

## Schedule of Events

- 8:00 – 8:45**      **Registration and Breakfast**  
*Golden Eagle Ballroom*
- 8:45 – 9:00**      **Welcome Address**  
Dr. Hema Chari, Graduate Student  
Association Advisor
- 9:00 – 10:30**      **Session One**                      **Music Building**
- Writing Ourselves: Creative Writers in Conversation
  - Marriage & Domesticity: Restructuring Spaces of Power
  - Arthurian Legends and Literature
  - Renaissance Poetry and Poetics
- 10:30-10:40**      **Break**
- 10:40-11:45**      **Dr. Jim Kincaid - Keynote Address**  
*Golden Eagle Ballroom*
- 11:45 – 12:50**      **Lunch**  
*Golden Eagle Ballroom*
- 1:00 – 2:30**      **Session Two**                      **Music Building**
- Art, Culture, and Discourse
  - Telling Stories: Silence, Secrets, and Subversion in Victorian Narratives
  - Reason and Irrationality: Gender, Free Will, and Desire in Classical and Medieval Literature
  - Violence, History, and Memory
- 2:30 – 2:40**      **Break**
- 2:45 – 4:15**      **Session Three**                      **Music Building**
- Alchemies of Identity: Influence and Transformation in 20th-Century American Literature
  - Power, Conflict, and Subversion
  - African American Identities: Fashioning and Performing a Self
  - Textual Bodies/Corporeal Bodies: (Re)Membering in 20th-Century U.S. Literature

**Welcome** student participants, faculty, and guests to *Significations*: The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual CSU Graduate Student Conference. The conference continues to be a success due to the generous and spirited intellectual exchange, good will, and enthusiasm of the participants. With participants from campuses across California, the Conference Committee also hopes to encourage ongoing peer collaboration and broader research possibilities. Your participation and commitment are very much appreciated and vital to continuing this worthwhile CSU tradition.

### Special Thanks

Dr. Jim Kincaid, *Keynote Speaker*  
Dr. Hema Chari, *Faculty Advisor*  
Dr. John Cleman, *English Department Chair*  
Dr. James M. Rosser, *President of the University*  
Dr. Herman D. Lujan, *Provost of the University*  
Dr. Bryant Alexander, *Acting Dean, College of Arts & Letters*  
Dr. Jose Galvan, *Dean, Graduate Studies & Research*  
Dr. Alan Muchlinski, *Acting Associate Dean, Graduate Studies & Research*  
Terry Flores, Yolanda Galvan, Jeanne Gee, and Johnny Trieu,  
*Our Incredibly Wonderful Staff*  
All English Department Faculty, Students, and Staff

### The Submission Review Committee

Faculty:  
Dr. Betty Bamberg, Dr. Hema Chari, Dr. Marilyn Elkins,  
Dr. Michelle Hawley, Dr. Maria Karafilis, Dr. Jun Liu,  
Dr. Lauri Ramey, Dr. Andrew Shin

Graduate Students:  
Hasmik Barsamian, Jim Coleman, Jasper Cross, Lisa Fox,  
Ximena Hernandez, Jenny Hicks, Andrew Huffine, Matt Khitikian,  
Jessica Magallanes, Andrew Montana, Kerry Roche, Leilani Serafin

### Our Sponsors

The English Department, The College of Arts and Letters,  
Golden Eagle Hospitality, Associated Students Incorporated,  
Campus Reprographics, University Writing Center,  
CSULA Instructionally Related Activities Grant

### Graduate Student Association

Jessica Magallanes, Lisa Fox, Lindsay Nemetz, Hasmik Barsamian,  
Jenny Hicks, Jasper Cross, Kerry Roche, Jim Coleman,  
Andrew Huffine, Leilani Serafin, Ximena Hernandez, Matt Khitikian,  
Andrew Montana, Otilio Perales, Mark Morris



## Session One: 9:00 -10:30

### Writing Ourselves: Creative Writers in Conversation

Moderator: Lindsay Nemetz Music 109

- **Selections from Concrete Fields**  
Michael Whitlow (California State University, Los Angeles)
- **"Follow Me!"**  
Jasper Cross (California State University, Los Angeles)
- **The Poette and the Penis**  
Suzanne Allen (California State University, Long Beach)

### Marriage and Domesticity: Restructuring Spaces of Power

Moderator: Amanda Ryan-Romo Music 110

- **The Significance of Structure and Space in Mary Wilkins Freeman's Short Fiction**  
Julie Meloni (California State University, San Jose)
- **Education, Marriage, and Moderation in George Gissing's The Odd Women**  
Mandy Kronbeck (California State University, Dominguez Hills)
- **"Mirror Mirror, Try and Trace / What's Beneath That Covered Face": The Unmasking of "The Tiger's Bride"**  
Hasmik Barsamian (California State University, Los Angeles)

### Arthurian Legends and Literature

Moderator: Andrew Montoya Music 113

- **Practical Teachings Gleaned from Sir Gawain through Three Centuries of Arthurian Literature and Medieval Life**  
Benjamin Dondero (California State University, San Jose)
- **Vivian: Through the Author's Looking Glass**  
Gillian Hertzner (California State University, San Jose)
- **Merlin: A Man for All Occasions**  
Michelle Perry (California State University, San Jose)

