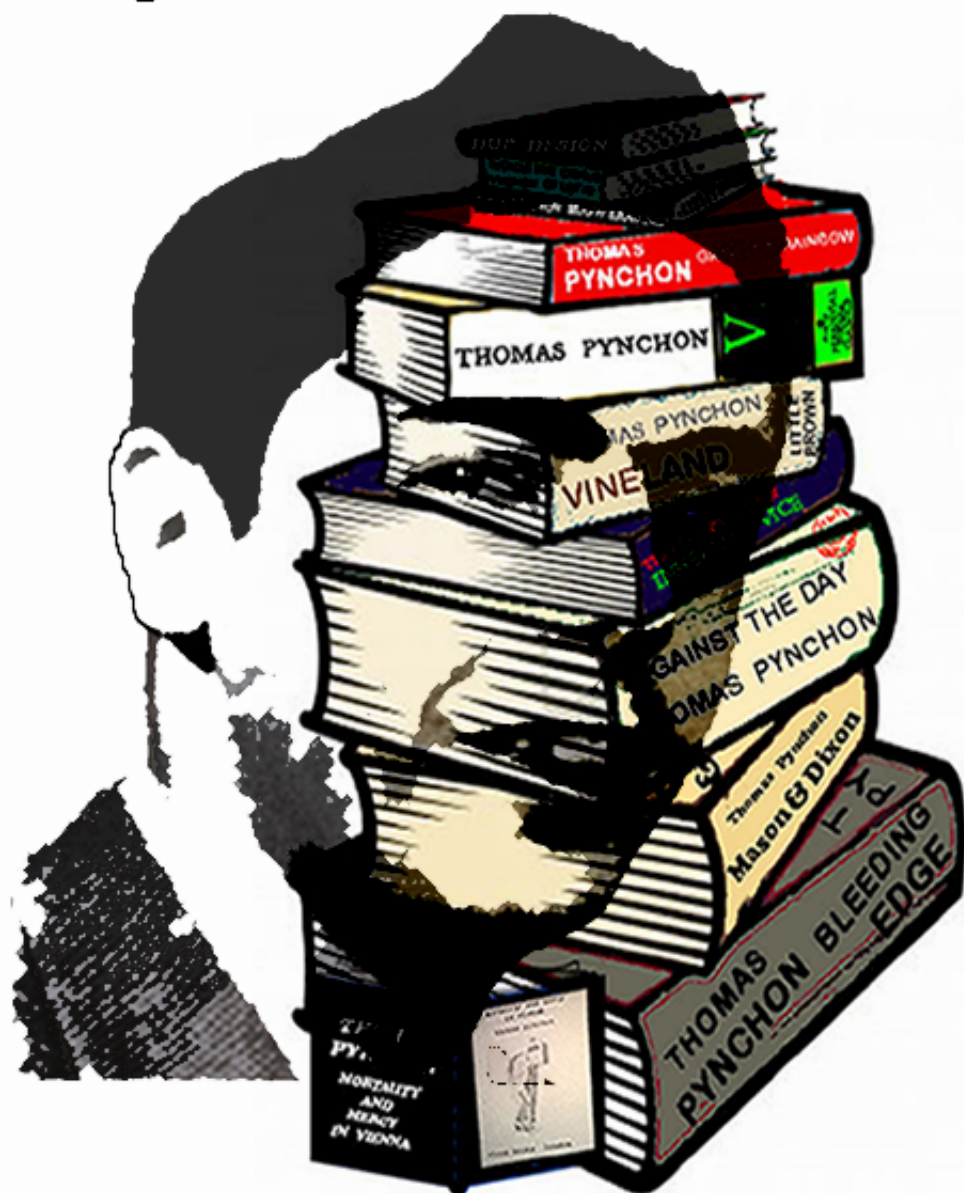


International Pynchon Week

Pynchon's New Worlds



La Rochelle
France
5-9 June 2017

Call for Papers

The 2017 International Pynchon Week will be held on the French Atlantic coast in the old harbor of La Rochelle, from which a number of Europeans set sail for the New World. The conference will be hosted by the *Musée du Nouveau Monde*, among its collection of Allegories of America. The conveners hope this liminal space on the margins of Europe will inspire Pynchon scholars to sail out towards yet unexplored territories, following some of the leads below or picking up any related or unrelated Pynchonian line.

