

MWASECS 2018

The Conference of the Midwestern American Society
for Eighteenth-Century Studies



Eighteenth-Century Frontiers

Testing Limits • Crossing Boundaries • Claiming Spaces

Sioux Falls, South Dakota
October 11-13, 2018



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Welcome and Acknowledgements

Welcome to MWASECS 2018! Thank you for participating in what promises to be an engaging and stimulating conference. The theme of MWASECS 2018 is “Eighteenth-Century Frontiers.” We interpret the term “frontiers” broadly to include not just the physical boundaries of space and empire, but also advances in science, religion, and human understanding writ large. The very term “frontier” implies the notion of limits and the demarcation of boundaries between the known and the unknown. Accordingly, this conference seeks to explore the manifold ways this liminal space of the “frontier” was tested, mapped, challenged, and transcended during the long eighteenth century.

For their generous financial support, we would like to thank the South Dakota Humanities Council; the South Dakota State University College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (Jason Zimmerman, Dean); and the South Dakota State University English Department (Jason McEntee, Head). We also thank MWASECS officers and members Jeremy Carnes, Jeanine Casler, Jennifer Frangos, Jeanne Hageman, Kit Kincade, and Susan Spencer for their advice and support. Thank you to James Bryant Reeves, Tiffani Pirner, and Randi Anderson for their invaluable assistance and to our keynote speaker Sean Moore.

And, once again, we thank you for helping us make this year’s conference possible. If there is anything we can do to offer assistance or support during the conference, please don’t hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,

Scott Breuninger, University of South Dakota,
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About the South Dakota Humanities Council

We are grateful to our major sponsor, the South Dakota Humanities Council (SDHC), for helping to make MWASECS 2018 possible. The 2018 initiative of the SDHC is “Democracy and the Informed Citizen.” This initiative is founded upon the following ideals: 1) A healthy democracy requires an informed citizenry; 2) The humanities and journalism play a vital role in fostering an informed citizenry; and 3) Informed citizens are media literate. In addition, this initiative emphasizes how the humanities help us “address some of the most challenging questions we face as a society, including immigration, race relations, freedom of speech, civil rights, the environment, and the impact of war.”

We envision that MWASECS 2018 will support the “Democracy and the Informed Citizen” initiative in the following ways:

- We will promote the interpretive strategies that are essential to the development of an informed and media-literate citizenry. Individuals within eighteenth-century popular culture witnessed a massive growth in the availability and variety of written, aural, and visual “texts.” The interpretive strategies used to process and understand eighteenth-century texts are invaluable within our current culture, not only as a means to appreciate the beauty and artistry of creative works, but also as a means to assess the value and validity of the information we receive every day via the media.
- As we investigate the tensions and conflicts that characterize physical, cultural, and ideological “frontiers,” we will explore ways to address and negotiate these tensions and conflicts. MWASECS 2018 presentations and discussions will examine eighteenth-century issues that continue to prove significant within our culture: gender, race, ethnicity, colonialism, law, violence, politics, consumerism, urbanization, science, medicine, ethics, and religion. We believe that explorations of these issues within eighteenth-century contexts can help us negotiate them in more meaningful ways in the twenty-first century.

For more information about SDHC and the “Democracy and the Informed Citizen” initiative, visit www.sdhumanities.org.



Program at a Glance

Thursday, October 11

6 p.m., Welcome reception at Monk's House of Ale Repute, 420 8th Street

Friday, October 12

8-10 a.m., Continental breakfast

8 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Check-in and registration

9-10:20 a.m., Session I

A. Eighteenth-Century Minds, Palisades I

B. Music and Theatre in Eighteenth-Century London, Palisades II & III

10:30-11:50 a.m., Session II

A. Visions of Other Places, Palisades I

B. Race and Religion in the Americas, Palisades II & III

Lunch on your own.

