

CONTEMPORARY
POETRY:
THINKING & FEELING

20-22 MAY 2016

POETRY
WITH
PLYMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

ORGANIZERS: ANTHONY CALESHU & MANDY BLOOMFIELD
WITH THANKS TO THE FACULTY OF ARTS,
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & CREATIVE WRITING,
PERIPLUM, PUBLISHER OF NEW POETRY,
RESEARCH AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES, AND PLYMOUTH CATERING

CONTEMPORARY POETRY: THINKING & FEELING

20-22 May 2016

All panels and plenaries to take place at Roland Levinsky Building, Plymouth University, Drake Circus, Plymouth, Devon, PL4 8AA, United Kingdom

Organizers: Anthony Caeshu & Mandy Bloomfield

Programme:

Contemporary Poetry: Thinking & Feeling is the fourth conference in a long-running series of events dedicated to poetry at Plymouth University. In 2016, we'll be exploring the interplay and divide between thinking and feeling in poetry. In what ways might poetry embody a process of thinking? What's the role of emotion in recent poetry? Can thinking be divided from feeling? Does a poetry of the head preclude a poetry of affect, and vice versa? Are these the terms of competing antagonisms or productive dialogues? What's the relationship between the intellect and affect?

Poetry has long explored these questions, but this conference dedicated to 20th and 21st century work asks what 'new' developments are shifting the terms of debate and practice? Issues we hope to explore include the role and use of autobiography, imagination, sexuality, race, gender, faith, the lyric voice, narrative, conceptualism, history, eco-poetics and poetic materiality.

We very much hope you enjoy the conference... any queries, please contact us:

Anthony (07906 541426) and Mandy (07790 790221)
anthony.Caeshu@plymouth.ac.uk mandy.bloomfield@plymouth.ac.uk

FRIDAY 20TH MAY

1.30 – 2.15

Registration, Coffee and Welcome Address
Roland Levinsky Crosspoint Atrium

2.15 – 3.45

Panel Session 1

Panel 1a: Movement & Poetry

Roland Levinsky Building, Lecture Theatre 2
Chair: Mandy Bloomfield

Camilla Nelson (Schumacher College) & Khaled Barghouthi, 'On Reading Movement: A Performance Lecture'

Scott Thurston, (Salford University) 'Vitality Dynamics in Poetry and Movement Collaborations'

Peter Gillies, (University of Plymouth) 'Looping the Loop: Cy Twombly's Poetics of Paint'

Panel 1b: Rewriting Feeling

Roland Levinsky Building 210
Chair: Matthew Carbery

Julie Tanner, ' "Help, head. Help heart." Thinking about feeling in the work of Lydia Davis'

Jess Cotton, (UCL) 'Black Transparency/Radical Opacity: Anne Boyer, Claudia Rankine and Juliana Spahr'

Panel 1c: Poethics

Roland Levinsky Building 303
Chair: Joe Luna

Jon Clay, (Richmond-upon-Thames College) 'Poetry, Ethics, Aesthetics and Politics'

J. T. Welsch, (York St John University) 'Delighted & Humbled: The Self-Made Poet and the Value of Poem-Making'

Ed Luker, (Northumbria University) 'Impersonal power: rethinking the "British" Lyric'

FRIDAY 20TH MAY (CONT)

3.45 – 4.15

Tea & Coffee

Roland Levinsky Crosspoint Atrium

4.15– 5.45

Panel Session 2

Panel 2a: Ecopoetics

Roland Levinsky Building 210

Chair: Holly Corfield Carr

Elizabeth-Jane Burnett, (Newman University) 'Textured Feelings: Thinking, Feeling and Acting through Hair in Ecopoetics'

Srishti Krishnamoorthy, (University of Cambridge) 'Maternal Practices: Flight, Trauma and Grief in Grace Lake's Bernache Nonette'

Rachael Allen, (University of Hull), 'Insolvent Poetics and Ecology'

Panel 2b: Contingency and Transformation

Roland Levinsky Building 303

Chair: Camilla Nelson

Matthew Carbery, (University of Kent/ University of Plymouth) 'Improvised Thought Felt: Thresholds in Free Jazz and 20th Century Poetics'

Natalie Pollard, (University of Exeter) 'Metamorphosis, Mutability and Paul Muldoon'

Mark Leahy (Falmouth University), 'a miracle can you speak i am electronic': transcriptions of seeing / hearing voices in poetry by Hannah Weiner and Holly Pester

FRIDAY 20TH MAY (CONT)

4.15– 5.45 (continued)