Literary new worlds

Pynchon's early fiction was published under the auspices of "new worlds:" "Low-Lands" was issued by *New World Writing*, a paperback magazine (volume 17, 1960); speculative fiction writer Michael Moorcock's *New Worlds* magazine ran "Entropy" in 1969. How "new" were and still are Pynchon's fictional worlds? How do old and new interweave in the fabric of his texts – intertextuality, syntactic and lexical archaisms, variation and invention? Is Pynchon a belated modernist, a post-modernist, or a post-post-modernist? Is he forever striding in-between worlds?

A New World inhabited by the Old

Pynchon's novels cast half-nostalgic, half-ironic glances back at America's history – from the most remote to the most recent – and both conjure up and challenge visions of the New World as an earthly paradise. Is the new, revolutionary world of Mason & Dixon 'the elder World turned Upside Down' (M&D 263)? Or is it reclaimed by melancholy as its 'Borderlands' are gradually included into 'the bare mortal World that is our home, and our despair' (M&D 345)? And to what extent is the Puritan heritage of its founders, so pervasive in the earlier works, still at work in Pynchon's most recent America, in Gordita Beach or post-9/11 Manhattan?

Phantoms from the old world haunt America, just as its songs and music haunt Pynchon's texts; to wit, the resilience in America's most native expressions of the oldest European musical modes, the songs of Europe carried across to the bars and stages of the New World and the modern avatars of the ancient mixolydian mode – the most bluesy / jazzy / funky mode, a sound made flesh in the person of Fergus Mixolydian in chapter 2 of *V*. What distant echoes from the old world can still be heard through the "surf music" beating in Mason & Dixon or in the Californian trilogy?

America Revisiting the Old World

Pynchon's fictions also foray with characteristic ubiquity – bilocation applying both to characters and texts – into European history, from the Mediterranean's most ancient

shores (*V.*) to the waste lands of WWII (*Gravity's Rainbow*). The Old World is an archival trove for American figures wandering in search of elusive roots, roaming free regardless of historical and geographical boundaries (Benny Profane, Tyrone Slothrop, but also *Against the Day's* Chums of Chance). Can it be argued that Pynchon's writings, from the very beginning (starting with "Under the Rose"), have been composing an alternative, de-centered narrative of European history, a series of Baedeker guides gone rogue?

Fantasized new worlds

At their most utopian or dystopian, balancing as they do between social, revolutionary or anarchist forms of idealism and post-modern nihilism, the novels of Thomas Pynchon offer pictures of "America as it might be in visions America's wardens could not tolerate" (*ATD*, 51). Do parallel worlds – other worlds 'humming along out there' (*Slow Learner*) – underworlds, the ghostly presence of Thanatoids and other Preterites offer alternatives, if but fleetingly, to an impossible "New" World? Under the cover of novelty, is scientific and technological progress the mere re-combination of the old? Is the virtual Deep Web of *Bleeding Edge* a new world, or the continuation of the old by other means?

Bénédicte Chorier-Fryd

Gilles Chamerois

International Pynchon Week 2017: Pynchon's New Worlds

Pynchon's New Worlds is organised by

- Dr. Bénédicte Chorier-Fryd, Associate Professor at the University of Poitiers, France
- Dr. Gilles Chamerois, associate professor at the University of Brest, France

Members of the Scientific Committee

- Dr. Tore Rye ANDERSEN, Associate Professor, Aarhus University, Aarhus
- Dr. Gilles CHAMEROIS, Associate Professor, Université de Bretagne Occidentale, Brest
- Dr. Ali CHETWYND, Associate Professor, American University in Iraq, Sulaimani, Iraq
- Dr. Bénédicte CHORIER-FRYD, Associate Professor, Université de Poitiers, Brest
- Prof. Martin EVE, University of London, Birkbeck
- Prof. Luc HERMAN, Universiteit Antwerpen, Antwerp
- Prof. Dr. Hab. Zofia KOLBUSZEWSKA, Wroclaw University, Wroclaw
- Prof. John KRAFFT, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio
- Dr. Georgios MARAGOS, Greece
- Dr. Sascha PÖHLMANN, Associate Professor, Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich
- Prof. Samuel THOMAS, Durham University, Durham

