

HIDDEN NABOKOV

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

WELLESLEY COLLEGE, JUNE 2022

hidden



nabokov

June 15-19, 2022

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

3-6 PM CHECK-IN

Location: Collins Cinema (where all events are scheduled unless otherwise stated)

5-7 PM WELCOME RECEPTION

7-8:30 PM

Greetings:

- Andrew Shennan, Provost and Dean, Wellesley College
- Siggy Frank, President, International Vladimir Nabokov Society

Opening Remarks: Conference Organizers

Keynote Address by Priscilla Meyer: "The Hidden Nabokov"



THURSDAY, JUNE 16



Morning

BREAKFAST

Bae Pao Lu Chow, fourth floor of Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center

8:30-10:00 AM: READING BETWEEN THE LINES I

Chair: Siggy Frank, University of Nottingham

- "The Good Reader," Michael Wood, Princeton University
- "'I Saw Myself from the Outside': Unveiling the Spectral Narrative Voice of Nabokov's *The Eye*," Emma Kristine Schwarz, University of Pittsburgh
- "The Hyperreality of Science and Art in Nabokov's 'The Visit to the Museum,'" Alexander Messejnikov, Indiana University

10:30-11:45 AM: KEYWORDS

Chair: Will Norman, University of Kent

- "Nabokov, Joyce and 'The Vane Sisters': *À la Lettre*," Jacob Szepessy, Bard College
- "Is 'Mask' the Keyword?: The Poetics of Confession in *Lolita* and *Pale Fire*," Sonja Pyykkö, Freie Universität Berlin
- "'I Have Only Words to Play With!': Riddling *Lolita*'s Logodaedaly," Jeremy Stewart, Lancaster University

11:50 AM-12:15 PM: "THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WEAVE"

Roundtable on new opportunities for Nabokov scholarship

Chair: Susan Elizabeth Sweeney, College of the Holy Cross

Panelists: Stephen Blackwell (University of Tennessee, Knoxville), Marie Bouchet (University of Toulouse), Dana Dragunoiu (Carleton University), Siggy Frank (University of Nottingham), Christopher Link (State University of New York, New Paltz), Eric Naiman (University of California, Berkeley), Zoran Kuzmanovich (Davidson College)

Pictured: Nabokov's illustration of invented butterfly *Paradisica radugaleta*, drawn for Vera.

Source: "Vladimir Nabokov's Butterfly Art – in Pictures," *The Guardian*, May 26, 2016, sec. Books, <http://www.theguardian.com/books/gallery/2016/may/26/vladimir-nabokov-butterfly-art-illustrations>.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16 (continued)

Afternoon

LUNCH

Bae Pao Lu Chow, fourth floor of Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center

1:15-2:30 PM: LOST IN TRANSLATION

Chair: Stanislav Shvabrin, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

- "Vladimir Nabokov and 'The Fight': For Form," Timothy Naslund, Florida Atlantic University
- "The Hidden (In)justice in *Pale Fire* for Its Reader/Translator," Kate Kokinova, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- "Hidden in the Archives: Nabokov as a Self-Translator into French," Julie Loison-Charles, Université de Lille

2:45-4 PM: READING BETWEEN THE LINES II

Chair: Eric Naiman, University of California, Berkeley

- "Queer Nabokov," Sara Karpukhin, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- "Aubrey Beardsley's Referential Presence in *Lolita*," Sophia Houghton, Columbia University
- "'Looks and Books': Institutional Charisma and Erotic Pedagogy," Ella Barker, University of York

Evening

DINNER

Bae Pao Lu Chow, fourth floor of Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center

7-7:30 PM: VISIT TO LA PORTE NABOKOV

Location: Tower Court

7:30-8:30 PM: NABOKOV AT WELLESLEY

Location: Hay Amphitheater

Emcee: Adam Weiner, Wellesley College

- "Colloquy on the Browning Door," Stephen Blackwell, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
 - "La Porte Nabokov and Nabokov's Wellesley," Adam Weiner, Wellesley College
 - "Wellesley and *Bend Sinister*," Susan Elizabeth Sweeney, College of the Holy Cross
 - "An Evening of Russian Poetry," Michael Wood, Princeton University
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FRIDAY, JUNE 17

Morning

BREAKFAST

Bae Pao Lu Chow, fourth floor of Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center

8:30-10:00 AM: THE BODY'S SECRETS

Chair: Tom Hodge, Wellesley College

- "Where the Garment Gapes': Nabokov's Elusive Corporealities," Lara Delage-Toriel, University of Strasbourg
- "Peering through the Smoke Curtain: Cigarettes in Nabokov's Works," Marie Bouchet, University of Toulouse
- "Nabokov's Eary Doubles: Tympanic Mechanisms and Cochlear Structures in *Ada*," Sabine Metzger, University of Stuttgart

