology? What do we learn about the ethics of representation from trying to tell their stories? This talk will seek to answer to these questions.

Keynote Lecture 3 (Saturday, Oct. 13, 12:00-14:00, Hotel Inn at the Forks, Forks Ballroom East)

-> Lunch Buffet in Forks Ballroom East; Keynote Lecture during the Lunch (one-day registration required)

Jill Scott (Professor, Queen's University):



Dr. Scott, a scholar of German and Comparative Literature, specializes in studies in conflict resolution, forgiveness and reconciliation, the social dynamics of mourning and grief, transitional and restorative justice, as well as in law and literature. She is the author of *A Poetics of Forgiveness* (Palgrave 2010) and of *Electra after Freud* (Cornell UP 2005).

The Quasi-Judicial Imagination:

Restoring and Generating Justice in Post-Unification German Literature

Restorative justice brings together victims, perpetrators, and their supporters in a collaborative dialogue about wrongdoing, the aim of which is to acknowledge harms, identify obligations, and to provide healing and restore balance to individuals, families and communities. Transitional justice, on the other hand, typically addresses prolonged human rights violations or historical oppression and seeks to nurture political transition to social stability. While there is a growing body of research on restorative and transitional justice addressing dozens of regions around the globe, the case of East Germany's incorporation into the Federal Republic of Germany has been largely absent. This paper will propose that restorative measures were and are indeed still necessary in a unified Germany, and will demonstrate how literary and cultural texts can expand and complicate our thinking on restorative justice, invent new forms of narrative justice, and indeed constitute a form of what I am calling generative justice.

Thursday, Oct. 11

15:00-17:45 Hotel Inn at the Forks (Front Lobby)

Conference registration

17:45 Shuttle (Vital Transit Services) from Hotel Inn at the Forks to Fort Garry Campus (Tier Building)

19:00-21:00. University of Manitoba, Fort Garry Campus, 306 Tier Building

Conference Opening

Stephan Jaeger (LCMND President, Conference Chair)

Dr. Gary Glavin, Associate Vice President (Research), University of Manitoba

Dr. Jeffery Taylor, Dean of Arts, University of Manitoba

Keynote Lecture 1:

Introduction & Moderator: Stephan Jaeger (University of Manitoba)

Dr. Alison Landsberg (George Mason University): “Translating Atrocity: The Materiality of Virtual Sites of Experience”

21:00-22:30

Reception, University of Manitoba, Fort Garry Campus, 600 Fletcher Argue Building, Faculty Lounge

22:15 Shuttle (Vital Transit Services) from Fort Garry Campus (Tier Building) to Hotel Inn at the Forks

Taxi phone numbers Winnipeg

- Unicity Taxi 204-925-3131
- Duffy’s Taxi 204-925-0101

Friday, Oct. 12, Hotel Inn at the Forks

8:00-17:00 Conference Registration (Foyer, second floor)

Book exhibit Fermwood Books (Foyer, second floor)

8:00-8:30 Light Continental Breakfast (Foyer, second floor)

8:30-10:00 Session 1

<p>1A (Forks Ballroom East) Literary Aesthetics of Atrocities Moderator: Alexandra Heberger (University of Manitoba)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adina Balint-Babos (University of Winnipeg): The Writing of Herta Müller: Poetics of Resistance • Michael Zimmermann (University of Regina): Fragmentation by Trauma in Works by Herta Müller • Thyra E. Knapp (University of North Dakota): Anne Duden and the Aesthetics of Atrocity 	<p>1B (River Salon) Ontologies and Memories of Genocide Moderator: Andrew Woolford (University of Manitoba)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathy L. Gaca (Vanderbilt University): Death to All Enemy Sperm: Genocidal Culture since Antiquity and its Basis in Martial Power • Catherine Gilbert (University of Nottingham): From Surviving to Living: The Role of Testimony in Post-Genocide Rwanda • Shannon Scully (Clark University): The Politics of Memory and the Display of Human Remains in Rwanda: Murambi Genocide Memorial 	<p>1C (Prairie Salon) Combatants Moderator: Lucas Tromly (University of Manitoba)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Kilburn & Nathalie Saltikoff (Endicott College): Soldiers' Tales (Un)told: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Narrative and Trauma in the Consideration and Treatment of PTSD (and preTSD) • Elizabeth Pirnie (University of Calgary): The Soldier I Was Then vs. The Soldier I Am Now: Dichotomic Identity Construction Through Winter Soldier (2008) Testimonies • Lori Newcomb (Wayne State College): Double Jeopardy: Tim O'Brien's <i>The Things They Carried</i>
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10:00-10:30 Coffee break (Foyer, second floor)