Conference Venues

- Médiathèque Michel-Crépeau: Avenue Michel-Crépeau
- Musée du Nouveau Monde: 10 Rue Fleuriau

Conference Web Site

- internationalpynchonweek2017.org

Conference Sponsors

Pynchon's New Worlds is supported by:

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Dup Goevaers and Michel Ryckx, Eindhoven



Conference Program

Day 1: Monday 5 June: Hôtel Fleuriau: Musée du Nouveau Monde

- 15:00-16:00 Registration at the Musée du Nouveau Monde
16:00-17:30 Visit of the Musée du Nouveau Monde
17:30-18:30 Registration at the Musée du Nouveau Monde
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Day 2: Tuesday 6 June: Hôtel Fleuriau: Musée du Nouveau Monde

- 08:15-08:45 Registration at the Musée du Nouveau Monde

09:00-11:30 SOUNDS

CHAIR **GEORGIOS MARAGOS**

- 09:00-09:30 ZOFIA KOLBUSZWESKA. "Curious Performance of Nescience: The Ear as a Cryptophore in *Mason & Dixon*"
09:30-10:00 JUSTIN ST. CLAIR. "Ellipsonics: Sound and the Invisible in *Mason & Dixon*"
10:00-10:30 CHRISTIAN HÄNGGI. "The Pynchon Playlist: A Statistical Analysis"

- 10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-12:15 THE NEW OUT OF THE OLD

CHAIR **CHRISTIAN HÄNGGI**

- 10:45-11:15 THOREN OPITZ. "The Impermanence of Intertextual Identity: Whitman, Pynchon and Decomposition"
11:15-11:45 ABEER FAHIM. "Thomas Pynchon, the Camera and the Ghosts of *The Scarlet Letter*"
11:45-12:15 SIMON DE BOURCIER. "'[L]ike the Over-soul of the Hindoo': How Eastern Philosophy Became Part of *Mason & Dixon*'s version of What It Is to Be American With the Help of Ralph Waldo Emerson"

- 12:15-14:00 Lunch

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14:00-15:30 *NEW TOPOLOGIES OF THE CITY*

CHAIR **SIMON DE BOURCIER**

14:00-14:30 Bastien Meresse. "'She can't resist, she needs to be out in the street' (BE 101)': The Transient City and the Ethos of Walking in *Bleeding Edge*"

14:30-15:00 Li Rongrui. "Cognitive Mapping of the City Space: The Rewrite of the Hard-boiled Detective Fiction of Thomas Pynchon's *Inherent Vice*"

15:00-15:30 Sean Carswell. "Doc, the Dude and Marlowe: Changing Masculinities from *The Big Sleep* to *Inherent Vice*"

15:30-15:45 Coffee Break

15:45-17:15 *NEW TOPOLOGIES*

CHAIR **BASTIEN MERESSE**

15:45-16:15 ROMINA KIPOURIDOU. "The Modern Labyrinths of Thomas Pynchon's Work"

16:15-16:45 KYLE SMITH. "Thomas Pynchon in the Bowels of the Earth: Tunnelers, Enchanters and Little People"

16:45-17:15 MARTIN EVE. "'Maybe, but it's code's all it is': Thomas Pynchon, *Cow Country*, and Computational Stylometry"

Day 3: Wednesday 7 June: Hôtel Fleuriau: Musée du Nouveau Monde

09:00-10:30 *REAL AND NARRATED WORLDS I*

CHAIR **MARTIN EVE**

09:00-09:30 CHAD HEGELMEYER. "Pynchon and the Real World"

09:30-10:00 ALI DEHDARIRAD. "The Construction of Space as Utopian-Dystopian Projections and the Question of Alternative Worlds in Thomas Pynchon's Recent Fiction"

10:00-10:30 MARIA ÁNGELES MARTINEZ. "Experiencing *Against the Day* Through a Teenage Storyworld Possible Self"

