



2018 War, Literature &
the Arts Conference
Representing and Remembering War

September 20 - 21, 2018



UNITED STATES
AIR FORCE ACADEMY

“So here’s where the paths converge, those of the warrior and the writer. We tell stories to preserve important events, to record them in our own consciousness, to pass them down to the next generation. But most importantly we tell them in order to make sense of them, to explain them to ourselves. It’s through the telling of stories that we come to understand our experience, individual and collective.”
- Roxana Robinson, from *“The Warrior and the Writer”*



War, Literature & the Arts



Conference

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Welcome to the United States Air Force Academy, and the War, Literature & the Arts Conference. We are pleased to offer presentations focused on representing and remembering war. USAFA's Department of English & Fine Arts faculty members value, teach, and publish work focused on the human condition influenced by conflict. We see this conference as a celebration of our journal, War, Literature & the Arts: An International Journal of the Humanities, and the power and influence of humanistic study to develop our nation's leaders of character. Thank you for joining us for this special event.

We especially thank David L. Jannetta (USAFA '75), the USAFA Endowment, and USAFA's Center for Character and Leadership Development for their generous support of this conference.

Colonel Kathleen Harrington
Permanent Professor and Head
Department of English and Fine Arts

From time immemorial, war and art have reflected one another, and it is this intersection of war and art that *WLA* has sought, since 1989, to illuminate. If it seems to fall to the historian to make distinctions among wars, each war's larger means and ends, the trajectory for the artist or journalist, regardless of culture or time, seems to fall towards the individual's disillusionment, the means and ends of war played out in the personal. For the individual soldier, the sweeping facts of history are accurately written not in the omniscient, third-person plural, but in the singular first. We live in a culture that values the individual. Our works of art about war mirror this welcome bias.

For the past thirty years, *WLA* has been witness to the power of word and image and for the human craving for meaning. And if one of the functions of art and reporting is to disturb the status quo, to force us to view the world anew, to consider our capacities to build or tear down, then we welcome those disturbances.

—Donald Anderson, Editor
War, Literature & the Arts

Thursday, 20 September

Session 1, 8:30-9:50 AM

Polaris Hall Main Stage: PERFORMANCE

HomeFront Theatre Project (“Shakespeare’s War”—selections from Shakespeare’s plays & conversation on war, leadership, patriotism & trauma)

Moderator: Amy Cooper

Arnold Hall Ballroom East: FOREVER WAR NARRATIVES IN REAL TIME

Julie Saffel (“The Global War on Terror in Real-Time: Milblogs and Blook”)

Mike Hagemann (“War literature in the 21st Century: a speculative assessment of the influence of social media on artistic responses to war”)

Melissa Parrish (“Boredom’s Noise: Troubling the Hero in Sebastian Junger’s and Tim Hetherington’s War Narratives”)

Moderator: Grant Holt

Arnold Hall Ballroom West: INTERNATIONAL VOICES

Vinicius Mariano de Carvalho (“Brazil’s participation in World War II expressed in literature, music and art produced by the soldiers of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force”)

Olga Scarborough (“Humanistic Ideas in Russian Literary Works about War”)

Jue Wang (“War Experience through Chinese Poetry”)

Moderator: Ashley Christ

Arnold Hall Conference Room 1: TEACHING PANEL

Mary Atwell (“A Most Respectable, Agreeable Corps”: How Nineteenth-Century Literature Can Help My Students Prepare for Modern War)

Kristen Loyd (“Combining War Literature with the Depth and Complexity Framework to Empower Students to Think and Learn in a High School Classroom”)

Rosemary Johnsen & Andrae Marak (“Engaging Representations of War with Student Veteran Discussion Leaders”)

Moderator: Daniel Couch

Arnold Hall Conference Room 2: THE WARTIME PASTORAL

Juan Morales, Danielle Holmes, Jorge Arroyo & Katherine Brown (“Landscapes, Literature, and Poetics”)

Moderator: Juan Morales

Arnold Hall Lounge: VETERAN WOMENS’ VOICES

Jessica Hellmann, Kelly Griffith & Krystal McGuiness (“Personal Narratives of Women Serving in the US Air Force”)

Moderator: Jessica Hellmann

Arnold Hall Theater: THE WARRIOR THROUGH CENTURIES

Patrick Whalen (“A Hell of One’s Own: Combat Trauma in Dante’s Inferno”)

Michael McAndrew (“An Interpretation of an Artificial Dream from Homer’s The Odyssey”)

Michael Zeitlin (“American World War I Pilots, Memoir, and the Air War of the Future”)