Panel Session 2

Panel 2c: Poetic Exuberance

Roland Levinsky Building Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: Ed Luker

Prudence Chamberlain & Nisha Ramayya, (Royal Holloway) 'Falling/Failing in Love: A Queer Lyric'

Anthony Caleshu (Plymouth University) 'Mark Ford's Literary Affect'

Jenna Clarke, (Birmingham University) 'Feminine and Feminist Humour in the Absurd'

6.00 – 7.15pm

Plenary

Roland Levinsky Building Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: Mandy Bloomfield

Redell Olsen, 'Proposals For Landscapes: and other mutual antipathies'

This talk will offer a series of proposals for landscapes, a recalibration of the optics for a poetics of the conceptual. This reading will explore these possibilities across multiple registers of the material and linguistic possibilities of felt-thought. It will assert a space for itself between the symptomatic dismissal by the visual arts of poetry as 'literary costume' and the more recent neglectful mis-readings of conceptual art by writing at the expense of the conceptual histories of the lyric genre.

7.15 – 8.00

Ale and Wine Reception, sponsored by Periplum, publisher of new poetry

Roland Levinsky Building, Crosspoint Atrium

SATURDAY 21ST MAY

9.00 – 10.30

Panel Session 3

Panel 3a: The Plymouth Poetry Scene from the Inside: commentary and readings

Roland Levinsky Building 209

Chair: Scott Thurston

Steve Spence, Norman Jope & Kenny Knight in discussion about the activities of The Language Club, Plymouth

Panel 3b: Bios, Oikos, Poetics

Roland Levinsky Building 210

Chair: Jonathan Ivry

Jeremy Noel-Tod, (UEA) "Dog or Wolf": Vahni Capildeo's Feeling for Prose Poetry'

Ros Ambler-Alderman, (University of Southampton) "How does one think nonetheless emotions?" Thinking through connections in Lyn Hejinian's "The Lake"

Stephen Grace, (University of York) 'A minor female Wordsworth': Elizabeth Bishop's bio-poetics'

Panel 3c: Post-Confessional Poetics

Roland Levinsky Building 303

Chair: Gareth Farmer

Katherine Peddie, (University of Kent) 'Contemporary Confession'

Sophie Robinson, (UEA) "I looked in the mirror / and nobody was there to testify": Lyric & Queer Trauma'

Colin Herd, (University of Glasgow) 'Emotion and Conjunction in CAConrad's (Soma)tic Poetics'

10.30 – 11.00

Tea & Coffee

Roland Levinsky Building Crosspoint Atrium

SATURDAY 21ST MAY (CONT)

11.00 – 12.30

Panel Session 4

Panel 4a: Poetry and/as Situated Thinking

Roland Levinsky Building 209

Chair: Ros Ambler-Alderman

Ellen Dillon, (DCU, Dublin) "am I in meaning yet": sonic pareidolia in Peter Manson's Sourdough Mutation.'

Holly Corfield Carr, (University of Cambridge) "We are in your reckhoming": typos and topos in Douglas Oliver's In The Cave of Suicession (1974)'

Caitlin Maling, (University of Sydney) 'Love and Place in the Work of Randolph Stow'

Panel 4b: Cancellation & Loss

Roland Levinsky Building 210

Chair: Natalie Pollard

Joe Luna, (University of Sussex), 'Unanswerable Questions'

Calum Gardner, (Cardiff University) 'Writing from Zero: Kristjana Gunnars and Roland Barthes'

Diane Rolnick, (Texas A&M University) 'To Feel and To Think in Latin American Neobaroque Mourning Poetry by José Kozer, Tamara Kamenszain and Eduardo Espina'

Panel 4c: Measuring Feeling

Roland Levinsky Building 303

Chair: Anthony Caleshu

Ben Hickman, (University of Kent) 'Beyond Showing and Telling: Consciousness After the Avant-Garde'

Iain Rowley, (UEA) "Locate an irritation": Mina Loy's "Parturition" and a Poetics of Midwifery'

Daniel Katz, (University of Warwick) 'Peter Gizzi and Ben Lerner: the Cold and the Cold in Recent American Poetry'

SATURDAY 21ST MAY (CONT)

12.30 – 1.45

Lunch

Roland Levinsky Building Crosspoint Atrium

1.45 – 3.00

Plenary

Roland Levinsky Building Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: Anthony Caleshu

Matvei Yankelevich, 'Saliva: Moscow Conceptualism's Reclamation of Poetry and Sentiment'

