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SLAMmag

SLAMmag is the electronic magazine of the School of Literature, Art & Media (SLAM) in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, providing updates on the activities of the School and celebrating our research and teaching achievements.

In this issue:

- Head of School welcome
- School news and events
- Department news & events



Head of School welcome

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to be able to address you as the new Head of SLAM. Allow me, in this first instance, to depart from the regular format of this message that you have been accustomed to in the past. The contents of this magazine rightly celebrate the many achievements of our School, from welcoming new, talented colleagues, to highlighting the awards our colleagues keep securing in research and teaching alike. I am also impressed to see the many publications, conferences, and research trips that you all engage in, clear evidence of a dynamic and creative faculty. Here let me give me a preview of what I see ahead of us.

The months and years ahead will present a number of challenges and opportunities. There is still quite a bit of work to finalise the transformed curriculum. I will make sure that there is sufficient leadership and support there to achieve that as smoothly as possible. Our infrastructure needs upgrading and expanding, especially as we prepare to welcome our colleagues from Sydney College of the Arts into the Old Teachers College come 2020. But the excitement lies in research, collaborations, and external engagement. It is in these areas that I will focus much energy. I hope to facilitate new research clusters as well as encourage interdisciplinary collaborations, within the School as well as between the School and the University's multidisciplinary initiatives. And I intend to boost our external engagements, in order to afford our work maximum impact, and to ensure that our research positively affects our community. To do this successfully I will of course need all the support SLAM colleagues can offer me. I am counting on it and I look forward to working with you all.



Professor [Umberto Ansaldo](#)
Head, SLAM

[Fiona Andreallo](#)



I am a newly appointed lecturer in digital cultures, MECO. My research interests focus on contemporary developments of communication through social media, artificial intelligence and robotics. My academic research interests extend from my prior creative research work as a digital media illustrator (in areas of science and medicine) as well as an artistic digital media practice. I have also lectured extensively at tertiary institutions in digital and social media as well as interactive digital design. My PhD thesis (UTS, 2017) argued that visual communication experienced through social media is not only active, but interactive. I am currently working towards a book in this area. Other than my academic pursuits I am kept busy by my 2 children, as well as my chubby one-eyed pug named Bon-Bon and cocker-spaniel, Ernest.

I've newly joined the Department of English as a Lecturer in Creative Writing. I'm the author of three books of creative non-fiction, most recently [Mirror Sydney](#) (Giramondo, 2017), a collection of essays and hand-drawn maps that investigates Sydney's marginal places and undercurrents. My previous works are the memoirs *Ninety 9* (Giramondo, 2013) and *Strawberry Hills Forever* (Local Consumption Publications, 2007). My writing examines expressions of memory in physical environments and objects and I often work with museums, galleries and archives. In 2018, my essay "Time Machines" will be published in the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences publication *Time and Memory*, and I am currently working on an essay commission for 'The National', a Sydney-based biennial contemporary art exhibition.

[Vanessa Berry](#)



news

SLAM New Faces cont'd

[Diana Chester](#)



I am a media artist, sound studies scholar, and ethnographer, specialising in the recording and documentation of religious recitations and festivals. I focus on the Theyyam Festival in the Malabar region of Kerala India, and the Islamic Call to Prayer. I am currently working on developing an archive of vernacular photographs, documents, and oral histories of the Lipka Tatar community in Brooklyn, New York. Themes of my research include sonic and digital ethnographic practice, transmedia composition, and the exploration of artistic responses to archival materials. I also publish on arts pedagogy focusing on the fusion of practice and theory.

I moved to Sydney from Singapore where I held a Post Doctoral Fellowship at Yale-NUS College in Sonic Arts. Prior to that I was a founding member of New York University Abu Dhabi, a start-up Liberal Arts College, born out of a partnership between New York University and the government of the United Arab Emirates. There I held both administrative and academic positions in IT, the Library, and the Arts Department. I have taught courses in Music, Film, Interactive Media, and Theatre. I have also lived in India where I was working for a non-governmental organisation in technology and education, and call New York home.

I am a newly appointed Lecturer of Contemporary Art with a specialisation in Photo Media. I have relocated from the United States where I served as Assistant Professor of Photography at the University of Kansas.

My practice-based research is designed to examine and dismantle the construct of the ideal family, propagated by twentieth century visual culture. My research traces the formation and evolution of the *idyllic domestic tableau* presented in popular imagery to reveal motives of capitalism. I intend to foster a conversation surrounding challenges faced by families, in an effort to halt generational cycles of domestic trauma and abuse. Through the act of making, appropriating and curating photographic imagery, I work to expand the perimeter of visual information considered for inclusion in new iterations of the family album.

My current project, *Becoming a Specter*, was funded by a 2017 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship and has since been the subject of solo exhibitions at Elizabeth Houston Gallery in New York and The Print Center in Philadelphia.

