First Conference of the International Society for Heresy Studies

May 30-31, 2014

New York University

Gallatin School

1 Washington Place

**PROGRAM**

Please note that all events in the Jerry H. Labowitz Theatre for the Performing Arts are free and open to the public.

**FRIDAY, MAY 30**

12-6, Lobby  
Registration

12-1:30, Room 801  
General Membership Meeting

**2-3:30  
Concurrent Seminars I**

1. History of Heresy, Room 401

Chair: Lorna Gibb

**A.** Robert Royalty, Jr.: “Heresy Before ‘Heresy’: The Discursive Origins of Early Orthodoxy”

**B.** John Holloway: “Did Saint Augustine Teach Heresy? Elements of Augustine’s Theology that Cast Doubt on His Orthodoxy”

**C.** Bella Tendler: “The Nuṣayrī-ʿAlawīs: New Sources, New Insights into Heterodox Islam”

2. 17th-century Heresy in England, Room 501

Chair: Suzanne Hobson

**A.** Anne Greenfield: “Abandoned by the Angels: The Role of Providence in Restoration Rape Scenes”

**B.** Geremy Carnes: “Tyrannick Belief: Heresy and the Heroic Mode in John Dryden’s *Tyrannick Love”*

**C.** Maggie Vinter: “Formal Heresy and Heretical Formalities in Doctor Faustus”

3. Medieval Heresies, Room 601

Chair: Andrew Romig

**A.** Natalie Calder: “The Politics of Naming ‘Heresy’: Unbelief and the ‘Age of Faith’”

**B.** Kathryn Green: “The Joys of Heresy: Benefits for Women in Medieval Heretical Sects”

**C.** Julie Gafney: “Weeds and Words: Interpellating Heretics, Name-calling, and Lollard Poetics in Chaucer and Langland”

*4-5:30, Jerry H. Labowitz Theatre for the Performing Arts*

*Round Table*

**“Why Heresy Now?”  
Robert Royalty, Jr.**

**James Morrow**

**Rebecca Goldstein**

**Gregory Erickson**

**Edward Simon**

5:30-6, Lobby

Coffee

6-6:30, Jerry H. Labowitz Theatre for the Performing Arts

Welcome Address: Gregory Erickson

*6:30-7:30, Jerry H. Labowitz Theatre for the Performing Arts  
Plenary Talk*

**James Wood**

**“Belief, Disbelief and the Modern Novel”**

7:30-9, Jerry H. Labowitz Theatre for the Performing Arts

Opening Wine and Cheese Reception

**SATURDAY, MAY 31**

8-4, Lobby

Registration

8-10, Lobby

Coffee/Continental breakfast

**9-10:30**

**Concurrent Seminars II**

4. Modernism, Unbelief, and the Heretical Imperative, Room 401

Chair: A.Q.M.A. Rahman Bhuiyan

**A.** Gregory Erickson: “Heresy and the Modernist Literary Imagination”

**B.** Jade Principe: “Graham Greene on the Exigencies of Choice”

**C.** Suzanne Hobson: “The Problem of Unbelief in Modernist Writing: Mary Butts and *Traps for Unbelievers*“

5. Artists’ Panel, Room 501

Chair: Bernard Schweizer

**A.** James Morrow: “The Novelist as Heretic”

**B.** Lorna Gibb**:** “Spiritualism and Heresy: Genesis of a Novel”

**C.** Tasha Golden: “Pop Heresy: Songwriting at the Edge of the Speakable--*An interdisciplinary conversation*”

6. Religious Practice as Heresy, Room 601

Chair: John Holloway

**A.** Jordan Miller: “Solving Some Problems of Language: on Ritual, Craft, and Apophasis”

**B.** Andrea Dickens: “The Rhetoric of Heresy in David Ebershoff’s *The Nineteenth Wife*”

*11-12, Jerry H. Labowitz Theatre for the Performing Arts*

*Plenary Talk*

**Rebecca Newberger Goldstein**

**“The Accidental Literary Influence of Modernity’s Greatest Heretic”**

12-1

Lunch, on your own

**1-2:30**

**Concurrent Seminars III**

7. Heresy, Folk Religion, and the Arts, Room 401

Chair: Jordan Miller

**A.** Mark Hama: “There is no devil, there is nothing”: Theodicy, Misotheism, and Re-membering in Tomás Rivera’s . . . *And the Earth Did Not Devour Him*”

**B.** Jason Bauman: “The Trementinas’ Black Book: Witchcraft and Heresy in Rudolfo Anaya’s *Bless Me, Ultima*”

**C.** Angelina Tallaj: “On the Steps of the Cathedral: Heresy, Lived Religion, Dominican Voodoo, Music, and Catholicism”

8. English Literature and Dissent, Room 501

Chair: Richard Santana

**A.** Will Miller: "From Heresy to Enthusiasm: Henry More and Anne Conway in the wake of the English Revolution"

**B.** Ethan Quillen: Ian McEwan and Atheist Ethnography: Testing the Ethnographic Value of Fiction in Defining Modern Atheism”

**C.** Morgan Strawn: “A Rank Republican”: Mark Akenside, Tobias Smollett, and the Literary Politics of Religious Nonconformity”

9. Heresy in the late 19th century, Room 601

Chair: Tim Hendrickson

**A.** Tim Hendrickson: “*Allan Quatermain* and the Religious Crusade of Haggard’s Adventure Fiction”

**B.** Michael Keller: “Between Very and Kneeland: Emerson’s Heretical Boundaries”

**3-4:30**

**Concurrent Seminars IV**

10. Lightning Rods of Heresy, Room 401

Chair: Gregory Erickson

**A.** Patrick Bixby: “‘Poison Doctrines’: Yeats, Nietzsche, and the Fate of Christian Civilization”

**B.** Clement Grene: “Three Versions of Judas: Borges, Heresy and the Historical Judas”

**C.** Andrea Sheridan: “The ‘day-to-day trenches of adult life’: Worship in David Foster Wallace's *This is Water* and ‘Good People’”

11. On the Borders of Heresy: Theory, Laughter, and Science, Room 501

Chair: Mark Hama

**A.** A.Q.M.A. Rahman Bhuiyan: “Literary Heresy and the Act of Theory”

**B.** Bernard Schweizer: “Comedy as Heresy: The Curious Case of the Theology of Laughter”

**C.** Richard Santana: “Heretical Science: Paracelsus’ Distant Mirror”

*5:15-6:15, Jerry H. Labowitz Theatre for the Performing Arts*

*Plenary Talk*

**Thomas J.J. Altizer**

**“The Absolute Heterodoxy of William Blake”**

*6:30-7:30, Jerry H. Labowitz Theatre for the Performing Arts*

*Concert*

**“Ellery” (Tasha Golden)**

8:00, Apple (17 Waverly Place)

Dinner