Moderator: Brittney Szempruch

Session 2: 10:00 AM -11:20 AM

Polaris Hall Main Stage: WLA FELLOWS CONVERSATION

Helen Thorpe & Meg McLagan with Colonel Kathleen Harrington

Moderator: Thomas Vargish

Arnold Hall Ballroom East: CREATIVE READINGS

John Blair (“The Springs”)

Benjamin Hertwig (from Slow War)

Derek McKown (“The After-Life of War”)

Seth Brady Tucker (selections of short form narratives)

Moderator: Sarah Nance

Arnold Hall Ballroom West: LITERARY COMMUNITIES

Lovella Calica, Eric Chandler, Jonathan Wei & Andria Williams
 (“Into the Breach: Bridging the Civil-Military Divide via
 Literary Communities of Practice”)

Moderator: Randy Brown

Arnold Hall Conference Room 1: VETERAN ART & HEALING

Jen Webb, Ian Drayton, Jordan Williams & Geoff Grey (“Where
 the Rubber Meets the Road: Veterans, Narratives, and Healing”)

Moderator: Robert Stefanek

Arnold Hall Conference Room 2: FILM & POST-HEROIC WARFARE

Doug Cunningham, Mark Gagnon & Linda Robertson (“Boots on the Ground, Eyes in the Sky, and the Alienated Veteran: Cinematic Representation of Post-Heroic Warfare”)

Moderator: Mark Gagnon

Arnold Hall Lounge: CRITICAL RESPONSES TO MODERN WAR LITERATURE

Catherine Calloway (“‘The dead had already forgotten being killed’: War, Memory, and Loss in Benjamin Busch’s *Dust to Dust*”)

Matthew Armstrong (“Camp No: Disidentification in the Narratives of the Post-9/11 American Military”)

Christine Standmose Toft (“Writing the Futility of War: The Poetics of the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan”)

Moderator: Ross Gresham

Arnold Hall Theater: LITERARY & CINEMATIC ACCOUNTS FROM THE CIVIL WAR TO WWII

Robert Blaskiewicz (“‘That Rubber Boat Deal’: The Oral Prehistory of Mailer’s *The Naked and the Dead*”)

Vincent Casaregola (“Traumatic Engagement: How Ambrose Bierce’s Civil War Stories Set a New Tone for War Literature”)

William Brady (“Fraternity of the Dead: Self-Annihilating Airmen in the Literature of 1940s Britain”)

Moderator: Jonathan McGregor

Keynote: 11:30 A.M – 12:30 PM

Arnold Hall Ballroom East:

Suzan-Lori Parks with Nicole Jerr

Named among Time magazine’s “100 Innovators for the Next Wave,” Suzan-Lori Parks is one of the most acclaimed playwrights in American drama today. She is the first African-American woman to receive the Pulitzer Prize in Drama, and is a MacArthur “Genius” Award recipient. She’s been awarded grants by the National Endowment for the Arts, Rockefeller Foundation, Ford Foundation, New York State Council on the Arts and New York Foundation for the Arts. She is also the recipient of a Lila-Wallace Reader’s Digest Award, a CalArts/Alpert Award in the Arts, and a Guggenheim Foundation Grant. She and is an alum of New Dramatists and of Mount Holyoke College. Parks’s plays include Topdog/Underdog (2002 Pulitzer Prize winner); The Book of Grace; In the Blood (2000 Pulitzer Prize finalist); Venus (1996 OBIE Award); The Death of the Last Black Man in the Whole Entire World; Fucking A; Imperceptible Mutabilities in the Third Kingdom (1990 OBIE Award); and The America Play. Her newest plays, *Father Comes Home From The Wars* (Parts 1, 2 & 3)—set during the Civil War—was awarded the Horton Foote Prize, the Edward M. Kennedy Prize for Drama as well as being a 2015 Pulitzer Prize Finalist. Currently performing *Watch Me Work*, a free weekly writing workshop, open to artists of all disciplines, Parks teaches at New York University, and serves at the Public Theater as its Master Writer Chair.



Session 3: 12:30 PM – 1:50 PM

Polaris Hall Main Stage: WLA FELLOWS CONVERSATION

Dan O'Brien & Elyse Fenton

Moderator: Kreg Abshire

Arnold Hall Ballroom East: EXPLORATION OF FORM AND WAR POETRY RESOURCES

Lisa Silvestri & Rebekah Wilkins-Pepiton ("Telling War: an Exploration of Form")

Steven Enniss & Dean Echenberg ("The Dean F. Echenberg War Poetry Collection at the Harry Ransom Center")

Moderator: Will Rogers

Arnold Hall Ballroom West: INTERNATIONAL VOICES

Barton Buechner ("Love, Death and the Warrior Quest: The 'Liebestod' Theme in Classical Opera as Hermeneutic for Making Meaning of Contemporary Veterans' Experiences of Combat and Homecoming")