1:30-2:50 p.m., Session III

A. Feeling, Sympathy, and Sentiment in the Romantic Period, Palisades I

B. Teaching the Eighteenth Century: Reacting to the Past Roundtable, Palisades II & III

3-4:20 p.m., Session IV

A. Reassessing Genre, Space, and Spectatorship in Burney and Austen, Palisades I

B. Religious Reconfigurations, Palisades II & III

5-6 p.m., Keynote address, Palisades I

6-7 p.m., Reception with hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, Skyline

7-9 p.m., Banquet, Skyline

Saturday, October 13

8-10 a.m., Coffee and light refreshments

8 a.m.-12 p.m., Check-in and registration

9-10:20 a.m., Session V

A. The Supernatural Eighteenth Century, Palisades I

B. Mapping the Eighteenth Century, Palisades II & III

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Brunch, Skyline

11:30-12:30 p.m., Business Meeting, Palisades I

12:40-2 p.m., Session VI

A. Women Writers Pushing the Boundaries, Palisades I

B. Rules and Rituals, Palisades II & III

2:10-3:30 p.m., Session VII

A. New Perspectives on Jane Austen, Palisades I

B. Race, Consumption, and Civilization, Palisades II & III

3:40-5:20 p.m., Session VIII

A. Science and Medicine, Palisades I

B. Writing and Revolution, Palisades II & III

Dinner on your own.

7:30 p.m., South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Performance,
Washington Pavilion, 301 South Main Avenue



MWASECS 2018

Conference Schedule

Thursday, October 11

6 p.m.: Welcome reception at Monk's House of Ale Repute, 420 8th Street

Friday, October 12

8 to 10 a.m.: Continental breakfast

8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.: Check-in and registration

Session I: 9 to 10:20 a.m.

A. **Eighteenth-Century Minds, Palisades I**

Chair: Becky Zavada, Wayne State College

1. Hilary Fezzey, University of Wisconsin, Superior, "The Frontiers of Neuroscience in Eighteenth-Century Britain"
2. Eckhard Rolz, South Dakota State University, "Probing the Human Mind: Karl Philipp Moritz, the Eighteenth-Century German Pioneer of Psychology"
3. Judith Dorn, St. Cloud State University, "Projecting Beyond Historical Narrative"

B. **Music and Theatre in Eighteenth-Century London, Palisades II & III**

Chair: Jeremy Carnes, Lindenwood University

1. Denys Van Renen, University of Nebraska, Kearney, "'The Course of Nature': Staging and Versification in George Villiers' *The Rehearsal*"
2. Alison DeSimone, University of Missouri, Kansas City, "Foreign Frontiers: John Abell's Cosmopolitan Concerts in Early Eighteenth-Century London"
3. C. A. Norling, University of Iowa, "James Ralph's *The Touch-Stone* and the Polemical Politics of Italian Opera in Eighteenth-Century London"

Friday, October 12, cont.

Session II: 10:30 to 11:50 a.m.

A. Visions of Other Places, Palisades I

Chair: Alison DeSimone, University of Missouri, Kansas City

1. Sharon Smith, South Dakota State University, “*The Extacy*: Sarah Fyge Egerton’s Cosmic Satire”
2. Nicole Cridland, University of Illinois at Chicago, “Re-visioning Revolution in Helen Maria Williams’ *Peru*”
3. Justin Biel, Minnesota State University, Mankato, “A Most Fertile Desert: The Valley of the Ganges in Eighteenth-Century Economic Thought”

B. Race and Religion in the Americas, Palisades II & III

Chair: Hilary Fezzey, University of Wisconsin, Superior

1. Cornelius Conover, Augustana University, “Debating Racial Equality in Eighteenth-Century Spanish America”
2. Marie Balsley Taylor, University of Minnesota, “Indigenous Frontiers: The Influence of Algonquin Kinship Practices on Eighteenth-Century Protestant Missionary Writing”
3. Keith Byerman, Indiana State University, “Jonathan Edwards among the Indians: Racial Identities and Puritan Belief”

Lunch on your own.



Friday, October 12, cont.

Session III: 1:30 to 2:50 p.m.

A. Feeling, Sympathy, and Sentiment in the Romantic Period, Palisades I

Chair: James Bryant Reeves, Texas State University

1. Becky Zavada, Wayne State College, "Reason as a Boundary in Poetry and the Creative Process in the Romantic Period"
2. Samantha Crain, University of Minnesota, "Exploiting Suffering? A Look at Wordsworth's *The Idiot Boy* and Byron's *The Giaour*"
3. Melissa Sodeman, Coe College, "Novel Archives: Sophia Lee's *The Life of a Lover* and Frances Burney's *The Wanderer*"

B. Teaching the Eighteenth Century: Reacting to the Past Roundtable, Palisades II & III

Chair: Susan Spencer, University of Central Oklahoma

1. Bruce Kelley, University of South Dakota
2. David Burrow, University of South Dakota
3. Scott Breuninger, University of South Dakota

Session IV: 3 to 4:20 p.m.

