MIGC 2014
The 9th Annual
MIDWEST INTERDISCIPLINARY GRADUATE CONFERENCE
Presents
ANIMACY
FEBRUARY 20 - 22

Graduate School
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MILWAUKEE
College of Letters & Science
#migc14
THURSDAY FEB 20

3:00-3:30 pm  Registration  118 Curtin Hall

3:30-5:00 pm  Plenary  118 Curtin Hall

Introduced by Jessica Nostal

"Writing and Animal Companionship"

Laura Micciche, Associate Professor of English
University of Cincinnati

FRIDAY FEB 21

8:30-9:00 am  Registration  175 Curtin Hall
Breakfast and Coffee

9:00-11:45 am  Plenary Workshop  368 Curtin Hall

"Facial Weaponization Suite: A Mask-Making Workshop"

Zach Blas, Literature
Duke University

12:00-1:15 pm  Brown Bag Lunch with Mel Y. Chen  939 Curtin Hall
(bring your own lunch!)

Pre-circulated reading available at www.themigc.com
(copies also available at registration table)

Mel Y. Chen, Gender & Women’s Studies
University of California Berkeley

1:15-1:30 pm  Coffee Break (Registration Open)  175 Curtin Hall
1:30-3:00pm  **“COMPREHENDING COLOR”**

Chair: Jane Gallop, Professor of English

**Graduate Student Respondent:** Andy Hartman

“Flaming Colors: Queer Forms and Affective Surfaces in the Work of Lynda Benglis”

**Lex Lancaster,** Art History

University of Wisconsin - Madison

“Unintelligible White Bombers: Animus & Deadly Boundaries”

**Melinda O. Brennan,** Gender Studies

Indiana University

“Violence, the Ocean, and the Semiotics of Blackness in Frank Ocean’s ’Swim God’”

**Chad B. Infante,** English

Northwestern University

3:00-3:30pm  **Artist Walk-and-Talk**

Coffee Break. Installation work on display by:

**Ben Balcom**, Film

University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

**Sabrina Scott**, Environmental Studies

York University

**Chadwick Noellert**, Art

University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

**Megan Bigelow**, Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies

CUNY Graduate Center

3:30-5:00pm  **KEYNOTE**

Opening remarks: Richard Grusin

Introduced by Ali Sperling

"Temporal Politics, Scholarship, and the Protean ‘Posthuman’"

**Mel Y. Chen**, Women’s Studies

University of California Berkeley

5:00-6:00pm  Break
6:00-9:00pm  Creative Showcase “ANIMACY”  
@ Microlights (2541 Bremen St, Riverwest neighborhood)  
Tamales and beverages served 6:00-7:00pm  
Show at 7:00pm  

Featuring a special screening of the short films of Duke and Battersby, followed by MIGC performances and screenings by:  

Anna Vitale  
University of Wisconsin - Madison  

Carina Gia  
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee  

Janelle VanderKelen  
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee  

Lindsay Daigle  
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee  

Lindsey Allgood  
University of Oklahoma  

Jeremy Bryan  
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee  

Ching-In Chen  
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee  

Nicki Werner  
Redline Resident  

MC: Ben Balcom  

Free and open to the public. Space is limited to 55 people, so arrive early.

SATURDAY FEB 22

8:00-8:45am  Coffee and breakfast  175 Curtin Hall  

8:45-10:15am  “LIVING TECHNOLOGIES”  175 Curtin Hall  

Chair: Patrick Lichty, Artist, Curator, Theorist, Lecturer  
Peck School of the Arts  

Graduate Student Respondent: Justin Schumaker  

“New Materialism and Professional Writing Technologies”  
Avery Edenfield, English  
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee  

“Videogames are Alive (This is Not a Metaphor)”  
Cameron Kunzelman, Moving Image Studies  
Georgia State University  

“What a Racist Camera: Elucidating the Invisible Norm of Face Detection Technology”  
Emily K. Holmes, Visual and Critical Studies  
California College of the Arts
10:30-11:45am

[CONCURRENT PANELS]

"COMMODOITY CULTURE AND COLLAPSE" 118 Curtin Hall

Chair: Joe Austin, Professor of History

Graduate Student Respondent: Kalling Heck

"Commodity Integrity According to the Toy Story Trilogy: Computer Animation, the Uncanny, and the Fetishistic Reclamation of Aura"

Eric Herhuth, English
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

"I Like to Watch: Playing Homo Sacer with Suicide Cults"

Matthew Boman, English
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee


Laura Moisi, Cultural Theory & History
Humboldt University of Berlin

"PERFORMING THE BODY" 175 Curtin Hall

Chair: Gerry Canavan, Assistant Professor of English
Marquette University

Graduate Student Respondent: Michael Beebe

"But Who the Set and What the Actors?: The Blurring of the Animate/Inanimate Binary in the Triumphal Arch as Monumental Proscenium Space"

