

# THE D.E.N.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2019 · ISSUE 12 · VOLUME 1

Dr. Lauren Pilcher (Film Studies)  
Dr. Stefanie Sevcik (Africana Studies)  
Dr. Sam Sommers (American Lit)

Hot Takes from 3 Disciplines

## WHAT IS?

*Childish Gambino's*

*this is America*  
dir. Hiro Murai



## HOT TAKES LECTURE

Peabody Auditorium was packed for this event on November 20. Thank you to Drs. Pilcher, Sevcik, and Sommers for hosting this event!

## GUEST WRITER

The Creative Writing Program and Department of English co-sponsored David Treuer's Workshop and Keynote Reading as part of GCSU's Social Justice and Dialogue Series, October 2019.

## SHAKESPEAREAN CIRCLE

Shakespearean Circle read Antony and Cleopatra, The Winter's Tale, and Cymbeline. The group also had had a crossover event with Romanticism Club about Romantic Shakespeare.

## ROMANTICISM CLUB

Romanticism Club held their second annual Graveyard Reading on Halloween and in-costume. The club also had a Pride & Prejudice & Zombies pizza party. Romanticism Club and Shakespearean Circle had a successful and exciting two-week crossover event with Shakespeare Circle in October, in which we studied Romantic-era poems, stories and public lectures dealing with the Bard, and what he meant to writers of the early 1800s.

## LITERARY GUILD

Literary Guild kept alive Flannery O'Connor's own book club this semester by discussing favorite children's books, sci-fi literature, and scary stories. Literary Guild also expanded outside the realm of books by watching an episode of *The Twilight Zone* to accompany our discussion on the sci-fi genre. Each meeting held a fun evening that included food, literature, film, and a good conversation.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Bowlin, Catherine** (MA graduate), interviewer. "Curating Andalusia: An Interview with Meghan Anderson." *Flannery O'Connor Review*, vol. 17, 2019, pp. 57-63.

**Friman, Alice** (retired). *Blood Weather*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State UP, 2019.

---. "On the Overnight Train." [Poem] *The Massachusetts Review*, vol. 60, no. 2, Summer 2019, pp. 321-22.

---. "Reading Boccaccio." [Reprinted poem] *A Constellation of Kisses*. Edited by Diane Lockward. Terrapin Books, 2019. 71-72.

---. "Refraction at Twilight." [Reprinted poem] *Verses Daily* 5 July 2019. Web. <https://www.versedaily.org/2019/refractionattwilight.shtml>

---. "The Singer." [Poem] *North American Review*, vol. 304, no. 4, Fall 2019, p. 51.

---. "Swan Song." [Poem] *Plume* #97, Sept. 2019. Web. <https://plumepoetry.com/swan-song/>

---. "Ten Questions for Alice Friman." Interview by Christin Howard. *The Massachusetts Review* 12 July 2019. Web. <https://www.massreview.org/node/7492>

**Gentry, Marshall Bruce**. Review of *American Audacity: In Defense of Literary Daring*, by William Gibaldi. *Flannery O'Connor Review*, vol. 17, 2019, pp. 199-200.

---, interviewer. "Composing Flannery: An Interview with Elizabeth Coffman." *Flannery O'Connor Review*, vol. 17, 2019, pp. 17-24.

---, coeditor, with Robert Donahoo. *Approaches to Teaching the Works of Flannery O'Connor*. MLA, 2019. Two sections coauthored with Donahoo are "Part One: Materials," pp. 11-25, and "Introduction to the Essays," pp. 29-33. Georgia College MFA students involved in this project are Leah Kuenzi, Jennifer Watkins, and Laura M. Martin.

**Gordon, Sarah** (retired). Review of *The Critical Reception of Flannery O'Connor, 1952-2017: "Searchers and Discoverers,"* by Robert C. Evans. *Flannery O'Connor Review*, vol. 17, 2019, pp. 192-95.

**Lammon, Martin**. "An Eye for the Long Run: A Tribute to Donald Hall." *The Writer's Chronicle* vol. 52, no. 1, September 2019, pp. 19-23.

**Maier, Kristy** (MFA student). Review of *Southern Writers on Writing*, edited by Susan Cushman. *Flannery O'Connor Review*, vol. 17, 2019, pp. 201-03.

**McQuain, Jessica** (MA student), interviewer. "'No Light Task to Advise a Genius': The Mentorship of Caroline Gordon and Flannery O'Connor." Interview with Christine Flanagan. *Flannery O'Connor Review*, vol. 17, 2019, pp. 64-70.