3.00 – 3.15

Quick Tea & Coffee Break

Roland Levinsky Building Crosspoint Atrium

3.15 – 4.45

Panel Session 5

Panel 5a: Language under Poetic Scrutiny

Roland Levinsky Building 209

Chair: David Sergeant

Gareth Farmer, (University of Bedfordshire) 'Post-Mimetic Poetics'

Peter Middleton, (University of Southampton) 'Poetry and the Expanding Universe of Language'

David Herd, (University of Kent) 'Valediction Forbidden Mourning: Poetry in the Age of Deportation'

SATURDAY 21ST MAY (CONT)

3.15 – 4.45 (continued)

Panel Session 5

Panel 5b: Embodiment

Roland Levinsky Building 210

Chair: Elizabeth-Jane Burnett

Karla Kelsey, (Susquehanna University) 'Body as Source and Channel: A Poetics for Socially-Engaged Work'

Tom Bamford, (University of Sussex) 'The Live Reading and the Dead Body: Feeling and the Politics of Performance in Kenneth Goldsmith and Rob Halpern'

Patrick Errington, (University of St Andrews) 'The Body in Mind: Poetry and the Re-Embodiment of Abstract Thought'

5.00 – 6.15

Plenary

Roland Levinsky Building Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: Anthony Caleshu

Keston Sutherland, 'Naked Intensity'

6.15 – 7.15

Ale and Wine Reception, sponsored by Periplum

Roland Levinsky Building Crosspoint Atrium

8.00 – late

Optional Conference Dinner at Seco Lounge, Royal William Yard

SUNDAY 22ND MAY

9.00 – 10.30

Panel Session 6

Panel 6a: Languages of resistance

Roland Levinsky Building 209

Chair: Matthew Carbery

Stephen Mooney, (University of Surrey) 'Poetic as political response – the War Machine in Will Rowe's Nation'

Helen Dimos, 'Language of the pores ---- Necessary poetry'

William Rowe, (Birkbeck, University of London) 'Violence and truth in the poetry of Sean Bonney, Juliana Spahr, and others'

Panel 6b: Reworking Modernism

Roland Levinsky Building 210

Chair: Rebecca Mills

Jonathan Ivry, (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater) 'Almost an Ungulate: Thinking and Feeling in the Poetry of Kay Ryan'

Richard Graham, (Oriel College, Oxford) "'In my end is my beginning': T. S. Eliot and the Idealism of F. H. Bradley.'

Michael Collins, (Texas A&M University) 'Poetics of Longing'

10.30 – 11.00

Tea & Coffee

Roland Levinsky Building Crosspoint Atrium

SUNDAY 22ND MAY (CONT)

11.00 – 12.30

Panel Session 7

Susan Johanknecht (Camberwell College of Arts) & Katharine Meynell, 'Embodied processes: thinking and making: material affect in Poetry of Unknown Words'

David Devanny (Falmouth University) & Jack McGowan (University of Warwick), 'The Media-Forms of Contemporary Poetry and Collaborative Affect'

Panel 7b: Process & Pursuit

Roland Levinsky Building 210

Chair: Peter Gillies

Hannah Copley, (University of Leeds) 'Thinking 'V' Feeling: The creative process of Geoffrey Hill and Tony Harrison'

Madeline Potter, (University of York) "'Reason and Desire on the Same Loop": Knowledge and Sensuous Intelligence in Geoffrey Hill's Canaan and the Orchards of Syon'

Kym Martindale, (Falmouth University) 'The Pursuit of Edward Thomas'

Panel 7c: Perceptual Spaces

Roland Levinsky Building 303

Chair: Stephen Mooney

Harrison Sullivan, (University of Kent) 'The Self and Domesticity in Andrew Crozier's Pleats'

Rebecca Mills, (University of Plymouth) 'Bites of Spring: Epistemology and the Painful Pastoral in Modern Persephone Poems'

12.30 – 1.30

Lunch

Roland Levinsky Building Crosspoint Atrium

SUNDAY 22ND MAY (CONT)

1.30 – 2.45

Plenary

Roland Levinsky Building Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: Anthony Caleshu

Holly Pester, 'Nervousness as Style'

Jack Underwood, 'A brief manifesto in favour of Kindness'

The categorisation of poetry according to genre, tribe or type, often derived from dubious notions of "quality" and "tradition" arguably have little to do with the experience of reading and writing poetry. I will be proposing that a poem can be seen as either kind, or relatively unkind, a new axis which I hope will avoid tribalist reductionism and welcome intersection.

2.45

End & Post-conference Walk/Pub

POETRY
WITH
PLYMOUTH
UNIVERSITY