The Inhuman Conference Schedule

Friday, October 3rd, 2008

Introductions
8:45 am – 9:00 am (Renaissance Room 001)
Robert Brown, Sharanpal Ruprai, Joshua Synenko

Return and Retreat of The Uncanny
9:00 am – 10:30 am (Renaissance Room 001)
Chair: Dr. Susan Ingram, York

- Ofelia’s ‘Act’ and the Sacrifice of Sacrifice in Pan’s Labyrinth (Susan Moore, York)
- Obscenity and Anamorphosis in The 120 Days of Sodom (Jeremy Bell, Trent)
- The Uncanny Fecundity of the Novel: America between Mourning and Melancholia in Don Delillo’s “Falling Man” (Ricky Varghese, U of T)

Life, Death, Alterity: Ethics Without Religion
9:00 am – 10:30 am (Senior Common Room 010)
Chair: Zipporah Weisberg, York

- The Function of Liminality in Hayao Miyazaki’s Spirited Away (Denis Yarow, U of T)
- The Inhuman in Lyotard and Agamben: the child versus the anthropological machine (Stijn De Cauwer, Trent)
- Does Dying Make you Human? Inhumanity and Death in Levinas and Heidegger (Mike Bennett, UWO)

Inhumanity of the Dispossessed
10:45 am – 12:45 pm (Renaissance Room 001)
Chair: Sharanpal Ruprai, York

- Being-in-the-Third-World: Animality and the Phenomenological Rhetoric of Poverty (Sundhya Walther, U of T)
- Sexing the Indian: Scholarship’s Role in the Consolidation of Colonial Structures of Gender and Sexuality (Zoë Aarden, Trent)
Dead to the World: Embodied Gender Transgression and the Loss of Humanity (Kestryl Lowrey, NYU)

**Slaughter House Ethics**  
10:45 am – 12:45 pm (Senior Common Room 010)  
Chair: Joshua Synenko, York

Why Nonhuman Animals Still Exist: The Ethics of Essence in the Techno-Scientific Age (Zipporah Weisberg, York)

Ethical Community as More than Human: Food Animals and Aporetic Decision (Jessica Carey, McMaster)

Dead Meat: Animal Corpses, Language and the Body as Product (Sarah Henderson, U of T)

**Lunch 12:45 pm – 2:00 pm**

**After The Subject: Materiality, System, and Nature**  
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm (Renaissance Room 001)  
Chair: Dr. Jody Berland, York

Lyotard and the *Oikos* (Gregory Kalyniuk, Trent)

Paralogical Ecologies: Lyotard and Luhmann (Robert Brown, York)


**Affect, Identity, Moving Image: Humans on Film**  
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm (Senior Common Room 010)  
Chair: Madeline Ashby, York

Perturbing, enkindling: transgression and its condition in the work of Jan Švankmajer (Mareike Sera, Humboldt)

The Politics of Becoming: Cyborgs and Posthumans as a New Ground to Think Identity (Emilie Dionne, York)

What is “The Dawn of Man” in Kubrick’s *2001*? (Lauren Stephen, McMaster)

**Ecological Futures: Nature, Science, Inhuman**  
3:45 pm – 5:15 pm (Renaissance Room 001)  
Chair: Robert Brown, York
Climate Change and Nonhuman Agency: What a New Materialist Perspective Can Offer Science (Lisa M. Cockburn, U of A)

The Question of Universalizability (Thomas Paul York, U of T)

Aliens, Existential Risk, and Cosmic Environmentalism: Re-envisioning Humanity’s Relationship to the Universe (Joe Packer, Pittsburgh)

**Coetzee and the Revision of Humanity**
3:45 pm – 5:15 pm (Senior Common Room 010)
Chair: TBA

*Dogs in Disgrace: Coetzee’s Experiment with the Inhuman* (Dianne George, Carleton)

Writing is Not Zoo-Keeping: Coetzee and the Question of the Animal (Miriam Love, UWO)

Inhuman Acts: Animals, Genocide, and the Analogization of the Jewish Holocaust (Miriam Novick, U of T)

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**Keynote Address: Cary Wolfe, Rice University**

“Before The Law: Animals in a Biopolitical Context”

