Program for the Third Biennial Meeting of the Society of Early Americanists

The Providence Marriott, Providence, Rhode Island, 10-12 April 2003

Sea Officers

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Leonard Tennenhouse, Brown University

The SEA would like to thank the Office of the Provost at Brown University and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History for their financial support.

Thursday, 10 April

Registration will occur throughout the day on Thursday. There will be a registration desk set up in the Lincoln Room, where there will also be book exhibits by The Scholar's Choice and The Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture

All sessions will take place in the Providence Marriott. Room names are listed parenthetically after session titles.

8:30-9:30 AM (Grand Ballroom)

1. Welcome to the SEA. Address by Philip Gould, President, SEA.

Session #1 9:30-11:00 AM

2. Colonial Amazonia: Cultural Contacts and European Narratives of the New World (Reprisal)

Chair, Kim Beauchesne, Harvard University

"Colonial Amazonia: The Dual Frontier." Kim Beauchesne.

"The Search for El Dorado in the Peruvian Amazonia of the 17th Century." Jose Antonio Mazzotti, Harvard University.

"Food, Hunger and Discovery in the Relacion del nuevo descubrimento del famoso rio Grande de las Amazonas by Fray Gaspar de Carvajal." Juan Zevallos-Aguilar, Villanova University.

"The Marquis of Pombal and the Enlightenment of the Brazilian Amazon." L'cia Helena Costigan, Ohio State University.

3. Infanticide and Execution Narratives in Early America (Britania)

Chair, Abigail Davis, University of Minnesota

"Hanging Katherine Garrett: The 1738 trial of a Pequot Woman." Abigail Davis.

"Remarkable Conversions: Reading Captivity in Indian Execution Narratives." Jodi Schorb, University of California-Davis.


Respondent: Karen Woods Weierman, Worcester State College

4. Science and Letters in the Colonial Americas I: Renaissance and Baroque (Defiance)

Chair, Kathleen Myers, Indiana University

"Religion and the Topography of Oceanic Exploration in the 16th Century." David Boruchoff, McGill University.

"Overextended and Underdetermined Natural History: Fray Bernardino de Sahagun and Book XI of the Historia Universal." Millie Oimmel, University of Tennessee-Knoxville.
5. PURITAN CONVERSION NARRATIVE (Republic)
Chair, Dorothy Z. Baker, University of Houston

- 'From Puritan Truth to Antebellum Authenticity: Shifting Expectations of Proof in the Conversion Narrative.' Jennifer L. Connerley, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 'Executing Sin: Vernacular Theology and Female Piety in Colonial Criminal Conversion Prose.' Bryce Traister, University of Western Ontario.

Respondent, Ralph Bauer, University of Maryland at College Park

Session #2 11:15-12:45

6. COLONIAL AND POSTCOLONIAL TRANSFORMATIONS (Reprisal)
Chair, Edward Watts, Michigan State University

- 'Getting it Right: Biography vs. Scripture in John Dane's Declaration of Remarkable Providences.' Meredith Neuman, UCLA.
- 'Portraits and the Production of the Civil Self in 17th-Century Boston.' Wendy J. Katz, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- 'Uncertain Identities: Loyalty and Identity in the American Revolution.' Frank Shuffelton, University of Rochester.

7. GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY (Britania)
Chair, Cynthia Van Zandt, University of New Mexico

- 'World Travelers and the Shaping of Dutch Culture in New Amsterdam.' James H. Williams, Middle Tennessee State University.
- 'The Irish and Mediterranean Contexts of Early Jamestown.' Alison Games, Georgetown University.

8. CODES, CUSTOMS, AND CONVENTIONS: TRANSGRESSION IN EARLY AMERICA (Defiance)
Chair, Daniel Williams, University of Mississippi

- 'The Captive as Celebrity.' Zabelle Stodola, University of Arkansas at Little Rock.
- 'Gendered Subversions in Colonial Peru: Angela Carranza and the Inquisition.' Stacey Schlau, West Chester University.
- 'Polite Transgressions: Feminine Character and Civic Virtue in Early Republican Novels of Manners.' Stacy Hinthorn Van Beek, University of California at Irvine.
- 'Blurring the Boundaries: Natural Order and the Question of Transgressive Bodies.' Beverly Reed, Stephen F. Austin State University.

