

VICTORIAN SENSE AND THE SENSES

MVSA 2015



LAWRENCE ALMA TADEMA, *ESCENA POMPEYANA (POMPEIAN SCENE, OR THE SIESTA)*
1868, PRADO MUSEUM, MADRID

MAY 1ST TO 3RD

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

MIDWEST VICTORIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION



CONFERENCE VENUES

Conference events will take place in the Old Capitol Building, the English-Philosophy Building of the University of Iowa, the Iowa Memorial Union, and the Sheraton Hotel, Iowa City.

* The Old Senate Chamber is in the Old Capitol Building.

* The Gerber Lounge is in the English-Philosophy Building.

REGISTRATION

Friday, May 1st from 11:45 AM to 4:00 PM in the Old Capitol Building

Saturday, May 2nd from 7:45 AM to 9:00 AM in the English-Philosophy Building

Saturday, May 2nd from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM in the Old Capitol Building

Group dinner reservations are available—sign up at the registration table.



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Friday, May 1st

- 11:45 to 4:00 Registration, Old Capitol Building
- 12:30 to 12:45 Opening Remarks, Old Senate Chamber
- 12:45 to 2:15 Plenary Panel, Old Senate Chamber
- 2:30 to 4:00 Conference session, Old Senate Chamber
- 4:00 to 4:30 Walk to the Iowa Memorial Union
- 4:30 to 5:45 Jane Stedman Plenary Lecture, Iowa Memorial Union
- 5:45 to 7:00 Welcoming Reception, Iowa Memorial Union

Saturday, May 2nd

- 7:45 to 9:00 Registration, English-Philosophy Building
- 10:00 to 11:00 Registration, Old Capitol Building
- 7:45 to 8:30 Breakfast and Conversation, Gerber Lounge
- 8:00 to 10:00 Seminars, English-Philosophy Building
- 8:30 to 11:45 Conference sessions: Old Senate Chamber and Gerber Lounge
- 12:00 to 12:45 Luncheon, Presentation of Arnstein award, Sheraton Hotel Dining Room
- 12:45 to 2:15 Premiere of Michael Field, *Attila, My Attila*, Sheraton Hotel Dining Room
- 2:30 to 4:00 Conference Sessions, Old Senate Chamber and Gerber Lounge
- 4:00 to 4:15 Refreshments, Old Capitol Lawn
- 4:15 to 5:45 Conference Sessions, Old Senate Chamber and Gerber Lounge
- 5:45 to 7:30 Dinner in Iowa City
- 7:30 to 9:30 The Victorians, Highland Dance, and the American Midwest: Lecture and Group Dance, Old Senate Chamber

Sunday May 3rd

- 8:00 to 8:30 Breakfast and Conversation, Gerber Lounge
- 8:30 to 12:00 Conference Sessions, Gerber Lounge
- 12:00 to 12:30 Presentation of the Burgan Prize for Best Graduate Student Paper, Final Remarks, Gerber Lounge
- 12:30 to 2:00 Boxed lunch after the close of the conference—sign up at Registration table

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, May 1st

11:45 to 4:00
Old Capitol Building

Registration

12:30 to 12:45
Old Senate Chamber

Welcome, Florence Boos, University of Iowa

Opening Remarks, MVSA President Julie Codell

12:45 to 2:15
Old Senate Chamber

Plenary Panel

The Victorians and the Senses

Chair: Teresa Magnum, University of Iowa

The Sensation of Sovereignty at Home and
Abroad

Elizabeth Chang, University of Missouri

Aestheticism, Reverie, and Female Consciousness
Julie Codell, Arizona State University

Symbolists, Spiritualists, Synesthesia
Thomas Prasch, Washburn University

2:30 to 4:00
Old Senate Chamber

**Panel 1: Music and the Victorians: Sensibility,
Sensuality and the Senses**

Panel Chair: Marian Wilson Kimber, University of
Iowa

Sense, Sensibility, and Victorian Perceptions of
Verdian Opera
Roberta Montemorra Marvin, University of Iowa

Sensuality and the Senses: The Appeal of the Violin in
Victorian Culture
Christina Bashford, University of Illinois

The Princess, and the Tennysons' Performance of
Childhood

Ewan Jones and Phyllis Weliver, University of
Cambridge and Saint Louis University

4:00 to 4:30

Walk to the Iowa Memorial Union

4:30 to 5:45

Jane Stedman Plenary Lecture

North Room

Iowa Memorial Union

Coming to our Senses: Colors in the 19th Century

Linda Shires

David and Ruth Gottesman Professor of English
Chair of the Stern College English Department
Yeshiva University