[Daniel Coburn](#)

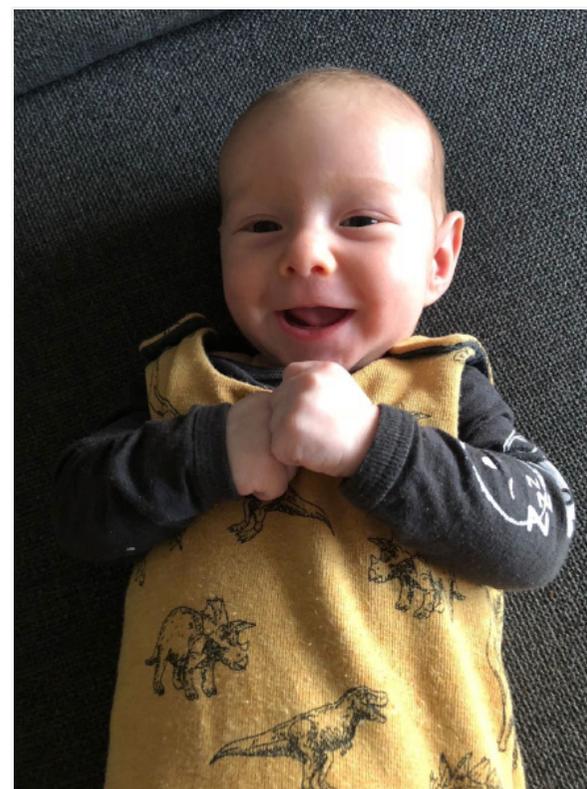


Welcome to the world ...

Dan Anlezark and Anne Rogerson's daughter
Audrey Anlezark
Born 28 June



Isabelle Hesse and Jacques Simon's son
Ben Simon
Born 4 June



Department of Art History

Words by Dr [Catriona Moore](#) | Chair of Department

We all enjoyed watching the ABC [7.30 report on 7 August](#) to see Museum and Heritage Studies Masters student Bethany Robinson discuss the first usage of penicillin in Australia. Bethany had uncovered new evidence on Australian medical history whilst interning at the Children's Hospital at Westmead – such is the value of student internships in museum collections, and the possibilities that they offer to hosts and students.

On the teaching front, [Mark de Vitis](#) has scored a hat-trick for our Department in being awarded the Dean's commendation three years running for ARHT1001: *Style & Substance: Introducing Art History*. Mark's awards underscore the importance of focussing teaching talent on these crucial foundation years.

Museum and Heritage Studies hosted Nina Parish (University of Bath) as a SLAM visiting fellow throughout August. She presented research arising from her involvement in the EU funded Horizon 2020 [UNREST](#) on War Museums as agonistic spaces. Her visit included researching sites of memory and War Museums in Australia with [Chiara O'Reilly](#), including a site visit to the still in development Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park.

Also in the public space, [Chiara O'Reilly](#) and the interdisciplinary *Nano Lens* research project team launched the [Nano Lens](#) at the Royal Botanical Gardens by inviting the public to 'Look Through the Nano Lens at Art Science and Nature' as part of the Gardens' *Living Laboratory* event. The team fielded countless questions about Nano Science and art as the public responded enthusiastically to the challenge of citizen science, taking the opportunity to re-look at nature from both a scientific and artistic perspective.



Photos from *Nano Lens* at the Sydney Science Festival (Image credit: Katje Ford)

Further afield, [Stephen Whiteman](#) joined the digital art history workshop *Visualizing Venice* with research collaborators from Nanyang Technological University. Stephen and colleagues also launched the collaborative *Site and Space in Southeast Asia* project, a two-year collaborative research project exploring spatial histories of art and architecture in Huê, Penang and Yangon, funded through the Getty Foundation's Connecting Art Histories initiative, administered by the Power Institute in partnership with National Gallery Singapore and Nanyang Technological University. Stephen also participated in a workshop on global histories of art supported through a partnership between the Power Institute and the Clark Art Institute, convened by [Mary Roberts](#) and alumnus Robert Wellington.

In London, [Mark Ledbury](#) convened the conference 'Frenemies: Friendship, Enmity and Rivalry in British Art 1769-2018' with alumni Georgina Cole, Mark Hallett and Sarah Turner at the British Royal Academy in July. Also in the UK, [Donna West Brett](#) presented a paper, 'The Stasi Archive as Visual and Material History' at the Photographic History Research Network conference. Across the Channel in France, [Roger Benjamin](#)'s catalogue essay for a major exhibition, "L'Algérie de Gustave Guillaumet", opened in La Rochelle before travelling to the museums of Limoges and Roubaix. Roger gave the keynote address accompanying the opening, which was attended by the French Minister of Culture, Françoise Nyssen.

Back home, [Donna West Brett](#)'s co-edited inter-disciplinary collection (with Natalya Lusty of Gender and Cultural Studies) titled [Photography and Ontology: Unsettling Images](#) was published in August. Donna also chaired a lively discussion session at the Verge Gallery for the *Critical Bodies* exhibition curated by [Julie Rrap](#) (SCA) and Cherine Fahd (UTS). Also in

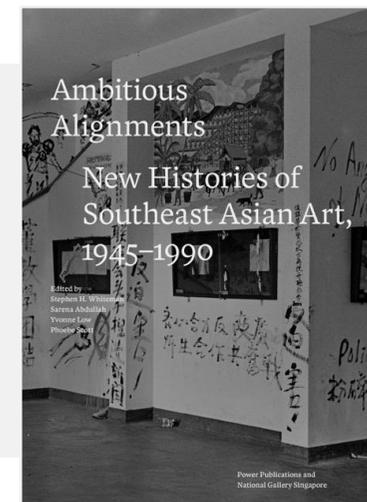
the museum space, [Helena Robinson](#) noted the precarious funding of local council museums in a feature article recently published in [Government News](#).

