

# MODERNIST STRUCTURES

4th Biennial Conference of the Société d'études modernistes  
Université Caen Normandie, June 15-18, 2022

<https://sem-france.org>

in partnership with

**Le Musée des Beaux Arts (MBA)**

<https://mba.caen.fr>

**L'Institut Mémoires de l'édition contemporaine (IMEC)**

<https://www.imec-archives.com>

**ERIBIA**

<http://www.unicaen.fr/recherche/mrsh/eribia>





## Wednesday June 15, 2022

- 8:30-9:15. Welcome Desk and Registration. Coffee and Tea. **Guided tour of artwork on Campus I** (departs 8:45, lasts 30 minutes).
- 9:15-9:45. Opening welcome greetings from Lamri Adoui, the President of Université Caen Normandie, and Françoise Baillet, the Head of ERIBIA Research Team, and Benoît Tadié, President of the Société d'Etudes Modernistes.
- 9:45-11:15 **Panels I**  
**Moderator: Benoît Tadié**  
**Structures in Narrative Theory and Poetics**  
**Olivier Hercend (Université Paris Nanterre).** Beyond Structures: High Modernism and the Concept of "Praxis."  
**Raluca Petrescu (Université de Strasbourg).** "An immaculate fulfillment in which we have no part": intermediary structures between perception and reality in William Carlos Williams' poetic discourse.  
**Maria Farland (Fordham University, USA).** "Yankee Agrarian": Robert Frost, Sherwood Anderson, and Modernity's Structures of Rural Anomie.
- 11:15-11:45 Pause
- 11:45-13:00 **Panels II**  
**Moderator: Yasna Bozhkova**  
**International Djuna Barnes Society**  
**Sanna Melin Schyllert (Université Paris 3-Sorbonne Nouvelle).** 'A woman can be civilized beyond civilization and she can be beast beyond beast.' Motherhood and performativity in Djuna Barnes's *Ryder* (1928).  
**Margaret Gillespie (Université Franche-Comté).** "Robin is incest too, that is one of her powers" or telling without telling: incest narratives in Djuna Barnes's *Nightwood* (1936).  
**Amy Wells (Université Caen Normandie).** From Page to Stage: The Disturbing Structures of Djuna Barnes's *Antiphon*.
- 13:00-14:30 Buffet Lunch
- 14:30-15:30 **Plenary Keynote I**  
**Moderator: Amy Wells**  
**Bonnie Kime Scott (San Diego State University) Expanding Visions for Modernist Networks.**
- 15:30-16:00 Presto Coffee/Tea and 10-minute walk to museum.
- 16:00. Thematic "Modernist Structures" visit of the Musée des Beaux Arts.
- 18:00. Cocktail Party at the Museum / Café Mancel (Free, sponsored by Clemson University Press) and dinner on your own.