9. WOMEN AND POLITICS IN THE AGE OF REVOLUTION (Republic)
Chair, Edward M. Griffin, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

- 'America the Prudish: Nationalism in Royall Tyler's The Contrast.' Heidi J. Oberholtzer, University of Notre Dame.
- 'Tory Letters: The Stubborn Daughters of Dr. Byles and the Unpublished Byles Family Correspondence.' John Funchion, Brown University and Edward M. Griffin.

10. Plenary Address 2:00-3:15 PM (Grand Ballroom)

- 'The Colonial Stage: Englishness and the Performance of Identity in the British Atlantic World.' Kathleen Wilson, State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Session #3 3:30-5:00 PM

11. CONSTITUTING DEMOCRACY IN REVOLUTIONARY AMERICA (Reprisal)
Chair, Tara Robbins, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- 'Early American Networks: The Committees of Correspondence and Epistolary Form in the American Revolutionary Era.' William B. Warner, University of California at Santa Barbara.
- 'Democratic (Im)Postures.' Jeff Osborne, University of Kentucky.
- 'What is a 'Slave?': 'Race' and the Meanings of 'Slavery' in American Writing.' Ezra Tawil, Columbia University.
- 'Racial Estrangement and White Slavery.' Amanda Emerson, Brown University.
12. POCAHONTAS: ETHNOHISTORICAL, CULTURAL, AND LITERARY REPRESENTATIONS  (Britania)
Chair, Zabelle Stodola, University of Arkansas at Little Rock
"The Real Pocahontas: More Interesting than the Legend." Helen C. Rountree, Old Dominion University.
"Pocahontas Among the Jacobean: Foreign Brides." Karen L. Robertson, Vassar College.
Respondent, Lisa M. Logan, University of Central Florida

13. EARLY AMERICAN ENVIRONMENTS  (Defiance)
Chair, Timothy Sweet, West Virginia University.
"Much of Nothing: Conservation and the Resources of Print in the Chesapeake." Jennifer Jordan Baker, Yale University.
"Contested Space, Conflicted Texts: Struggles for Narrative Control in the Wyoming Valley." Thomas Hallock, University of Tampa.
"To Plant an Antidote Where She Has Planted a Poison": Zadok Cramer and the Paradoxes of Navigation." Edward Watts, Michigan State University.

14. LITERARY 'TASTE' AND CULTURE IN EARLY AMERICAN PERIODICALS  (Republic)
Chair, Jim Egan, Brown University
"Republican Discrimination: Early American Periodicals and the Dissemination of Taste." Jared Gardner, Ohio State University.
"Rural, Female Enterprise and 'the Lady who compiles the Humming Bird; or, Herald of Taste' (1798)." Mark Kamrath, University of Central Florida.
"Modest Attempts' of Literary Republicanism: the New York Magazine (1790-1797)." Sharon M. Harris, Texas Christian University.

15. THE COLONIAL ATLANTIC: REDEFINING THE LIMITS OF THE EARLY AMERICAS  (Washington)
Chair, Yolanda Martínez-San Miguel, Rutgers University.
"Colonial Writings as Minority Discourse?: An Introduction." Yolanda Martínez-San Miguel.
"Afro-Mexicans in Seventeenth Century New Spain." Herman L. Bennett, Rutgers University.
"Promoting Pennsylvania: Penn, Pastorius, and the Creation of a Transnational Community." Patrick M. Erben, Emory University.

5:30-6:30 PM Reception at the Providence Marriott

FRIDAY, 11 APRIL

Session #1 9:00-10:30

16. BEYOND SAMSOM OCCOM: READING EARLY NATIVE WRITERS  (Washington)
Chair and Respondent, Sandra M. Gustafson, University of Notre Dame
"'Oh That My Words Were Now Written': New England's Earliest Native Writers." Kristina Bross, Purdue University.
"Native Women Writing: Reading Between the Lines." Hilary Wyss, Auburn University.
"Standing Forth with Our Own Pen and Voices': Early American Indian Writers and Print Culture." Philip Round, University of Iowa.