[Ann Elias](#) was awarded an FRSS grant for 'Investigating the Floor of Sydney Harbour', a major primary research endeavour for preparation for ARC Linkage in 2019. In late July, Ann also convened a departmental retreat to discuss individual and collaborative research, and the best way to create a vibrant research culture within the Department. Contributing in a significant way to our discussions were Catherine Driscoll (Gender and Cultural Studies), Sarah Taylor (Research Support Officer for SLAM) and Kate Taylor (Business Development Manager for FASS).

Emeritus Professor [John Clark](#), Professor [Mary Roberts](#), and a former student, Amelia Groom, each published a book chapter in [Time in the History of Art: Temporality, Chronology and Anachrony](#) (Eds Dan Karlholm, Keith Moxey).

Recent publications

Stephen H. Whiteman, Sarena Abdullah, Yvonne Low and Phoebe Scott (Eds), [Ambitious Alignments: New Histories of Southeast Asian Art, 1945-1990](#) (2018, Power Publications).



Celtic Studies

Words by Professor [Jonathan Wooding](#) | Sir Warwick Fairfax Chair of Celtic Studies

Vale Anders Ahlqvist

Members of the Sydney University community will be greatly saddened by the news of the passing of the first incumbent of the Sir Warwick Fairfax Chair of Celtic Studies, Professor Anders Ahlqvist, who died suddenly at his home in Finland on 23 August, aged 73. One of the most distinguished of contemporary Celtic scholars, he is mourned by friends across the world—not least in Sydney and Helsinki where he worked tirelessly to establish the teaching of Celtic Studies.



2018 Australasian Conference of Irish Studies

The main event in Sydney Celtic Studies this year is the 23rd Australasian Conference of Irish Studies (27-30 November), which will feature over 40 papers and four keynote lectures, as well as a range of other events. Keynote speakers include Professor Joseph F. Nagy (Harvard) and Dr Oona Frawley (Maynooth). Further details, as they become available, can be found [here](#). Any enquiries by [email](#) to Professor Jonathan Wooding.

Department of English

Words by Dr [Brigid Rooney](#) | Chair of Department

Awards and Prizes

Warm congratulations and celebrations are due for [Michelle De Kretser](#), an Honorary Associate of the Department of English, for her stunning second-time-round [Miles Franklin Literary Award](#) for [The Life to Come](#) (2017). This follows on from Michelle's previous Miles Franklin Literary Award for [Questions of Travel](#) (2012), making her only the third woman to win this most renowned Australian literary award on more than one occasion (the other two female authors being Jessica Anderson and Thea Astley).

We also congratulate another Department of English Honorary Associate, [Jessica Milner Davis](#), who has received the International Society for Humor Studies (ISHS) Lifetime Achievement Award for Research in Humor Studies. The award was presented at a conference held at Estonia's University of Tallinn. Jessica's most recent book, co-edited with Sharyn Roach Anleu, is [Judges, Judging and Humour](#).

Dr [Laura Olcelli](#)'s book [Questions of Authority: Italian and Australian Travel Narratives of the Long Nineteenth Century](#) has won the 2018 ESSE (European Society for the Study of English) Book Award for early career scholarship in Literatures in the English Language. The book began life as a PhD thesis supervised by Professor [Vanessa Smith](#) in the Department of English.

Farewells

English bids a fond farewell to three excellent colleagues now moving on to other things: Dave Kelly, Judith Beveridge and Fiona McFarlane. All three will be greatly missed by us and by their students but we wish them all the best in their new endeavours.

Publications and presentations

Dr [Anthony Cordingley](#) presented an invited lecture and ran a week-long seminar on reading Beckett with philosophy at the Samuel Beckett Summer School at Trinity College Dublin (30 July - 4 August).

Professor [Paul Giles](#) was an invited speaker at 'America's Asia, Asia's America', a conference hosted by the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore from 13-14 August 2018; his talk was entitled: 'Transhemispheric and Crosstemporal: American Studies and Asia Pacific Culture'. Paul also has an article published in the *Journal of American Studies*, 52.3 (2018), entitled 'Transpacific American Studies and Global Indigeneity'.

With Dr [Anita Callaway](#) (Department of Art History), Associate Professor [Peter Kirkpatrick](#) co-curated an exhibition on the NSW Bookstall Co. for Rare Books,

on display on level 2 of Fisher Library from August. In the early twentieth century, the Bookstall Co. was Australia's largest publisher of paperback fiction by local authors, and the exhibition contains rare items, manuscripts, original artworks and illustrations. Thanks go to Julie Price from Rare Books who was instrumental in its organisation and design, and to the Library staff who assisted her. In other exciting Peter Kirkpatrick news, his poem 'Versities: Building X' has been shortlisted for the national Newcastle Poetry Prize.