### Renaissance Poetry and Poetics

Moderator: Andrew Huffine Music 114

- **Thy Will Be Done: The Agency of Women in the Poetry of John Donne**  
Rebecca Sweet (California State University, East Bay)
- **The Hopeful Void: *Prima Materia* in "A Nocturnal Upon St. Lucy's Day"**  
Sean Wheaton (California State University, East Bay)
- **From the Mouths of Kings**  
Robert Swart (California State University, San Jose)

## Session Two: 1:00 – 2:30

### Art, Culture, and Discourse

Moderator: Elizabeth Lowry Music 109

- **Art as the Time Machine: (Or) Why go out into Nature when you have the Imagination?**  
Jeff Powell (California Poly State University, San Luis Obispo)
- **Qu'est-ce que the Hell: The Culture and Politics of *franglais* in France**  
Genesea Carter (California Poly State University, San Luis Obispo)
- **"Out of the air" and "Into my grave": The Rhetorization of Grammar in Hamlet**  
Shanna Storey (California State University, Long Beach)

### Telling Stories: Silence, Secrets, and Subversion in Victorian Narratives

Moderator: Ximena Hernandez Music 110

- **A Home of Her Own: Property and Identity Issues in the Work of Beatrix Potter**  
Robin Lifland (California State University, Los Angeles)
- **Secrecy, Sexuality, and Power in Oscar Wilde's The Picture of Dorian Gray**  
Mark Morris (California State University, Los Angeles)
- **Plot Points and Dead Ends: Female Frustration in The Mill on the Floss**  
Leilani Serafin (California State University, Los Angeles)

### Reason and Irrationality: Gender, Free Will, and Desire in Classical and Medieval Literature

Moderator: Amy Tahani Music 113

- **Heaven and Hell: The Feminine Mystique throughout History**  
Aurora Matzke (California Poly State University, San Luis Obispo)
- **Dante's Willed Sin**  
Kristine Smathers (California State University, East Bay)
- **Conflicts between Chivalry and Courtly Love in "The Knight's Tale"**  
Teresa Brandt (California State University, East Bay)

### Violence, History, and Memory

Moderator: Kathleen Klompfen Music 114

- **Forever White: The Symbolic Rescuing of Mary Jemison**  
Andrew Montana (California State University, Los Angeles)
- **Inaction to Action: Vengeance as Catalyst in Frankenstein and "Hop-Frog"**  
Thorin Alexander (California State University, Los Angeles)
- **Timewarp: The Historical and Contemporary Significance of Slavery in Octavia Butler's Kindred**  
Matt Khitkian (California State University, Los Angeles)

## Session Three: 2:40– 4:10

### Alchemies of Identity: Influence and Transformation in 20th-Century American Literature

Moderator: Jasper Cross Music 109

- **The Influence of Saroyan on Beckett**  
Dawn Nelson (California State University, San Jose)
- **The Spiritual Transformation of J.D. Salinger's *Seymour Glass***  
Amanda Opperman (California State University, San Diego)
- **Light in Darkness: An Exploration of Dualities of Joanna Burden and Joe Christmas**  
Meghan Chen (California State University, Los Angeles)

### Power, Conflict, and Subversion

Moderator: Leilani Serafin Music 110

- **Men, Power, & Land: Ambition & Failure in Alejo Carpentier's Explosion in a Cathedral, Carlos Fuentes' The Death of Artemio Cruz, and Isabel Allende's The House of the Spirits**  
Jim Coleman (California State University, Los Angeles)
- **They Thought He Was A Crab: Culture, Language, & Evolution at Play in Robert Browning's "Caliban Upon Setebos"**  
Andrew Huffine (California State University, Los Angeles)
- **Subversive Silence in Richard Wright's "Bright & Morning Star"**  
Kolleen Higgins (California State University, Long Beach)

### African American Identities: Fashioning and Performing a Self

Moderator: Jessica Magallanes Music 113

- **Harriet Jacobs a Transcendentalist? A New Perspective on American Transcendentalism and the African-American Experience**  
Joshua Cameron (California State University, San Diego)
- **How Do We Come Out of the Wilderness? The Search for Identity in James Baldwin's "Come Out the Wilderness"**  
Kerry Roche (California State University, Los Angeles)
- **Ebonics and You: The Importance of Black Vernacular English in Today's Society**  
Lisa Fox (California State University, Los Angeles)

### Textual Bodies/Corporeal Bodies: (Re)Membering in 20th-Century U.S. Literature

Moderator: Hasmik Barsamian Music 114

- **Signifying with Silence in Toshio Mori's Yokohama, California**  
Elizabeth McMurray (California State University, San Jose)
- **Damaged in Spirit, Damaged in the Flesh: Bodily Transgression in Louise Erdrich's Tracks**  
Ryan Page (California State University, East Bay)
- **Unmasking the Vietnam War Myth: Irony and Parody in Gustav Hasford's The Short-Timers**  
Ximena Hernandez (California State University, Los Angeles)