17. CHARLES BROCKDEN BROWN: PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANDSCAPES  (Reprisal)
(Organized by the Charles Brockden Brown Society)
Chair, Janie Hinds, University of Northern Colorado
"Two Claras and the Courtship of Charles Brockden Brown." John Holmes, Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio.
"Jane Talbot: Letters and the Public Sphere in Brown's Un-Domestic Novel." Scott Ellis, Georgia Institute of Technology.
"Charles Brockden Brown's Fiction of Bachelorhood." Scott Slesinski, University of South Carolina.

18. LITERARY ARCHEOLOGY  (Britania)
Chair, Jeffrey Richards, Old Dominion University
"Roanoke's Lost Colonies: How Many Ways Can a Story Be Told?" E. Thomson Shields, East Carolina University.
"Collecting Utopia: Archeology, Landscape, and the Story of Maryland's Founding." Julia A. King, Maryland Archeological Conservation Laboratory.

"Completing the Place of the Text: Abandoned Mound Builder Sites and Their Literary Representations." Lisa West Norwood, Drake University.

19. DRAWING THE LINES: EARLY AMERICAN BOUNDARIES AS CULTURAL MARKERS (Defiance)
Chair, Jane Kamensky, Brandeis University


'What the Dividing Lines Divided: Geographical Boundaries as Physiological, Intellectual, and Psychological Markers.' Trudy Eden, University of Northern Iowa.

Respondent, Jane Kamensky

20. THE BODY IN EARLY AMERICA: IMAGE, ICON, TROPE (Republic)
Chair, Michele Lise Tarter, The College of New Jersey

"On Viewing Myself: Seeing Bodies in Four Women's Captivity Narratives." Lorrayne Carroll, University of Southern Maine.

"Diaboled Her of That Virgin Purity: The Marketing of Race and Outrage in the Rape Narratives of Cato and John Battus." Daniel Williams, University of Mississippi.

'Patriotic Persecution: The Loyalist Body as Political Icon.' Anne Myles, Northern Iowa University.

Respondent, Lisa M. Logan, University of Central Florida

Session #2 10:45-12:15

Chair, David S. Shields, The Citadel

'Self-Fashioning by Early American Women Painters.' Chris Packard, New York University.

'The Relics of Stenton: Deborah Logan's Cabinet of Curiosities.' Susan Stabile, Texas A & M University.

'From Fancy's Eye: A Family of Women Miniaturists in the Early Republic.' Catherine E. Kelly, University of Oklahoma.

22. COMMUNICATION IN EARLY AMERICA: BEYOND ANGLOPHONE PRINT CULTURES (Reprisal)
Chair, Mary Helen McMurran, University of Chicago

'Thomas Morton's Native Audience.' Matt Cohen, Duke University.

'A String and a Medal with the King's Head': Offerings, Interpreters, and the Politics of Pacifism During the French and Indian War.' Elizabeth Ceppi, Portland State University.

'Native American Orality into English Print: John Heckewelder and the Multilingual Formulation of Indian Eloquence in Early America.' Julie Chun Kim, Duke University.

23. PUNISHMENT AND FEELING IN THE MEMOIRS OF STEPHEN BURROUGHS (Britania)
Chair, Granville Ganter, St. John's University

'The Rake of Feeling.' Hana Layson, University of Chicago.

'Sentimental Counterfeiting.' Karen A. Weyler, University of North Carolina-Greensboro.

'Penal Discipline and Democratic Values: The Critique of the Penitentiary.' Maria Farland, Fordham University.

Respondent, Philip Gura, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

24. ALTERNATE INTELLECTUAL HISTORIES OF THE EARLY REPUBLIC (Defiance)
Chair, Bryan Waterman, New York University

'Being Alone in the Age of Sociability: Anti-Social Contracts in Popular Literature.' Eric Slaughter, University of Chicago.

'Performing Secret Knowledge.' Bryan Waterman.

'Secrecy, Privacy, and the Constitution of American Blackness.' Joanna Brooks, University of Texas-Austin.

25. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION OF JULIE ELLISON'S CATO'S TEARS AND THE MAKING OF ANGLO-AMERICAN EMOTION (Washington)
Chair, Dennis D. Moore, Florida State University

Elizabeth Barnes, College of William and Mary
Lorrayne Carroll, University of Southern Maine
Julie Ellison, University of Michigan
Mary Kelley, University of Michigan
Susan Scott Parish, University of Michigan
Jason Shaffer, US Naval Academy
Laura Stevens, University of Tulsa

12:30-1:15 SEA Business Meeting (Grand Ballroom)

26. Plenary Address 1:30-2:45 (Grand Ballroom)
'The Eighteenth-Century Pacific: The Science of Empire.' Alan Taylor, University of California-Davis.

Session #3 3:15-4:45

27. THE EARLY AMERICAN TRAVELER: TAVERN SIGNAGE AND INN CULTURE (Reprisal)
Chair, Susan C. Imbarrato, Minnesota State University


"Preserving the Signs of Age: Discoveries Made During the Conservation of Connecticut Historical Society's Tavern Signs." Sandra L. Webber, The Williamstown Art Conservation Center.

28. SCIENCE AND LETTERS IN THE COLONIAL AMERICAS II: CREOLE PATRIOTISM AND THE ENLIGHTENMENT IN SPANISH AMERICA (Washington)
Chair, Ralph Bauer, University of Maryland at College Park


Respondent: Susan Scott Parish, University of Michigan

29. LETTER AND SPIRIT IN EARLY AMERICA (Britania)
Chairs, Lisa Gordis, Barnard College and Meredith Neuman, UCLA


Respondent, Michael J. Colacurcio, UCLA

30. MUSIC, POETRY, AND CULTURAL AESTHETICS (Defiance)
Chair, Rosemary Fithian Guruswamy, Radford University

'A Hidden Voice Amplified: Tracing the Cultural Impact of Johannes Kelpius' Manuscript Hymnals.' Patrick Erben, Emory University.

'Hearing the Music: The Production of Opera in Colonial Charlestown.' Timothy M. Crain, DePaul University.


31. COMMERCIAL LITERACY: LANGUAGE AND ECONOMICS IN EARLY AMERICA (Republic)
Chair, Michael Householder, University of California-Irvine

"The Virginia Colony as Economic Contact Zone." Michael Householder.

'Recovering the Economics of 'Charitie' and Hierarchy in New English Puritan Discourse: John Winthrop's 'Familiar Commerce.'" Ivy Schweitzer, Dartmouth College.

"James Logan's Library and the Pennsylvania 'Walking Purchase.'" Drew Newman, University of California-Irvine.

SATURDAY, 12 APRIL

Session #1 9:00-10:30 AM

32. NEW APPROACHES TO VISUAL CULTURE (Republic)
Chair, Wendy Bellion, Rutgers University

'Surface and Depth in Early American Natural History Illustrations.' Michael Gaudio, University of Minnesota.
"Freneau and the Problem of the Post-Revolutionary Portrait." Christopher Lukasik, Boston University.


33. THE REPUBLICAN COURT (Reprisal)
Chair, Dietmar Schloss, Universität Heidelberg

"The Material Culture of the Republican Court." Amy Henderson, University of Delaware.

"The Court of Abigail Adams." Fredrika Teute, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, and David Shields, The Citadel.

"Margaret Bayard Smith's Political Femininity." Stacy Hinthorn Van Beek, University of California-Irvine.

34. PURITAN IDENTITIES IN THE ATLANTIC WORLD (Britania)
Chair, Laura Stevens, University of Tulsa

"Cotton: Authorship, Authority and the Atlantic." Jonathan Field, University of Chicago.


"Passing as a Pastor: Samuel May and Imposture in the Colonial Atlantic World." Thomas Kidd, Baylor University.

"Drunkards, Fornicators, and the Great Hen Squabble of 1714." Monica Fitzgerald, University of California-Davis.

35. HEALTH, MEDICINE, AND LITERATURE IN THE EARLY REPUBLIC (Defiance)
Chair, Stephen C. Arch, Michigan State University


"Health and Hospitality in Crevecoeur's America." Jon Miller, University of Akron.

"I Thirsted for his Blood": The Pathology of Madness in Charles Brockden Brown's Wieland." Chris Hale, University of Maryland.