Postgraduate 'What If' Conference: Report by Conveners

The ["What If?: Reading Worlds of Possibility" conference](#) was held from 14-15 June in the John Woolley Building. It was convened by four PhD students in the English department: Ella Collins-White, Oliver Moore, Jennifer Nicholson and Samantha Poulos. The conference was geared towards postgraduate students and ECRs, inviting papers engaging with potentiality, possibility, and new or inventive perspectives. The conveners extend thanks to the English Department and to SUPRA for their combined assistance in subsidising the conference costs for attendees and funding small travel grants to selected delegates.

Postgraduate 'What If' Conference: Report by Conveners cont'd

Plenary speakers Dr [Brigid Rooney](#) and Dr [Benjamin Miller](#) (Department of Writing Studies) and Dr Alys Moody (Macquarie University) opened the conference with their discussions of what and how we read, and what imagination has to do with literary studies. In addition to these, panels on professionalisation and publishing allowed for conversations and questions to circulate between junior and senior scholars. The guest panellists were Meg Brayshaw (Western Sydney University), Gabriella Edelstein, Dr Rachel Franks, and from the University of Sydney Professor [Paul Giles](#), Associate Professor [Sarah Gleeson-White](#), Dr [Bruce Isaacs](#), Dr [Ashley Maher](#), and Grace Sharkey (Gender and Cultural Studies).

Delegates spoke to a range of disciplines and the result was a unique and engaging two days of interdisciplinary discussions. Attendees' feedback emphasised the productivity of a collegiate and welcoming experience, particularly for early stage students. An edition of *Philament* based on some exemplary papers from the conference is now in its early editorial stages. The conference conveners have also developed an introductory theory reading group as a result of some feedback about generating relationships between scholars and disciplines.

[Email](#) for further information or check out the [#usydwhatif](#) Twitter thread or conference account ([@usydenglishpg](#)).

Recent publications

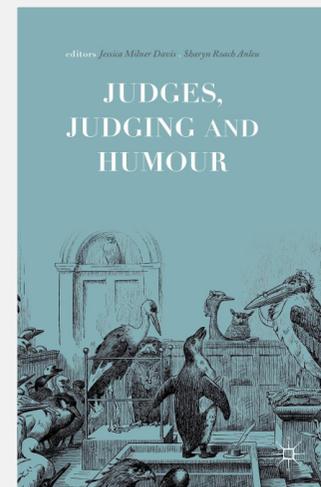
Judith Beveridge, [Sun Music: New and Selected Poems](#). (2018, Giramondo).

Robert Dixon (Ed), [Richard Flanagan: Critical Essays](#). (2018, Sydney University Press).



Jessica Milner Davis & Sharyn Roach Anleu (Eds), [Judges, Judging and Humour](#). (2018, Palgrave Macmillan).

Michael Wilding, [The Travel Writer](#). (2018, Arcadia).



Department of Linguistics

Words by Associate Professor [Monika Bednarek](#) | Chair of Department

The Department warmly congratulates SSSHARC director and Linguistics Professor [Nick Enfield](#) for being awarded a 2018 Sydney University Vice-Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Research. We are also pleased to be hosting several international Visiting Scholars this semester, including Dr Jing Hao (University of Sydney alumna), Dr Amanda Potts (Cardiff University, Wales), Dr Beatriz Quiroz (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile) and Dr Pin Wang (Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China).

Conference presentations and other talks

In June, [Mark Post](#) gave a keynote address at the *24th Himalayan Languages Symposium*, University of Lucknow, India. In July, he and [Nick Enfield](#) organised a two-session panel on "Language and Zomia" in the *Asian Studies Association of Australia Conference*, hosted by the Sydney Southeast Asia Centre. HDR student Samantha Soon presented joint work with [Gwen Hyslop](#) at the *14th International Conference on Austronesian Linguistics* in Madagascar, 17-20 July. In August, [Yaegan Doran](#) delivered an invited workshop on *Legitimation Code Theory* at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, before traveling to Odense, Denmark with doctoral student Yufei He for the *9th International Conference on Multimodality* at the University of Southern Denmark. Also in August, [Monika Bednarek](#) organised a research showcase and networking event at the Charles Perkins Centre, with talks on 'Violence metaphors in the online discourse of end-of-life care professionals' and 'Discourses of diabetes in the Australian news media'.

The Department was strongly represented at the *45th International Systemic Functional Congress*, held at Boston College in July. [Jim Martin](#), [Yaegan Doran](#), and HDR students Anna Crane, Yufei He and Mus Zhang gave presentations,

including participation in colloquia. Professor Martin gave the closing plenary address. The influence of the genre-based literacy programs of the 'Sydney School' was apparent throughout the proceedings, a heartening uptake of work which has been developing over four decades of functional linguistic theory, description and practice by Department staff and students, past and present.