10:30-12:00 Session 2

<p>2A (Forks Ballroom East) Museum: Performance and Learning Moderator: Jacqueline McLeod Rogers (University of Winnipeg)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stephan Jaeger (University of Manitoba): Cultural History Approaches to War Museums. To Experience the Past and Learn for the Future?• Jennifer Carter (Université du Québec à Montréal): Beyond pedagogy: The Imperative to Perform in Museums of Human Rights <p>Note, Jennifer Orange had unfortunately to withdraw.</p>	<p>2B (River Salon) Voices and Witnessing I Moderator: Linwood DeLong (University of Winnipeg)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sara Matthews (Wilfrid Laurier University): Teaching and Learning from Narratives of Violence: Photography as Witness• Angela Failor (University of Winnipeg): Memorial Witnessing: Public Sites Dedicated to the Victims of the 1985 Air India Bombings• Dina Georgis (University of Toronto): Queer Residues of War in Akram Zaatari's <i>Red Chewing Gum</i>	<p>2C (Prairie Salon) Art and Silences Moderator: Linda Dietrick (University of Winnipeg)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nedzmina Vukovic (University of Manitoba): The Silent Scream of the War• Ana Laura Pauchulo (University of Alberta): Possibilities in the Impossibility of Representation: Present Absences in the Siluetazo and the REDress Project• Cynthia Milton (Université de Montréal): Artistic Representations of Human Rights Violations: Peru in a Comparative Perspective
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12:00-13:30

Lunch (up to participants)

Annual Business Meeting LCMND (River Salon)

13:30-15:15:

Keynote Lecture 2 (Forks Ballroom East):

Introduction & Moderator: Adam Muller (University of Manitoba)

Dr. James Dawes (Macalester College): “Confessions of a War Criminal”

15:15-15:45

Coffee break (Foyer, second floor)

15:45-17:15 Session 3

<p>3A (Forks Ballroom East) Rhetorics of Violence Moderator: Elena Baraban (University of Manitoba)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Désirée Lamoureux (University of Western Ontario): ‘True’ novel or cliché? Normalising the Survivor’s Experience in Gilbert Sinoué’s <i>Erevan</i>• Anna Fournier (University of Manitoba): The Banality of Horror: Language and Meaning in Western Accounts of Violence in the Balkans• Jacqueline McLeod Rogers (University of Winnipeg) & Tracy Whalen (University of Winnipeg): The Material Messages of an Ethereal Project: Storying The Canadian Museum for Human Rights	<p>3B (River Salon) Voices and Witnessing II Moderator: Gaby Divay (University of Manitoba)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alexandra Heberger (University of Manitoba): “Ich bin ein Lebender, kein Ueberlebender” – I am a Human Being, Not a Survivor. Edgar Hilsenrath’s Sarcastic Fight Against Being a Living Memorial• Salvadoran Voices of Manitoba (University of Winnipeg): Fragmentation, Silences, Oral History, and Community Healing: Salvadoran Voices of Manitoba• Michaela Zoehrer (University of Augsburg), co-authored with Julika Bake: The Performance of Authenticity in Human Rights Reporting and Comic Journalism	<p>3C (Prairie salon) Violence, Displacement, and Terror Moderator: Myroslav Shkandrij (University of Manitoba)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maria Konstantinov (University of Victoria): Representing and Interpreting Experiences of the Romani (Gypsy) Holocaust• Vassiliki Flenga (Ramapo College of New Jersey): Genet’s Aporia• Mustapha Hamil (University of Windsor): Plotting Terror in North African Literature
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17:30-18:30 Session 4

<p>4A (Forks Ballroom East) Justice and Education Moderator: Anna Fournier (University of Manitoba)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natasha Reid (Concordia University): Social Justice Art Education: The Contemporary Art Museum as a Location for Dialogue• Joanna Black (University of Manitoba), co-authored with Orest Cap & Denis Hlynka: Learning through Representation of Human Rights Issues: Using Digital Technologies in an Art Education Research Study	<p>4B (River Salon) Memorialization of the Holocaust Moderator: Walburga Bshouty (University of Manitoba)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rachel Erickson (University of London): Multiple Mediations: Issues of Identification and Representation in Holocaust Education at the Wiener Library• Deborah Schnitzer (University of Winnipeg): Holocaust Fact as/and Fiction: Reckoning the Irreconcilable in the Writing of the <i>woman who swallowed West Hawk Lake</i>
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19:30 Reception, Cash Bar (Forks Ballroom West)

