



Western Literature Association

## **50th Annual Conference**



## **Visual Culture in the Urban West**

**October 14-17, 2015  
Reno, Nevada**

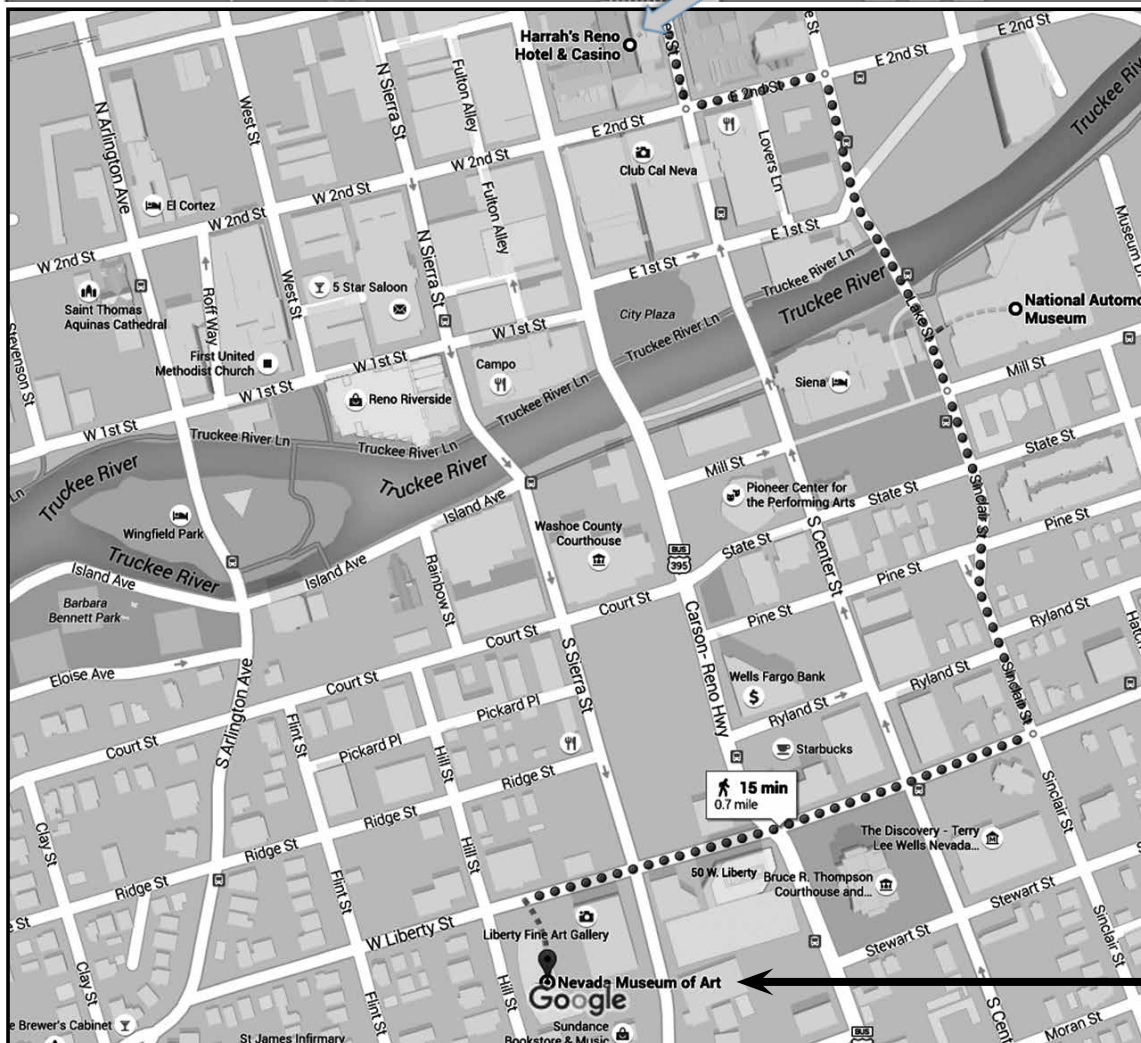
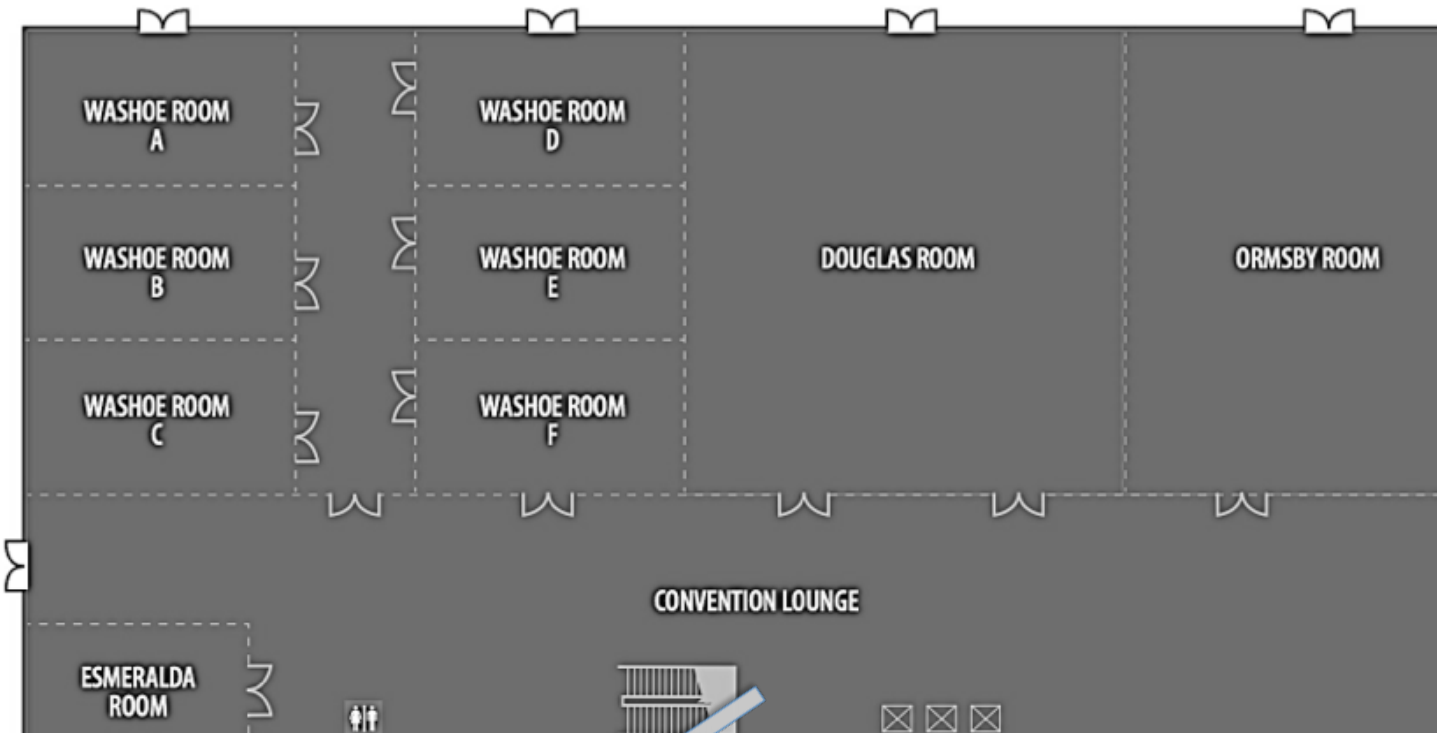


# Harrah's Robert A. Ring Convention Center

First Floor: Sammy's Showroom

Fourth Floor: Bill Harrah Room

Third Floor:



Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street  
National Automobile Museum, 10 South Lake Street



# 50th Western Literature Association Conference: VISUAL CULTURE IN THE URBAN WEST

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We will, as usual, be live tweeting at the Western Literature Association conference.  
Use the hashtags #westernlit2015 or #wla50th.

Follow us on twitter at <https://twitter.com/WesternAmerica1>



Co-Presidents David Fenimore and Susan Bernardin (above) give grateful thanks to the following sponsors, supporters, and friends of the 2015 Western Literature Association conference (in alphabetical order, with apologies to anyone overlooked):

- The Américas Research Center at Rice University
- Andrew Merlo and the crew at NevadaInk, UNR
- An Anonymous Donor
- Ashley Marshall, Associate Professor of English, University of Nevada, Reno
- Basque Studies Center, University of Nevada, Reno
- Colin Robertson, Nevada Museum of Art
- Department of English, University of Nevada, Reno
- Gender, Race & Identity Program, University of Nevada, Reno
- The Hilliard Foundation, College of Liberal Arts, University of Nevada, Reno
- Joao Sedycias, Dean of the School of Arts & Humanities, SUNY Oneonta
- Landon Lutrick, Research Assistant, English Department, University of Nevada, Reno
- The Latino Research Center, University of Nevada, Reno
- Melissa Olofson, Group Services Manager, Harrah's Reno
- The Redd Center for Western Studies
- Sabine Barcatta, Director of Operations, Western Literature Association
- Susan N. Maher, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota Duluth



**WESTERN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION**  
**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title/Term</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Susan Bernardin	Co-President	SUNY Oneonta
David Fenimore	Co-President	University of Nevada, Reno
Linda Karell	President Elect	Montana State University
Florence Amamoto	Co-Vice President	Gustavus Adolphus College
Susan Naramore Maher	Co-Vice President	University of Minnesota Duluth
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Nancy Cook	Treasurer	University of Montana, Missoula
Tom Lynch	Editor, <i>WAL</i>	University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Dana Phillips	2015	Towson University
Liz Stephens	2015	Glendale College
Randi Lynn Tanglen	2015	Austin College
Priscilla Ybarra	2015	University of North Texas
Jaquelin Pelzer	Grad student rep, 2015	University of Colorado, Boulder
Peter Bayers	2016	Fairfield University
Johannes Fehrle	2016	Mannheim University, Germany
Meredith Harvey	2016	George Williams College of Aurora University
Megan McGilchrist	2016	American School in London, UK
Sylvan Goldberg	Grad student rep, 2016	Stanford University
Nicholas Bradley	2017	University of Victoria, BC
Rebecca Lush	2017	Cal State University San Marcos
Nadine Maestas	2017	Academy of Art University
Stefano Rosso	2017	University of Bergamo, Italy

To nominate a WLA member for the Executive Council: Find out if your nominee is willing to serve. Write the name and affiliation of your candidate on the flipchart in the registration area. Council members must be WLA members and must attend the next three WLA meetings, including the Wednesday afternoon Executive Council meeting. All nominees are advised to attend the Saturday morning business meeting.



# WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

## Wednesday Overview

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	<b>Executive Council Meeting</b>	Bill Harrah Room
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	<b>Registration</b>	Convention Lounge
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<b>Reception &amp; Cash Bar</b>	Convention Lounge
8:00 PM - 8:15 PM	<b>Presidents' Welcome</b>	Sammy's Showroom
8:15 PM - 9:30 PM	<b>Arigon Starr</b>	Sammy's Showroom
9:30 PM - 10:30 PM	<b>Reception &amp; Book Signing</b>	Convention Lounge

### Arigon Starr



Opening the conference at 8:00 PM Wednesday evening will be writer, musician, artist, and performer **Arigon Starr**. An enrolled member of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, Los Angeles-based Starr is the creator of the online serial comic series, *Super Indian*, at <http://superindiancomics.com>, and the author of *Super Indian* volumes 1 and 2. Starr's first CD, *Meet the Diva*, was named Best Independent Recording at the Second Annual Native American Music Awards. Her second release, *Wind-Up*, contained the hit "Junior Frybread," named Song/Single of the Year at the 4th Annual Native American Music Awards. Starr's fourth CD, *The Red Road* was named the Best Contemporary CD at the 15th Annual First Americans in the Arts Awards. Starr was named "Songwriter of the Year" at the Native American Music Awards and

received a nomination for "Best Country CD" from Canada's Aboriginal People's Choice Awards. Also an actress and playwright, Starr has been awarded two First Americans in the Arts Awards, the Maverick Award from the Los Angeles Women's Theater Project, and a Wordcraft Circle of Native Writers Award.