Future conferences

From 23-25 November, the Department will be hosting a three-day forum *Functional linguistics: descriptive and typological perspectives*. The aim of the forum is to present ongoing work on language description informed by Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) in dialogue with work in affine functional traditions, asking in particular what the term 'functional' can mean as linguists develop the field of functional language typology. This forum is the sixth in a series of recent meetings focusing on SFL language description.

The University of Sydney will be hosting the 2019 Australian Systemic Functional Linguistics Association Conference. The conference will be held during the mid-semester break of Semester 2 next year, and will be co-convened by [Yaegan Doran](#), Eszter Szenes and Alex Garcia (both from the Learning Centre).

In addition, our Department won a bid to host the *25th Himalayan Languages Symposium* and *52st International Conference on Sino-Tibetan Languages and Linguistics* in June 2019. The co-ordinated conferences, which will be co-organised by [Mark Post](#), [Gwen Hyslop](#) and Yankee Modi and co-sponsored by the Sydney Southeast Asia Centre and the China Studies Centre, will have the common theme Linguistic Diversity in the Asian Century, and will profile Asia's many Indigenous languages.

HDR news

Lydia Dutcher completed her PhD on “[Interaction and collaboration across proficiency levels in the English language classroom](#)”.

PhD students Weijian Meng and Gus Wheeler have returned from six months in the mountains of central Laos, working on grammars of Saek (Northern Tai) and Bru (Katuic, Austroasiatic), respectively. See [here](#) for further information on this ARC Discovery project.



At the Lao New year ceremony in Teung, a Saek village



TRICL - Training and Resources for Indigenous Community Linguists

PhD student Kelvin Lee will be presenting his research on language use in Japanese anime at the Fourth Asia Pacific Corpus Linguistics Conference in Japan in September.

Zahid Akter has commenced his international RTP scholarship documenting and analysing the little-known Pangkhua language, an Indigenous language of the Chittagong Hills region of Bangladesh.

Grants

[Mark Post](#) and Yankee Modi have been awarded a grant by the Firebird Foundation for Anthropological Research (USA) to continue their program *TRICL* - Training and Resources for Indigenous Community Linguists - in the Northeast states of India. They will host a team of international researchers and Indigenous community member researchers over one week in Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh to foster skills development and enhance bilateral research engagement in relation to the region’s many under-resourced Indigenous languages.

Other news

The Sydney Centre for Language Research has just been formally approved by the Provost’s Office. The Centre, directed by [Nick Enfield](#), brings together around 70 language researchers across Sydney University working in many domains of language research, including computational linguistics, psycholinguistics, educational linguistics, indigenous languages, language and identity, field linguistics, grammar writing, and much more. A website will be up soon.

Selected publications

Caple, H., Bednarek, M. & Anthony, L. [Using Kaleidographic to visualize multimodal relations within and across texts](#). (2018, Visual Communication).

Centre for Medieval & Early Modern Studies

Words by Professor [Daniel Anlezark](#) | Centre Director

Anders Ahlqvist

Members, Associates and friends of the Medieval and Early Modern Centre were saddened by the recent and unexpected death in Finland of Professor Anders Ahlqvist. Anders was appointed as the inaugural Sir Warwick Fairfax Professor of Celtic Studies at the University of Sydney, taking up the post in July 2008.

Anders brought extensive international connections and a considerable reputation in Celtic Studies when he came to the University of Sydney. In addition to his outstanding contribution to Celtic Studies, Anders was of course a great scholar of medieval language and literature, and a regular at events hosted by MEMC. He will be greatly missed in many ways.

Dr Pamela O'Neill has written an obituary to be published in *Tintean*, the online journal that seeks to provide serious comment and an independent perspective on a wide range of Australian/Irish topics.

Presentations at the University of Sydney

4-15 June - The Medieval and Early Modern Centre and Rare Books and Special Collections presented *A Celebration of Music Manuscripts* in the Fisher Library. Professor Daniel Anlezark welcomed the attendees to the symposium convened by Jane Hardie (MEMC) and Julie Sommerfeldt (Rare Books and Special Collections). In early 2017, Rare Books and Special Collections at the University of Sydney added three manuscripts to its significant collection of Spanish Liturgical Music Manuscripts. This symposium was held to celebrate these additions, and to mark the doubling of the collection since the last symposium ten years ago. Speakers from Sydney were Jane Morlet Hardie, Robert Curry, Alan Maddox, Kathleen Nelson, Nicholas Sparks and Simon Polson (USA/Sydney).

31 August - Early Modern Literature and Culture Group. Beverley Sherry, "Milton in Stained Glass" and Jessica Sun, "Apollo and Marsyas in Allegory and Paint" presented papers in the John Woolley Building.

Conference and other presentations by current and former members, associates and friends of MEMC

2-5 July - **International Medieval Congress, Leeds**

Theme: Memory.

Helen Appleton, "The Sea in the Old English *Orosius*"

Amy Brown, "Why Is a Woman Like a Lion?: And Other Questions of Friendship in *Ywain and Gawain*"

Helen Fulton, "Heroes and Villains: Memories of Troy in Medieval Britain"

[James Kane](#), "Exegesis of a Disaster: Remembering the Fall of Jerusalem in 1187 at Coggeshall Abbey"

Penelope Nash, "Empress Adelheid, Queen Mathilda, and Abbess Mathilda of Quedlinburg: Ottonian Queens and the Creation of their Memories, Memoirs, and Memorials in Germany and Italy"

Bridgette Slavin, "Remembering Rape in the Courts of 13th- and 14th-Century Ireland"

[Jonathan Wooding](#), "Changing Roles of Pilgrimage: Retreating, Remembering, Re-Enacting".

