
INTERDISCIPLINARY DICKENS SYMPOSIUM

**Boston University College of General Studies
871 Commonwealth Avenue.**

July 14-16, 2017

Co-Sponsors

THE DICKENS SOCIETY



**Boston University College of General Studies
Center for Interdisciplinary Teaching & Learning**

FRIDAY, JULY 14

8:00- 9:00 **Fifth Floor** **Continental Breakfast**

9:00-9:15 **Room 511** **Welcome Address**

9:20-10:50 **Room 505** **Dickens and the Arts**

Chair: Diana Archibald

Suzanne Shumway, "Dismal Flutes and Dirty Clarinets:
Woodwinds and Wealth in *David Copperfield* and *Little Dorrit*"

William Kumbier, "The Reach of Musical Figuration in *Mystery
of Edwin Drood*"

Theresa Kenney, "Dickens and Sacred Art"

Laurena Tsudama, "Setting the Stage on Page and Plate:
Dickens, Cruikshank and Theatricality in *Oliver Twist*"

9:20-10:50 **Room 511** **Dickens at/in Play**

Chair: Jude Nixon

Sean Grass, "'The Memory Game': Dickens, Game Theory, and
Narrative Play"

Michelle Allen-Emerson, "Dickens Undisciplined: Having Fun
with *David Copperfield*"

Marie-Amelie Coste, "Dickens and the Sympathetic
Imagination"

Robert Sirabian, "Dickens and the Discipline of Play"

11:00-12:30 **Room 505** **Why Are We Here? Philosophical/
Political Dickens**

Chair: Iain Crawford

Dominic Rainsford, "Dickens and the Politics of Disproportion"

Megan Beech, "Dickens, Martineau, and the Science of Political
Economy"

Sophie Christman Lavin, "Platonic *Hard Times*"

Juliet John, "Throwing the Baby out with the Bath Water?: Dickens, Literariness and the Politics of Interdisciplinarity"

11:00-12:30 Room 511 In God We Trust? Dickens and Religion, Part I

Chair: Elizabeth Bridgham

Jane Kim, "'I come home, now, like a tired traveler': The Prodigal Son in *David Copperfield*"

Susan Jhirad, "Dickens and Unitarianism"

Kathleen Bell, "The *Life of our Lord* as the Key to Dickens and Spirituality"

Christian Dickinson, "Dickens the Dissenter: Creating Distance Between Anglicans and Evangelicals in *Bleak House*"

12:30-1:50 Lunch on your own (see list of nearby restaurants)

1:50-3:00 Room 505 Urban Dickens

Chair: Lillian Nayder

Leslie Simon, "Abstract Space in Dickens: The Theater, the City and Non-Euclidean Geometry"

Eva-Charlotta Mebius, "Apocalyptic Dickens: Antediluvian London"

Catherine Quirk, "From Public Servants and Private Investigators: Dickens and the Police"

1:50-3:00 Room 511 Triple D: Dickens, Disease and Death

Chair: Meaghan Cronin

Katherine Kim, "Dickens, Decapitation and the Understanding of Death"

Galia Benziman, "Mourning and Melancholia: The Dead Mother in Dickens from a Psychoanalytic Perspective"

Andre DeCuir, "'Wee Beasties': Dickens, Microbes and *Bleak House*"

3:00-3:30 **Fifth Floor** **Coffee Break**

3:30-4:50 **Room 505** **Storytelling, Chance, and
Melodrama**

Chair: David Paroissien

Kylee-Anne Hingston, "Dickens and Disability: Using
Narratology to Rethink Disability and Illness in *Bleak House*"

Daniel Siegel, "Aleatory Dickens"

April Kendra, "Dickens and Vampire Melodrama: Or, The Real
Mystery of John Jasper"

3:30-4:50 **Room 511** **Dickens, Education, Epistemology**

Chair: Kit Polga

Masumi Odari, "A Study of Charles Dickens's Educational
Theory"

Sheila Cordner, "Dickens and Education"

Angelika Zirker and Matthias Bauer, "A World Thirsting for
Pickwickian Knowledge: Dickens and Epistemology"

6:00-9:00 **Omni Parker House** **Dickens Dinner**

60 School Street, Press Room (2nd Floor), Boston

Registration required. Be sure to check out the Dickens
memorabilia in and around our room!