**Thursday, June 16, 2022**

- 9:00–10:30. **Panels III**  
**Moderator: Margaret Gillespie**  
**Women Modernists: Exile and the New**  
**Catherine Delesalle-Nancey (Université Jean Moulin-Lyon 3).** Escaping structure through structure in Olive Moore’s *Spleen*.  
**Kalee Hall (Brandeis University, USA).** Constructing White Female Identity through Colonial Structures in Jane Bowles’s *Two Serious Ladies*.  
**Ruchi Mundeja (Lakshmibai College, University of Delhi, India).** Time-Framing Modernism Through the Blurring Time-Frames of Jean Rhys’s Fiction.
- 10:30-11:00. Coffee/Tea.
- 11:00-12:00. **Plenary Keynote II**  
**Moderator: Hélène Aji**  
**Andrew Thacker (Nottingham Trent University, UK).** “A love for the spirit of what is new”: on Bookshops and Other Modernist Structures.
- 12:00–13:15. Buffet Lunch. **Guided tour of Artworks on Campus I** (departs 12:45, lasts 30 minutes).
- 13:15-14:45 **Panels IV**
- **A. Artistic Matters**  
**Moderator: Jennifer Kilgore-Caradec**  
**Gina Stamm (University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, USA).** “The Palace(s) at 4 am”:  
Representing the fragility of domestic space.  
**Lynn Somers (Drew University, USA).** False Fronts and Dead Ends: Walker Evans’s  
Vernacular Modernism.  
**James Strowman (Durham University/Université Paris Cité).** ‘Dear Ezra, who knows what cadence is’: Musical Settings of Modernist Poetry.
- **B. Structuring/Unstructuring Gendered Narratives**  
**Moderator: Benoît Tadié**  
**Elizabeth Pitcherit (University of Texas at Austin).** “Revolutionary Possibilities:”  
Disability, Technology, and Narrative Structure in Leonora Carrington’s *The Hearing Trumpet*.  
**Diane Drouin (Sorbonne Université).** The Kaleidosopic Structure of Mina Loy’s  
Autobiographical Project.  
**Nicolas Piedade (Université de Limoges).** Fernando Pessoa, writer of the thresholds?  
Modernism, Heteronymy and Second-Degree Narratives.
- 14:45-15:45. **Plenary Keynote III**  
**Moderator: Jennifer Kilgore-Caradec**  
**Kenneth Haynes (Brown University).** Late Style and Late Modernism: Raving, Ranting,  
Silence, and Senility.

- 15:45-16:15. Coffee/Tea
- 16:15-17:45. **Panels V**
- **A. Politics, Pedagogy, Formalism, Structuralism, and Subversion**  
**Moderator: Olivier Hercend**  
**Maurice N. Fadel (New Bulgarian University, Sofia, Bulgaria).** From Formalism to Structuralism.  
**Arielle Marshall (University of Sydney, Australia).** Structures of Subversion: the dissident production of Surrealist text *1929*.  
**Marius Hentea (University of Gothenburg, Sweden).** The 'Moral Trials' of Francis Stuart: The Political Afterlives of Irish Neutrality.
- **B. Visual Matters: Blurrings and Alternatives of the eye and the mind's eye**  
**Moderator: Diane Drouin**  
**Pavilina Radia (Nipissing University, Canada).** The Metachoric Structures of Valentine de Saint-Point's Alternative Futurism.  
**Hervé Picherit (University of Texas at Austin).** Not Seeing is Believing: Recognizing Absence in George Perec's *La Disparition*.  
**Colin Ripley (Ryerson University, Canada).** Of walls and flowers: On the dissolution of identity.  
**Christina Heflin (Royal Holloway University of London, UK).** Surrealism, Marine Life and Non-Ocular Modes of Sensing.
- 18:00-19:15 **POETRY READING**  
**Moderator: Jennifer Kilgore-Caradec**  
**Alexandre Ferrere (Université Paris Nanterre and Cherbourg).** After working at the home of poet Jacques Prévert, located in Normandy, he is the author of two chapbooks: *mono/stitches* (2020) and *Adi Os* (2022). Access his work here: [https://neutralspaces.co/alexandre\\_ferrere](https://neutralspaces.co/alexandre_ferrere)  
**Biljana D. Obradovic (Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans, USA).** Author of *Frozen Embraces* (1997 in Serbian, bilingual edition with English 2000), *Little Disruptions* (2012 in Serbian, 2022 in English), *Le Riche Monde* (bilingual edition, 1999), and *Incognito* (2017). Access her work here: <https://biljanaobradovic.wordpress.com>  
**Ron Smith (St. Christopher's School, Richmond, Virginia, USA).** Poet Laureate of Virginia (2014-2016) and author of five collections including *The Humility of the Brutes* (2017), *Its Ghostly Workshop* (2013), and *Moon Road: Poems 1986-2005* (2007). Read his "Don't Know Much About the French I Took": <https://medium.com/birth-school-work-death/dont-know-much-about-the-french-i-took-a-poem-by-ron-smith-ac6b4e0084a2>

20:00. Conference Banquet Dinner in Caen.