External conferences and presentations cont'd

20–21 July - **13th International Conference of the Australian Early Medieval Association (AEMA)**, Flinders University, South Australia

Theme: Invasion, Migration, Communication and Trade.

Keynote Lecture - [Daniel Anlezark](#): "Poetic Inter-Saxons: Literary Relations and Exchange between England and the Continent from the Eighth to the Tenth Centuries"

Other papers by members of the Centre included:

Penelope Nash, "Movement Means Power: Ottonian Ruling Women and the Travelling Court"

Lynette Olson, "A Cross-Cultural Conundrum: Sinodus Episcoporum 16, Edictum Rothari 376 and Capitulatio de partibus Saxoniae 6"

Pamela O'Neill, "Mobility without Modcons: Reconstructing Travel in Early Medieval Scotland".

Presentations to the Sydney Medieval and Renaissance Group (SMRG)

13 June - Lynette Olson presented and discussed the film "The Secret of Kells"

11 July - Natalie Mylonas, "Admirable or Abominable: Representation of Late Antique Eunuchs and the Interpretative Dilemma Posed by Matthew 19:12"

8 August - Nerida Newbiggin & Kathleen Olive, "About the Codice Rustici".

Associazione Matildica Internazionale-Matildica International Association (AMI-MAI)

Penelope Nash has been invited to become a member of the AMI-MAI (the Association). The Association was formed as a result of conferences, publications and celebrations on the 900th anniversary of the death of Countess Matilda of Tuscany in 2015. The Association's aim is to promote the history of the Countess (1056–1115) and of her times. The current president is Professor Paolo Golinelli, recently retired from the University of Verona.

Penelope gave a paper at one of those conferences, sponsored by the University of Verona, at Garda in northern Italy in July 2015. That paper was published as "L'Imperatrice e la Contessa: Adelaide di Borgogna modello per Matilde di Canossa?", *Matilde nel Veneto*, edited by Paolo Golinelli. Pàtron: Bologna, 2016, 33–42.

Australia is now officially registered as a new Matildine Region. Other registered regions are Italy, Germany and the United States.

Recent additions to the MEMC

Congratulations to Anne Rogerson and Daniel Anlezark on the birth of their daughter, Audrey Margaret – a sister to Ned. See more in the 'New Babies' feature on page 5 of this edition of *SLAMmag*.

We welcome Keaghan Brewer and Pamela O'Neill to the Centre as Honorary Associates.

Department of Studies in Religion

Words by Professor [Iain Gardner](#) | Chair of Department

The winter has been conference and travel season, and many members of the Department have been overseas. [Carole Cusack](#) has departed for her beloved Edinburgh (Special Studies Program), a university where we have collectively built up substantial linkages both socially and as regards research collaboration and student exchanges over recent years. [Iain Gardner](#) has taken over as Chair of Department.

[Jay Johnston](#) was an invited participant at the recent Aesthetics of Religion (DFG: German Research Council funded) network meeting in Bonn. The workshop project was the forthcoming *The Bloomsbury Handbook for the Cultural and Cognitive Aesthetics of Religion*, to which she is contributing several chapters. This was followed by the presentation of two papers at the *European Association for the Study of Religion*, University of Bern, Switzerland: “Shifty Beasts: Considering Images of Beings that Transgress the Categories of Animal–Human–Supernatural on Coptic Late-Antique Papyri and Amulets”, and “New Nature Writing and Conservation Community Programs: Making Past Traditions into New Identities and Spiritual Experiences”.

In June, [Iain Gardner](#) presented at the EASR Conference in Bern, and at the Dakhleh Oasis Project Conference in Prato, before travelling to the Chester Beatty Library for his on-going major project with two American colleagues to edit one of the largest papyrus codices ever recovered from antiquity (IVth Century, Coptic). Celebrations were in order as the team published in July the first part of their projected four volume edition of the text. Anyone who has seen the terrible state of

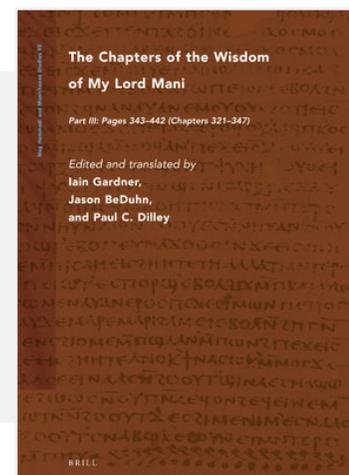
the original manuscript will raise a toast to this achievement. On the right is a picture of one of the better pages.