20:00 (-max 23:00): Hotel Inn at the Forks (Forks Ballroom West)

Banquet

During dessert (2 brief speeches on 53 years history of the LCMND):

- Dr. Rory Egan (University of Manitoba)
- Chandice Johnson (North Dakota State University)

Saturday, Oct. 13, Hotel Inn at the Forks

8:30-12:00 Conference Registration (Foyer, second floor)

Book exhibit Fermwood Books (Foyer, second floor, 9:00-11:00 a.m.)

8:30-9:00 Light Continental Breakfast (Foyer, second floor)

9:00-10:30 Session 5

<p>5A (Forks Ballroom East)</p> <p>A Virtual Exhibit “The Salvadoran Voices of Manitoba” with members of the Salvadoran community (cf. session 3B for academic presentation)</p>	<p>5B (River Salon)</p> <p>Violence and the Indigenous Other Moderator: Mark Meuwese (University of Winnipeg)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ron Fischer (Minot State University): The Medicine in Louise Erdrich's <i>Love Medicine</i> • Heather Allen (University of Manitoba): Bridging the Gap of Apathy: Representations of History through Fiction in the Works of Tomson Highway • Evan Bowness (University of Manitoba) & Amelia Curran (Carleton University): Racialized Policing in Winnipeg: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Online Comments 	<p>5C (Prairie Salon)</p> <p>Soviet War Memory (sponsored by the Program for Central and East European Studies, University of Manitoba) Moderator: Magda Blackmore (University of Manitoba)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reeta Kangas (University of Turku): Hitler’s Dogs: Animal Symbolism in Soviet Political Cartoons of the “Great Patriotic War”, 1941–1945 • Elena Baraban (University of Manitoba): The Film Front: The First Soviet Films of the Cold War • Tatjana Schell (North Dakota State University): A Ball Game: On Bouncing Between Accuracy and Fluency in Translation
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10:30-11:00 Coffee break (Foyer, second floor)

11:00-12:00 Session 6

<p>6A (River Salon) Construction and Politics of Memory Moderator: Alexander Freund (University of Winnipeg)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark Meuwese (University of Winnipeg): Trans-Atlantic and Local Memories of Dutch Colonial Violence: Remembering Kieft's War in New Netherland• Myroslav Shkandrij (University of Manitoba): Unrepenting Hearts: Ukrainian Nationalism in the 1930s	<p>6B (Prairie Salon) Graphic Novels Moderator: Heather Allen (University of Manitoba)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candida Rifkind (University of Winnipeg): Memory and Black Visuality in Ho Che Anderson's <i>King</i>• Josina Robb (University of Winnipeg): Navigating the Architecture of Occupation in Joe Sacco's <i>Palestine</i>
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12:00-14:00 Lunch & Keynote Lecture 3 (Forks Ballroom East):

-> Lunch Buffet in Forks Ballroom East; Keynote Lecture during the Lunch
Introduction & Moderator: Stephan Jaeger (University of Manitoba)

Dr. Jill Scott (Queen's University): "The Quasi-Judicial Imagination: Restoring and Generating Justice in Post-Unification German Literature"

14:00-15:30 Session 7

<p>7A (River Salon) Alternative Languages of Atrocities Moderator: Pieter W. Prinsloo (University of Manitoba)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amy Freier (Queen's University): Holocaust Humour: When Commemoration Meets the Comedic• Adam Muller (University of Manitoba): Laughter in the Face of Death: Humour and the Holocaust• Holly McIndoe (Queen's University): "One who lives": Strategic Exoticism and Subjectivity in Indra Sinha's <i>Animal's People</i>	<p>7B (Prairie Salon) Linguistic and Spatial Constructions of Conflict Moderator: Adina Balint-Babos (University of Winnipeg)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Armando Perla (Canadian Museum for Human Rights): Language, Culture and Identity• Prathna Lor (Université de Montréal): Spatial Re-Imagination in Yvonne Vera's <i>The Stone Virgins</i>• Sarah Wagner (George Washington University) & Tom Matyók (University of North Carolina at Greensboro): Walking the Mat: Ritual, Symbol, and Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (U.S.)
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15:30: End of conference