**To All Members of the Western Literature Association, past and present:**

**THANK YOU!**

**For 50 years you have shaped the WLA into the extraordinarily strong, vital, and collegial organization that it is. You have advanced scholarship, crafted important connections, and fostered a uniquely giving and receptive environment. On behalf of the WLA, here's to another 50 years.**



**With gratitude,**

**Nicolas Witschi, Executive Secretary**

We would also like to thank all of the past and future presidents (some of whom are brave enough to tackle the enormous task of organizing a conference more than once). You can see their pictures in our hall of fame at <http://www.westernlit.org/wla-presidents/>.

In addition, we would like to thank all those folks who stepped up during the past 50 years to serve on the Executive Council, especially our Executive Secretaries and Treasurers. Many of them have served in various capacities, and all of them have served on awards committees and have shaped the direction of the WLA.

We are proud to have such active and generous members.



THE WESTERN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION


**STATISTICS:**

In 50 years, we have had 55 presidents – 34 men and 21 women.

Founded in 1965, the WLA was predictably dominated by male scholars during the early years. The first 12 WLA presidents were men. In 1978, Mary Washington (Utah State University) became the first female president. Many strong women have been leaders in the WLA. During the last 12 years, 10 female and 6 male presidents have served the WLA.

Most recently, we've had several collaborations between men and women co-presiding over our conferences, including this year.

## Thursday Overview



THROWBACK TO 1991: ESTES PARK, COLORADO

AN INVITATION

The University of Nebraska Press invites  
you to come toast the completion of James  
Work's Prose and Poetry of the American  
West.

3:30-5:00 P.M. Friday  
October 4  
Upstairs Alpen Lodge Lounge



## ◆ Thursday 8:00-9:15 AM (Session 1)

### Th1A: Decolonizing Frontiers: Gender, Race, Region

#### WASHOE A

*Chair:* Kerry Fine, Texas Tech University

**Mercedes Albert-Llacer**, University of the Basque Country, "The Significance of Youth in the New Literary West"

**Rebecca M. Lush**, California State University, San Marcos, "Dangerous Liaisons, or Lovers and Others: The Urban West and Neo-Western Female Archetypes in *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, TV Series, and Comic Books"

**Kerry Fine**, Texas Tech University, "The Zombie Apocalypse as the New Western Frontier"

### Th1B: Deserted Self-Discovery: Writing Masculinities

#### WASHOE B

*Chair:* Heather Dundas, University of Southern California

**William Jensen**, Center for the Study of the Southwest, "A Quiet Place To Hide"

**Sean Johnston**, Okanagan College, "From The Second Bullet"

**Heather Dundas**, University of Southern California, "Michel Foucault's Death Valley Trip"

**Matthew Young Heimburger**, University of Utah, "Like Water to a Burning Man"

### Th1C: Foundational Native American Writers

#### WASHOE C

*Chair:* Christina Ann Roberts, Seattle University

**Jennifer K. Cox**, Idaho State University, "Zitkala-Ša's Full-Bodied Rhetorical Resistance"

**Emily Ward**, Idaho State University, "The Rebellious and Traditional in the Autobiographies of Zitkala-Sa and Sarah Winnemucca"

**Donovan Richard Gwinner**, Aurora University, "A 'Borderlands' Life of Affirmation and Critical Engagement: Luther Standing Bear's Bicultural Belonging"

**Alexandra Lee Meany**, Loyola Marymount University, "Establishing Power and Identity in the Third Space: Examining the Literary Work and Life of Mourning Dove"

## **Th1D: Wister and the West: Remakes and Retakes**

### **ORMSBY ROOM**

*Chair:* Johannes Fehrle, Mannheim University

Johannes Fehrle, Mannheim University, "*The Virginian*: On Paper, Stage, and Screen"

Richard Hunt, Potomac State College, "Twelve Godfathers? Or, What Have They Done to My Novella?"

Shane Joseph Willis Frankiewicz, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität, "Remaking *The Virginian* in the 21st Century: Thomas Makowski's Adaptation of Owen Wister's *The Virginian*"

Stephen J. Mexal, California State University, Fullerton, "Imagining a New Old West: Owen Wister, Frederick Jackson Turner, and the Conservative Imagination"

## **Th1E: Women Write the West: Rethinking Popular Forms, Gender, and Sexuality**

### **WASHOE D**

*Chair:* Anne Lee Kaufman, Milton Academy

Amanda Katherine Healy, University of Michigan, "Tracing Wars to Women: How the West Was Written (1885-1900)"

Amanda Jane Zink, Idaho State University, "Visualizing the West, Imaging Native Bodies: Ora V. Eddleman Reed's 'Types of Indian Girls'"

Cathryn Halverson, University of Copenhagen, "*The Atlantic Monthly*, Gertrude Stein, and 'Faraway Women'"

## **Th1F: Re-membering Western History in the American Indian Novel**

### **WASHOE E**

*Chair:* Joshua Tyler Anderson, Ohio State University

Kiara Leigh Kharpertian, Boston College, "Working Narratives: American Indian Blood Memory, Class Identity, and Missing Labor"

Anne Mai Yee Jansen, University of North Carolina at Asheville, "Literary Transmotions: Dis-Membering Hegemonic Histories, Re-Membering Indigenous Futurities"

Joshua Tyler Anderson, Ohio State University, "Adaptations: Re-Membering Western Film and Re-locating Indigenous Fathers in the Repatriation-Era Novel"

Colleen G. Eils, Willamette University, "Genre Bending in Texas: Stephen Graham Jones and the Pseudo-Memoir"

## Th1G: The Use of the Past: Visualizing Western History

### DOUGLAS

*Chair:* Joanna Hearne, University of Missouri

**Andrew B. Ross**, University of Nevada, Reno, "A Body of Work: Timothy H. O'Sullivan's King Survey Photographs"

**John Beck**, University of Westminster, "Utah and the Times: Landscape and History in James Benning's *Deseret*"

**Martin Padgett**, Aberystwyth University, "'Hopi and Photography: The Re-appropriation of Colonialist Imagery in Victor Masayesva's *Itam Hakim Hopiit*"

## Th1H: Critical Regionalism and Bioregionalism

### WASHOE F

*Chair:* Cheryl Glotfelty, University of Nevada, Reno

**Andrew Thomas Ross**, University of North Texas, "'It Was a Monstrous Big River': The Mississippi, Bioregionalism, and *Huckleberry Finn*"

**Alex Hunt**, West Texas A&M University, "Working Toward a Critical Bioregionalism"

**English Brooks**, Snow College, "New Stories of the Global West: Enworlding Local Experience in Undergraduate Research Writing"

## Th1I: A Performance of "In Her Own Hand: The Letters of Mary Hallock Foote to Helena DeKay Gilder"

### BILL HARRAH

Nancy Evans Rushforth and Kim Abunuwara, Utah Valley University

Mary Foote is celebrated in this 2-woman play consisting of excerpts from Foote's letters and reminiscences. These are accompanied by a narration explaining the sequence of events and their context. The letters were edited and arranged by Nancy Rushforth.



**9:00-11:00 AM – Coffee and Continental Breakfast Service, Convention Lounge**

## ◆ Thursday 9:30-10:45 AM (Session 2)

### **Th2A: Plenary Session: Genealogies, On the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary**

#### **DOUGLAS**

*Chair:* Stephen Tatum, University of Utah

**Krista Comer**, Rice University, "Toward a Feminist Turn"

**Lisa Tattonetti**, Kansas State University, "The Indigenous Erotics of Riding Bareback, or, the West Has Always Been Queer"

**William R. Handley**, University of Southern California, "Environmental Genealogies"

## ◆ Thursday 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM (Session 3)

### **Th3A: Cather in Context: Correspondence and Comparative Readings**

#### **WASHOE A**

*Chair:* Bonney MacDonald, West Texas A&M University

**Julie Olin-Ammentorp**, Le Moyne College, "East Is East and West Is West? Edith Wharton and Willa Cather"

**Christine Hill Smith**, Colorado Mountain College, "'But Really, ... One Tires of Freaks': Eric Hoffer's 'Drastic Change,' Conventionality, and Unconventionality in Cather's Fiction and Letters"

### **Th3B: Imagining Lived Histories: Readings**

#### **WASHOE D**



*Chair:* Mary Clearman Blew, University of Idaho

**Sidney Thompson**, Texas Christian University, "Bass Reeves: A History, A Novel, A Crusade"

**Courtney Lee Craggett**, University of North Texas, "'Frontera Seca': A Short Story"

**Susanne Kathryn Bloomfield**, University of Nebraska at Kearney, "The Schaper Opera House"

**Jeanetta Calhoun Mish**, Oklahoma City University, "Oklahomeland: Essay"

### Th3C: Performing Asian American Identities

#### WASHOE B

*Chair:* Florence D. Amamoto, Gustavus Adolphus College

Neil Jay Polzin, University of Nebraska at Omaha, "Memory and the Myth of American Unification in Sui Sin Far's 'Sweet Sin'"

Elizabeth Abele, SUNY Nassau Community College, "Performing History and Activism in Maxine Hong Kingston's *Tripmaster Monkey: His Fake Book*"

Florence D. Amamoto, Gustavus Adolphus College, "Performing Asian American: David Henry Hwang and Rick Shiomi"

### Th3D: Sharpshooters and Soldiers: Westerns and War Films

#### WASHOE C

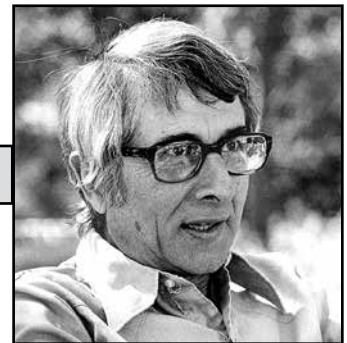
*Chair:* Landon S. Lutrick, University of Nevada, Reno

Landon S. Lutrick, University of Nevada, Reno, "The Legend: Situating *American Sniper* within Clint Eastwood's Canon"

David Buchanan, US Air Force Academy, "From Cowboys to SEALs: The post-9/11 American War Film as Neo-Western"

Brett Elizabeth Westbrook, Independent Scholar, "'It's a hell of a thing, killin' a man': Sharpshooters in Clint Eastwood Westerns"

Throwback Portrait Feature: Max Westbrook, WLA Past President 1973



### Th3E: Ecological Reflections: East and West

#### ORMSBY

*Chair:* Ian Stuart Marshall, Penn State Altoona

Ian Stuart Marshall, Penn State Altoona, "The Sawmill Site"

Vicki A. Graham, University of Minnesota, Morris, "Mycorrhizae: Art, Science, and the Andrews Forest"

Laird Evan Christensen, Green Mountain College, "The Other Side of the Clearcut"

Michael P. Branch, University of Nevada, Reno, "Dark Cliff Spot: Naming a Place, Placing a Name"



Readings



### **T3F: Tribalography: A Roundtable on the Work of LeAnne Howe**

#### **BILL HARRAH**

*Chair:* P. Jane Hafen, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

P. Jane Hafen, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, "The Creation Stories of LeAnne Howe"

Dean Rader, University of San Francisco, "LeAnne Howe's Ars Oklahomica"

Kirstin L. Squint, High Point University, "Embodied Tribalography in *Choctalking on Other Realities*"

### **Th3G: Paying It Forward: WLA's Ongoing Legacy**

#### **DOUGLAS**

*Chair:* Melody Graulich, Utah State University

Susan Bernardin, SUNY Oneonta

Nancy S. Cook, University of Montana

Melody Graulich, Utah State University

William V. Lombardi, University of Nevada, Reno

Maria O'Connell, Wayland Baptist University

Pamela Pierce, Theodore Roosevelt Center at Dickinson State University

Laurie Ricou, University of British Columbia

Sara L. Spurgeon, Texas Tech University

Robert Thacker, St. Lawrence University



### **Th3H: The Disrupted Western: Subversions of Genre**

#### **WASHOE E**

*Chair:* Lee Clark Mitchell, Princeton University

Lee Clark Mitchell, Princeton University, "'This Place Is Our West': Stasis and Immutability in *Bad Day at Black Rock*"

Fareed Ismail Ben-Youssef, University of California, Berkeley, "Disrupted Genre, Disrupted Lives: 'Adieu Gary' and the Post-9/11 Banlieue as Ghost Town"

Marek Paryz, University of Warsaw, "Urban Milieu, Domesticity and Fatherhood in Andrew Dominik's *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*"

## ◆ Thursday 12:30-2:00 PM

### Past Presidents' Lunchtable

#### BILL HARRAH

Featuring the lightning wits, steel-trap minds, and razor-sharp rhetorical skills of 17 past WLA presidents, who will each make a brief, almost haiku-like pronouncement on where the organization has been and, more importantly, where it may be headed.