36. THE COLONIAL AND EARLY NATIONAL HISTORY OF THE BOOK (Washington)
Chair, Wil Verhoeven, University of Groningen and Brown University


"Declarations of Independence: Brown, Caritat and Transatlantic Print Culture." Wil Verhoeven.

Session #2 10:45 AM-12:15 PM

37. UNREASON IN THE AGE OF REASON (Washington)
Chair, Nancy Armstrong, Brown University

"Being Unreasonable in the Age of Reason." Eric Slaughter, University of Chicago.


"The Marital Gothic and Republican Desire." Elizabeth Dillon, Yale University.

38. FINE FOPS, MANLY MEN, AND BUMPIOUS BUMPKINS: STAGING MODELS OF MASCULINITY IN THE EARLY REPUBLIC (Reprisal)
Chair, Heather S. Nathans, University of Maryland at College Park

"Captain Smith is a Man of Might": Musical Theater and Masculinity in The Indian Princess." Korey Rothman, University Of Maryland at College Park.

"Waging War and Declaring Independence: Young Men and Masculinity in the War of 1812." Albrecht Koschnik, Florida State University.

"Servant to Citizen: Making a 'Man' of the Stage Irishman in the Early Republic." Jennifer Stiles, Boston College.

39. TRAVEL AND CULTURAL DISTORTION IN EARLY AMERICA (Britania)
Chair, Mary McAleer Balkun, Seton Hall University


"The Unsavory Traveler." Nicole de Fee, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.


"Travelers and Religious Diversity in Early America." Susan Clare Imbarrato, Minnesota State University at Moorhead.

40. BACKCOUNTRY INSURRECTIONS (Defiance)
Chair, Ed White, Louisiana State University

41. AMERICAN EXOTICS: IMAGES OF THE EXOTIC, REMOTE, OR ANTIPODEAN IN EARLY AMERICAN WRITING (Defiance)
Chair, Elizabeth Dillon, Yale University.
"The Exotic Wilderness of Canada in Frances Brooke's The History of Miss Emily Montague." Stephen Arch, Michigan State University.

42. THE RISING CARIBBEAN (Washington)
Chair, Katie Brown, Florida State University.
"Strangers in a Strange Land, or Bread Upon the Waters: Cultural Flow in the Carolina Lowcountry and the Bahamas." Robert Benson, Ball State University.
"Uncovering Francis Williams of Jamaica." Vincent Carretta, University of Maryland at College Park.
"Captain Bligh's Successful Voyage." Thomas Krise.
Respondent, Philip Morgan, The Johns Hopkins University.

43. TRANSATLANTIC TURNS ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS (Britania)
Chair and Respondent, Electa Arenal, City University of New York.
"Travel, Conquest and the Expansion of Women's Rights: Margaret Cavendish, Joan Vokins, and Marie of the Incarnation." Tamara Harvey, University of Southern Mississippi.
"Revolutions and Revaluations of Women's Rights in Hannah Mather Crocker." Constance Post, Iowa State University.

44. NATIVE AMERICAN LITERACIES AND INDIGENOUS TEXTUALITIES (Republic)
Chair, Hilary E. Wyss, Auburn University.
"Sleeping with the Enemy: Molly Brant, Nancy Ward, and the Rhetoric of Domestic Colonialism." Daniel Heath Justice, University of Toronto.
"Pontiac's Revolt and the Prophetic Text of Neolin." Gordon Sayre, University of Oregon.
"The Hymnodic Tradition of Early American Indian Literature." Joanna Brooks, University of Texas-Austin.

45. EMPLOYING POETRY IN LATE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY AMERICA (Reprisal)
Chair, Max Cavitch, University of Pennsylvania.
"Notational Form: Poetic Encounters with Natural History." Dahlia Porter, University of Pennsylvania.

46. Plenary Address 4:00-5:15 PM (Grand Ballroom)
"Imagining the Death of the King: The American Revolution as a 'Family Drama.'" Rhys Isaac, Latrobe University and the College of William and Mary.

5:30-7:00 PM Reception at the home of Nancy Armstrong and Leonard Tennenhouse, 102 Benefit Street. There will be a shuttle bus leaving from the hotel.