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

International Pynchon Week 2017: Pynchon's New Worlds

10:45-12:15 *REAL AND NARRATED WORLDS II*

CHAIR **LUC HERMAN**

10:45-11:15 NOAH TOYONAGA. "A Second Order Poetics in *Gravity's Rainbow*"

11:15-11:45 LUCILLE HAGÈGE. "Ekphrasis and the Visual Representation of Information in *Gravity's Rainbow*"

11:45-12:15 GARY THOMPSON. "Pynchon, History and kairos"

12:15-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:00 *PYNCHON'S MOODS*

CHAIR **LUCILLE HAGÈGE**

14:00-14:30 Doug Haynes. "'Laughter is sacred': Reading Pynchon's Humor"

14:30-15:00 Joel Roberts. "New World Melancholia: Guilt and Innocence in the Work of Thomas Pynchon"

15:00-15:15 Coffee Break

15:15-16:45 *LOVE AND DEATH*

CHAIR **DOUG HAYNES**

15:15-15:45 Gregory Stephen Marks. "From Isolation to Affirmation: Love of the World in *The Crying of Lot 49*"

15:45-16:15 Michael Harris. "Mr. Pynchon Goes to Iowa: The Search for Community in the Later Novels"

16:15-16:45 Miriam Fernández-Santiago. "'Working Through' the Postmodern: Posthuman Mourning in Thomas Pynchon's *Bleeding Edge*"

Médiathèque Michel-Crépeau, Avenue Michel-Crépeau

18:00-19:00 *Nicolas Richard. "Pynchon, le disparu"*

Day 4: Thursday 8 June: Médiathèque Michel-Crépeau, Avenue Michel-Crépeau

09:00-10:30 COMMUNICATION 1, THE INTERNET

CHAIR **MIRIAM FERNÁNDEZ-SANTIAGO**

09:00-09:30 GEORGIOS MARAGOS. "'[C]omputer horror tales': The Evolution of the Internet in Thomas Pynchon's Universe"

09:30-10:00 MELISSA LEISMER. "The Moment of 9/11 Pitted Against the Momentousness of the Deep Web: Reversing Reality"

10:00-10:30 DOUG STARK. "Chaotic DeepArcher: Technology and Liminality in Thomas Pynchon's *Bleeding Edge*"

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-11:45 COMMUNICATION 2, THE CRYING OF LOT 49 AND BEYOND

CHAIR **MARTIN EVE**

10:45-11:15 XAVIER MARCÓ DEL PONT. "'Just mail the letter': Circulation and the Epistle in *The Crying of Lot 49*"

11:15-11:45 TORE RYE ANDERSEN. "Distant Voices: Pynchon's Telephones"

11:45-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 NEW WORLDS ON SCREEN

CHAIR **XAVIER MARCÓ DEL PONT**

14:00-14:30 RICHARD MOSS. "'This ole world in Minerva's dreams': An Animated Adaptation of *The Crying of Lot 49*"

14:30-15:00 ARKADIUSZ MISZTAL. "Δt and Pynchon's Vision Machines: Photography and Cinema in *Against the Day* and *Gravity's Rainbow*"

15:30-15:45 Coffee Break

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15:45-17:15 *SOURCES, EDITS AND INFLUENCES*

CHAIR **MICHEL RYCKX**

15:45-16:15 ALI CHETWYND. "Minstrel-Island Mysogyny and the Edits to V."

16:15-16:45 MATTHEW CISELL. "Thomas Pynchon and the Meyerhof Salon: Pynchon's Habitus, the US Literary Field and His Authorial Practice"

16:45-17:15 NINA ENGELHARDT AND HARALD ENGELHARDT. "The Momentum of Pynchon's Secret Formula: *Gravity's Rainbow's* Second Equation between Archival Sources and Mathematico-Ethical Fiction"

20:00-22:00 Dinner

Day 5: Friday 9 June: Médiathèque Michel-Crépeau

09:00-10:30 *REAPPROPRIATING THE NEW WORLD IN MASON & DIXON*

CHAIR **ALI CHETWYND**

09:00-09:30 JEFFREY HOGREFE. "Mason and Dixon as Post Colonial Subjects in the Abolitionist Landscape"

