

MENNONITE/S WRITING X

An International Conference at Canadian Mennonite University

Thursday, June 12

7:00 – 8:00 pm	Book Launch: <i>In Search of a Mennonite Imagination: Key Texts in Mennonite Literary Criticism</i> ed. Robert Zacharias (CMU Press) [McNally Robinson, 1120 Grant Avenue (free & open to all)]
8:00 – 10:00 pm	Conference Opening Reception (free & open to all) [Marpeck Commons, Canadian Mennonite University, 2299 Grant Avenue]

Friday, June 13

<i>Daytime conference sessions for registered attendees only</i>	
9:15 – 10:30 am SESSION 1	<p>1A [C344, North Side] <u>Miriam Toews I: On <i>Women Talking</i></u> - Grace Kehler, “Women Laughing: Miriam Toews and the Art of Subversion” - Joseph R. Wiebe, “Genealogies of Grace: Mennonite Kinship and the Politics of Relational Responsibility in <i>Women Talking</i>” <i>Chair: Margaret Steffler</i></p> <hr/> <p>1B [C167, North Side] <u>Words that Divide and Unify: Mennonites and the Language of Grassroots Political Engagement</u> - Melanie S. Mock, “What Happens When Conspiracy Theories Hit Home” - Hope Nisly, “GOTV and Resistance in Perilous Times” - Shirley H. Showalter, “From College President to Crusading Grandma”</p> <hr/> <p>1C [C244, North Side] <u>Writers and Readers Reflect</u> - David Elias, “Peter Elias and <i>Voices in the Wilderness</i>” - Elsie K. Neufeld, “Work & Play: On Being a Personal Historian” - Linda Umble, “Looking for Space: A Mennonite Reader on Mennonite Writings” <i>Chair: Jeff Gundy</i></p>
10:30 – 11:00 am	Coffee Break [Great Hall]

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<p>11:00 am – 12:15 pm SESSION 2</p>	<p>2A [C344, North Side] <u>Reflection and Creation</u> - Julia D. Rempel, “A Holy Rebellion: Forgiving the Sins of the Fathers” - Bradley Schmidt, “Doing the Work, Playing with Words, and the Preparation of the Novel” - Jonathan Dyck, “Making a ‘Mennonite’ Graphic Novel” <i>Chair: Julia Spicher Kasdorf</i></p> <hr/> <p>2B [C167, North Side] <u>Invoking Place and Identity</u> - Joelle Kidd, “Wow, Not What I’d Call Music: The Uncanny World of Christian Pop” - James Bergman, “Overcoming Previous Narratives: How Identity is Shaped by Experience” - Geoff Martin, “History Maker” <i>Chair: Nathan Dueck</i></p>
<p>12:15 – 1:15 pm</p>	<p>Lunch [Great Hall]</p>
<p>1:30 – 2:45 pm SESSION 3</p>	<p>PLENARY [Laudamus Auditorium, North Side] <u>Homecoming: Making Space for Queer Stories on the MennoLit Shelf</u> - Jan Guenther Braun - K.R. Byggdin - Cale Plett - Casey Plett <i>Chair: Andrew Harnish</i></p>
<p>2:45 – 3:15 pm</p>	<p>Coffee Break [Great Hall]</p>
<p>3:15 – 4:30 pm SESSION 4</p>	<p>4A [C167, North Side] <u>Dale Suderman: Accidental Maven</u> - Daniel Born, “Toward a Post-Mennonite Identity: The Writing of Dale Suderman” - John Kampen, “The Radical Power of Friendship” - Adam Schrag, “Things Hidden: The Influence of René Girard in the Works of Dale Suderman” <i>Chair: Chris Huebner</i></p> <hr/> <p>4B [C344, North Side] <u>Making and Seeing</u> - Becca Lachman and Lynn Sommer, “A Third Chair: Contemporary Fraktur for a Most Unusual Time” - Chantel Mierau, “Three Chores: Short Experimental Videos—<i>Obraumche</i>, <i>Busy Napping</i>, and <i>Microfibre</i>” <i>Chair: Paul Dyck</i></p>

