

15TH ANNUAL GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE  
IN FRENCH & FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

*Subversions of hi/story and desire for memory  
(Subversion de l'#/histoire et désir de mémoire)*



*October 21-22, 2010*

ROYCE HALL 306

PRESENTED BY

THE UCLA DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

**Thursday October 21<sup>st</sup>**

• **9:00 am - 9:55 am: Breakfast and Registration**

• **10:00 am: Welcome Address by Denis Pra**

• **10:00 am - 11:00 am: Panel I – History and Memory before the French Revolution**

**Moderated by Sandra Gamson**

**Inès Nam**, University of Notre Dame

“Excavating Relationships through Rome: Translation and Imitation in Vitalis, Du Bellay, Spenser and Quevedo.”

**Aaron Alejandro Olivasegina**, University of California-Los Angeles

“History, Fantasy, and the Staging of the Conquest(s) of the Americas in Jean-Philippe Rameau’s *Les Indes Galantes* (1735)”

• **11:15 am - 12:45 pm: Panel II – Writing History and Building Memory during the Nineteenth Century**

**Moderated by Ann Topham**

**Florence Botello**, Paris IV-Sorbonne

“Renouveler l’Histoire par l’histoire : Michelet, une subversion du passé monarchique au profit d’une mémoire républicaine?”

**Erin E. Edgington**, Indiana University

“Fragmented Epics and Fantastical Histories in Nineteen-Century Poetry”

**Ludmila Boutchilina**, Paris VIII-Vincennes-Saint-Denis

“Des Mots-histoires dans *La Chartreuse de Parme* : lecture intersémiotique du rapport sociolecte vs idiolecte”

• **12:45 am - 2:15 pm: Lunch on the Terrace**

• **2:15 pm - 3:45 pm: Panel III – History, Memory, and Cinema**

**Moderated by Sarah Case**

**Karen Sanders**, University of Texas at Dallas

“Embracing Metaphor: Facing Issues of Guilt, Complicity, Truth and Memory / Representation of the Holocaust in French Cinema: 1946-1996”

**Nathanaël Waddled**, Paris VIII –Vincennes-Saint-Denis

“L’Expérience des victimes est-elle humaine? Fiction et vérité chez Lanzmann et Antelme”

**Rémy Besson**, EHESS, Paris

“Les Prises de parole des protagonistes juifs dans le film *Shoah*, entre mémoire vive et anamnèse: Etude de cas”

• **4:30 pm - 6:00 pm: Roundtable “History and Memory”**

**Introduction by Christopher Flood**

**Moderated by Prof. Malina Stefanovska, University of California-Los Angeles**

**Guests: - Prof. Pani Norindr, University of Southern California**

- **Ananda Devi, writer**

- **Nicolas Weill, *Le Monde***

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**Friday October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

• **8:30 am - 9:30 am: Breakfast and Registration**

• **9:30 am - 10:45 am: Panel IV – Postcolonial History in the Making**

**Moderated by Lauren Van Arsdall**

**Michelle Kendall**, University of California-Santa Barbara

“Co-opting a Triumphant Historical Moment: A Martinican and Guadeloupean Theatrical Phenomenon”

**Edelyn Dorismond**, Paris VIII-Vincennes-Saint-Denis

“Créolisation et ‘poétique de l’histoire’ : la caraïbe et l’histoire coloniale”

**Fouzilla Saady**, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge

“Violence extrême dans *Le Sari vert* d’Ananda Devi “

• **11:00 am - 12:15 pm: Historicizing Mauritius**

**Welcome by Françoise Lionnet**

**Special Guests: Ananda Devi & Kumari Issur**

• **12:15 pm - 1:30 pm: Lunch on the Terrace**

• **1:30 pm - 2:45 pm: Panel V – From the Holocaust to Literature**

**Moderated by Brian Quinn**

**Noémi Kila**, Université d’Artois and Université de Pécs (Hungary)

“C’est maintenant du passé ? – Fragmentation de la mémoire et du récit chez Marianne Rubinstein”

**Andrea Gyenge**, University of Minnesota

“Of Cinders, of Stars: Sarah Kofman and the End of (Jewish) Stories”

**Suzanne Scala**, University of California-Berkeley

“Working Backwards: Perec and Kofman Write their Origins”