Meanwhile, back on campus, the Department’s Research Seminar Series opened for the new Semester with two guest presentations:

7 August - Julia Kindt: “Animals in Ancient Greek Religion: Divine Zoomorphism and the Anthropomorphic Divine Body.”

21 August - Milad Milani: “Some Remarks on Islamism, Social Justice, and Civility in Islamic History.”

Please [email Iain](#) if you wish to be added to the mailing list for future Research Seminars. Everyone welcome.



Recent publications

Iain Gardner, Jason D. BeDuhn and Paul Dilley (Eds), [The Chapters of the Wisdom of My Lord Mani: Part III, Pages 343-442 \(Chapters 321-347\)](#). (2018, Brill).

Words by Dr [Christopher Hartney](#)

Studies in Religion Hosts Year 12 Students from Sydney Boys' High School

Studies of Religion, a HSC 1 and 2 unit course of study, is one of the most popular elective subjects Year 11 and 12 students take to finish off their secondary education. It is a great way for teenage students to study and learn about other worldviews, which results in increased cultural competence in the contemporary multicultural and transnational world. Studies in Religion is engaged with nurturing scholarly approaches to the study of religion at all levels of the educational system. With Year 11 and 12 students that engagement is particularly strong, as [Christopher Hartney](#) is the author of the award-winning *Cambridge Studies of Religion Stage Six* (originally published in 2009, now in its third edition) - the most widely-used HSC textbook for Studies of Religion in New South Wales. [Carole Cusack](#) also has an interest in matriculation textbooks and the ways in which learning is framed for school students, and on 5 July she and Chris Hartney welcomed students from Sydney Boys' High for an intensive study morning.

Many of the students who graduate with Honours or a Major in Studies in Religion become teachers, and often of Studies of Religion. The department's former student Madeleine Rigby (Honours 1998), now Head Teacher in History at Sydney Boys, is also deeply involved in teaching the Studies of Religion curriculum. With Natalie Luu, the Year 12 Studies Religion coordinator, she approached the Department for a session on some of the more complex areas of study. Natalie brought approximately 20 boys, and the topics chosen were Ethics (Chris Hartney) and Religious Festivals (Carole Cusack).

Chris Hartney's presentation took the students through a range of study strategies designed to prepare them for success in HSC exam questions on ethical teachings in world religions. He examined how these teachings apply to Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism. Chris focused on the key ethical area of euthanasia, explaining how a diversity of voices in each of these traditions contributed to a wide range of religious reactions to this controversial issue. He also provided practical tips for assembling a portfolio of documents from diverse sources to ground the students' answers in evidence. Carole Cusack presented strategies to study ritual events in various religious traditions. She discussed the Buddhist festival of Wesak, the Islamic pilgrimage the Hajj, and Christian Baptism. The two presentations were positively received by the students, who were a lively and well-informed group.

This type of study session creates bonds between university departments and schools and are appreciated by all who participate (university staff, school staff, and students). These sessions are also a great way to familiarise students with the campus and, hopefully, with the work of the Department, which may influence their study choices at university.

Sydney College of the Arts

Words by Mr [Andrew Lavery](#) | Director and Chair of Department

SCA are moving into the detailed design stage of the Old Teacher's College (OTC) relocation project. Project architects ARM have created an iconic design concept for the OTC, which will add to SCA's presence at Camperdown. A great deal of work has gone into the footprint of each discipline area and their specific technical requirements. The devil is in the detail of such work, which has meant long days with the architects, CIS and project consultants. We are quietly confident the repurposed and refitted OTC will service our needs to a very high standard.

In other news, a number of SCA staff and alumni exhibited in Sydney Contemporary, a yearly event showcasing Australia's leading contemporary art and emergent practices. Highlights included Installation Contemporary, which featured SCA alumni Lucas Davidson, Chris Dolman, Lindy Lee and Tim Silver. SCA Lecturers [David Haines](#) and [Joyce Hinterding](#) exhibited alongside alumnus Huseyin Sami at Sarah Cottier Gallery. Alumnae Bonita Bub and Lillian O'Neil exhibited in The Commercial Gallery stand. Alumnus Andre Hemer exhibited with Singapore based Yavuz Gallery.

As always, SCA staff have made significant contributions to research and the cultural sphere:

Publications

As a culmination of many years' work, this year and the next sees an appearance of five books published by Dr [Adam Geczy](#). Consistent with his research over ten years or more, they engage in different ways with the convergence of art, fashion, popular culture, gender and identity construction: [Transorientalism in Art, Fashion and Film: Inventions of Identity](#), (with Paul Mountfort and Anne Peirson-Smith) [Planet Cosplay: Costume, Play, Identity and Global Fandom](#), (co-edited with Vicki Karaminas) [The End of Fashion: Clothing and Dress in the Age of Globalization](#), (co-authored with Vicki Karaminas) [Fashion Installation: Body, Space and Performance](#), and (co-edited with Mimi Kelly) [What is Performance Art? Australian Perspectives](#).

Recent Exhibitions

[Janelle Evans](#) | [Naanyili](#), Gallery Two, AirSpace Projects in Marrickville (7-22 September).

Naanyili, which means deep looking in the Sydney Dharug language, invites the viewer to find new ways of perceiving Aboriginal women than that projected by the myths and stereotypes formulated during the colonial period.

