This Spring, Willing Suspension Productions Presents Ben Jonson’s comedy *Bartholomew Fair*.

*Bartholomew Fair* will be performed on March 31, April 1, and April 2 at the Boston University Student Theater at the Agganis Arena (time to be determined). Tickets may be reserved by emailing wsuspen@bu.edu.

Graduate students Matt Stokes, Liam Meyer, and Kristin Bezio are directing the play, to be produced by Holly Schaaf. Emily Gruber will design the sets, in addition to appearing as Ursula, while Jonathan Deschere will appear as Littlewit.

**About Willing Suspension:**

Willing Suspension Productions is a student theater company within Boston University that specializes in producing seldom-seen English drama from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Established and run by graduate students from BU’s English Department, the troupe has spent over fifteen years giving full theatrical stagings to oft-neglected masterpieces of Shakespeare’s contemporaries, offering audiences the opportunity to see live productions of plays by authors such as Christopher Marlowe, Ben Jonson, and Thomas Middleton.
GRADUATE STUDENT news

Prospectus

Heather Holcombe's prospectus, "Made in America: Fordism, Genetics, and Literary (Re)Productions, 1895-1930," was approved in November. Her readers are Professor Mizruchi and Professor Korobkin.

Oral Examination

Emily Gruber passed her oral exam on February 8, 2011. Her examiners were Professors Carroll, Siemon, Martin, and Breiner.

Conferences

Heather Barrett will present a paper titled "Eliza Haywood's Desiring Female Philosophers" at the British Women Writer's Conference this April at The Ohio State University. She will receive a departmental travel grant to attend this conference.

Iain Bernhoft will deliver a paper at the upcoming ALA (American Literature Association) conference in Boston at the end of May. It's for a panel on Cormac McCarthy, and the tentative title is "Some degenerate entrepreneur fleeing from a medicine show?: Reading Blood Meridian in the Age of PT Barnum."

Stephanie Byttebier will attend April's NeMLA convention, and will be presenting a paper titled "Ironic Sentimentalism/Sentimental Irony: Aesthetic Ambiguity in Willa Cather's A Lost Lady (1923)," for a panel called "Twentieth-Century Sentimentalism." She received a travel grant from the GSO to attend the conference.

Karen Guendel will be presenting a paper called "The Body: The Universal Local in the Poetry of Williams," at the NeMLA Convention in New Brunswick, New Jersey, April 7-10, 2011.

Joshua Wisebaker will be presenting at the British Women Writers Conference: Curiosities, which runs from March 31 - April 3, 2011 at The Ohio State University. His paper is titled "Performing Worlds: Curiosity and the Native Body in Behn's Oroonoko." He has received a departmental travel grant to attend.

Arielle Zibrak gave a paper based on her forthcoming article (see below) at The Apocalypse and its Discontents: The Department of English, Linguistics, and Cultural Studies' 16th Westminster Colloquium; The University of Westminster, London, UK on December 11, 2010. She received a departmental travel grant to attend the conference. She will also present a paper, "'Something Dearer Than Life': Art and (Re)production in Kate Chopin's Early Work" in a panel organized by the Kate Chopin International Society at the ALA conference in Boston this May.

Research

Sheila Cordner received The Drew Scholarship from Gladstone's Library in the U.K. to do research there.

Publications since our last issue

Stephanie Byttebier's article "It Doesn't Count If It's Easy': Facing Pain, Mediating Identity in Tony Kushner's Angels in America" is forthcoming in Modern Drama 54.3 (September 2011).

Archie Burnett received the John T. Shawcross award from the Milton Society of America for the most distinguished reference work on Milton published in 2009. The work is *A Variorum Commentary on the Poems of John Milton, vol. 3: Samson Agonistes* (Duquesne University Press). Professor Burnett shared the work, and the award, with Stephen Dobranski. Professor Burnett’s edition of *Philip Larkin: The Complete Poems* is in press with Faber and Faber. It is the first scholarly edition of Larkin’s poems, and the first to have a commentary. It will be published in the fall.

Recently, Ha Jin’s *In the Pond* was translated into Turkish, and *A Free Life* was translated into both French and Japanese. His story collection *A Good Fall* (translated by Professor Jin into Chinese) was voted by Asian Weekly as one of the ten best Chinese fiction books of 2010 (No. 4). Professor Jin also had an essay published recently: “In Defense of Foreignness,” in *The Routledge Handbook of World Englishes*, edited by Andy Kirkpatrick.

Christopher Martin’s essay on “Lyric Poetry” appeared last fall in Harvard University Press’s *The Classical Tradition*, edited by Antony Grafton et al.


Carrie Preston is currently a Junior Faculty Fellow at the Boston University Humanities Foundation. She gave a paper at the Modernist Studies Association Conference in Victoria, BC entitled “Amy Lowell Out Loud and the Discipline of Expression” in November. At the Modern Language Association Annual Convention in January, she presented on “Ezra Pound and Ito Michio’s Transnational Studies of the Noh Play *Hagoromo*.”

Joseph Rezek, Assistant Professor of English, has been awarded the 2009-2010 Richard Beale Davis Prize for his essay “The Orations on the Abolition of the Slave Trade and the Uses of Print in the Early Black Atlantic.” The Davis Prize is awarded biennially by the Modern Language Association’s Division of American Literature to 1800 for the best article published in *Early American Literature*. It appeared in the Fall 2010 issue of the journal.
Recently, John Paul Riquelme published an overview of the work of “Wolfgang Iser,” the German literary aesthetician, in The Encyclopedia of Literary and Cultural Theory, Vol. II: 1966-present (Wiley-Blackwell) and a brief essay, “Uncoiling the Snakes of Ireland in A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man: From the Souls in Hell to Laocoön,” in James Joyce Quarterly 47.1 (2009) [which appeared in late 2010], with illustrations, two of which were used for the front and back covers of the journal. At the MLA 2011 convention in Los Angeles Professor Riquelme gave a talk, “Wilde as Masked Precursor,” for “Modernist Wilde,” a panel jointly sponsored by the Divisions of Victorian Literature and of Late 19th/Early 20th-century English Literature. He also organized and chaired the panel “Why Teach Literature Anyway?”, featuring Rita Felski, Stephen Greenblatt, and Hortense Spillers, for the MLA Division on the Teaching of Literature, whose executive committee he currently chairs.

On January 12th, Kevin Van Anglen took part with scholars from Harvard, MIT, and Oxford in a panel discussion in Cambridge of the Geolocated Supply Chain and the Haitian Earthquake Disaster held in conjunction with an MIT course, ESD.937, Special Graduate Studies in Engineering Systems Division—Geospatial Leadership: Fusing State of the Practice with State of the Art for Multidisciplinary Field Research in Non-Permissive Environments.

“Now, what I want is, Facts.”

Thomas Gradgrind, in Hard Times