A. Reassessing Genre, Space, and Spectatorship in Burney and Austen, Palisades I

Chair: Denys Van Renen, University of Nebraska, Kearney

1. Rachel Danielson, University of Nebraska, Kearney "The Thorny Paths' of Pleasure Gardens in Frances Burney's *Evelina*"
2. Yentle Dyas, University of Nebraska, Kearney, "The Female Spectator: Resisting Reification in Burney's *Evelina* and Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*"

Friday, October 12, cont.

B. Religious Reconfigurations, Palisades II & III

Chair: Keith Byerman, Indiana State University

1. Susan Spencer, University of Central Oklahoma, “On the Road to the Western Paradise: Buddhist Nuns and the Ten Worlds Mandala in Tokugawa Japan”
2. James Bryant Reeves, Texas State University, “Abolition’s Afterlife: Redrawing Hell’s Borders”
3. Jeremy Carnes, Lindenwood University, “Mapping the Catholic Contours of Medieval Europe in the Eighteenth Century”

5 to 6 p.m.: Keynote address, Palisades I

6 to 7 p.m.: Reception with hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, Skyline

7 to 9 p.m.: Banquet, Skyline





Friday, October 12, 2018, 5 to 9 p.m.

Keynote Address and Banquet

**Dr. Sean Moore,
University of New Hampshire**

They Were Prodigals and Enslavers:
Patriarchy and the Reading of *Robinson Crusoe*
at the New York Society Library

5 to 6 p.m.: Keynote Address, Palisades I
6 to 7 p.m.: Hors d'Oeuvres and Cash Bar, Skyline
7 to 9 p.m.: Banquet, Skyline

Dr. Sean Moore is Associate Professor of English at the University of New Hampshire. Dr. Moore's research focuses on postcolonial, economic, and book history approaches to Restoration and eighteenth-century literature, particularly as they relate to Ireland and the Anglophone Atlantic. He will present work from his current book project *Slavery and the Making of the Early American Library*, which studies how the transatlantic trade in British texts was financed by colonial slave traders and enabled by the consumer habits of slave owners.



Saturday, October 13

8 to 10 a.m.: Coffee and light refreshments

8 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Check-in and registration

Session V: 9 to 10:20 a.m.

A. The Supernatural Eighteenth Century, Palisades I

Chair: Jeanne Hageman, North Dakota State University

1. Ashley Mistretta, University of Missouri, Kansas City, "Happily Ever After? The Changing Institution of Marriage as Explored through Fouque's *Undine*"
2. Scott Fish, Augustana University, "Teaching Perrault's Fairy Tales: *Plaire et Instruire*"
3. Shaowei Huang, State University of New York, Buffalo, "Perception and Fictional Experience in *The Castle of Otranto* and *Vathek*"

B. Mapping the Eighteenth Century, Palisades II & III

Chair: Kit Kincade, Indiana State University

1. John Han, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, "Mapping Moral Apathy in Defoe's *A Journal of the Plague Year*"
2. Sheila Hwang, Webster University, "Playing Tourist in Real and Imagined Worlds: The Construction of Spaces and Places in British Geographical Board Games"
3. Scott Breuninger, University of South Dakota, "Mapping Irish Improvement: The Case of the RDS"

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: Brunch, Skyline

11:30 to 12:30 p.m.: Business Meeting, Palisades I



Saturday, October 13, cont.

Session VI: 12:40 to 2 p.m.

A. Women Writers Pushing the Boundaries, Palisades I

Chair: Sharon Smith, South Dakota State University

1. Jennifer Frangos, University of Missouri, Kansas City, “Jane Barker Among the Single Ladies”
2. Scott Larkin, University of St. Thomas, “Romantic Interpretations of the Spanish Frontier: Jemima Layton’s *Spanish Tales*”
3. David Burrow, University of South Dakota, “Martha Wilmot on the Frontiers of Civility”

B. Rules and Rituals, Palisades II & III

Chair: E. Joe Johnson, Clayton State University

1. Kurt Hollender, Saint John's University – College of Saint Benedict, “Beyond the Bounds of the Law: Robbers, Pirates, and Geniuses”
2. John Vignaux Smyth, Portland State University, “The Ritual of Dueling in Diderot’s *Jacque le fataliste* and in Enlightenment Culture”
3. Reginald McGinnis, University of Arizona, “The Frontiers of Enlightenment: On Disenchantment and the Evolution of Ritual”



Saturday, October 13, cont.