Festivals

Dr [Stefan Popescu](#) was the director of the 12th edition of the Sydney Underground Film Festival ([SUFF](#)). SUFF focused on nurturing alternative film culture through the promotion of independent and experimental films. Many of the films featured operate outside established film industry infrastructures, with SUFF providing a platform for the exhibition, exposure and critical reception of these films.

Prizes and awards

Dr [Madeleine Kelly](#) has been awarded the [2018 Sunshine Coast Art Prize](#). The \$25,000 prize is a national contemporary acquisitive award presented by Sunshine Coast Council. The award is open to any artist who is an Australian resident, working in a 2D medium. Madeleine's painting was selected from 40 finalists and will enter the Sunshine Coast Art Collection at Caloundra Regional Gallery. See more [here](#).



Madeleine Kelly | Allowable Forms and Unconscious Facts
2018 | Acrylic and oil on polyester | 137 x 101 cm
Image courtesy of the artist

Recent publications

Adam Geczy and Mimi Kelly (Eds), [What is Performance Art? Australian Perspectives](#). (2018, Power Publications).

What is Performance Art?

Australian Perspectives

Edited by
Adam Geczy
Mimi Kelly

Power
Publications

Conferences

Rebecca Beardmore and recent MFA graduate Mel Harvey presented papers at the [Impact 10 International Printmedia Symposium](#) in Spain (1-9 September).

Alumni exhibitions

Several alumni will hold solo exhibitions across Sydney in September. Elizabeth Pulie's [The Conspiracy of Art by Jean Baudrillard](#) is on at Sarah Cottier Gallery until 29 September. Three recent graduates and emerging artists Dean Cross, Honey Long and Kai Wasikowski will exhibit in [Oceans From Here](#), until 20 October at the Australian Centre for Photography.

Sound Artist Julian Day's exhibition [Future Tense](#) ran at Dominik Mersch Gallery until 22 September.

Department of Writing Studies

Words by Dr [Frances Di Lauro](#) | Chair of Department

“O Wind, / If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?”. As we shivered through Sydney’s seemingly never-ending winter, the spark of optimism and renewed vigour in Shelley’s “Ode to the West Wind” might have reminded us that the bleak mid-winter month of July is also conference season, when many of our staff head to warmer climes and share their research with the world, much like the swift West Wind will “Scatter, as from an unextinguish’d hearth / ashes and sparks, my words among mankind”.

Over June and July, [Frances Di Lauro](#) shared her words at three different conferences across three countries: firstly, presenting “Pedagogical innovations using Wikipedia as a participatory writing platform” at the *Academia and Wikipedia: Critical Perspectives in Education and Research Conference* at Maynooth University in Ireland, followed by “Cultivating Vernacular And Visual-Verbal Imagery In Literature: Brunetto Latini’s Contribution To Rhetorical Knowledge” at the *International Journal of Arts & Sciences’ (IJAS) Conference for Social Sciences and Humanities*, held in the Piazza della Calza in Florence, and finally, in July, Frances attended the *2018 International Conference on Open and Innovative Education (ICOIE 2018)* at the Open University of Hong Kong SAR, delivering her paper “Mobile learning as a necessary feature of open and innovative education”.



Piazza della Calza, Florence



Frances Di Lauro & Rebecca Johnke (Dept of English) at the 2018 International Conference on Open and Innovative Education at the Open University of Hong Kong

A hearty congratulations to [Alexander Howard](#), who has recently been accepted into the FASS Research Incubator with his project “Codes, Rhapsodies, Hallucinations: Cinema, Writing, Sexuality”. Alex’s research investigates the relationship between censorship, sexuality and film-making (both mainstream and avant-garde) in the second half of the twentieth century. While much existing scholarship focuses on the representation of sexuality in films from the 1930s, with the implementation of the Motion Picture Production Code, Alex’s study instead focuses on the period 1940 – 2000, addressing the critical imbalance and tracing the cultural legacy of film critics and cinephiles of the 1940s throughout the following decades.

[Louise Katz](#)’s article “Dark Dreams and Malign Creativity” has been published in *Knowledge Cultures* (Volume 6, No.2). Examining the

dark side of creativity, Louise’s research addresses and reappraises the romantic notions attached to creativity, and presents it instead as a value-neutral and ethically detached entity. It examines liminal space as an incubator for creativity, and how the inherent amorality of creative force can be harnessed both benevolently and malevolently: a fact increasingly evident – and critically in need of investigation – in the world in which we live.

This year the Department of Writing Studies has welcomed new staff and farewelled familiar faces. We now welcome the latest addition to our Hub: not a staff member, but our high-tech, recently installed AV system in the Writing Studies Common Room. The Common Room hosts our research seminar series, and the drop-in sessions with our Student Writing Fellows, so the upgrade in technology will be well-used and appreciated.

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The following departments and programs are located in the School of Literature, Art and Media:

- Art History
- Celtic Studies
- English
- Linguistics
- Media and Communications
- Medieval and Early Modern Studies
- Museum Studies
- Studies in Religion
- Sydney College of the Arts
- Theatre and Performance Studies
- Writing Studies