6:00-7:00 Cash bar

7:00-9:00 Dinner

SATURDAY, JULY 15

8:30-9:30 **Lobby** **Continental breakfast**

9:30-11:00 **Room 505** **Dickens on the Brain**

Chair: Leslie Simon

Adam Colman, "Dickens, Addiction Discourse and Pattern Recognition"

Margaret Rennix, "The Devil in the Details: Dickens and Limited Rationality"

Barbara McCarthy, "A Psychological Profile of the Members of the Pickwick Club"

Maria Bachman, "Back to the Future: Charles Dickens, Neuroscience and the Brain"

9:30-11:00 **Room 511** **Sociological Dickens**

Chair: Mark Cronin

Lydia Craig, "Pickwick in the Essex Pound: Class Tensions in Wat Tyler's County"

Goldie Morgentaler, "Fertility and Sociological Metaphor: or, The Ambiguities of Unchecked Reproduction in Dickens's Novels"

Akiko Takei, "Success or Failure? Evaluating Dickens's Management of Urania Cottage"

11:10-12:20 **Room 505** **Dickens in/on America**

Chair: Joel Brattin

Jerome Meckier, "Dickens's Presidents"

Iain Crawford, "Attraction of Repulsion: Dickens and the American Press in 1842"

Diana Archibald, "Dickens and the Politics of American Exceptionalism: 175 Years After *American Notes*"

11:10-12:20 Room 511 STEAM Dickens

Chair: Sean Grass

Susan Cook and Liz Henley, "Dickens Industrial/Digital Revolution"

Christopher Keirstead, "Flights of Imagination: Pioneering Aviation in Dickens"

Megan Witzleben, "Interiorities in *Great Expectations*: the Role of Architecture in Character Formation"

12:20-2:00 Lunch on your own (see list of nearby restaurants)

2:00-3:30 Room 511 Dickens, Friends & Family

Chair: Margaret Darby

Lillian Nayder, "Fictions and Finance: Dickens, Family and the Meanings of Debt"

Mark Cronin, "The Anxiety of Familial Influence: John Henry Barrows, Charles Dickens and *Emir Malek: Prince of Assassins*"

Michelle Mastro, "Esther's Inheritance of Shame: Fearing Bodily Similarities Between Parents and Children in Charles Dickens's *Bleak House*"

David Paroissien, "A Day Trip to Bath with a Hidden Agenda: Dickens and Friends Celebrate the 74th Birthday of Walter Savage Landor"

3:30-4:00 Lobby Coffee Break

4:00-5:00 Room 511 Dickens Society Business Meeting

All are welcome!

5:00-6:00 Third Floor Wine and Cheese Reception

Katzenberg Center, Boston University College of General Studies

Dinner on your own

SUNDAY, JULY 16

8:30-9:30 **Lobby** **Continental Breakfast**

9:30-11:00 **Room 505** **Dickens, Gender, and Economics**

Chair: Natalie Cole

Helen Goodman, "Traumatized Masculinity: Ghosts of Cruelty Past in *David Copperfield* and *Tale of Two Cities*"

Anita Young, "Dickens and Economics"

Margaret Darby, "Through Darkened Glass: Dickens and Genteel Femininity"

Douglas Scully, "Decoding Nancy: An Analysis of the Veiled Nature of Nancy's Prostitution in Adaptations of *Oliver Twist*"

9:30-11:00 **Room 511** **Dickens's Afterlives**

Chair: Natalie McKnight

Emily Bowles, "Fictional Dickens, 1849-2013"

Temitope Abisoye Noah, "Dickens and Parapsychology in Eastwood's *Hereafter*"

Joseph McLaughlin, "The Contemporary Progressive Movement: A Dickensian Approach"

Maya Zakrzewska-Pim, "Charles Dickens and Children's Literature: *Oliver Twist* Adapted"

11:20-12:50 **Room 505** **Words & Things**

Chair: Mark Cronin

Dano Cammarota, "Bow-wow-wow & Quack-Quack: The Language of Dickens in *Martin Chuzzlewit* and *Our Mutual Friend*"

Joel Brattin, "Dickens's Proofs of *Tale of Two Cities*"

Colette Ramuz, "Down the Hatch: David Copperfield and Mouth Fetish"

Katherine Jackson, "Controlling Cutlery: Objects of Anxiety, Humiliation and Identity"

11:20-12:50 Room 511 In God We Trust? Dickens and Religion, Part II

Chair: David Paroissien

Abderrezzaq Ghafsi, "Charles Dickens and Religion: Dickens Islamic References and Intersects"

Christine Colon, "Exploring the 'Radical Ordinary': Dickens's Theology in *Little Dorrit*"

Hai Na, "The Grammar of Choice: Charles Dickens's Authentic Religion"

Yuanyuan Zhu, "Biblical Allusions and Rhetoric in *Hard Times*"

End of conference! Thanks so much for participating! If you're staying on in Boston, please see the list of nearby Dickens-related (and other literary) attractions.