Session VII: 2:10 to 3:30 p.m.

A. New Perspectives on Jane Austen, Palisades I

Chair: Sheila Hwang, Webster University

1. Cali Mellin, University of St. Thomas, “Can I Speak Plainer? Consent, Refusal, and Rape Culture in Jane Austen”
2. Kit Kincade, Indiana State University, “Neither Fish Nor Fowl: Reassessing Henry Tilney”
3. Elizabeth Kelsey, University of Missouri, Kansas City, “Remaking Lady Susan”

B. Race, Consumption, and Civilization, Palisades II & III

Chair: Scott Breuninger, University of South Dakota

1. Andrew J. Hamilton, Viterbo University, “All-Consuming Commerce: The 1792 Sugar Boycott to End Slavery”
2. Matthew Pangborn, Briar Cliff University, “America’s Energy Frontier and its Eighteenth-Century Others”
3. Jeffrey A. Mullins, St. Cloud State University, “‘The Savage Greatly Excels the Most Civilized Man’: Racial Foundations of Early American Social Reform Movements, 1760-1830”



Saturday, October 13, cont.

Session VIII: 3:40 to 5:20 p.m.

A. Science and Medicine, Palisades I

Chair: Jennifer Frangos, University of Missouri, Kansas City

1. Diane Fourny, University of Kansas, "Of Apes and Men: Buffon's Problematic Discourse of Difference"
2. Mary Jean Miller, University of Missouri, Kansas City, "The Birth of a New Paradigm: The Eighteenth-Century Shift from Midwives to Obstetricians"
3. Katie Sagal, Cornell College, "Negotiating Botanical Knowledge in *Belinda*"
4. Stephanie Marcellus, Wayne State College, "Resisting the Boundaries: Acknowledging the Value of Elizabeth Kent's *Flora Domestica*"

B. Writing and Revolution, Palisades II & III

Chair: David Burrow, University of South Dakota

1. Robert E. Kibler, Minot State University, "The London Evening Post of 1739 and the Birth of the Mass Information Age of Newspapers"
2. Susan H. Wood, Midland University, "Revisiting a Fractious Border: Wyoming Valley, 1778"
3. Eric Furuseth, Minot State University, "Byron's Eighteenth-Century 'Nature' Continued: Further Reflections on Connections Between Edmund Burke's *Reflections on the Revolution in France* and Lord Byron's Tragic Dramas"
4. E. Joe Johnson, Clayton State University, "Friendship on the Frontiers: Mme Woillez's *Le jeune tambour, ou les deux amis*"

Dinner on your own.

**7:30 p.m.: South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Performance,
Washington Pavilion, 301 South Main Avenue**

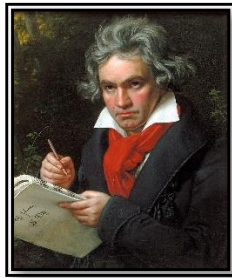


Saturday, October 13, 7:30 p.m.

The South Dakota Symphony Orchestra

Presents

Beethoven's Symphony No. 3, "Eroica"



This performance of Beethoven's "Eroica" symphony (1803-1804) will feature Principal Flutist William Cedeño Torres. The evening's program will also include a performance of Carl Nielsen's *Concerto for Flute and Orchestra* (1926), as well as the premiere of Principal Oboist Jeffrey Paul's tone poem *Mni Wiconi* (Lakota for "water is life").

The Washington Pavilion, 301 South Main Avenue



MWASECS 2018 Organizers

Scott Breuninger, Associate Professor
History Department, University of South Dakota

Sharon Smith, Associate Professor
English Department, South Dakota State University

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Kit Kincade, Indiana State University
Susan Spencer, University of Central Oklahoma

Images

Cover: Francesco Trevisani, *La Musa Urania*, early eighteenth century.

Page 5: Artaria, *Piano Trio*, c. 1780.

Page 7: Sayer & Co., *Viewing the Transit of Venus*, 1793.

Page 9: S. W. Fores, *The Royal Duel*, 1789.

Page 11: Botanical drawings of Australian plants, late eighteenth century.

Page 12: Corrado Giaquinto, *Satan Before the Lord*, c. 1750.

Page 13: W. Clark, from *Ten Views in the Island of Antigua*, 1823.

Page 15: Joseph Karl Stieler, *Ludwig Van Beethoven*, 1820.

❖ NOTES ❖

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