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5:00 – 6:00 pm	Supper [Great Hall]
<i>The following evening activities are free and open to all</i>	
6:00 – 7:30 pm artists' talk at 7:00 pm	Exhibition Opening [MHC Gallery, Mennonite Heritage Archive building, South Side] - Sarah Ens & Jami Reimer, “here you are singing,” a sound installation based on <i>Flyway</i> , poems by Sarah Ens
8:00 – 9:15 pm	KEYNOTE ADDRESS [Marpeck Commons] Magdalene Redekop, “Translating Self and Other” <i>Host: Robert Zacharias</i>
9:15 – 10:30 pm	CMU Press and Pandora Press After Party [Marpeck Commons] (short readings by Sarah Klassen, John Weier, David Waltner-Toews) <i>Hosts: Sue Sorensen (CMU Press) and Maxwell Kennel (Pandora Press)</i>

Saturday, June 14

<i>(Daytime conference sessions except for 11 am Keynote Address for registered attendees only)</i>	
9:15 – 10:30 am SESSION 5	<p>5A [C344, North Side] <u>Miriam Toews II</u> - Cassidy Burr, “Pushing Past the Limits of Language: Ethics of Witnessing in <i>All My Puny Sorrows</i>” - Rita Dirks, “Menno Culture as Simulacrum in Miriam Toews” - Margaret Steffler, “Miriam Toews’s <i>Fight Night</i>: Playful Allusions, Transgenerational Resistance, Joyful Mourning” <i>Chair: Grace Kehler</i></p> <hr/> <p>5B [C167, North Side] <i>*take note of update</i> <u>Across the Anabaptist Spectrum</u> - Kirsten Eve Beachy, “Simple: excerpt from new memoir, <i>Martyrs and Chickens: Confessions of a Granola Mennonite</i>” - Jessica Smucker, “What I Didn’t Learn in Africa” <i>Chair: Maxwell Kennel</i></p> <hr/> <p>5C [C244, North Side] <i>*take note of update</i> <u>Writing Past and Present</u> - Dora Dueck, “Thinking About Oneself: Reflections on Desire and Discovery in the Personal Essay and Memoir” - Mary Ann Loewen, “Grandma and Kay: An Intergenerational Memoir”</p>

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	<i>Chair: Andrew Unger</i>
10:30 – 11:00 am	Coffee Break [Great Hall]
<i>The following keynote address is free and open to all</i>	
11:00 am – 12:15 pm	<p>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</p> <p>Julia Spicher Kasdorf, “Mennonite Ruminant, Notes from the Eleventh Province”</p> <p>Marpeck Commons</p> <p><i>Host: Hildi Froese Tiessen</i></p>
<i>The following afternoon activities are for registered attendees only</i>	
12:15 – 1:15 pm	Lunch [Great Hall]
1:30 – 2:45 pm SESSION 6	<p>6A [C344, North Side]</p> <p><u>Word and Vision at Work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Christopher Dick, “An Allegory for Fighting the Good Fight: J.G. Ewert’s <i>Der Gute Kampf</i>” - Nataliya Venger, “Visual Texts of Henry Pauls: Between Myth, Nostalgia, and Historical Reality” - Eileen Kinch, “A Reading from <i>Drawing Near: A Devotional Journey with Art, Poetry and Reflection</i>” <p><i>Chair: Jonathan Dueck</i></p> <hr/> <p>6B [C167, North Side]</p> <p><u>Tradition, Orality, and Creative Writing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Di Brandt, “‘Muh muh muh’: Notes Toward a Contemporary Traditionalist Mennonite Darp Poetics, Part 2” - Abigail Carl-Klassen, “Village Mechanics: Tricksters, Hustlers, and Good Timin’ People, Playfulness as the Work of Rebellion and Reformation in the Campos Menonitas of Chihuahua, Mexico” - Julia Reimer, “Reminiscence Theatre as Imaginative Excerpting” <p><i>Chair: Robert Zacharias</i></p>
2:45 – 3:15 pm	Coffee Break [Great Hall]