(In order to attend, you must have purchased a ticket when you registered. Those without a ticket may attend the presidents' remarks after 1:00 PM.)

## ◆ Thursday 2:00-3:15 PM (Session 4)

### Th4A: Women's Wests: Making Home, Coming of Age

#### WASHOE A

*Chair:* Susan Naramore Maher, University of Minnesota Duluth

Stacey Lynette Guill, Independent Scholar, "'The Stone House in the Cañon': Mary Hall-lock Foote and a Vision of Home in the West"

Alisha Lee Limoges, University of Nebraska at Omaha, "'She would make a good farmer's wife when broken in': A Study of 'Feet of Clay'"

Carol Schaechterle Loranger, Wright State University, "'If we have only one book': Varieties of Learning in Sanora Babb's *An Owl on Every Post*"

Kayann Short, Friedman Feminist Press Collection, Colorado State University, "Between War and Wheat: The Cultivation of Ellen Webb in Mildred Walker's *Winter Wheat*"

### Th4B: Robert Laxalt: Regional and Transnational Contexts

#### WASHOE B

*Chair:* David Rio, University of the Basque Country

David Rio, University of the Basque Country, "Robert Laxalt's Writing: Beyond Regional and National Borders"

Gretchen Skivington, Great Basin College, "*Sweet Promised Land* in *The Basque Hotel* in *Echeverria*"

Monika Madinabeitia, Mondragon University, "Inherited Basque-American Legacies: Robert Laxalt's *Sweet Promised Land* and Vince Juaristi's *Back to Bizkaia*"

## **Th4C: Inherited Perspectives: Intergenerational Memoir**

### **WASHOE C**

*Chair:* Megan Riley McGilchrist, The American School in London

**Meredith Louise Harvey**, George Williams College of Aurora University, “‘I may be getting a little Americanized’: And Other Confessions of a Canadian Transplant”

**David Lee Mogen**, Colorado State University, “Norwegian Roots and the Varasmogen Stone”

**Raul Benjamin Moreno**, University of South Dakota, “The Archivist and The Voyager: Sketches”

## **Th4D: Mary Austin: Crossing Race, Gender, and Genre Borders**

### **WASHOE D**

*Chair:* Kathleen Boardman, University of Nevada, Reno

**Carolyn Jennifer Dekker**, Finlandia University, “Mary Austin and Jean Toomer on Race and Regionalism”

**Jessica Sage Hoffman-Ramirez**, Idaho State University, “Performativity and Space: Challenging Heteronormativity in Mary Hunter Austin’s *Santa Lucia*”

**Mike Lemon**, Texas Tech University, “Across Borders and Genres: Mary Austin’s *Cactus Thorn* as a Transregional Text”

## **Th4E: Once Upon a Time in the East: Travelling Texts**

### **WASHOE E**

*Chair:* Amy T. Hamilton, Northern Michigan University

**Tom J. Hillard**, Boise State University, “To Niagara and Back: Revisiting Nathaniel Hawthorne’s *Western Sketches*”

**Robert Yusef Rabiee**, University of Southern California, “Melodramas of Primitive Accumulation: Frontier Feudalism in Cooper’s *The Prairie* and *Satanstoe*”

**Clinton Mohs**, University of Nevada, Reno, “‘An Earnest Curiosity to Know More Concerning Them’: Washington Irving’s Transatlantic Native Americans”

## Th4F: Masculinities in Old and New Wests

### WASHOE F

*Chair:* Aaron Francis Schneeberger, University of Nevada, Reno

**Martha J. Kruse**, University of Nebraska at Kearney, "The Power of Pants: Cross-Dressing Youth in Children's and Adolescent Fiction of the Old West"

**Aaron Francis Schneeberger**, University of Nevada, Reno, "Neoliberalism and the 'Myth of the West' in Vince Gilligan's *Breaking Bad*"

**Jennifer Kathleen Ladino**, University of Idaho, "Stylizing the West: Lumbersexuals, Hand Tools, and Urban Masculinity"

**Linda Helstern**, North Dakota State University, "Frank Waters and the Matter of J. Robert Oppenheimer"

## Th4G: Imagery of Longing: Genres of a Different Color

### BILL HARRAH



*Chair:* Ann Lenore Putnam, University of Puget Sound

**Courtney Putnam**, Cascadia College, "Writing in Divination Decks"

**Ann Lenore Putnam**, University of Puget Sound, "The Lark Ascending"

**Beverly Hays Conner**, University of Puget Sound, "Riding the Wenatchee"

**Sarah Jane Sloane**, Colorado State University, "Home, Not Home: Colorado Again"

## Th4H: Keywords

### DOUGLAS



*Chair:* Susan Bernardin, SUNY Oneonta

**José Aranda**, Rice University, "Mexican"

**Christine Bold**, University of Guelph, "Popular"

**Kirby Lynn Brown**, University of Oregon, "Sovereignty/Nation"

**Neil Campbell**, University of Derby, "Regionality"

**Cheryll Glotfelty**, University of Nevada, Reno, "Land"

**Susan Kollin**, Montana State University, "Postwestern Studies"

"Keywords" is designed to be conversational and collaborative, lively and interactive. Six formative, engaging thinkers in the field identified and will speak about a keyword of their choice. The participants were asked to reflect on how their keywords mark crucial shifts, interventions, lenses, or approaches to our field(s) as we consider the next 50 years.

## ◆ Thursday 3:30-4:45 PM (Session 5)

### Th5A: Serial Selves and Fictive Nonfictions in a Diverse West

#### WASHOE A

#### Conversation



*Chair:* Judy Nolte Temple, University of Arizona

**Jeffrey Michael Scraba**, University of Memphis, "Oneself as a Cowboy: Genre and Self-hood in *The Life and Adventures of Nat Love*"

**Judy Nolte Temple**, University of Arizona, "Becoming Western: A Diary of the Journey from Sojourner to Citizen"

**Rodney Paul Rice**, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, "Wright Morris's *Will's Boy*: Transforming Fiction into Fact"

### Th5B: Telling All Our Stories: Intersectional Identities in the West



#### Readings

#### WASHOE B

*Chair:* Liz Stephens, Glendale College

**Linda Karell**, Montana State University, "Spokane Kitten"

**Nadine Maestas**, Academy of Art University, "Blood and Liquor If You're Shot: Poems from the Latina"

**Lee Ann Roripaugh**, University of South Dakota, "American (Western) Hybrids: A Hybrid-Genre Reading"

**Mary Clearman Blew**, University of Idaho, "Ruby Dreams of Janis Joplin"

### Th5C: Remembering and Imagining Forward: Indigenous Film, Animation, and Digital Media

#### ORMSBY

*Chair:* Chad Allen, University of Washington

**Dustin Tahmahkera**, University of Texas at Austin, "On the Borderlands of Comancheria Cinema"

**Joanna Hearne**, University of Missouri, "'Native to the Device': Indigenous Media's Generational Turn"

**William Elliot**, University of Alaska Southeast, "Never Alone: Alaska Native Oral Traditions, Digital Media, and Premodern Posthumanisms"



## Th5D: Founding California Fictions: Labor, Land, Race

### WASHOE D

*Chair:* Alex Hunt, West Texas A&M University

Terry Beers, Santa Clara University, "Agrarian Spaces in Joaquin Miller's *Life amongst the Modocs*"

Brian Allen Gazaille, University of Oregon, "Laying Waste to Nature: Efficiency and Ecology in Ruiz de Burton's *The Squatter and the Don*"

Nicholas Henson, Independent Scholar, "From the Valley of the Moon to the Golden Mountain: Race and Labor in Jack London and Maxine Hong Kingston"

## Th5E: Women Write the West: Marriage, Love, Violence, and Agency

### WASHOE C

*Chair:* Annette Kolodny, University of Arizona

Amanda R. Gradisek, Walsh University, "The Disappearing Man: Masculinity, the Threat of Domesticity, and the West in *The Professor's House*"

Amy T. Hamilton, Northern Michigan University, "'The blood ran from my feet': Walking as Symbol and Material Experience in Sara Wakefield's *Six Weeks in the Sioux Tepees*"

Randi Lynn Tanglen, Austin College, "Female Life among the Mormons: White Womanhood and Regeneration through Violence against Mormons"

## Th5F: Representing Labor as a Site of Critique

### WASHOE E

*Session Chair:* José Aranda, Rice University

Brittany Autumn Henry, Rice University, "Border Thinking as an Alternate Spatiotemporal Logic in 'Lunar Braceros: 2125-2148'"

José Aranda, Rice University, "Leisure vs. Labor: Writing for the Masses in the Spanish-Language Press of the U.S."

Lorena Gauthereau, Rice University, "Vendidos: Affect-culture and the Coloniality of Selling Out in Luis Valdez's 'Los Vendidos' (1967)"

Vincent Pérez, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, "Print Culture and Immigration in Early 20th-Century Los Angeles: Ricardo Flores Magón and Daniel Venegas"

**Th5G: Basque Voices in the American West**

**WASHOE F**



*Chair:* David Rio, University of the Basque Country

Martin Etchart, Phoenix College

Gregory Martin, University of New Mexico

Monique Laxalt, Reno, Nevada

◆ **Thursday 4:00-5:15 PM (Session 6)**

**Th6A: Feature Session: Photography, Gender, and Western Spaces**

**NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART**

*Refer to the map on the inside front cover: the Nevada Museum of Art is located a 12-minute walk from Harrah's, at 160 West Liberty Street*

*Chair:* Melody Graulich, Utah State University

Audrey Goodman, Georgia State University, "Views from the Ground"

Kelly Dennis, University of Connecticut, "Gender and Digital Landscapes of the American West"

Nancy Floyd, Georgia State University, "Walking through the Desert with My Eyes Closed"

**THROWBACK TO 1985: PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO THE EC**

9/12/85

To: WLA Executive Council

From: Gerry Haslam

This is my last missive before the gathering. . . .

An aside: A good percentage of our members appear to have novels under way from which they will gladly read in lieu of the papers they've neglected to write ("I've been so busy..."). I'm beginning to understand those Volpina letters.



WESTERN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION

NUMBER 4

### WILDERNESS WAPITI

Each meeting place of our annual WLA conferences evokes its special spirit of WEST—and it lingers in our minds and memories throughout the winter and spring until the next fall and our yearly gathering of the chosen.

This year we'll all surely remember, all hear the echoing cry of the elk, the longing, wilderness calls of the great Wapiti sounding through the canyons and off the hardened heights of Rocky Mountain National Park.

Our personal memories will vary: twelve of the majestic creatures sauntering up the side of a forested mountain; an eagle soaring high and free over Alberta Falls, dismissing the gawking dots on the trail below as insignificant; the sun shimmering across the surface of Bear Lake and diminishing into the dust of the sheer-walled, aspen-covered western shoreline.

Through the meeting rooms, in the dining hall, among the books and special coffees and gift-shops downtown—even in the local and much revered ARCHIVES—wafting through the late afternoon conversations and toasts to us, to our Western doings, reverberating across the smoky, gun-popping auditorium and the tobacco-spewing stories of Colorado mountain men, we hear and remember the cry of the American Wapiti, the hope and promise of the West, our wests still to be realized.

Was it a vision? A waking dream? A phantom echo? The Major? Joe? My Pardner? Or, ...was it James Work calling us to convene?

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

All eyes towards Reno, Nevada, where WLA will hold its 27th annual meeting in October 1992. The meeting will convene in plenary session at 8 p.m., Wednesday, October 7. Author Doris

Betts, the keynoter will speak on "A Southern Writer's use of Western Materials. If you have not read Betts' novel *Heading West*, I hope that you will do so before the convention. You will be glad that you did. Following her lecture the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Nevada-Reno, will hold a reception honoring Betts and welcoming all of you to Reno.

We had toyed with the idea of meeting West of the Mississippi, recognizing the importance of Western myth to all Americans. However, being particularly loath to break with tradition I opted to bring the concept of East to West.

Henry David Thoreau wrote "Eastward I go only by force, but westward I go free. We go westward into the future, with a spirit of enterprise and adventure." Can we think of West meaningfully without thinking of East? (Does Democrat make sense without Republican?) How has the perception of West changed in the East? Has the perception of East changed in the West? And maybe the difference is not so great as we think in the wake of Congressional refusal to make even modest changes in our gun control laws (slaughter in Texas notwithstanding). I must ponder the reality that only one congressman from North Carolina (the one from my district, I hasten to add) voted for the contemplated restrictions. We as a nation seem loath to accept the notion that the frontier indeed is closed.