**Friday, June 17, 2022**

- 9:00–10:45 **Panels VI**

**Comparative & Structuralist Structures**

**Moderator: Charlotte Estrade**

**Martina Morabito (University of Urbino Carlo Bo, Italy)**. The Poetic Atlases and Poetic Identity in Russian Symbolism.

**Sookyong Lee (St. Lawrence University, USA)**. Economic Taproots of Modernism: The Poetry of Yeats, Tagore, and Zhimo by way of Keynes.

**Yasna Bozhkova (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle)**. “Dwell[ing] in Possibility—”: Dash Structures in Modernist Poetry.

**Ioanna Ragoussi (Independent Scholar, Greece)**. Electric Bodies / Verbal Structures: Machine Poetics in the work of Gertrude Stein and William Carlos Williams.

- 10:45-11:05. Coffee/Tea Presto

- 11:15. Leave for IMEC

- 11:45-12:45. Modernist Picnic

- 12h45-13:45. Visit and presentation of the archives.

- 13:45 -16:15. **Panels VII**

**Moderator: Kenneth Haynes**

**Structures of Memory in the Poetry of Geoffrey Hill**

**Mathieu Duplay (Université de Paris)**. Geoffrey Hill/Alice Goodman: Opera and the Democracy of the Dead.

**Madeline Potter (University of York, UK)**. “Democracy is in the voice”: Polyphony, Music, and Witness in Geoffrey Hill’s Poetry.

**Sean Mark (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne)**. “Muted discords”: On Geoffrey Hill and Eugenio Montale.

**Jennifer Kilgore-Caradec (Université Caen Normandie)**. When correspondence becomes a structuring process: the Gallet/Hill correspondence.

- 16:15-17:00 **Concluding Round Table** with **Benoît Tadié** (President of the Société d’Etudes Modernistes, Université Rennes 2), **Amy Wells**, **Jennifer Kilgore-Caradec**, **Hélène Aji** (Ecole normale supérieure) and **Albert Dichy** (IMEC) and/or **François Bordes** (IMEC).

- 17:00 IMEC Closes. Return to Caen on your own: public transport bus stop or taxis can be shared (Taxi Abeille Caen: 02 31 52 17 89. NB: if you need to return to Paris in the evening, perhaps it would be best to book a train after 18:30).



### **Saturday, June 18, 2022: Excursion**

- **Modernist Structures at D-Day Landing Beaches.**  
(Event for those who have pre-registered in advance or at registration if space available.)
- 8:00. Departure by bus (meeting point to be announced), accompanied by registered tour guide.
- Morning: Omaha Beach, American Cemetery (1956).
- Lunch: Restaurant in Bayeux (to be announced).
- Afternoon: Visit Bayeux Tapestry (<https://www.bayeuxmuseum.com/la-tapisserie-de-bayeux>), and Arromanches.
- Return to Caen, Campus 1 by 18:30. Return trains to Paris possible at 19:59, 20:20, and 20:56.

(N.B. Weather conditions may impact the timing or other details of our visit).



**June 18, 2021, Virtual Keynote by Caroline Levine (Cornell University). Revaluing Structure in the Climate Crisis. <https://www.unicaen.fr/recherche/mrsh/forge/7188>**

### **SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE SEM 2022**

Hélène Aji (Ecole Normale Supérieure)  
Yasna Bozhkova (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle)  
Noëlle Cuny (Université de Haute Alsace)  
Charlotte Estrade (Université Paris Nanterre)  
Kenneth Haynes (Brown University)  
Olivier Hercend (Université Paris Nanterre)  
Jennifer Kilgore-Caradec (Université Caen Normandie)  
Caroline Levine (Cornell University)  
Peter Nicholls (New York University)  
Caroline Pollentier (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle)  
Bonnie Kime Scott (San Diego State University)  
Naomi Toth (Université Paris Nanterre)  
Benoît Tadié (Université Rennes 2)  
Chloé Thomas (Université du Maine)  
Andrew Thacker (Nottingham Trent University)  
Amy Wells (Université Caen Normandie)