

# The Spatial Imagination in Postwar and Contemporary American Literature and Art

University of Strasbourg, March 21-22 2024

Maison des Sciences de l'Homme – Alsace

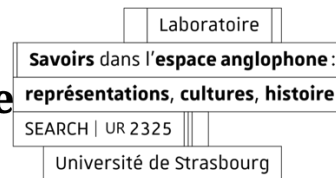
**Organizers:** Sandrine Baudry, Chloé Bour-Lang, Gwen Cressman, Catherine Gander, Hélène Ibata, Monica Manolescu and Will Norman

Organized with the support of the Institut Universitaire de France and UR SEARCH 2325, University of Strasbourg

Venue: [Maison Interuniversitaire des Sciences de l'Homme – Alsace](#)  
5 allée du Général Rouvillois, 67083 Strasbourg, France



**institut  
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## PROGRAMME

**March 21, 2024**

**Maison Interuniversitaire des Sciences de l'Homme – Alsace**  
5 allée du Général Rouvillois, 67083 Strasbourg

9h-9h30 Registration and opening remarks, salle de conférence

9h30-11h keynote address organized in collaboration with LILAC (*Laboratoire interuniversitaire de la littérature américaine contemporaine*), salle de conférence

**Dawn Raffel, Boundless Space: Inner and Outer Landscapes and the Fluid Horizon of Time**

**Chair: Monica Manolescu**

11h-11h30 refreshments

11h30-13h parallel sessions 1 and 2

### **Session 1. Site-specificity in American poetry and art**

**Salle de conférence**

**Chair: Will Norman**

**Timothy Anderson** (Pratt Institute/Pace University), “Space, Time, & Architectonics”—Robert Lax’s Site-Specific Poetics

**Monica Manolescu** (University of Strasbourg, Institut Universitaire de France), On the margins of Land art: Michelle Stuart’s sites of memory

**Reckford, David** (Cergy Paris Université), Recapturing a part of the Appalachians for contemporary poetry: Lee Ann Brown’s *In the Laurels, Caught* (2013)

### **Session 2. Space and identity in contemporary American literature**

**Salle de la table ronde**

**Chair: Chloé Bour-Lang**

**Angelica De Vido** (University of Oxford), ‘I’m Crazy About this City: Remapping New York in Women’s Literature’

**Steven Forbes** (University of Edinburgh), Cubistic Time and the Phenomenology of Space in William Demby’s *The Catacombs*

**Esther Claudio** (University of Iowa), Queer Spatial Imagination in Bishakh Som’s *Apsara Engine and Scenes from a Gender*

13h-14h Lunch

14h-15h30 2 parallel sessions 3 and 4

### **Session 3. Mapping and exploration in literature and photography**

**Salle de conférence**

**Chair: Gwen Cressman**

**Julien Nègre** (ENS Lyon/Institut Universitaire de France), Exploring Jack Kerouac’s cartographic archives at the NYPL, 1947-1969

**Talal Hochard** (Université de Lorraine), The Beat Generation’s Reimagination of Space: Harmonizing Consciousness, the Wilderness, and the City

**James Swensen (Brigham Young University)**, Lunarscapes: An Exploration of the Effects of NASA Imagery on the Photographers of the Photo-Boom

### **Session 4. The spatial and temporal imagination of Blackness**

**Salle de la table ronde**

**Chair: Aurore Clavier**

**Michael Docherty** (University of Innsbruck), Making Space for Blackness in Literary and Cinematic California

**Sherry Lee Linkon** (Georgetown University), Complicating the Deindustrial Spatial Imaginary: Literary and Photographic Visions of Black Lives in Deindustrialized Places

**Sabine Metzger** (University of Stuttgart), “The Perfume of Place:” Topophilia, Geographical Self and J. Drew Lanham’s *The Home Place*

15h30-16h refreshments

16h-17h30 parallel sessions 5 and 6

### **Session 5. Space and intermediality**

**Salle de conference**

**Chair: Corinne Scheiner**

**Yasna Bozhkova** (Université Paris Nanterre), “A Different Sort of Space”: The Poetics and Politics of Space and Scale in Jen Bervin’s Work

**Marie Bouchet** (Université de Toulouse), De-automatizing Spatial Perception: Nabokov’s Intermedial Take on American Space

**Sophia Hörll** (Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich), Spatial (In)Justice in Literary Landscapes of “Shamescapes” and “Otherwheres”: June Jordan’s illustrated poem *Who Look at Me?* (1969)

### **Session 6. Architectures of inclusion and exclusion**

**Salle de la table ronde**

**Chair: Julien Nègre**

**Sofie Behluli** (University of Bern), Inside the Museum: A Look at Some US-American Novels on Visual Art

**Eric Nay** (OCAD University, Toronto), Re-Imagining Architecture: Postwar America’s Pedagogies, Spaces and Imaginaries

**Jo Pawlik** (University of Sussex), Spatialising (anti-)fascism in the 1960s and 70s: The campus and the courthouse

19h30 Conference dinner, [Restaurant de la Bourse](#), 1 Place de Lattre de Tassigny, 67000 Strasbourg

**March 22, 2024**

**Maison Interuniversitaire des Sciences de l’Homme – Alsace**

5 allée du Général Rouvillois, 67083 Strasbourg

9h30-11h keynote address, salle de conférence

**Judith Madera** (Wake Forest University), Tension Ecologies of Home

**Chair: Catherine Gander**

11h-11h30 refreshments

11h30-13h parallel sessions 7 and 8

**Session 7. Crossing boundaries: from linear to multidimensional spaces**

**Salle de conférence**

**Chair: Hélène Ibata**

**Corinne Scheiner and Kate Leonard** (Colorado College), Actualizing Space: From Point, Line, and Square to Multiview

**Elizabeth Moulin** (Sorbonne Université), “Am I really nothing more than a suburban mom?”: reclaiming the feminine space in Chris Ware’s *Building Stories* (2012)

**Ioana Costandache Apetroae** (Dalarna University), Transcending Boundaries: Quantum Narratives and Multidimensional Artsapes in Postwar American Literature and Avant-Garde Installations

**Session 8. Scales: the intimate and the political**

**Salle de la table ronde**

**Chair: Sandrine Baudry**

**Joanne Vrignaud** (Université Paris Nanterre), ‘Indians ain’t supposed to feel sorry for cowboys’: narratives of territorial change in Sheridan’s *Hell or High Water* (2016)

**Benjamin Robbins** (University of Innsbruck), Queer Exile and the Cold War Transatlantic Novels of James Baldwin and Patricia Highsmith

**India Harris** (University of Cambridge), Elizabeth Bishop’s Littoral Poetics

13h-14h30 Lunch

**14h30-16h Session 9. Local/global/cosmological imaginaries**

**Salle de conférence**

**Chair: Michael Docherty**

**Aurore Clavier** (Université Paris Cité), “Here you may enter galactic memory”: Joy Harjo’s involuted spaces

**Wesley Moore** (University of Erlangen), Mediating Material Space: Art, Literature, and the Limits of Neoliberalism in *Leaving the Atocha Station* and *10:04*

**Edwin Gilson** (University of Surrey), Planetary Los Angeles: The Global Imagination of LA Anthropocene Fiction

End of conference