Introduced by Julie Codell

Professor of Art History, Arizona State University

5:45 to 7:00

MVSA Reception

North Room

Iowa Memorial Union

Saturday, May 2nd

7:45 to 9:00

English-Philosophy
Building

Registration

7:45 to 8:30

Gerber Lounge

Breakfast and Conversation

8:00 to 10:00

English-Philosophy
Building

**Seminar: Mind-Body Matters: Picturing the
Victorian Frame of Mind**

Seminar Leader: Professor Nancy Rose Marshall
Department of Art History, University of Wisconsin

The Disembodied Subject: Framing Subjectivity in
Armada by Wilkie Collins
Nathan Leaman, Michigan State University

Ocular Encounters: Looking at the Disabled Female
in George Du Maurier's *Trilby* and Henry James's
"Glasses"

Crystal Yin Lie, University of Michigan

Anna Ancher's Grief: Color, Touch and the Female's
Nude as Markers of Modernism
Alice M. Rudy Price, Tyler School of Art, Temple
University

"Passion in Her is a Glass Facing his Fire": The
Evolution of the Mind and Body in Rossetti's House
of Life."
Allison Watson, Iowa State University

8:00 to 10:00
English-Philosophy
Building

Seminar: Victorian Science and Spiritualism

Seminar Leader: Professor Anna Neill
Department of English, University of Kansas

Stoic Philosophy and Mental Science in Charlotte
Brontë's *Villette*
Martha Baldwin, University of Kansas

Passionate Idols, Passive Objects, and Powerful Faith:
The Idol's Invasion and the Victorian 'Crisis of Faith'
in Richard Marsh
Shuhita Bhattacharjee, University of Iowa

Empathy and Enigma in "A Phantom Lover"
Leandra Binder, University of New Mexico

Making the Modern Ghost: Popular Science and the
Invention of Ectoplasm
L. Anne Delgado, Indiana University Bloomington

"Magnetic Evenings at Home": Mesmerism in Wilkie
Collins's *The Moonstone* and *Heart and Science*
Patricia Frick, Otterbein University

Medical Morality: *Dorian Gray* and the Nineteenth
Century Physiognomic Conflation of the Senses and
the Soul
Justin Hampton, University of Kansas

What Scientific Men Know: Wilkie Collins, G.H.
Lewes, and the Sympathetic Senses
Lindsay Lehman, The Graduate Center, CUNY

Loco Motives: The British Railway and the New Woman in *Lady Audley's Secret*
Aaron Long, University of Kansas

“A victim to what we call Hysteria”: Spiritualism, Nerves, and Psychosomatic Feminism in the 19th Century
Alyssa Straight, Miami University

Alice Meynell and the Fin-de-Siècle Psychology of the Double
Julie Wise, University of South Carolina Aiken

8:00 to 10:00
English-Philosophy
Building

Seminar: Food, Taste, and the Body

Seminar Leader: Chris Otter
Department of History, Ohio State University

Bittersweet Empire: Victorian Chocolate and Anxieties about Consuming the Imperial
Jackie Amarim, University of Florida

Open Hearths and Secret Kitchens: The Politics of Food Preparation in Dickens
Elizabeth Corsun, Transylvania University

Toward a Transnational Culinary Community: Rethinking Regional Food Habits in Nineteenth-Century British Writings
Heidi S. Hakimi-Hood, Texas Christian University

Anthony Trollope: An English Epicurean Travels the Globe
Michelle Mouton, Cornell College

The Need for Taste: Moderating Hunger in Eliot's *The Mill on the Floss*
Lesa Scholl, Emmanuel College, University of Queensland

A Manchester Tea Party: Tea and Food Sharing in Elizabeth Gaskell's *Mary Barton*
Shaunna Wilkinson, Marquette University

8:30 to 10:00
Gerber Lounge

Panel 2: Senses at the Fin de Siècle

Panel Chair: Mary Jeanette Moran, Illinois State University

Frances Hodgson Burnett and Children's Literature's De-Radicalizing of Aestheticism
Michelle Beissel Heath, University of Nebraska, Kearney

Detecting Degeneration in Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Hound of the Baskervilles*
Stephanie Marcellus, Wayne State College

Brutal Moonlight: Vision and Violence in the Environments of *The Picture of Dorian Gray*
Jeremy Walker, Brown University

10:00 to 11:00
Old Capitol Building

Registration

10:15 to 11:45
Old Senate Chamber

Panel 3: Embodied Senses

Panel Chair: Donna Parsons, University of Iowa

Exercising to Song: School Music Education and the Masculinization of the Victorian Working-Class Child
Erin Johnson-Hill, Yale University

The Victorian Experimental Classroom: Learning Through Touch
Ann Gagne, Seneca College

Bodily Sensations in the Conversion Poetry of Michael Field
Cheryl Wilson, University of Baltimore

10:15 to 11:45
Gerber Lounge

Panel 4: Aesthetics and the Visual Senses

Panel Chair: Jeff Cox, University of Iowa

Color in the Victorian City: London's Drury Court
Christopher Ferguson, Auburn University