Obviously there is plenty for us to continue to think of as we ponder differences and similarities between East and West. I'm hoping, too, that some of you will give consideration to the ways non-Anglos might perceive "East" or "West." What, for example, does our literature say about perceptions of the meaning "West" that black Americans hold?

Our conference will not, of course, be

East-West polarities. But I hope that such discussion will be a part of our dialogue.

And the conference will as always, provide plenty of opportunity for fun and fellowship. You may want to save your quarters to try your luck at that Nevadan recreational specialty. There will be other opportunities as well. Interested persons will be invited to take a tour to Donner Lake (we'll lunch before we go there) and see some of the glories of the Sierras.

To enable you to have as much cash as possible for recreational purposes, I've arranged for American Airlines to serve as the official carrier for the convention. American will offer WLA members 5% off the lowest possible fare or 40% off cash fare. The reduced rate will be effective from October 6 through October 12. Closer to convention time, I will send you instructions how to take advantage of the offer.

Meanwhile keep Reno in your plans in the spirit of enterprise and adventure.

—Joseph M.

Flora

### FROM THE (FORMER) PRESIDENT'S DESK...

Trying to pen an official "Thank You!!" to those who made the Estes Park meeting a success, I realized that the list would include everyone from Albertini to Zwinger. Since I can't list all of those names, I'm going to ask for your help. If you enjoyed a panel or paper, or like the accommodations, or the book exhibit, or took pleasure in the "Archives" hospitality, or were entertained by the reader's theatre, please write to the people responsible and tell them. It would take me forever to thank the registration helpers, the panel organizers, the Logan crew, the Canadians, the Dancing Badger, the local merchants, and all the rest. What a wonderful team! Please say "thanks"

## ◆ **Thursday 5:30-6:30 PM**

**Robert Laxalt Distinguished Achievement Award Ceremony**

**DOUGLAS**

Presented by Cheryll Glotfelty, University of Nevada, Reno, and  
David Rio, University of the Basque Country

## ◆ **Thursday 6:00-8:00 PM**

**Graduate Student Happy Hour**

**Under the Rose Brewing (559 E Fourth Street)**

Gather at 6:00 PM under the Harrah's marquee on Virginia Street if you'd like to walk over with a group. Otherwise, we'll see you there!

## ◆ **Thursday 6:00-8:00 PM**

**Reception with Open Bar and Pintxos (hors d'oeuvres)**

**CONVENTION LOUNGE**

## ◆ **Thursday 8:00-9:30 PM**

**Performance by Distinguished Achievement Award Winner  
LeAnne Howe**

**SAMMY'S SHOWROOM**

Introduced by WLA Co-President Susan Bernardin, SUNY Oneonta  
Supported in part by the Hilliard Foundation, University of Nevada, Reno

## ◆ **Thursday 9:00-10:30 PM**

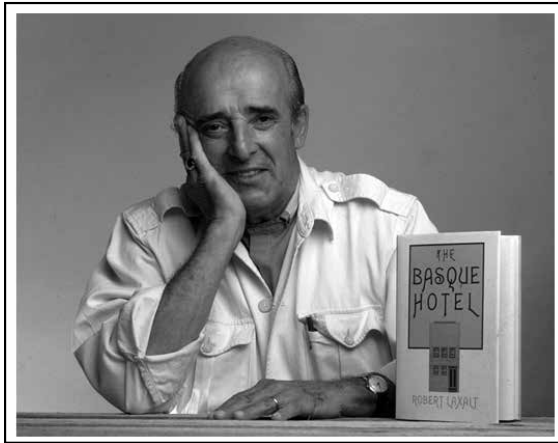
**Book Signing Reception with Open Bar**

**CONVENTION LOUNGE**

LeAnne Howe's books will be available for purchase.



## Distinguished Achievement Award Winner Robert Laxalt



The late Nevada writer and University of Nevada journalism professor Robert Laxalt (1923–2001) will be presented with a posthumous award, to be accepted by members of his family and friends, including the author's daughter Monique Laxalt, a respected western author in her own right, and Professor David Rio of the University of the Basque Country, who has published a Spanish translation of *Sweet Promised Land*.

The son of immigrant parents from the Basque Country of southwestern France, Robert Laxalt is the author of seventeen books and dozens of newspaper and magazine articles. *Sweet Promised Land* (1957) is a non-fiction account of his father's immigrant experience, opening with the memorable line, "My father was a shepherd-

er, and his home was the hills." The book earned Laxalt the reputation as the voice of the Basques in the American West. It inspired the first National Basque Festival, held in Sparks, Nevada, in 1959, spawning many other festivals throughout the American West, celebrating Basque culture and honoring Basque immigrants.

Other works by Laxalt include the Basque family trilogy of novels about three generations of Basque immigrants in Nevada, as well as several books about the Basque country of Europe, two histories of Nevada, and several novels chronicling the "Other Nevada," namely, the vast landscapes and isolated communities of rural Nevada. Laxalt received Spain's prestigious Tambor de Oro award. In 1961, he founded the University of Nevada Press and directed it for more than twenty years.

## Distinguished Achievement Award Winner LeAnne Howe

An enrolled citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, LeAnne Howe is the Eidson Distinguished Professor of American Literature at the University of Georgia. A Fulbright Distinguished Scholar to Jordan and United States Artists Ford Fellow, Howe is the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writers' Circle of the Americas, an American Book Award, and an Oklahoma Book Award. Through her innovative novels, essays, poetry, and scholarship, Howe unmaps conventional histories of the American West. In their place, she offers restorative stories of Indigenous continuance, creativity, and community. Howe's intergenerational novels *Shell Shaker* and *Miko Kings: An Indian Baseball Story* seamlessly fuse fiction, history, and theory. Her influential concept of "tribalography," a model for integrating Native story, history, and memory, has been widely applied by scholars in Native Studies. Howe's most recent book, the mixed-genre memoir *Choctalking on Other Realities*, models tribalography as a Native theoretical and narrative practice. The Modern Language Association honored this milestone work with its inaugural 2014 Prize for Studies in Native American Literatures, Cultures and Languages. Her ongoing collaborative work with actress Monique Mojica addresses the recovery and renewal of Indigenous forms and epistemologies in the creation of contemporary Native theater and performance.



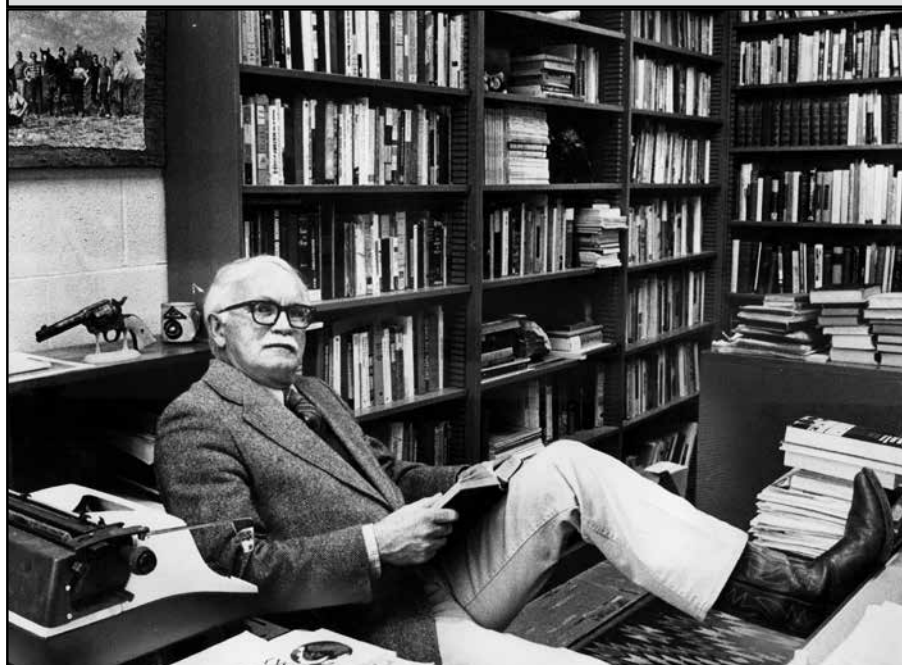


# FRIDAY SCHEDULE

## Friday Overview

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	<b>Registration</b>	Convention Lounge
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	<b>Past Presidents' Breakfast</b> (Past Presidents Only)	Andriotti's
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	<b>Book Exhibits</b>	Convention Lounge
8:00 AM - 9:15 AM	<b>Session 1</b>	
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	<b>Coffee Service</b>	Convention Lounge
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	<b>Session 2</b>	
11:00 AM - 12:15 PM	<b>Session 3</b>	
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	<b>Graduate Student Luncheon</b>	Bill Harrah
1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	<b>Session 4</b>	
3:00 PM - 4:15 PM	<b>Session 5: PLENARY</b> <b>Reading Willy Vlautin's West</b>	Sammy's Showroom
4:30 PM - 5:45 PM	<b>Session 6</b>	
6:30 PM - 10:00 PM	<b>WLA Reception, Awards</b> <b>Banquet, and Dance</b>	National Automobile Museum

THROWBACK PORTRAIT FEATURE: DON D. WALKER, AFTER WHOM ONE OF THE WLA'S AWARDS IS NAMED.



## ◆ Friday 8:00-9:15 AM (Session 1)

### Fr1A: Cather in Context: Readings in Place and Through Time

#### WASHOE A

*Chair:* Robert Thacker, St. Lawrence University

**Bonney MacDonald**, West Texas A&M University, "Writing the Classics in the Frontier: Retelling Genesis and Virgil in Cather's *My Antonia*"

**Tracey Clough**, University of Texas at Arlington, "A Windswept Field: The Changing Visual Rhetoric of the Western Plains"

**Margaret Doane**, California State University, San Bernardino, "'Complete and Great': Cather's Treatment of the Deaths of Old Characters"

**Evelyn Funda**, Utah State University, "Pictures of Two Worlds: A Czech Historian's Secular Pilgrimage to Willa Cather Sites"

### Fr1B: Short Water Film Screenings and Discussion with Filmmaker Isaac Goeckeritz and Scriptwriter Hal Crimmel

#### ORMSBY

*Chair:* Hal Crimmel, Weber State University

**Hal Crimmel**, Weber State University, and **Isaac Goeckeritz**, Filmmaker, present "A New Water Ethic" and "Climate Change and the Future of Great Salt Lake"



### Fr1C: Expectations Generate Narratives: How the West Was Won

#### WASHOE B

*Chair:* Lee Clark Mitchell, Princeton University

**Jesse Dylan McCarthy**, Princeton University, "Off the Road: Douglas Woolf's *Wall to Wall* as Anti-American Pastoral"

**Brian Gingrich**, Princeton University, "Pace, PACElessness, and the West: Expectations of Narrative Rhythm in Willa Cather's Fiction"

**Carolina Alvarado**, Princeton University, "'The plains of Texas were pouring Eastward': Stephen Crane and Western Authenticity"

## **Fr1D: Foundational Stories and Myths**

### **WASHOE C**

*Chair:* **Nicolas S. Witschi**, Western Michigan University

**Patrick K. Dooley**, St. Bonaventure University, "Biblical Brothers and Norman Maclean's *A River Runs Through It*"

**David Meir Mittelman**, Brown University, "The Varieties of Diabolical Experience: Meeting the Devil in the Deserts of the Brazilian Sertão and the American West"

**Phillip C. Boardman**, University of Nevada, Reno, "Walter Van Tilburg Clark and the Tristan Myth"

**Ryan Craig Shoemaker**, Independent Scholar, "Ideological Theater: The Pastoral in Raymond Carver's 'The Cabin'"

## **Fr1E: Animating the Golden Land: Disney, California, and the Vexed Terrain of Far-Western Identities**

### **WASHOE D**

*Chair:* **Tom Hertweck**, University of Nevada, Reno

**Elisabeth Healey Buck**, Ball State University, "Rhetorically Re-Configuring Disney's California: Nostalgic Interventions in Theme Park Iconography"