10:30-11:45 AM: SUBTEXTS AND INTERTEXTS II

Chair: Luke Parker, Amherst College

- "The Ugly and Justifiable: *Lolita* and *The Strange Case of Dr Jeckyll and Mr Hyde*," Adam Riekstins, Villanova University
- "Plot and Counter-plot: Mayne Reid's Croquet Manual and the Narrative Shape of *Pnin*," Nuri Kim Hegelmeyer (Stony Brook University) and Chad Hegelmeyer (New York University)
- "'Implied Associations and Traditions': The Russian Literary Unconscious in *Pale Fire*," Ludmila Shleyfer Lavine, Bucknell University

FRIDAY, JUNE 17 (continued)

Afternoon

LUNCH

Bae Pao Lu Chow, fourth floor of Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center

12:45-2 PM: RELIGIOUS MYSTERIES

Chair: Christopher Link, State University of New York, New Paltz

- “Nabokov, Religion, and Conversion,” Maxim D. Shroyer, Boston College
- “Ultralight Beam: Bend Sinister and the Cult of St. Antony,” Erik Eklund, University of Nottingham
- “Balthasar, Prince of Loam: *Pale Fire*’s Dark Savior—Mechanical Toy or Mystical Man?” Mary Ross, Independent Scholar

BEYOND THE NEXT PAGE: BOOK ARTS AND NABOKOV

Chair: Ruth Rogers, Wellesley College

2:15-3:15 PM

- Tatjana Bergelt, *Pas de Deux: A Dance for Two* (artist’s talk)
- Marlene MacCallum, “The Flicker of *Pale Fire* in the *Shadow Quartet*” (artist’s talk)

3:25-4:25 PM

INTERACTIVE BOOK EXHIBIT

Location: Brackett Room, first floor of Clapp Library

- Tatjana Bergelt, *Pas de Deux: A Dance for Two*
- Shelley Jackson, *Patchwork Girl, My Body, Skin, Snow, and Riddance*
- Marlene MacCallum, *The Shadow Quartet*
- Display of Nabokovian book inscriptions and book designs

NABOKOVIANA AND THE ART OF THE BOOK

Location: Special Collections, fourth floor of Clapp Library

- Guided tours with staff from Wellesley College’s Archives and Special Collections (two groups of 30, strictly limited to conference participants), 3:25 pm and 3:55 pm

FRIDAY, JUNE 17 (continued)

Evening

DINNER

Bae Pao Lu Chow, fourth floor of Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center

7-8:30 PM: INSIDE PNIN'S AQUAMARINE BOWL: A PLENARY OF PAPERS AND POTATIONS

Location: Tishman Commons, Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center

Chair: Adam Weiner, Wellesley College

- "Nabokov and Autism: Representations of Autism in Nabokov's Work," Morgane Allain-Roussel, Université de Rouen
- "'Evening Shadow': The Ritual of Shaving in Nabokov," Stephen Blackwell (University of Tennessee, Knoxville) and Susan Elizabeth Sweeney (College of the Holy Cross)
- "Hazel Shade as Descendant of Tatiana Larin, or Is *Pale Fire* a Feminist Text?," Dana Dragunoiu, Carleton University
- "Exploring the Past: Authorship of the Invisible," Siggy Frank, University of Nottingham
- "Vladimir Nabokov and Italy," Irina Marchesini, University of Bologna
- "From 'Murdered' to 'Immortal': Reconstructing the Hidden in Nabokov's *Pnin*," David Rampton, University of Ottawa
- "Transatlantic Modernism in *Pale Fire*," Rachel Trousdale, Framingham State University
- "Ancient Egyptian Myths in Nabokov's Life and Prose," Rusina Volkova, Independent Scholar

DESSERT RECEPTION

Location: Tishman Commons, Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center

SATURDAY, JUNE 18



Morning

BREAKFAST

Bae Pao Lu Chow, fourth floor of Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center

8:30-10 AM: HIDE AND SEEK

Chair: Marie Bouchet, University of Toulouse

- "Miniature Revelations: Hidden Children in Nabokov's Works," Sara Pankenier Weld, University of California, Santa Barbara
- "'If one were quite sincere with oneself': The Ethics of Reading *Lolita* alongside *Prin*," Jerrine Tan, City University Hong Kong
- "Discursive Deception: The Search for an Author in Nabokov's *Lolita*," Graham Weaver, New York University

10:30 AM-12:15 PM: HIDDEN AGENDAS

Chair: David Rampton, University of Ottawa

- "The Courage Not to Conform," Marina Minskaya, Independent Scholar
- "Nabokov's Complicit Double Talk," Will Norman, University of Kent
- "'The Vane Sisters' and Women's Suffrage," Eric Naiman, University of California, Berkeley
- "Nabokov's Colonial Conquest: An Ecocritical Examination of Simulation, Subjectivity, and Subjugation in *Lolita*," Stephanie Bontell, Virginia Tech

SATURDAY, JUNE 18 (continued)