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<p>3:15 – 4:30 pm SESSION 7</p>	<p>7A [C167, North Side] <u>Poetics and Politics</u> - Jeff Gundy, “Truth, Poetry, and Power, or Said Samatar, the Sayyid, and Makhno” - Chris K. Huebner, “Ay Rembrandt! A Painting, a Poem, and the Question of Voice” - Ruth Rempel, “On Reading Sofia Samatar’s <i>The Practice, Horizon, and the Chain</i>” <i>Chair: Sally Ito</i></p> <hr/> <p>7B [C344, North side] <u>On Satire</u> - Nathan Dueck, “Satirizing Myself for Fun and Profit” - Sherri Klassen, “The Cocktail Renaissance Comes for the Mennonites” - Andrew Unger, “Towards an Understanding of Mennonite Humour” <i>Chair: Geoff Martin</i></p>
<p>5:00 – 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Banquet [Great Hall]</p>
<p><i>The following evening activities are free and open to all</i></p>	
<p>6:30 – 7:30 pm</p>	<p>THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE [Laudamus Auditorium, 500 Shaftesbury] <i>Places, Please, Act One: Poetry by Warren Kliever</i> Devised & performed by Michèle LaRue Kliever <i>Host: Hildi Froese Tiessen</i></p>
<p>8:00 – 9:15 pm</p>	<p>KEYNOTE ADDRESS [Marpeck Commons] David Waltner-Toews, “The Meaning of Everything: Experience, Science, Imagination” <i>Host: Nathan Dueck</i></p>

Sunday, June 15

<p><i>Sunday’s conference sessions are for registered attendees only</i></p>	
<p>9:15 – 10:30 am SESSION 8</p>	<p>8A [C167, North Side] <u>Three (or Four) Poets</u> - Jeff Gundy, reading from <i>Reports from an Interior Province</i> - Ann Hostetler, reading from <i>Safehold</i> - Julia Kasdorf, “Social Poetics and the Local: a reading from <i>Homeplace</i>” - Connie Braun, <i>Moonroads</i> (poems read by the other poets) <i>Chair: Dora Dueck</i></p>

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	<hr/> <p>8B [C344, North Side] <u>On Genre</u> - Paul Doerksen, “Amish as Villain and Victim: Reading Linda Castillo” - Isaac Kuhl-Schlegel, “The Pursuit of Peace in A.E. van Vogt’s <i>Slan</i>” - Joanne Lehman, “Bonnet Girl Meets an Anabaptist: Why I Write Amish Fiction” <i>Chair: Bradley Schmidt</i></p>
10:30 – 11:00 am	Coffee Break and optional short Worship Service (Laudamus Auditorium)
11:00 am – 12: 15 pm SESSION 9	<p>9A [C344, North Side] <u>Mediating Mennonite Writing</u> - Maxwell Kennel, “Publishing Anabaptist History: Pandora Press, Mennonite Publishing, and Critical Historiography” - Eileen Kinch, “Mennonite Newspapers: Nurturing Community and Faithfulness” - Robert Zacharias, “‘Satan, infidelity, higher criticism, etc.’: On Documenting the Long Emergence of Mennonite Literary Criticism in English” <i>Chair: Ann Hostetler</i></p> <hr/> <p>9B [C167, North Side] <u>Friesen & Friesen: From No to Yes</u> (Steinbach in word, conversation, and film) Patrick Friesen & Ralph Friesen <i>Host: Paul Doerksen</i></p>
12:15 onwards	<i>Heading out. Those who have signed up for the post-conference literary tour of Steinbach will travel there for the afternoon. Everyone: Thanks for coming!</i>