**Kyle Bladow**, University of Nevada, Reno, "Animating San Francisco in Disney Pixar Films"

**Tom Hertweck**, University of Nevada, Reno, "A Taste of California? Disney, Food Capitalism, and the Dream of Feeding the World"

## **Fr1F: The African American West**

### **WASHOE E**

*Chair:* **Michael K. Johnson**, University of Maine at Farmington

**Michael K. Johnson**, University of Maine at Farmington, "African Americans and the Weird West"

**Joshua Damu Smith**, Biola University, "Detective Fiction and the Protest Novel: The Influence of Richard Wright and Raymond Chandler on Chester Himes's *If He Hollers Let Him Go*"

**Emily Lutenski**, Saint Louis University, "Beyond Harlem: Louise Thompson and African American Politics of Place"

## Fr1G: Indigenous Arizona: Silko and Owens

### WASHOE F

*Chair:* Karen Ramirez, University of Colorado, Boulder

Jessica Noel Hellmann, US Air Force Academy, "Close Encounters of the Floral Kind: Biological Invasions in *Gardens in the Dunes*"

Hiroiyuki Inoue, University of Arizona, "'Five Hundred Year Map': History and Counter-Mapping in *Almanac of the Dead*"

Spencer Thomas Mann, University of California, Davis, "*Dark River's* Currents: Militourism and the Heteropatriarchal Enclosure of Indian Country"

## Fr1H: Moving in Place; Placing Ourselves

### BILL HARRAH

*Chair:* Ann Lenore Putnam, University of Puget Sound

Don Scheese, Gustavus Adolphus College, "The Faraway Nearby"

Liz Stephens, Glendale College, "After Eden"

Scott Andrews, California State University, Northridge, "This Is a Story about the Plains"



## Fr1I: Transnational and Global Cinematic Wests

### DOUGLAS

*Chair:* Stefano Rosso, University of Bergamo

Monica Montelongo Flores, Texas Tech University, "(Trans)Nationalizing the Hotel: John Ford's Treatment of Hotels in *My Darling Clementine* and *The Fugitive*"

Matt Burkhardt, Case Western Reserve University, "Visualizing the New Global Sublime in Edward Burtynsky's and Jennifer Baichwal's *Manufactured Landscapes*"

Jesús Ángel González, Universidad de Cantabria, "Spanish-Basque Transnational Post-westerns"



**9:00-11:00 AM – Coffee and Continental Breakfast Service,  
Convention Lounge**

## ◆ Friday 9:30-10:45 AM (Session 2)

### **Fr2A: California States of Mind: Readings**



#### **BILL HARRAH**

*Chair:* Nadine Maestas, Academy of Art University

Megan Riley McGilchrist, The American School in London, "Growing up Western: Life in Historical Moments"

Lawrence Coates, Bowling Green State University, "The Goodbye House"

Pamela L. Steinle, California State University, Fullerton, "The Ceres Chronicles"

Kristin Yoshiko Ladd, Utah State University, "Goleta, CA"

### **Fr2B: Los Angeles: Literary and Cultural Terrains**

#### **WASHOE B**

*Chair:* Tyler Austin Nickl, University of Nevada, Reno

Gary Reger, Trinity College, "The Deserts of Los Angeles—Two Topographies"

Joseph William Morton, University of Manchester, "Kaleidoscopic Landscapes: Visuality and Materiality in Mid-Twentieth Century Los Angeles Texts"

Sarah Nolan, University of Nevada, Reno, "Textual Space: The Poetics of the Contemporary LA Novel"

### **Fr2C: Alternative Celebrities of the Popular West**

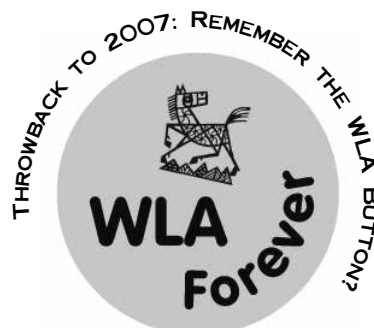
#### **SAMMY'S SHOWROOM**

*Chair:* Victoria Lamont, University of Waterloo

Christine Bold, University of Guelph, "Go-won-go Mohawk Meets Beadle and Adams"

Susan Nance, University of Guelph, "A Star Is Born to Buck: Animal Celebrity in Rodeo"

Victoria Lamont, University of Waterloo, "Sherriff Minnie, Queer Pulp Crime-Fighter of the 1940s"



## **Fr2D: Doing Time: Temporalities and the Anthropocene**

### **WASHOE F**

*Chair:* Sylvan Goldberg, Stanford University

Sylvan Goldberg, Stanford University, “*McTeague*, Deep Time, and the Crisis of Now”

Lars Erik Larson, University of Portland, “Geologically Young in the Old West: Viewing John McPhee’s Road Atlas of Time”

Patricia Hackbarth, [www.SceneChanges.org](http://www.SceneChanges.org), “NASA and Western Literature: Exploring the Lives of Literary Landscapes”

## **Fr2E: Indigenous Visual and Narrative Arts: Making Place, Telling Story**

### **WASHOE C**

*Chair:* David Jeffrey Carlson, California State University, San Bernardino

Scott Andrews, CSU Northridge, “Landscape as Process: Jeremy Singer’s Dinetah Paintings”

Scott Allen Pett, Rice University, “Sustainability Storytelling: Walking toward an Epistemology of Place in the Memoirs of Leslie Marmon Silko and Ellen Meloy”

Karen Ramirez and Kelsey McCoy, University of Colorado, Boulder, “Refocusing the Lens: Teaching Native American Literature alongside Dialogue Practice”

## **Fr2F: *Breaking Bad*, Broken Down**

### **WASHOE D**

*Chair:* Glenda Ellen Pritchett, Quinnipiac University

Leonard Engel, Quinnipiac University, “*Breaking Bad* – Morality Play Meets Heisenberg’s Uncertainty Principle: ‘Actions Have Consequences’”

Glenda Ellen Pritchett, Quinnipiac University, “*Breaking Bad* and *Django Unchained*: Strange Bedfellows”

Timothy Thomas Dansdill, Quinnipiac University, “The Arc of W.W.: Imperial Selfhood and Metastatic Poetry in *Breaking Bad*”

Matt Wanat, Ohio University Lancaster, “*Breaking Bad*, *The Heist*, and Generic Revision”



## **Fr2G: Rerouting the Silences of Colonial Violence in the Borderlands**

### **ORMSBY**

*Chair:* José Aranda, Rice University

**Priscilla Solis Ybarra**, University of North Texas, "The Leopolds in the Light of the Lunas: Latina/o Legacies in American Environmentalism"

**Diana Noreen Rivera**, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, "Another Spoiled Romance? Cartographic Consciousness, Geographic Allegory, and Expansionist Criticism in *Caballero*"

**Abigail Pérez Aguilera**, Arizona State University, "(Re-)Reading Rosario Castellanos's *The Eternal Feminine* and Ana García Bregua's *Isla de Bobos*: A Diasporic Analysis of Nationalism and the Genderization of the Nation-State"

**Elena V. Valdez**, Rice University, "Healing the Gothic History of Gendered and Sexual Violence in Luis Alberto Urrea's *The Hummingbird's Daughter*"

## **Fr2H: New Contexts for Coastal Poets: Jeffers, Purdy, Bringham**

### **WASHOE E**

*Chair:* Laurie Ricou, University of British Columbia

**Mick McAllister**, Dancing Badger Consultants, "Grounding Jeffers: The Strain of Naturalism in his Narratives"

**Nicholas Bradley**, University of Victoria, "The Argillite Thought: Al Purdy among the Anthropologists"

**Kirsten H. Alm**, University of Victoria, "'To rebuild what we destroy': Mourning in the Poetry of Robert Bringham"

## **Fr2I: What Is the West? Revisioning Our Views; Revisiting Our Words**

### **WASHOE A**

*Chair:* Audrey Goodman, Georgia State University

**Rachel Heise Bolten**, Stanford University, "Points of Vantage: *McTeague* & the Unrolling Panorama"

**Brady Avard Harrison**, University of Montana, "The Observer Effect and the Rashomonic Wests"

**Julie Williams**, University of New Mexico, "Waist-High in the West: The Visual Culture of Disabilities and Western Literature"

## ◆ Friday 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM (Session 3)

### Fr3A: From Snowcaps to Desert Flats: Latino Voices in Nevada



#### ORMSBY

*Moderators:* Emma Sepúlveda and Mar Inestrillas, University of Nevada, Reno

This panel consists of an introduction by the moderators of the first anthology of Latino writers in Nevada (*From Snowcaps to Desert Flats: An Anthology of Latino Writers in Nevada*), followed by a discussion with three authors included in the book:

- Roy A. Chávez Alvarado
- Elizabeth Quiñones-Zaldaña

### Fr3B: Ecopolitics and Ethics

#### WASHOE A

*Chair:* Cheryl Glotfelty, University of Nevada, Reno

**Elisa Warford**, University of Southern California, "Lake Tahoe and the Rhetoric of Property Rights"

**Ashley Elaine Reis**, University of North Texas, "West of Here: A Novel's Perspective on U.S. Damming Initiatives in the Twentieth Century"

### Fr3C: Sites of Dark Tourism: Meaning and Memory

#### WASHOE B

*Chair:* Jennifer Dawes Adkison, Henderson State University

**Jennifer Dawes Adkison**, Henderson State University, "Morbid Fascination: Dark Tourism in the American West"

**Stepan Serdiukov**, California State University, Fullerton, "'They Mask What This Place Was': Space, Place, and Artifacts at Manzanar National Historic Site"

**Judson Grant Barber**, California State University, Fullerton, "Silent Ruins: Power Dynamics and the Narratives of Alcatraz Island"

### **Fr3D: California Film: Growing Social Consciousness**

#### **WASHOE D**

*Chair:* Stefano Rosso, University of Bergamo

**Kathleen Sharon Moran**, University of California, Berkeley, "'Do you know what it takes to sink your beautiful teeth into a Golden Delicious?': *Thieves Highway* and the California Food-Chain Noir"

**Paul Byron Wickelson**, Salt Lake Center for Science Education, "Black Lives Matter (in the West): *Fruitvale Station* and the Rebirth of Black Cinema"

**J. Gerard Dollar**, Siena College, "Native Americans and the Urban Frontier: Re-assessing Kent Mackenzie's *The Exiles*"

### **Fr3E: Go West, Go Southwest: Settler Colonialism in Western Literary Texts**

#### **WASHOE F**

*Chair:* Alex Trimble Young, University of Southern California

**Rebecca Anne Weaver-Hightower**, University of North Dakota, "Ambivalence in the American West: Emerson Bennett's *Forest and Prairie or Life on the Frontier* (1860), and Charles Kenyon's *The Young Ranchmen, or, Perils of Pioneering in the Wild West* (1891) and the Complications of Settler Guilt"

**Elizabeth Lloyd Oliphant**, University of Pittsburgh, "Travel Like a Poet: How the Fred Harvey Company Put Modernism on the Map"

### **Fr3F: Graduate Student Panel: Writing Beyond the Traditional Academic Journal**

#### **WASHOE C**

*Chair:* Sylvan Goldberg, Stanford University

Speakers:

**Michael P. Branch**, University of Nevada, Reno

**Brady Avard Harrison**, University of Montana

**Tom J. Hillard**, Boise State University

**Lisa Locascio**, University of Southern California

## Fr3G: A Reading by Annick Smith

### WASHOE E



*Introduced by:* Mary Clearman Blew, University of Idaho

Reading from *Crossing the Plains with Bruno* (forthcoming from Trinity UP, November 2015)

Dogs, like humans, have memories, instincts, fears, and loyalties. But as far as we know, dogs do not get swept up in nostalgia, speculation, or self-analysis. Although they have hopes, they are not driven by regrets. In *Crossing the Plains with Bruno*, Annick Smith weaves together a memoir of travel and relationship, western history and family history, human love and animal love centering around a two-week road trip across the Great Plains that she and her ninety-five-pound chocolate lab, Bruno, took in the summer of 2003. It is a narrative of linked meditations, often triggered by place, about how the past impinges on the present and how the present can exist seemingly sans past. (tupress.org)



**Annick Smith** is a writer and filmmaker of Jewish-Hungarian descent whose work focuses on the literature and history of the Northern Rockies. Her books include the memoir *Homestead*, the Montana anthology *The Last Best Place*, which she edited with William Kittredge, and *Big Bluestem*, about Oklahoma's tallgrass prairies. Her articles, essays, and stories have appeared in *Audubon*, *Outside*, *National Geographic Traveler*, the *New York Times*, and *Story* and have been widely anthologized.