**Senate Chambers, Ross N940**
Friday, 7:00 pm

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**Saturday, October 4th, 2008**

**The Will To Literature**
9:00 am – 10:30 am (Renaissance Room 001)
Chair: Chris Sartison, York

Beyond Human: The flight towards an animal in the Central European/Czech Literature (Kafka, Hasek, Capek, Kundera) (Jan Matonoha, Charles)

A Nietzschean Posthumanism: Aesthetic Mastery of the Knowledge Drive (William Wahl, U of T)
Canadian Ghosts and the Will to Truth: Reading Marlene Norbese Philip’s “Looking for Livingstone” (Concetta Principe, York)

**Animals, Empathy & Autonomy**
10: 45 am – 12: 45 pm (Senior Common Room 010)
Chair: Dr. Traci Warkentin, York

The Jackass, the Hen, and the Sheepdog, or Animals, Play, and Freedom (Istvan Csicsery-Ronay, DePauw)

The Limits of the Human: Human and Nonhuman Primates and the Subject of Rights (Rhéa Wilson, UVic)

Becoming’s Breathlessness: Child, Animal, Unhuman (Nicholas Murphy, McMaster)

**Bodies Over Here: From Spirit To Cyborg**
10: 45 am – 12: 45 pm (Renaissance Room 001)
Chair: Arun Nedra Rodrigo, York

Radical Bodies: Human, Not Quite Human (Averil Farrar, UWO)

Practicable Bodies: How We Become Feminist Posthumans (Stephanie Oliver, UWO)

Transforming Risk in Posthuman Bodies: An Analysis of Control in Ishiguro’s *Never Let Me Go* (Justin Johnston, Wisconsin-Madison)

Loving Machines: Theorizing Human and Sociable-Technology Interaction (Glenda Shaw-Garlock, Simon Fraser)

**Lunch 12: 45 pm – 2: 00 pm**

**Deposable Sovereigns, Disposable Publics**
2: 00 pm – 3: 30 pm (Renaissance Room 001)
Chair: Joshua Synenko, York

“He who is unable to live in society…must be either a beast or a god”: Situating the ‘Inhuman’ in Aristotle’s Political Thought (Matthew James Austin, UWO)

Ecce Homo: States of Exception, States of Exclusion (Arun Nedra Rodrigo, York)

Blowback: Disposable Populations, Citizenship, and Rage (Sarah Trimble, McMaster)

**On Posthuman Aesthet(h)ics: Form, Affect, Re/Vision**
2: 00 pm – 3: 30 pm (Senior Common Room 010)
Chair: Annabel Van Baren, York

Poetry After 9/11: Frank Bidart, Apocalyptic Temporality, and the Limits of Sympathy (Stephanie Youngblood, Wisconsin-Madison)

Posthuman Revisions of Organic Form in Poetry (Michelle Niemann, Wisconsin-Madison)

Radical De-Centering: Barthes’s *punctum*, the Uncanny, and “Difficult Beauty” in Recent Paintings and Photographs (Jennifer L. Conrad, Wisconsin-Madison)

Plath’s Poetic Disruptions: On the Refusal of Origins, Identification, and Empathy (Emily Clark, Wisconsin-Madison)

**Gardens, Cities, and Creation: Spacing the Inhuman**
3: 45 pm – 5: 15 pm (Renaissance Room 001)
Chair: Teresa Van Neste, York

Art as Other Collectives (Heather Davis, Concordia)

Subjectivity and the More-Than-Human: Thinking with Public Gardens (Erin Despard, Concordia)

Inhuman Agency and Indeterminate Environmental Interventions (Matthew Tiessen, U of A)

**Bringing Human Back**
3: 45 pm – 5: 15 pm (Senior Common Room 010)
Chair: Carolyn Hibbs, York

Personism: a Post-Posthumanist Approach to the Alien (Cat Ashton, York)

Ambivalence as Human: Butler’s *Giving an Account of Oneself* and conflicting attitudes towards anti-humanism (Christina Brooks, McMaster)

Longing for Wilderness: the human and the other – *vis à vis* – in the poetry and poetics of Don McKay (Melanie Boyd, Calgary)

Reality’s Plenitude and the Other Night: Wallace Stevens’ Restorative Perception (Philip Glennie, UWO)