Janelle VanderKelen, Art and Design
University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

"CYBORG ALICE: Cyborgs and Erin Courtney's The Service Road"

Joshua Bastian Cole CUNY @jbastiancole
Speech, Communication, & Theater Arts

"'She Left Her Groome an Yron Man': Humanity and Inter-humanity in Faerie Queen V"

Ian DeJong, English
Marquette University @ThePontificator

"Embodiment Blues: Animating Metaphors on Disease and Vulnerability in Derek Jarman’s Blue"

Anton Stuebner, Visual and Critical Studies
California College of the Arts

11:45-12:45pm

Lunch

Free for all conference registrants, responders, and panel chairs
12:45-1:25pm  Graduate Student Plenary  175 Curtin Hall

"Thinking Thought as Motion: Schelling and the Consequences of Abstraction"

**Ben Woodard, Theory and Criticism**  
*U. of Western Ontario*  
@naughtthought

1:30-2:45pm  CONCURRENT PANELS:

**"ANIMALITY"**  175 Curtin Hall

**Chair: Emily Clark, Deputy Director @ C21, PhD English**  
**Graduate Student Respondent: Kara Van de Graaf**

"The Order of Animacy in The Island of Doctor Moreau"  
**Shailen Mishra, English**  
*Illinois State University*

"Hybrid Metaphors: On the Mixing of Animals, Language, and Media"  
**Benjamin Schultz-Figueroa, Film and Digital Media**  
*UC Santa Cruz*

"Dogs, Robots, and Border Wars: Toward Intersections Rather than Boundaries"  
**Maria Lux, Art**  
*University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

**"SPECTRAL EMBODIMENTS"**  118 Curtin Hall

**Chair: Annie McClanahan, Assistant Professor of English**  
**Graduate Student Respondent: Mike Sanders**

"Screening the Body / Screening the Soul: On Body Scans, Biometrics, and Becoming a Subject"  
**Alex Fine, Visual and Critical Studies**  
*California College of the Arts*

"Understanding Magic Through Literatures of Animacy"  
**Sabrina Scott, Environmental Studies**  
*York University*  
@sabrinadraws

"How Not to Survive a Plague: Bugchasing, Virtuality, Asceticism"  
**Joseph C. Russo, Anthropology**  
*University of Texas, Austin*
3:00-4:15 pm  “DEATHLY LIFE”  175 Curtin Hall

Chair: Pete Sands, Associate Professor of English
Graduate Student Respondent: Adam Ochonicky

“Re-Animating the Corpse in the Latin American Necrophilic Imagination”
Bernabe Mendoza, Comparative Literature
Rutgers University

“Incomprehensible Little Problematics”: Performing the Afterlives of the Aztec Archive”
Ann M. Garascia, English
University of California Riverside

“Strike a Pose – and Kill Zombies Without Moving a Muscle: JoJo’s Bizarre Adventure, Limited Animation and Liveness”
Kerin Ogg, Film and Media Studies
Wayne State University

4:30  Closing Remarks
Rebekah Sheldon, Adjunct Assistant Professor
Indiana University - Purdue University - Indianapolis

4:45-6:00 pm  Faculty Roundtable / Q & A  175 Curtin Hall

A Conference Reflection
Moderated by Rebekah Sheldon

featuring:
Mel Y. Chen, Gender & Women’s Studies
Laura Micciche, English
Richard Grusin, English
Aims McGuiness, History
Kennan Ferguson, Political Science
Nigel Rothfels
Animal Studies/Independent Scholar

6:00-8:00 pm  Dinner Break

8:00-10:00 pm  AFTER-PARTY / Cash Bar
@ Allium 2101 N. Prospect Avenue
Free and open to the public: Please join us!
A Warm Thank You:

SPONSORS
The Center for 21st Century Studies
The Division of Student Affairs
The Office of the Provost
The College of Letters and Sciences
The Graduate School
The UWM Department of English

THE CENTER FOR 21ST CENTURY STUDIES
Richard Grusin       Annette Hess
Emily Clark          John Blum

MIGC INVITED SPEAKERS
Mel Y. Chen          Zach Blas
Laura Micciche       Ben Woodard

HOST VENUE OF CREATIVE SHOWCASE
Microlights

ART INSTALLATION COORDINATOR:
Chadwick Noellert

MIGC VOLUNTEERS AND HOSTS
Katharine Wilson     Ali Sperling
EJ Basa             Jessica Nastal
Loretta McCormick   Ben Balcom
Kristopher Purzycki Josh Weissbach
Bri Cavallerio       Ching-In Chen
Molly McCourt         Rachael Sullivan
Justin Schumaker   Kristen Ravel
Katie Morrissey     Eric Herhuth
Adam Ochonicky       Kalling Heck
Ron Felten           Chase Erwin
Mollie Boutell Butler Shawna Lipton

PROGRAM DESIGNER
Eddie Chapman