## Fr3H: Indigenous Methodologies: A Conversation with LeAnne Howe and Chadwick Allen

### SAMMY'S SHOWROOM



Chad Allen, University of Washington

LeAnne Howe, University of Georgia

## ◆ Friday 12:30-1:30 PM

**Graduate Student Luncheon (admission by pre-registration only)**

### BILL HARRAH

Featuring a conversation on maintaining a digital presence.

## ◆ Friday 1:30-2:45 PM (Session 4)

**Fr4A: Western Women's Writing: A Conversation on the State of the Field, sponsored by *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers***

**DOUGLASS**



*Chair:* Randi Lynn Tanglen, Austin College

**Conversation**

**Kay A. Yandell**, University of Arkansas, "The (Native) Medium Is the Message: Women's Sign Talk, Wampum Runners, and Indian Dictionaries Across the Nineteenth-Century American West"

**Victoria Lamont**, University of Waterloo, "New Contexts for Reading Western Women Writers"

**Christine Bold**, University of Guelph, "The Print-Performance Nexus and Indigenous Women's Work"

**Melody Graulich**, Utah State University, "Rethinking 'O Beautiful' for Spacious Guys"

**Lois Rudnick**, University of Massachusetts Boston, "From Ethnographic Salvage to Cultural Imperialism and Beyond: Fifty Years of Scholarship on Anglo Women's Patronage of Hispano and Pueblo Arts in New Mexico"

**Priscilla Solis Ybarra**, University of North Texas, "Mexican American Women's Writing in the West: Ruiz de Burton, Cabeza de Baca, González, and Preciado Martin"

**Fr4B: Golden State: American Dreams and Nightmares**

**WASHOE A**

*Chair:* Rebecca M. Lush, California State University, San Marcos

**Jessica Colleen Perez Lopez**, US Air Force Academy, "Western Illusions: The Defective American Dream in John Steinbeck's *The Pearl*"

**Maria O'Connell**, Wayland Baptist University, "Magic Stronger than Yours: Strategies of Risk to Evade Masculine Control in California Noir"

**Richard E. Hutson**, University of California, Berkeley, "Lucha Corpi's *Black Widow's Wardrobe*: 'As I bit into a jalapeño ...': Chicana Feminism and a Multi-cultural Detective"

**Michael J. Kowalewski**, Carleton College, "James D. Houston: Searching for the Golden State"

## Fr4C: Postwestern Provocations

### WASHOE B

*Chair:* Scott Andrews, CSU Northridge

Theodore C. Van Alst. Jr., University of Montana, "Occasionally, He's a Somniaticidal Maniac: Worldscapes of Stephen Graham Jones"

Billy J. Stratton, University of Denver, "Readings from the Bathroom Wall: Decoding the Graffiti of New West Literature"

Rob Wallace, Bowling Green State University, and Robert Bennett, Montana State University, "A Postwestern Mani-West"

## Fr4D: Reframing Indigenous Pasts; Imagining Indigenous Futures

### WASHOE C

*Chair:* Kirby Lynn Brown, University of Oregon

Michael Paul Taylor, University of British Columbia, "Writing in Brotherhood: Petitioning to Remember an Indigenous Literary Tradition"

Jenna Hunnef, University of Toronto, "Visualizing Cherokee Peoplehood in Robby McMurtry's *Native Heart: The Life and Times of Ned Christie, Cherokee Patriot and Renegade*"

Sara L. Spurgeon, Texas Tech University, "Indigenous Futurisms: Days of Future Past in Indian Country"

## Fr4E: Revisiting Western Genres and Aesthetics

### WASHOE E

*Chair:* Nicholas Bradley, University of Victoria

Eric Morel, University of Washington, "'The puppets of no romance ever written can compare': Querying a Genre of Criticism"

Tyler Austin Nickl, University of Nevada, Reno, "Stegner and the Return of Beauty"

Lisa Locascio, University of Southern California, "Autotheory in Muir Woods: The West as Self-Space in Mary Gaitskill's *Veronica*"



## **Fr4F: Performing Wests: Music and Masculinity**

### **SAMMY'S SHOWROOM**

*Chair:* William V. Lombardi, University of Nevada, Reno

**Bronwyn Malloy**, University of British Columbia, "'Just to watch him die': Visualizing Death in Murder Ballads of the American West"

**David Neal Cremean**, Black Hills State University, "Poetry in Lyrics: Bruce Springsteen's 'Reno' and Other Visions of the American West"

**Angel Chaparro Sainz**, University of the Basque Country, "A Musical Map of the West: Willy Vlautin's Urban Quest"

## **Fr4G: Polychronography and the West**

### **WASHOE D**



*Chair:* Christopher Cokinos, University of Arizona

**Susan Briante**, University of Arizona, "Written on our Landscapes: Contemporary Western Ruins"

**Page Armstrong Buono**, University of Arizona, "Reclamation"

**Sueyeun J. Lee**, University of the Arts, "Grasslands, No Wilds: A Spatial Poetics"

**Christopher Cokinos**, University of Arizona, "Poems from *A Sofa on an Ancient Sea*"

## **Fr4H: Western American Literature and Settler Colonial Studies**

### **ORMSBY**

*Chair and Respondent:* Lorenzo Veracini, Swinburne University of Technology

**Alex Joseph Calder**, University of Auckland, "White Mules: Animals, Agency, and Indigeneity in Cather's Southwestern Fiction"

**Alex Trimble Young**, University of Southern California, "'As it happens': Joan Didion, History, and the Accident"

**Ho'esta Mo'e'hahne**, University of Southern California, "Imagining Indian Life and Space in *The Exiles*"

## Fr4I: Relationships with Place: Readings in Poetry and Memoir

### WASHOE F



*Chair:* Richard Robbins, Minnesota State University, Mankato

**Richard Robbins**, Minnesota State University, Mankato, "*Pictures on the Rock/Wall: New and Selected Poems*"

**Kaitlyn Pauline Stone**, University of Nevada, Reno, "*Playa: Water and Salt*"

**Maria Madrugá**, Value of the Wild, "*Skin, Wind, and the Wild*"

## ◆ Friday 3:00-4:15 PM (Session 5)

### Fr5A: Plenary: Reading Willy Vlautin's West

#### SAMMY'S SHOWROOM

*Chair:* Neil Campbell, University of Derby

*Respondent:* Willy Vlautin, Author/Musician

**Stephen Tatum**, University of Utah, "*Soundtracks of Vagabondage*"

**William V. Lombardi**, University of Nevada, Reno, "*Postwestern Elsewheres: Mobility and Its Discontents in Willy Vlautin's Lean on Pete*"

**Neil Campbell**, University of Derby, "*Northline's Affective Regionality*"

**Susan Kollin**, Montana State University,  
"Gen X Genders in Willy Vlautin's Fiction"

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Born in 1967 in Reno and raised here, **Willy Vlautin** has published four novels set in the American West: *The Motel Life* (2006), *Northline* (2008), *Lean on Pete* (2010) and *The Free* (2014). *The Motel Life* was a *New York Times* Book Review Editor's Choice, and *The Washington Post* called it one of the 25 best of 2006. Brothers Alan and Gabriel Polsky adapted it into an award-winning film (2012) starring Emile Hirsch, Dakota Fanning, Stephen Dorff, and Kris Kristofferson. Vlautin currently lives in Portland, Oregon, where he leads the alt.country band Richmond Fontaine, which to date has released nine CDs and frequently tours the US, Europe, and Australia. He writes most of the band's material, which allows his characters, settings, and themes to flow between parallel dimensions of song and novel, sound and text.

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## ◆ Friday 4:30-5:45 PM (Session 6)

### **Fr6A: Urban Geographies: Communities of Resistance and Resilience**

#### **WASHOE A**

*Chair: Krista Comer, Rice University*

**Megan Simpson**, Penn State Altoona, "Wanda Coleman's Urban Ecopoetics: Black Los Angeles as Landscape of Resistance"

**Christina Ann Roberts**, Seattle University, "The (Urban) City-Upon-a-Hill Edifice: Seattle and the Ongoing Progressive Façade"

**Conrad Shumaker**, University of Central Arkansas, "Revealing Urban Places through Poetry: Alberto Ríos's Public Art Projects"

### **Fr6B: Home/Lands: Indigenous and Critical Regionalisms**

#### **WASHOE B**

*Chair: Randi Lynn Tanglen, Austin College*

**Jillian Marie Moore Bennion**, Utah State University, "Petitioning Removal, Preserving a Culture: Cherokee Women as a Movement"

**Susan Naramore Maher**, University of Minnesota Duluth, "'This Was Not an Affluent Time': Parched Landscapes and Broken Ground in Horton Foote's *The Orphans' Home Cycle*"

**Jeanetta Calhoun Mish**, Oklahoma City University, "Folklore and Critical Regionalism in the Writings of William Cunningham"

### **Fr6C: Uncommon Characters and the Story of Western Literature**

#### **WASHOE C**

*Chair: Clinton Mohs, University of Nevada, Reno*

**George Andrew Venn**, Eastern Oregon University, "Beaver's Fire: Northwest Literature (1970-2010)"

**John Crispin Davies**, Independent Scholar, "In and Out of the Indian World: Craig Lesley and Native America"

**Gareth Cornwell**, Rhodes University, "'Reckless People?' Richard Ford's *Rock Springs* Revisited"

## Fr6D: Indigenous Critique and the Museum

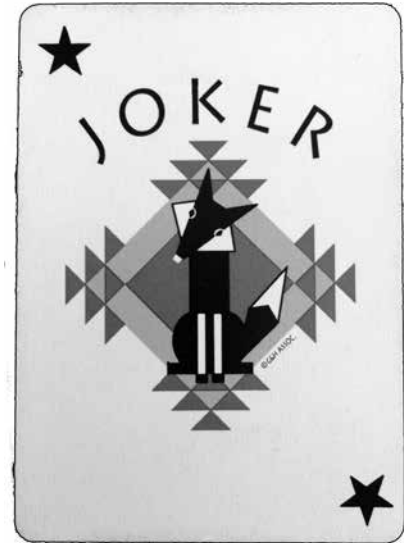
### WASHOE D

*Chair:* David Jeffrey Carlson, California State University, San Bernardino

David Jeffrey Carlson, California State University, San Bernardino, "Gerald Vizenor as Curator"

Stephanie J. Fitzgerald, University of Kansas, "Shooting Back from Fallon, Nevada: (Native) Poetry, Alternative Presses, and the Photography of nila northSun"

Karen M. Poremski, Ohio Wesleyan University, "Object Stories: Decolonizing the Museum through Creating Stories of Connection"



## Fr6E: Cormac McCarthy's Intertextual Craft

### WASHOE E

*Chair:* David Neal Cremean, Black Hills State University

Steven L. Davis, Texas State University/Wittliff Collections, "The Crossings: Cormac McCarthy on the Trail of J. Frank Dobie"

Megan Riley McGilchrist, The American School in London, "Landscape of Disaster: Cormac McCarthy and Thomas Merton on Lost Brothers"

Cami Ann Dilg, Utah State University, "Pictographs and Petroglyphs in Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian* or *the Evening Redness in the West*"

Duncan Clegg, York University, "Law and Authority in Cormac McCarthy's *No Country for Old Men*"

## Fr6F: ASLE Panel: Urbanization and Environmental Justice

### WASHOE F

*Chair:* Annette Kolodny, University of Arizona

ShaunAnne Tangney, Minot State University, "Fail Not the River: Flood and Aftermath in Minot, North Dakota"

Yeojin Kim, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, "'Montage of a Bioregional City': Mari Sandoz's Fictional World of Kanewa and Its Multitude"

Kathleen Ann Danker, South Dakota State University, "Environmental Justice in Leslie Marmon Silko's *Almanac of the Dead*"

Daniel J. Platt, University of Oregon, "Urban Renewal, Environmental Justice, and the New Urbanist Neighborhood in Viramontes's *Their Dogs Came with Them*"

## Fr6G: Revisiting and Re-visualizing National Parks

### ORMSBY

*Chair:* Oliver Alan Weltzien, University of Montana Western

Oliver Alan Weltzien, University of Montana Western, "Mt. Rainier: From 'Taco-bet' to Sublimnity to Ecopornography"

Peter Bayers, Fairfield University, "The Vertical American West: Blank Spaces, Rugged Individualism, and National Identity in *Valley Uprising*, *Yosemite's Rock Climbing Revolution* (2014)"

## ◆ Friday 6:30-10:00 PM

### The Annual Western Literature Association Awards Banquet and Dance

Venue: The National Automobile Museum, 10 South Lake Street  
(a few minutes' walk from Harrah's)



Preceded by a reception, catered by Silver Peak Brewery, featuring a cash bar serving their excellent craft beers, and followed by dancing to the Jeff Leep Orchestra, "The World's Most Dangerous Party Band."