**Neville, Kerry**. "Punctures." *The Evansville Review*, vol. 29, 2019.

**Pilcher, Lauren**. Review of *Small-Screen Souths: Region, Identity, and the Cultural Politics of Television*, edited by Lisa Hinrichsen, Gina Caison, and Stephanie Rountree. *Flannery O'Connor Review*, vol. 17, 2019, pp. 204-06.

**Tomko, Seth**. "Sekiro: Shadows Die Twice Encourages Betrayal." *Levelskip.com*. June 10, 2019. <https://levelskip.com/action-adventure/Sekiro-Shadows-Die-Twice-Encourages-Betrayal>



## PRESENTATIONS & READINGS

**Blazer, Alex E.** "Twin Peaks of Present: Lynch and Deleuze on Music, Trauma, and Time." Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Pittsburgh Marriott City Center, Pittsburgh, PA. 8 Nov. 2019.

**Bouchard, Caleb.** "Nonfiction reading." The Come Up ATL, 15 November 2019. House gathering, Tucker, GA. Reading.

**Boyton, II, A.D.** (MA graduate) "Black Histories, Black Futures." Multiverse Science Fiction & Fantasy Convention, Atlanta, GA, 18 Oct. 2019.

**Friman, Alice** (retired). Reading, with Eavan Boland. Lyndon House, Athens, GA. Sponsored by The Georgia Review. 22 Oct. 2019.

---. "Voice Carry" reading with Karen Head and Megan Volpert. Sponsored by Poetry Atlanta. DeKalb County Public Library Decatur Branch, Decatur, GA, 28 Oct. 2019.

---. Reading with William Trowbridge and Maryfrances Wagner, and poetry workshop. The Writers' Place, Kansas City, MO. 15-16 Nov. 2019.

**Gentry, Marshall Bruce.** "Reconsidering Astor and Sulkin Flannery O'Connor's 'The Displaced Person.'" St. George Tucker Society, Milledgeville, 27 July 2019.

---. "What Sort of Novel Can Be Made of Flannery O'Connor's Heathen Manuscripts?" South Central MLA, Little Rock, AR, 25 Oct. 2019.

**Gilbert, Sarah Beth** (BA graduate). "The Institutionalized Control of Female Agency: The Knowledge and Power of Witches in The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina and Penny Dreadful." Multiverse Science Fiction & Fantasy Convention, Atlanta, GA, 18 Oct. 2019.

**Simon, Katie.** "Troubling Paradise: Racialized Violence in Margaret Fuller's Summer on the Lakes, in 1843." Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment (ASLE), University of California, Davis, CA, 28 June 2019.

---. "Fuller's Hauntological Poetics." American Literature Association (ALA), Boston, MA, 25 May 2019.

## ACCOLADES & UPDATES

**Marshall Bruce Gentry** was a consultant and interviewee for the documentary film *Flannery*, 2019, directed by Elizabeth Coffman, Mark Bosco, and Chris O'Hare. *Flannery* won the Library of Congress Lavine / Ken Burns Prize for film, 2019.

**Leah Kuenzi** (MFA graduate) is teaching introduction to fiction as well as nonfiction workshops at Agnes Scott College. She is also a part-time grant writer for the Global Village Project, a special purpose middle school for refugee girls.

**Jude Marr** (MFA graduate) finished her PhD at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette and accepted a position as Director of the Writing Center at Florida State University.

**Jessica McQuain** hosted a Time Talk titled "Should the U.S. Make College Tuition-Free?" on October 16, 2019. Her Times Talk is briefly featured in the new BBC Storyworks documentary on Georgia College produced for the International Association of Universities. Watch here: <https://www.iau-aiminghigher.org/index.html#all-films>

**Kerry Neville's** "Teaching the N-Word in Georgia" was named as a Notable Essay in Best American Essays, 2019.

**Kerry Neville** was Visiting Faculty for the Frank McCourt/University of Limerick Summer Creative Writing School at New York University, June 2019.

**Kerry Neville** was the emcee for the Georgia Book of the Year Awards, June 2019.

**Seth Tomko's** article was featured in the "Weekly Round-up" at Critical-Distance.com, <https://critical-distance.com/2019/06/16/june-16th-2/>

**Derick Varn** (MFA graduate) is working for Zero Books and is teaching AP language and composition at West Jordan High School in Utah.