

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

jointly organized by  
The International Vladimir Nabokov Society  
La Société Française Vladimir Nabokov



Comic strip described by Nabokov in Invitation to a Behaving and executed by Clarence Brown. © 2003 Cornell University Press

## Organizing committee:

**Isabelle Poulin**, Bordeaux Montaigne University, France  
**Marie Bouchet**, Toulouse Jean Jaures University, France  
**Dana Dragunoiu**, Carleton University, Canada  
**Agnès Edel-Roy**, Paris-Est Créteil University, France  
**Christopher Link**, SUNY New Paltz, USA  
**Julie Loison-Charles**, Lille University, France

## Conference made possible with the generous support of:

**Laurent Dubreuil** (Comparative Literature Department, Cornell University)  
**The French Studies Program**, Cornell University  
**The Society for the Humanities**, Cornell University  
**The Vladimir Nabokov Fund in the Department of Comparative Literature**, Cornell University  
**The Division of Rare and Manuscripts Collection at the Cornell University Library**  
**The A.D. White House**

## Contact:

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## Conference website:

<https://www.vladimir-nabokov.org/international-conference-colloque-2024-nabokov-or-education-without-borders/>

# N VLADIMIR NABOKOV, OR EDUCATION WITHOUT BORDERS

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
**Oct. 31 - Nov. 2, 2024**

Day 1 **Thursday, October 31, 2024**

9:00-9:30 am **Check-in**  
**Pale Fire Lounge, Goldwin Smith Hall**

9:30-10:45 am Exhibit Nabokov & Butterfly Science  
**Mann Library**

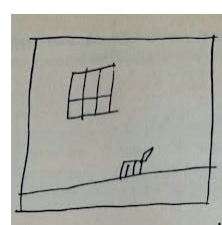
11:00 am-12:00 pm. Pop-up Exhibit: Nabokov manuscripts and rare documents  
Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections  
**Lecture Room, Level 2B, Carl A. Kroch Library**

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm **Check-In (Continued)**  
**Take-Away Lunch**  
Grab a sandwich at the **Pale Fire Lounge, Goldwin Smith Hall**

1.30 pm **Conference opening**  
Welcome address  
Introduction  
**GSH132, Goldwin Smith Hall**

2:00 – 3.00 pm **Keynote Address: Gavriel Shapiro, Cornell University**  
“Ill-treatment of the Other in Nabokov’s Works”  
**Chair: Stephen H. Blackwell**

3:15-4:45 pm **Layers of Otherness**  
**Chair: Adam Weiner**

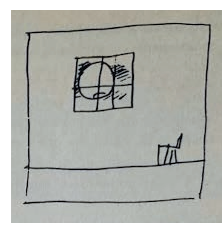
 - Olga Voronina, Bard College  
“A Lecturer as a Cryptologist: *Writing Masters of European Literature into Lolita*”  
- Ludmila Shleyfer Lavine, Bucknell University  
“Nabokov’s Displaced Academics: Intertextuality, Traditions, and Disruptions”  
- David Potter, University of Sydney, Australia  
“Provoking Nabokovian Time with Bruno Schulz”

[Walk from Goldwin Smith Hall to A.D. White House]

5:00-6:30 pm **A.D. White House**

5.00-5.15 pm Coffee break

5:15-6:15 pm **Looking at the other through humor**  
**Chair: Christopher Link**

 - Anoushka Alexander-Rose, University of Southampton, UK  
“In on the Joke: Jewish Shibboleths in Vladimir Nabokov”  
- Léopold Reigner, University of Rouen, France  
“Flaubert’s Humor: Nabokovian Laughter in *Madame Bovary* and *Bouvard et Pécuchet*”

Day 2 **Friday, November 1, 2024**

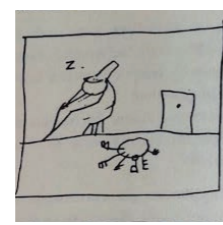
A.D. White House

Morning - Guerlac Room

9:00-10:00 am **Keynote Address: Monica Manolescu, University of Strasbourg, France**  
“Crossing Borders with Nabokov”  
**Chair: Isabelle Poulin**

10.00-10.30 am Coffee break

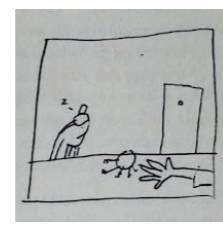
10:30 am - 12:00 pm **Confronting Translation**  
**Chair: Julie Loison-Charles**

 - Morgane Allain Roussel, University of Rouen, France  
“Literary and Cultural Equivalents and their Impact on Reading *Lolita*”  
- Sorenza Wilkin, University of Mons, Belgium  
“Could the Translation of the Diminutive Adjectives ‘Little’ and ‘Small’ Influence the Perception of the Narrator’s Attitude in *Lolita*? A Criticism of the French and Russian Translations”  
- Erin Gilbert, University of Washington  
“All thorn, but cousin to your rose’: Vladimir Nabokov’s Untranslatable Weeds and Their Literary Roots”