The National Automobile Museum (formerly The Harrah Collection) was selected by *AutoWeek Magazine* as one of America's Five Greatest Automobile Museums. It features a collection of more than 200 exceptional vehicles, including vintage, classic and special interest automobiles, rare and one-of-a-kind wonders, dynamic race cars, and one of the finest Horseless Carriage collections in the world.

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The Jeff Leep Orchestra—a group of seasoned musicians from the fertile musical stomping grounds of Reno-Tahoe, with a repertoire of all the great party songs from the forties through the nineties . . . a fearless but friendly bunch, honoring requests from guests of all ages.

## Congrats to Our 2015 WLA AWARDS RECIPIENTS

### **Distinguished Achievement Award**

*For an influential scholar or creative writer in western American literature*

**LeAnne Howe**

**Robert Laxalt**

### **The Deb & Edith Wylder Award**

*For outstanding service to the association*

**Nancy S. Cook**

### **Thomas J. Lyon Book Award**

*For the outstanding book published this year in western American literary and cultural studies*

**Lisa Tatonet** for *The Queerness of Native American Literature*

### **The Don D. Walker Prize**

*For best essay published in Western American literary studies*

**Joanna Hearne** for "'This Is Our Playground': Skateboarding, DIY Aesthetics, and Apache Sovereignty in Dustinn Craig's *4wheelwarpony*"

### **Frederick Manfred Award**

*For the best creative writing submission to the conference*

**Michael P. Branch** for "Dark Cliff Spot: Naming a Place, Placing a Name"

### **J. Golden Taylor/Dorys Grover Award**

*For best essay presented at the conference by a graduate student*

**Jenna Hunnef**

### **Dorys Grover Award**

*Outstanding papers presented at the conference by graduate students who contribute to our critical understandings of region, place, and space in western American literatures*

**William V. Lombardi**

**Michael Paul Taylor**

### **The Louis Owens Award**

*For graduate student presenters contributing most to cultural diversity in the association*

**Shane Joseph Willis Frankiewicz**

**Lorena Gauthereau**

**Julie Williams**

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For past recipients, see [westernlit.org](http://westernlit.org).



# SATURDAY SCHEDULE

## Saturday Overview

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8:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Session 1	
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Coffee Service	Convention Lounge
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	Session 2	
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	Readers Theater	Sammy's Showroom
11:00 AM - 12:15 PM	WLA Business Meeting	Sammy's Showroom
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Historic Reno Walking Tour (by preregistration only)	Meet @Reno Arch (N. Virginia Street)

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THROWBACK PORTRAIT FEATURE FROM 1989: ANN RONALD (PP 1984 AND 2-TERM EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, HELEN STAUFFER (PP 1980), AND DORYS GROVER (FOUNDING MEMBER).



## ◆ Saturday 8:00-9:15 AM (Session 1)

### Sa1A: No Man's Land: Women Write the West

#### ORMSBY

*Chair:* Nancy S. Cook, University of Montana

**Paul Formisano**, University of South Dakota, "Charting Unsettled Waters: Old West Meets New West in Women's Colorado River Rafting Narratives"

**Nancy S. Cook**, University of Montana, "Women on and in the Lookout: Reading Gender and Culture in Glacier National Park"

**Timothy Jerome Steckline**, Black Hills State University, "Trails Where Ray No Wayed, Colin Sashayed, and Cheryl Strayed: A Blister on the Genre of Through-Hiking Tales"

## Sa1B: Plays and Periodicals: Formations of Identity in California

### WASHOE B

*Chair:* Richard E. Hutson, University of California, Berkeley

**Kathleen A. Brown**, St. Edward's University, "Confronting Hyper-patriotism in World War I California: Fanny Bixby Spencer's *The Jazz of Patriotism: An Anti-War Play*"

**Kathleen Boardman**, University of Nevada, Reno, "For the 'Sweaty-eyebrows Reader': *Sunset*, Do-it-yourself, and the (Sub)Urban West"

**Gioia Elisa Woods**, Northern Arizona University, "Small Press in the West: How City Lights and Heyday Shaped the West-coast Environmental Movement"

## Sa1C: Reframing Frontiers

### WASHOE C

*Chair:* Patrick K. Dooley, St. Bonaventure University

**Christian Hamilton Wallace**, Texas State University, "Fighting Frontier Mythos in Thalia: The Trailhead of McMurtry's Long Journey – *Horseman, Pass By*"

**Lindsay R. Stephens**, University of South Dakota, "'There Was No Law But What We Made It in the Wild West': Western Mythopoetics in Adrian L. Jawort's *Where Custer Last Slept*"

**Mark Busby**, Texas State University-San Marcos, "My Night with Ken Kesey"

## Sa1D: Cowgirls, Wayward & Westering Women

### WASHOE D

*Chair:* Victoria Lamont, University of Waterloo

**Edgar Herbert Thompson**, Emory & Henry College, "Caroline Lockhart – A Cowboy Girl Who Lived the Myth: Lost and Found"

**Sharon Ann Reynolds**, Palomar College, "Westward Women: Angels to Dance Hall Floozies"

**Amanda Valory Knopf**, University of Colorado, "'Ain't much call for cowboys these days': Ferocious Females, Wayward Women, and Courageous Cowgirls in *Justified*"

**Elizabeth Jane Wright**, Penn State Hazleton, "'Land Girls': Hybridity and Horses in Molly Gloss' *Falling from Horses*"

## **Sa1E: Crossing Borders: Engaging in the Borderlands of Race and Identity**

### **WASHOE E**

*Chair:* Priscilla Solis Ybarra, University of North Texas

**Iker Saitua**, Center for Basque Studies, University of Nevada, Reno, "From 'Black Bascos' to 'White' Subjects: Basque Shepherders and Racial Narratives in the American West"

**Jayson Gonzales Sae-Saue**, Southern Methodist University, "Racial Trauma and White Desire in Américo Paredes' *George Washington Gómez*"

**Lee Chancey Olsen**, University of Nevada, Reno, "Visiting Otherness: Vicarious Travel and Ethical Engagement in *Tropic of Orange*"

## **Sa1F: Drought and the California Imagination**

### **WASHOE F**

*Chair:* William R. Handley, University of Southern California

**Andrew Lyndon Knighton**, California State University, Los Angeles, "'Where the Rivers Mourn': Drought and Doldrums in Thomas McGrath's Meteorological Imaginary"

**Lowell Wyse**, Loyola University Chicago, "Aridity and Access in Steinbeck's Watersheds"

**Edward George Schaumberg**, University of Washington, "The Ecopoetic Reciprocity of Brenda Hillman's 'Hydrology of California'"

**Lydia Marie Heberling**, University of Washington, "Pulling down the Clouds and Making It Rain: Drought and Ofelia Zepeda's 'O'odham Dances'"

## **Sa1G: Nevada: Tragic and Redemptive Wests**

### **BILL HARRAH**

*Chair:* Elisabeth Healey Buck, Ball State University

**Pamela Pierce**, Theodore Roosevelt Center at Dickinson State University, "(Dis)locating TR in the State of Silver (Waters)"

**Jeffrey Chisum**, University of Southern California, "'The deep sad kinship of everything in it': Nevada, Timelessness, and the Western Tragic Sense"

**Robert Hugh Lugg**, University of Nevada, Reno, "Reno in Film and Television post-1960: Landscapes of Resistance"

## **Sa1H: Indigenous Narratives, Environmental Ethics: Engaging the Anthropocene**

### **WASHOE A**

*Chair: Matt Burkhardt, Case Western Reserve University*

**Doo-ho Shin**, Kangwon National University, "The Anthropocene Challenges to Nature Writing and Environmental Literary Studies: Reading Gary Paul Nabhan's Cross-Pollination Nature Writing"

**Jasmine Rachael Spencer**, University of British Columbia, "Animal Grammar: Here, Now, With You in Some Dene Tha' Narratives"

**9:00-11:00 AM – Coffee and Continental Breakfast Service, Convention Lounge**



## ◆ **Saturday 9:30-10:45 AM (Session 2)**

### **Sa2A: Keeping It 'Real': Fandom and TV Culture in the West**

#### **WASHOE D**

*Chair: Michael K. Johnson, University of Maine at Farmington*

**Andrew Patrick Nelson**, Montana State University, "Notes on Western Film and Television Fandom in the 21st Century"

**Amy S. Fatzinger**, University of Arizona, "The 'Fans of *Little House on the Prairie* Will Love This Collection' Films: Why Fans of Laura Ingalls Wilder's Stories Might Not Love the Films"

**Nancy Allyn Cook**, Clatsop Community College, "Deconstructing Discovery©: Reality Television and a Real Town on the Edge of Alaska"

### **Sa2B: Writing against Disaster-cancelled**

## **Sa2C: Teaching Western American Literature for K-12 Educators**

### **WASHOE C**

*Presented by:* **Randi Lynn Tanglen**, Austin College

Funded by the Redd Center for Western Studies

**Thomas McGuire**, Santa Cruz Catholic School, Austin, TX and University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, "The Forgotten Role of Native Americans in the Texas Revolution"

**Jamie Crosswhite**, Canyon High School, Canyon, TX, "Identity through Place"

**Cheryl Hughes**, Sentinel High School, Missoula, MT, "Using Service Learning and Oral History Projects to Teach *Indian Creek Chronicles* by Pete Fromm"

## **Sa2D: Founding California Fictions: Gender, Class, Race, Sexuality**

### **WASHOE F**

*Chair:* **David J. Peterson**, University of Nebraska at Omaha

**Gabriela Andrea Gavande**, University of California, Santa Cruz, "Interpreter of the American West: Balduin Möllhausen's Emigrant Experience in his 1861 Novel *The Halfbreed*"

**David J. Peterson**, University of Nebraska at Omaha, "'that vulgar 'I'm as good as you are' spirit': Class and the Frontier Myth in Louise Clappe's *The Shirley Letters*"

**Corinna Barrett**, Idaho State University, "Reformers, Racism, and Patriarchy in Maria Amparo Ruiz de Burton's *The Squatter and the Don*"

**Jeremy S. Leatham**, Baylor University, "Vacant Places: Non-Marriage in Bret Harte's Fiction"

## **Sa2E: Welch and Harjo**

### **WASHOE D**

*Chair:* **Peter Bayers**, Fairfield University

**Michele Van Haecke**, University of Montana, "Being There: A Distracted Reading of James Welch's *Winter in the Blood*"

**Olena McLaughlin**, Oklahoma State University, "Voices of *Crazy Brave*: The Personal in the Communal"

**9:30–10:45 AM**

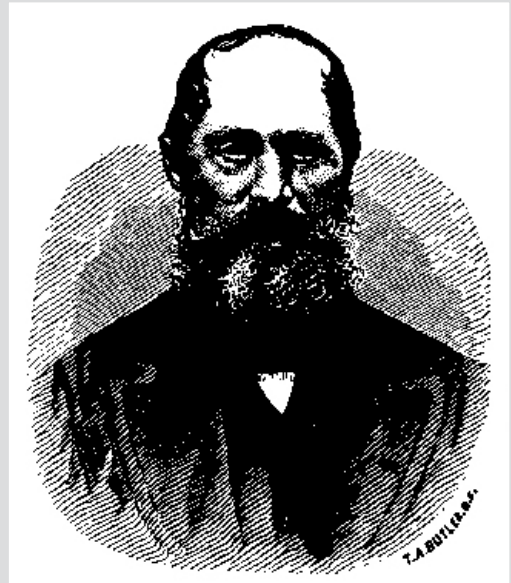
## **Readers Theater: “Guess Who’s Coming to Donner: A Tasteless Musical Comedy”**

### **SAMMY’S SHOWROOM**

*Created and directed by: Judy Nolte Temple,  
University of Arizona*

Featuring various and sundry WLA members playing and singing the intrepid and unlucky emigrants.

