On the Margins

Hypertext
Electronic Literature
Digital Humanities

15-16 December 2022

Senate House
University of London
London, UK

The Open University

SCHOOL OF
ADVANCED STUDY
UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

Thursday, 15 December

9:30 AM – 5:00 PM   **Registration & Check In Desk**
Outside Room G37

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM   **What is Hypertext?' Workshop**
Sofia Kitromili (Bournemouth University) and David Milard (University of Southampton)

12:30 PM – 1:15 PM   **Lunch**
Room G35, Senate House

1:15 PM – 1:30 PM   **Welcome**
Programme Committee

1:30 PM – 2:45 PM   **Session #1**
Chair: *Christopher Ohge (School of Advanced Study)*

Meaning in the Macrotext: Hypertext as Frame, Hypertext as Big Picture
Sam Brooker (Richmond University, London)

Real Reel Poetry: De-Marginalizing Motherhood through the Means of Reel Instapoetry
JuEunhae Knox (University of Glasgow)

Visualization and Structural Intuition in Early Hypertext
Mark Bernstein (Eastgate Systems, Inc.)

2:45 PM – 3:00 PM   **Break**

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM   **Session #2**
Chair: *Naomi Wells (School of Advanced Study)*

Civilization and its disk-contents': World Literature and Hypertext
Rebecca Roach (University of Birmingham)

Hypertext and Its Afterlives: Shelley Jackson's Patchwork Girl and/as Undead Electronic Literature
Calvin Olsen (NC State University)

The Evolution of the Author – authorship and metafictionality in Johannes Helden's Evolution
Hilda Forss (University of Helsinki)

4:15 PM – 4:30 PM   **Break**

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM	**Lightning Session** Chair: *Alessio Antonini (Open University)*

On the Hypertextual Syllabus, and Beyond!
Nicole Blair (University of Washington)

"Thank God for Tags": Fanfiction on AO3 as a Reading Paradigm
Fabienne Silberstein-Bamford (University of Zurich)

Protesting against Digital Platforms from Within: Constraints, Community and Catharsis
Imran Khan (Bournemouth University)

Deckling the Edges of the Digital: Why Book History Matters for Digital Humanities
Leah Henrickson (University of Leeds)

Mutiny on the Batavia: History as Symphony
Henry Coburn (UCSB)

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	**Reception** Room G35, Senate House

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM   **Keynote Address**
Chair: *Alessio Antonini (Open University)*

From "screen writings" to post-Internet expressions. A French perspective on digital textualities
Gustavo Gomez-Mejia (Université de Tours, Prim)

To which extent can we conceptualise digital artifacts through the lenses of the Humanities? As present-day digital humanists and Internet researchers, what is the amount of attention that we devote to contextualising contemporary technologies within the frame of a larger cultural history? Are these questions symptomatic of how we may feel indebted to a particular intellectual tradition?

With such reflections in mind, this conference aims at acquainting English-speaking scholars with a localised French perspective on digital textualities. Drawing upon the seminal works of Emmanuël Souchier and Yves Jeanneret, in the framework of what has been called a "screen writing" theory (théorie des écrits d'écran), we will see how a Sorbonne-based literary heritage ended up developing an original set of concepts for analysing digital objects as diverse as software programs, cd-roms, websites, blogs, social media platforms and apps. By discussing their "socio-semiotic" approach throughout a testimonial research journey (1999-2022), we will reflect upon the cultural value of a series of globalised post-Internet expressions (neologisms, buzzwords, Internet jargon) which may challenge our views as digital humanists with a shared interest for screen-intensive practices and contemporary literacies.

Friday, 16 December

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM   **Keynote Address**
Chair: *Francesca Benatti (Open University)*

Multimodal Memory in Game and Virtual Reality Storytelling
Colin Harvey (Saber Interactive Spain/School of Digital Arts)

For video game writers and narrative designers, negotiating tensions between storytelling and gameplay remain enduring challenges. Drawing on his own creative practice in the contemporary games industry, game writer and narrative designer Dr Colin Harvey explores how an understanding of multi-modal memory and its operation might provide the basis for an experiential understanding of narrative that functions as both an analytical and creative tool.

11:00 AM – 11:15 AM   **Break**

11:15 AM – 1:00 PM   **Session #3**
Chair: *Jane Winters (School of Advanced Study)*

Metaphors as Links: an Ontological Analysis and Framework
Alessio Antonini (Open University)

Conceptions, Narratives, Data: Modeling Knowledge in the (Digital) Humanities through Multimodal and Multi-Linear Hypertext
Christian Wachter (Bielefeld University)

User-centred Collecting for Emerging Formats
Ian Cooke and Giulia Carla Rossi (British Library)

The Tensions Between Intertextuality and Ownership in Ted Nelson's early hypertext publishing systems
Simon Rowberry (University College London)

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM   **Lunch**

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM   **Session #4**
Chair: *Sam Brooker (Richmond University, London)*

"My Heart Goes Boom Boom!": Understanding the Experience of Reading Digital Comics
Linda Berube (City, University of London), Ernesto Priego (City, University of London), Stella Wisdom (British Library), Ian Cooke (British Library), and Stephann Makri (City, University of London)

The Book History of Webcomics: a case study of Rachel Smythe's Lore Olympus
Francesca Benatti (Open University)

"Do People Really Talk that Way?" afternoon, a story in Conversation with Artificial Intelligence
David Shepard (Independent Scholar)

3:30 PM – 3:40 PM	**Break**
3:40 PM – 4:00 PM	**Concluding Remarks** *Programme Committee*

Practicalities

Venue & Zoom Information

On Thursday, 15 December the in-person elements of the conference will take place at Senate House, University of London. Conference sessions will take place in Room G37 – on the ground floor of Senate House - there will be signage to guide you.

Senate House
University of London
Malet St, London WC1E 7HU
United Kingdom

Senate House is within walking distance of King's Cross and Euston mainline stations, and of numerous underground stations, including Russell Square, Goodge Street, Holborn, Euston Square and Tottenham Court Road.

For those joining online, Zoom links for each session are located in the programme. Please note that the workshop and both of the keynotes use different Zoom links than the main conference sessions.

Conference Programme Committee

Alessio Antonini (Open University)
Francesca Benatti (Open University)
Sam Brooker (Richmond)
Christopher Ohge (School of Advanced Study, University of London)
Naomi Wells (School of Advanced Study, University of London)
Jane Winters (School of Advanced Study, University of London)