12:00-1:30 pm Lunch break

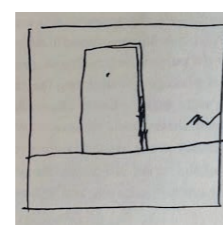
1:30-5:00 pm - **Guerlac Room**

1:30-3:00 pm **Mapping Exile**  
**Chair: Laurent Dubreuil**

 - Susan Elizabeth Sweeney, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA  
“Spatial Disorientation and Exile in Nabokov”  
- Christopher Link, SUNY New Paltz  
“It is not down in any map; true places never are’: Geographic Dislocation, Fictive Space-Time, and the Imaginal Realm in Nabokov and Melville”  
- Kathryn Haydon, Independent Researcher, St. Louis, Missouri  
“Link-and-Bobolink-and-Botkin-and-Kinbote: A Naturalist’s map of Charles Kinbote’s Migration from Z(embla) to A(merica)”

3.00-3.30 pm Coffee break

3:30-5:00 pm **Reading with contemporary critical tools**  
**Chair: Matthew Roth**

 - Erik Eklund, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL  
“Nabokov and Race: In Place of a Prolegomena”  
- Elena Rakhimova-Sommers, Rochester Institute of Technology  
“My Students’ *Lolita* Jury Duty: Teaching with Reader-Response Theory”



6:00-7:30 pm - Room 109 and/or 110

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**Victor’s Punch Bowl**

- Bernhard Aigner, University of Vienna, Austria / Fulbright Exchange Scholar at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
“Transformation ... Transformation is a marvelous thing’ Nabokov and Metamorphosis in Teaching, Writing, and Person”

- Stephen H. Blackwell, University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
“Hidden Traumas and Transformations in Nabokov’s Works”

- Louise Carey-White, Independent Researcher, Sydney, Australia  
“The Alien and the Beetle: Vladimir Nabokov on Franz Kafka”

- Katherina Kokinova, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria  
“Nabokov & Gombrowicz: Instruction without Borders”

- Irina Marchesini, University of Bologna, Italy  
“A Very Pleasant Void’: Arizona, Nabokov’s Migrant Identity, and the Exercise of Self-Translation”

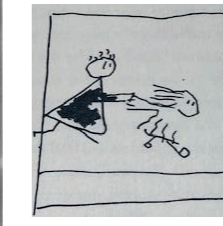
- Nancy Pollak, Cornell University  
“Nabokov and Jakobson (émigrés, enemies, essays on translation)”

- Michele Russo, University of Foggia, Italy  
“Transition from Source Language to Target Language in Nabokov’s *Prin* (1957) and *Speak, Memory. An Autobiography Revisited* (1966): a Contrastive-Comparative Analysis”

Day 3 **Saturday, November 2, 2024**

A.D. White House - Guerlac Room

9:00-10:30 am **Teaching Nabokov Today**  
**Chair: Dana Dragunoïu**

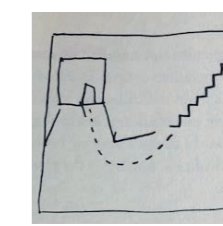
 - Matthew Roth, Messiah University  
“Teaching *Lolita* through the Argus Eyes of Critical Theory”  
- Shoshana Milgram Knapp, Virginia Tech  
“Nabokov’s Rescue of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*: Teaching My Students in the 2020s What He Taught His Students in the 1950s”  
- Stanislav Shvabrin, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
“Professor Nabokov beyond *Lectures on Russian Literature*”

10.30-11.00 am Coffee break

11:00 am-12:00 pm **Zoom Session:**  
**Tatiana Ponomareva, Institute of Russian Literature (Pushkin House), St. Petersburg**  
“Nabokov at Cornell through Véra’s Eye”  
**Chair: Nancy Pollack**

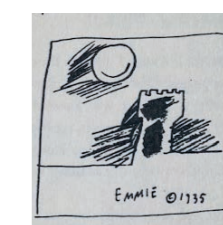
12:00-1:30 pm Lunch break

1:30-3:00 pm **Writing Trauma**  
**Chair: Agnès Edel-Roy**

 - Sabine Metzger, University of Stuttgart, Germany  
“The Audibility of Dread: Somatosounds and Soundscapes of Repression in Nabokov’s *Invitation to a Beheading* and *Bend Sinister*”  
- Sara Pankenier Weld, University of California, Santa Barbara  
“To Flee or Not to Flee: Trauma, Ethics, and the Tortured Child in *Bend Sinister*”  
- Hanna Miles Jewell, University of London, UK  
“Re-claimed Experience: *Lolita*’s Souvenirs”

3.00-3.30 pm Coffee break

3:30-5:00 pm **Writing, Filming, Photographing**  
**Chair: Marie Bouchet**

 - Ana Bumber, Toulouse Paul Sabatier University, France  
“Echoes of Visconti’s *Vaghe Stelle dell’Orsa* (1965) in Nabokov’s *Ada or Ardor* (1969). A magical connection”  
- Julie Lesnoff, EHESS Paris, France  
“*Lolita* or the Ethical Challenge of Adapting Metaphors for the Screen”  
- Robyn Jensen, University of California, Berkeley  
“The Terror of ‘Naked Sight’: Nabokov and New Vision Photography”  
**On Zoom**

6:00-8:00 pm **Conference Dinner at the A.D. White House**