09:30-10:00 HEIDI LAVINE. "The Other America: Caribbean Crosscurrents in *Mason & Dixon*"

10:00-10:30 SERGEI MACURA. "Empire and its Discontent: Third Space, Anxiety and Paranoia in *Mason & Dixon*"

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-12:15 *REAPPROPRIATING THE NEW WORLD*

CHAIR **SERGEI MACURA**

10:45-11:15 Prerita Sen. "This is America, you live in it, you let it happen. Let it unfurl"

11:15-11:45 Erica Tasch. "Thomas Pynchon Passing"

11:45-12:15 Kostas Kaltsas. "She enjoys it, so?: Femininity and Motherhood in Late Pynchon"

12:15-14:00 Lunch

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14:00-15:30 TURNING THE WORLD INTO REAL ESTATE?

CHAIR: BÉNÉDICTE CHORIER-FRYD

14:00-14:30 ERIC SANDBERG. "The Pop World of Thomas Pynchon"

14:30-15:00 TIINA KÄKELÄ-PUUMALA. "'Money speaks, the land listens': Real Estate Narratives in Pynchon's Fiction"

15:00-15:30 INGER DALSGAARD. "New New York: Pynchon's criticism of Virtual and Real Estate"

15:30-15:45 Coffee Break

15:45-17:15 General Discussion

Participants

Tore Rye ANDERSEN	Aarhus University (Aarhus)
Sean CARSWELL	California State University, Channel Islands (United States)
Gilles CHAMEROIS	Université de Bretagne Occidentale (Brest)
Ali CHETWYND	American University in Iraq (Sulaimani, Iraq)
Bénédicte CHORIER-FRYD	Université de Poitiers (Brest)
Matthew CISELL	University of the Basque Country (Spain)
Inger DALSGAARD	Aarhus University (Aarhus)
Simon DE BOURCIER	United Kingdom
Ali DEHDARIRAD	Sapienza University of Rome
Xavier Marcó DEL PONT	Royal Holloway, University of London (United Kingdom)
Harald ENGELHARDT	University of Cologne
Nina ENGELHARDT	University of Cologne
Martin EVE	University of London (Birkbeck)
Abeer FAHIM	University of Sharjah (Sharjah, UAE)
Miriam FERNÁNDEZ-SANTIAGO	University of Granada (Spain)
Lucille HAGÈGE	Paris 4 Sorbonne University (Paris)
Christian HÄNGGI	University of Basel (Basel)
Michael HARRIS	Central College (Pella, Iowa)
Doug HAYNES	University of Sussex (Falmer)
Chad HEGELMEYER	New York University (United States)
Jeffrey HOGREFE	Pratt Institute New York (United States)
Tiina KÄKELÄ-PUUMALA	University of Turku (Finland)
Kostas KALTSAS	University of Southampton/Bath Spa University (United Kingdom)
Romina KIPOURIDOU	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Thessaloniki)
Zofia KOLBUSZEWSKA	Wroclaw University (Wroclaw)
Heidi LAVINE	Westminster College (Fulton, Missouri)
Melissa LEISMER	University of Granada (Spain)
Sergei MACURA	Belgrade University (Belgrade)
Georgios MARAGOS	Greece
Gregory Stephen MARKS	La Trobe University (Melbourne)
Maria Ángeles MARTINEZ	Complutense University of Madrid (Spain)
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Arkadiusz MISZTAL	University of Gdańsk (Gd)
Richard MOSS	Durham University (Durham)
Thoren OPITZ	Ludwig Maximilians University (Munich)
Nicolas RICHARD	French Translator
Joel ROBERTS	University of Brighton (United Kingdom)
Li RONGRUI	Beijing Foreign Studies University (Beijing)
Eric SANDBERG	University of Oulu (Finland)
Prerita SEN	Jadavpur University (India)

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Kyle SMITH	Perth College University of the Highlands and Islands (United Kingdom)
Justin ST. CLAIR	University of South Alabama (Mobile, Alabama)
Doug STARK	Loughborough University (United Kingdom)
Erica TASCH	Minneapolis Northeast Middle School (United States)
Gary THOMPSON	Saginaw Valley State University (Michigan)
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