Maintaining Depth Perception in the Pictorial Space
of Mid- to Late Nineteenth Century Newspapers
Miranda Mattingly, University of Missouri-Columbia

The Sensual Use of Color in D. G. Rossetti's *Venus
Veritcordia*
Lindsay Wells, The University of Wisconsin-Madison

12:00 to 12:45
Sheraton Hotel

Luncheon
Business Meeting
Presentation of Walter Arnstein Award

12:45 to 2:15
Sheraton Hotel

Premiere of Michael Field's *Attila, My Attila*

2:30 to 4:00
Old Senate Chamber

Panel 5: Race, Empire, and the Senses

Panel Chair: Thomas Prasch, Washburn University

Hearing Race and Touching Color: Wilkie Collins's
Poor Miss Finch
Melisa Klimaszewski, Drake University

Mesmerism and its Imperial Entanglements: James
Esdaile in British India
John McBratney, John Carroll University

The Taste of Dispossession: Food Security and
Imperialism in Harriet Martineau's *Cinnamon and Pearls*
Lesia Scholl, Emmanuel College, University of
Queensland

2:30 to 4:00
Gerber Lounge

Panel 6: Sound Senses

Panel Chair: Charles McGuire, Oberlin College
Conservatory

Acoustical Power and the Folk World in Hardy's *The
Return of the Native*
Shannon Draucker, Boston University

The Dangers of Music in Eliot's *Mill on the Floss*
Sabrina Gilchrist, University of Florida

Affectual Soundscape, Musical Aesthetics, and Identity
in Thomas Hardy's England
Carroll Clayton Savant, University of Texas at Dallas

4:00 to 4:15
Old Capitol Lawn

Refreshments

4:15 to 5:45
Old Senate Chamber

Panel 7: Senses in Victorian England

Panel Chair: Cynthia Huff, Illinois State University

“Interrogation and Illustration”: The Primacy of Sight
in Henry Dunn's *Principles of Teaching*
Emily Ford, Ivy Tech Community College

A Sense of the Domestic: Domesticity, Materiality,
and the Victorians
Gretchen Frank, Illinois State University

Embodied Pain and the Politics of the Contagious
Diseases Acts Repeal Campaign
Ellen O'Brien, Roosevelt University

4:15 to 5:45
Gerber Lounge

Panel 8: Complex Senses

Panel Chair: Jolene Zigarovich, University of
Northern Iowa

“Mr. Sludge,” the Lifted Veil, and Why We Crave
Sensory Deception
Margaret Loose, University of California, San Diego

“Queer Dreams” in Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*
Deborah Denenholz Morse, College of William and
Mary

Painted Words and Pyrotechnic Displays: Synesthesia
in M. P. Shiel's *Shapes in the Fire*
Anne Sullivan, University of California, Riverside

5:45 to 7:30

Dinner in Iowa City

7:30 to 9:30
Old Senate Chamber

**The Victorians, Highland Dance, and the
American Midwest (lecture)**

Anne Stapleton, University of Iowa

**Scottish Social Dancing for Conference
Participants**

Sunday, May 3rd

8:00 to 8:30
Gerber Lounge

Coffee and Conversation

8:30 to 10:15
Gerber Lounge

Panel 9: Poetic Senses

Panel Chair: Mary-Catherine Harrison, University of
Detroit Mercy

Aurora Leigh's Anti-Sensory Poetics
Barbara Barrow, Point Park University

Glad Sensation in Emily Pfeiffer's Sonnets on
Lobengrin
Karen Dieleman, Trinity Christian College

Hearing Time in Victorian Poetry
Emily Harrington, University of Colorado

Tennyson's Lyric Tactility
Erin Nerstad, University of Chicago

10:30 to 12:00
Gerber Lounge

Panel 10: Sensory Difference and Deprivation

Panel Chair: Lauren Cameron, University of Iowa

Deaf Sentences in Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*
Jennifer Janecek, University of Iowa

"But if I feel, may I never express?": Lucy Snowe,
Sensory Deprivation, and the Gothic
Meghan Jordan, Upper Iowa University

Sympathetic Imagination in the Nineteenth-century
Blind Narratives
Madoka Nagado, University of Hawaii

12:00 to 12:25
Gerber Lounge

Final Remarks

Linda Hughes, Texas Christian University

Deirdre McMahon, Drexel University

12:25 to 12:30

Presentation of the Burgan Award for Best Graduate Student Paper

12:30 to 2:00

Boxed lunch and conversation



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Thank you to the Department of English of the University of Iowa for their sponsorship of MVSA 2015 and to the University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Perry A. and Helen Judy Bond Fund for Interdisciplinary Interaction for their generous support of the conference.

Please join us for future MVSA conferences:

University of Missouri MVSA 2016

Oberlin College MVSA 2017