Afternoon

LUNCH

Bae Pao Lu Chow, fourth floor of Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center

1:15-3 PM: SUBTEXTS AND INTERTEXTS II

Chair: Dana Dragunoiu

- “*Agasfer*: Vladimir Nabokov’s Wandering Jew,” Anoushka Alexander-Rose, University of Southampton
- “Eying the Looking Glass,” Will Dane (Independent Scholar) and Angela Dane (Independent Scholar)
- “Hidden Heine: On Nabokov’s Imitations and Impersonations of the German Poet,” Stanislav Shvabrin, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- “Rostand’s *Chantecler*, Singer of the Sun: Hidden in Plain Sight in *Pale Fire*,” Shoshana Milgram Knapp, Virginia Tech

3:15-4:30 PM: DEMONIC DISTORTIONS

Chair: Matthew Roth

- “Devils in the Details: Nabokov’s Figurations of the Demonic,” Christopher Link, State University of New York, New Paltz
- “Paramnesia and the L Disaster in *Ada*,” David Potter, University of Sydney
- “Nabokov’s Apophatic Poetics: The Last Novels,” Eric Weiskott, Boston College

Evening

6 PM CONFERENCE BANQUET

Location: Alumnae Hall Great Ballroom

Toasts and Special Announcements

7:30 PM: KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY SHELLEY JACKSON

“Fiction is Green, Poetry is Blue: Writing for Synaesthetes”

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

BREAKFAST

Bae Pao Lu Chow, fourth floor of Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center

8:30-9:30 AM: DECEPTIONS AND DETECTIONS I

Chair: Lara Delage-Toriel, University of Strasbourg

- “‘Conjuring trick’: Magic as a Theme in *Pale Fire* and *The Luzhin Defense*,” Leopold Reigner, Normandie University
- “Unfilmed Nabokov: *Camera Obscura*’s Spectral Adaptations,” Luke Parker, Amherst College

10-11:15 AM: DECEPTIONS AND DETECTIONS II

Chair: Julian Connolly, University of Virginia

- “Humbert Humbert as Narrator, or Metaphor as Rhetoric of Imposture,” Julie Lesnoff, Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle
- “Nabokov’s Construction of *Pale Fire*,” Matthew Roth, Messiah University
- “Not So Transparent Things,” Frances Assa, Independent Scholar

11:45 AM: Depart for excursion to Cambridge, MA

- 8 Craigie Circle
- Museum of Comparative Zoology

2:30 PM: Return

(You may also bring your luggage on the bus and travel to the airport from Cambridge.)

CHECKOUT BY 5PM



WEDNESDAY JUNE 29

EXTRA HIDDEN NABOKOV: LIVE FROM ANTITERRA

10-11:15 AM: IMAGINARY BEINGS

- “The ‘Kirghiz fairy tale’ in *The Gift*: Nabokov, Folklore, and Orientalism,” Alexander Panchenko, Institute of Russian Literature (Pushkin House), St. Petersburg, Russia / European University at St. Petersburg / University of Tartu
- “Nabokov’s Long Poem ‘The Sun Dream’ (‘Solnechnyi son’), 1923, as a Source and Pretext of *The Tragedy of Mr. Morn*,” Andrei Babikov, Solzhenitsyn House of the Russian Emigration (DRZ), Moscow
- “Those That Are Hidden in Some Proper Nouns in *Transparent Things*,” Akiko Nakata, Nanzan University

11:30 AM-12:45 PM: SECRETS

- “*Lolita*: A Story of Love or an Abuse (On the Question of Readers’ Perception),” Polina Boyarkina, Institute of Russian Literature (Pushkin House), St. Petersburg, Russia
- “Chestnuts and Juicy Tidbits: Kasbeam’s Subliminal Signs,” Jenefer Coates, Independent Scholar
- “Visible Nature and Nabokov’s Hidden Center,” James Ramey, Metropolitan Autonomous University, Cuajimalpa

1-2:45 PM: HIDDEN DOCUMENTS AND HISTORIES

- “‘A Bit of Haze Is Quite Indispensable Here’: Narrative Clues and Creative Compromises in Nabokov’s Letters to American Editors,” Olga Voronina, Bard College
- “‘Glory’ or ‘Slava’? Poets vs Warriors in Nabokov’s Response to History,” Tatiana Ponomareva, Institute of Russian Literature (Pushkin House), St. Petersburg, Russia
- “‘Undistinguished sign of art’ in Nabokov’s Memorial Prose of the Late 30s,” Anastasija Drozdova, University of Tyumen
- “All the Letters Hidden There: Nabokov Against the Message,” Thomas Karshan, University of East Anglia

*all attendees will be sent the link to a Zoom webinar after the in-person conference



PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Stephen Blackwell, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Monica Manolescu, University of Strasbourg

Stanislav Shvabrin, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Susan Elizabeth Sweeney, College of the Holy Cross

Adam Weiner, Wellesley College

EVENT SUPPORT

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