• **3:00 pm - 4:00 pm: Panel VI – Thinking History and Memory**

**Moderated by Michelle Bumatay**

**Lev Marder**, York University (Canada)

“Mis-taking History and Fiction in the Thought of Paul Ricoeur”

**Christen McGaughey**, California State University-Fullerton

“Reclaiming Past and Home: Algeria’s Nostalgic Longing in Kateb Yacine’s *Nedjma*”

• **5:00 pm - 6:30 pm: Keynote Speaker**

**Welcome by Dominic Thomas, Chair**

**Introduction by Nathalie Ségeral**

**Nicolas Weill**

“From absence to oblivion, memory and history in Paul Ricœur”

• **6:30 pm: Closing Reception**

**Nicolas Weill**  
**Keynote Speaker**

Nicolas Weill was born in 1957 in Paris. A former student at Ecole Normale Supérieure, he has worked as a journalist for *Le Monde* since 1995, and as a translator from Hebrew. While conducting research on the history of French intellectuals, he is also working on Jewish history, and frequently contributes to the journal *Critique*. He is the author of *L'Expédition d'Égypte* (written in collaboration with Laure Murat, Gallimard, 1998), *Une Histoire personnelle de l'antisémitisme* (Robert Laffont, 2003), and *La République et les antisémites* (Paris, Grasset, 2004). He is also an external researcher at the Centre de recherches sur Hegel et l'idéalisme allemand at the University of Poitiers.

**Ananda Devi**  
**Special Guest & round-table participant**

Ananda Devi is an award-winning writer of a dozen books including *Moi, l'interdite* (Dapper, 2000), *Ève de ses décombres* (Gallimard, 2006), *Indian Tango* (Gallimard, 2007), and *Le sari vert* (Gallimard, 2009). She is originally from Mauritius but currently lives in France, near the Swiss border. Her native island continues to be a source of inspiration for her writings, which are often described as both poetic and tragic, and which engage with gender issues and social conditions today.

**Panivong Norindr**  
**Round-table Participant**

Panivong Norindr is chair of the department of Comparative Literature and an Associate Professor of French and Comparative Literature at the University of Southern California. He specializes in Postcolonial cinema and has published numerous book chapters and articles including the fascination for Angkor, the role of indigenous soldiers in the movie *Indigènes*, and memories in Marguerite Duras's colonial cities. In 2008, he presented "On History, French Colonialism and Immigration: the Politics of Memory and Forgetting and the Cité Nationale de l'Histoire de l'Immigration" at a conference in Taiwan.

**Kumari Issur**  
**Special Guest**

Kumari Issur teaches French and Francophone Literature at the University of Mauritius; she is current a Fulbright Fellow associated with the UCLA Mellon Program Cultures in Transnational Perspective. She has published numerous essays on francophonie and co-edited *L'océan Indien dans les littératures francophones*.

**Conference Organizing Committee**

**Denis Pra**  
**Nathalie Ségeral**  
**Christopher Flood**

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**UCLA Mellon Postdoctoral Program in the Humanities**  
"Cultures in Transnational Perspective"



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Cover art: Nikolaus Gyzis "Historia" (1892) / Cover design:



The Robert dictionary defines the word history as “knowledge and recounting of past events judged worthy of remembering,” thus simultaneously invoking the French distinction between *histoire* (spelled with a lowercase ‘h’ referring to a story) and *Histoire* (spelled with a capital ‘H’ indicating History) and specifically emphasizing the latter. Such a reductive approach ignores numerous unique writings, experiences outside the norm, marginalized voices – all relegated to the forgotten corners of our collective memory. The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Conference at UCLA proposes an investigation of this double sense of the word *histoire* / *Histoire* in the tradition of thinkers who sought to reformulate these concepts, methods, sources, and intellectual currents overturning what had formerly been considered given. Michel Foucault (*Histoire de la folie à l’âge classique*), François Furet (*Le Passé d’une illusion*), Pierre Nora (*Les Lieux de mémoires*) and even Edouard Glissant (*Le Discours antillais*) and Paul Ricoeur (*La Mémoire, l’histoire, l’oubli*) are some examples among the many that have revolutionized our concepts of history. Many are, in fact, writings that demonstrate the subversion of history (tragedies, novels, memoirs, autobiographies, correspondence, etc.).

This metamorphosis of the approach to history always seems to reinvigorate the social and human sciences; it gives a voice to the other hi/story, the lowercase *histoire*. It touches upon numerous and diverse disciplines and periods, which our conference seeks to explore.