*From the Prologue: “It is said that those who are ignorant about history are doomed to repeat it. On the other hand, those of us who pretend to know about history are sometimes compelled to ridicule it. And so we begin: In the spring of 1846, eager settlers headed west in wagon trains. Among the pioneers were ...”*



Lewis Keseberg, Donner Party survivor

### **Throwback to 1991: Letter of the Readers Theater Director to Her Cast**

9/16/91

Hello, again!

This is a form letter (my apologies!) to all of you cast members to let you know that all is in readiness for your performance! The props have been gathered and will be in place for you: gold dust, dagger, guns, liquor bottles/glasses, broom, letter, bloody cuff, etc. ...

I hope that all of you are doing something, however minor, in the costume department. Since we are an evening's entertainment (double-billed with the auction), the more we can do to highlight the performance with accessories, the better.

HAVE YOU READ THE SCRIPT? I have not heard but from one of you, and I find it hard to imagine that you all are completely enthralled with the play and its superior quality. Well, it's surely no worse than the others, is it?

Have a good time with the play and the role you are doing! ... This is going to be a stellar production!! ...

Best wishes,

  
Phyllis Doughman



SATURDAY

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## **Sa2F: Southern California: Lived, Imagined, Constructed Environments**

### **WASHOE A**

**Chair:** Lee Chancey Olsen, University of Nevada, Reno

**Reuben Ellis**, Woodbury University, "'The Choicest Fruits of Any Country': Acclimatization and Botanical Xenophobia in Francesco Franceschi's *Santa Barbara Exotic Flora*"

**Katherine Fusco**, University of Nevada, Reno, "'There'd Be No World Left, Only a Movie of the World': The 1930s Hollywood Novel at the End of Individualism"

**Lawrence Coates**, Bowling Green State University, "The Geography of Nowhere or *Holy Land*: The Literature of Suburbia and Critical Regionalism"

**Elizabeth Barclay Mathias**, University of Utah, "'Every map is a fiction': D. J. Waldie's *Holy Land* as Suburban Guide to the Subjective Grid"

## **Sa2G: Queer and Queering Wests**

### **WASHOE E**

**Chair:** Lisa Tatonetti, Kansas State University

**Jimmy L. Bryan**, Lamar University, "The Lethal Dandy: Confronting Same-Sex Desire and Violence on the Expansionist Frontier"

**Ryan Tan Wander**, University of California, Davis, "Heterochronic West: Temporal Multiplicity in Bret Harte's Regional Writing"

**Bruce William Johnson**, University of Southern California, "No Instruction Manual Needed: Sexual Plurality in *Brokeback Mountain*"

# **Saturday 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM**

**WLA Business Meeting**

**SAMMY'S SHOWROOM**

Elections to the Executive Council\*  
Previews of the 2016 and 2017 meetings



\*In addition to the nominations from the flipchart in the Convention Lounge, you may make nominations, or self-nominations, at the business meeting. If nominated, you are encouraged to attend.

# Throwback to 1977: WLA Registration Form

WLA REGISTRATION FORM - October 6, 7, 8, 1977

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Name Dr. Dorys Crow Grover Affiliation East Texas State Univ

Address 1321 Greenville Street Hall of Languages

Commerce, Texas Zip 75428

Conference Registration. . . . .	\$4.00	\$	<u>4.00</u>
Thursday Chicken Dinner (tax & tip incl.) . . . . .	5.00	\$	<u>5.00</u>
Friday Hot Beef Lunch (tax & tip incl.) . . . . .	3.90	\$	<u>3.90</u>
Friday Manfred-led Tour of Siouland . . . . .	4.25	\$	<u>4.25</u>
Friday Buffet Dinner (tax & tip incl.) (B.L.P.) . . . . .	6.90	\$	<u>6.90</u>
Saturday Cold Scandinavian Smorgasbord (tax incl.) . . . . .	3.25	\$	<u>3.25</u>

Where the West Begins: Essays on Middle  
Border and Siouland Writing, Center  
for Western Studies Press, 1977  
(12-16 conference papers on Rølvaag,  
Manfred, Krause, Garland, Cather,  
Neihardt, et al) . . . . . \$3.95

Postage . . . . . .55

\$4.50 \$ 4.50

Western Literature Association Dues. . . . . \$8.00 \$ 8.00

TOTAL \$ 39.80

MAIL BY SEPTEMBER 20

To: A. R. Huseboe  
Box 2170, Humanities  
Augustana College  
Sioux Falls, S. D.  
57102

Please enclose check for  
total to WLA Conference

## ♦ Saturday 1:00 PM

### Historic Reno Walking Tour

Led by professional historian Dr. Alicia Barber. Limited to pre-registrants, but if interested, inquire about available space (tickets \$12).

Meet under the Reno Arch at the corner of N. Virginia Street and Commercial Row, right outside Harrah's West Tower. This tour will last about 2 hours.

### Extreme Adventure Desert Trip (by preregistration only)

You know who you are. Contact Cheryll Glotfelty at [glotfelt@unr.edu](mailto:glotfelt@unr.edu) for last-minute questions.

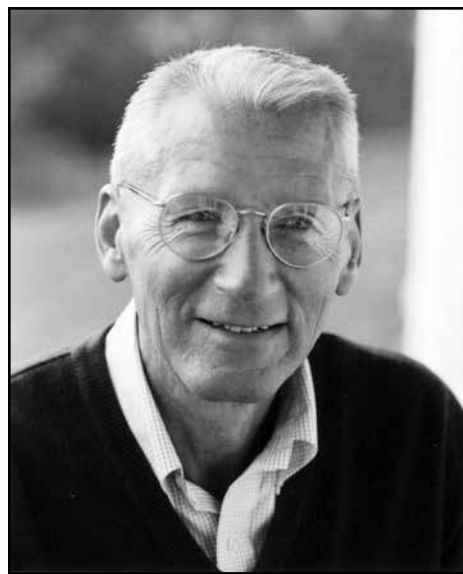


*This is it, folks.  
On to the next 50 years...*

**And a giant THANK YOU to the editors of  
*Western American Literature* for leading  
the way during the last 50 years!**



**J. Golden Taylor, Editor 1966–1974, with  
his wife, Ethel**



**Thomas J. Lyon, 1974–1997**



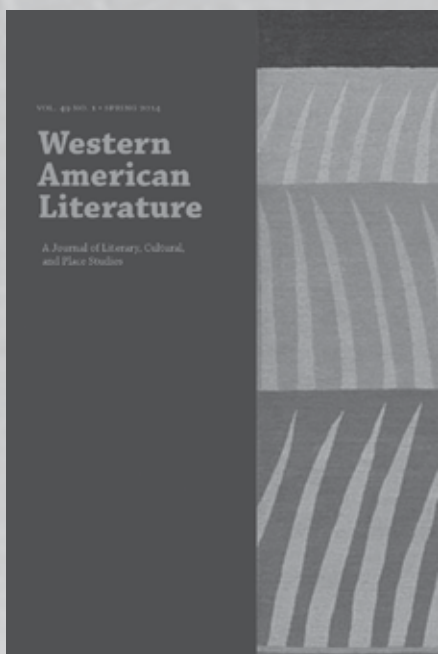
**Melody Graulich, 1997–2013**



**Tom Lynch, 2013–present**

## Congratulations on your 50th anniversary, Western Literature Association!

The University of Nebraska Press is proud you selected us to be your publishing partner. We're looking forward to being part of your next 50 years.



Members of the Western Literature Association receive subscriptions to *Western American Literature: A Journal of Literary, Culture, and Place Studies* as a benefit of membership.

For information on submitting articles to *Western American Literature*, visit <http://www.westernlit.org/about-wal/>

Recent issues of *Western American Literature* are on Project MUSE. Read them at [bit.ly/WAL\\_MUSE](http://bit.ly/WAL_MUSE)

Pre-2009 issues are available on JSTOR: [bit.ly/WAL\\_JSTOR](http://bit.ly/WAL_JSTOR)

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**NEBRASKA** PRESS  
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## WLA PRESIDENTS 1966-2015

YEAR	PRESIDENT/S
1966	C. L. Sonnichsen
1967	Delbert E. Wylder
1968	Jim L. Fife
1969	Morton L. Ross
1970	Don D. Walker
1971	John R. Milton
1972	Thomas J. Lyon
1973	Max Westbrook
1974	John S. Bullen
1975	Maynard Fox
1976	L. L. Lee
1977	Arthur R. Huseboe
1978	Mary Washington
1979	Richard Etulain
1980	Bernice Slote & Helen Stauffer
1981	James H. Maguire
1982	Martin Bucco
1983	George Day
1984	Ann Ronald
1985	Gerald Haslam
1986	Tom Pilkington
1987	Susan J. Rosowski
1988	Glen Love
1989	Barbara Meldrum
1990	Lawrence Clayton
1991	James C. Work
1992	Joseph Flora
1993	Diane Quantic
1994	Stephen Tatum
1995	Laurie Ricou
1996	Susanne K. George
1997	Gary Scharnhorst
1998	Robert Thacker
1999	Michael Kowalewski
2000	Robert Murray Davis
2001	Susan Naramore Maher
2002	Judy Nolte Temple
2003	Krista Comer
2004	Susan Kollin
2005	William R. Handley
2006	Tara Penry
2007	Ann Putnam
2008	Karen Ramirez & Nicolas Witschi
2009	David Cremean
2010	Gioia Woods
2011	Nancy Cook & Bonney MacDonald
2012	Sara Spurgeon
2013	Richard Hutson
2014	Anne L. Kaufman & Laurie Ricou
2015	Susan Bernardin & David Fenimore





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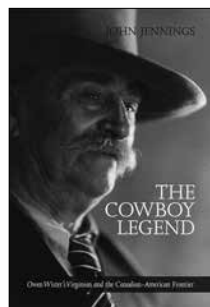
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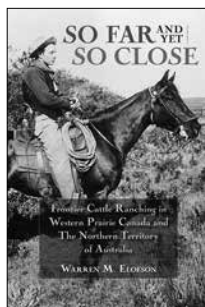


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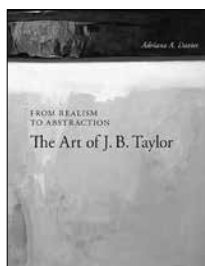
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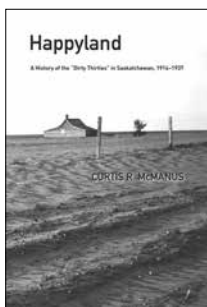
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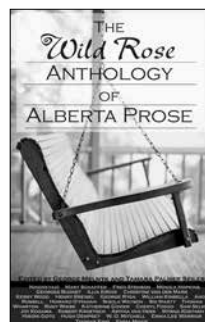
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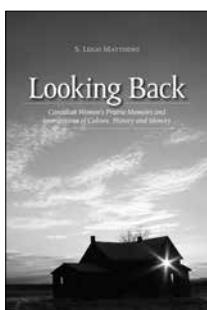
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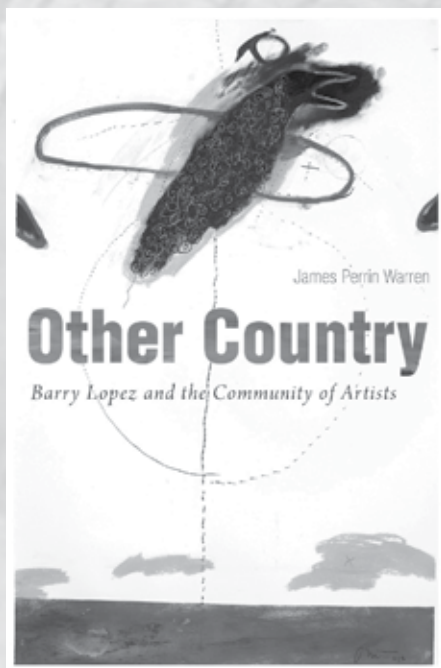


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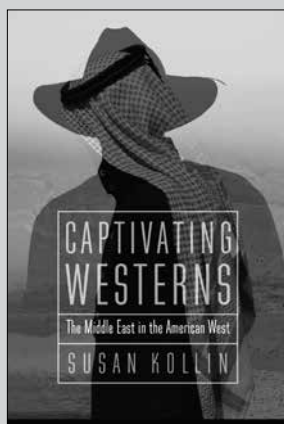
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