Andrew Lincoln ("The Landscape of the British Empire: Gibraltar and India in the Eighteenth Century")

Helena Osório ("Polymics from the XVII Century to this Day about the Queen Nzinga and African Cultures, Particularly Angolan Traditions")

Moderator: Lori Davis-Perry

Arnold Hall Conference Room 1: CREATIVE READINGS & MUSIC

Emily Tedrowe (from Blue Stars)

Natalie Lovejoy (from Deployed)

Lee Gallaway-Mitchell (“The Tax of Quick Alarm”)

Jerri Bell (Personal Essay)

Moderator: Barrett Ward

Arnold Hall Conference Room 2: CIVILIAN AND VETERAN PERSPECTIVES IN THE CLASSROOM

Jacqueline Genovese, Graham Barnhart, James R. Coughlin, & Angie Lee (“Crossing the Trenches: Reconciling Civilian and Veteran Perspectives in the Classroom”)

Moderator: Greg Laski

Arnold Hall Lounge: CONTEMPORARY NARRATIVE IN AGE OF ALTERNATIVE FACTS

David Chrisinger, Anna Hiatt & Thomas Brennan (“Truth and Lies: Telling Honest Stories in the Age of Alternative Facts”)

Moderator: Mark Kuykendall

Arnold Hall Theater: MULTI-GENRE INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

Anna Rindfleisch (“Hunting the Bereaved: the Role of 1930s Theater in Mourning the Lost Soldiers of the Great War”)

Tolu Akinwole & Kayode Odumboni (“Articulating Silences: War, Iron Bars, and Confinement in Wole Soyinka’s The Man Died”)

Kathryn Van Winkle (“I Refuse to Commemorate 1916’: Performances of Political Violence, Civilian Death, and Partition in the Centenary Commemorations of Ireland’s 1916 Rising”)

Moderator: Andrea Van Nort

Session 4, 2:00 PM – 3:20 PM

**Polaris Hall Main Stage: SPECIAL PERFORMANCE OF
OUTSIDE PADUCAH**

J.A. Moad II

Moderator: Sean Purio

**Arnold Hall Ballroom East: APPROPRIATION, CHAOS &
RESPONSE IN WAR LITERATURE**

Alexander Selimov (“Translating the War: the Cultural
Appropriation in Russia of American Veterans’ Experience”)

Charles Kell (“‘There is chaos and void’: War and Experimental
Resistance in Rosmarie Waldrop’s Driven to Abstraction”)

Susan Derwin (“Responsibility and Response: Trauma Heroes
and Guilty Civilians in Recent War Writing”)

Waleed Al Bazoon (“Witnessing War, Living in Trauma: Loss
and Violence in Kevin Powers’s Yellow Birds”)

Moderator: Melody Pugh

**Arnold Hall Ballroom West: OKLAHOMA ARTS AND THE
MILITARY INITIATIVE**

Jason Poudrier, Douglas Elder Shaw, Albert Gray Eagle &
Jennifer Allen-Barron (“Engaging Veterans through Creative
Expression: A Formal Evaluation and Reflection of Oklahoma’s
Two-Year Pilot Creative Arts Programming for Military
Veterans”)

Moderator: Jason Poudrier

**Arnold Hall Conference Room 1: RETURNING HOME AND
AMERICAN MASCULINITY**

Nicholas Utzig (“‘A good workman and a tall soldier’: Returning
from War in Elizabethan Drama”)

Erin Lee Mock (“His Blood is Up’: The Making of the Soldier, The Making of the Veteran, The Making of American Masculinity in Hollywood Cinema”)

Dustin Hodge (“Broken Warrior to Returning Hero: Media’s Changing Narrative of the American Veteran”)

Moderator: Matt Sarda

Arnold Hall Conference Room 2: WWI PERSPECTIVES

Connie Ruzich (“Harvests of War: Ruin and Renewal in the Poetry of the First World War”)

Susan Werbe (“Using the Arts to Envision the Great War and its Outcomes”)

Lorie Vanchena (“Far from the Rhine: German Immigrant Poetry During WWI”)

Moderator: Jennifer Orth-Veillon

Arnold Hall Lounge: CONTEMPORARY WAR NARRATIVES

Erin McCoy (“‘Did it have to go on and on and on?’: Matterhorn and the Continuity (and Incongruence) of American War Narratives”)

Oliver Jones (“Weaponized Poetics: the Avant-Gardes of the Revolution in Military Affairs”)

Geoffrey Wright (“The Iraq War Did Not Take Place: Combat Trauma and Post-Modern Memory in Billy Lynn’s Long Halftime Walk”)

Tobey Herzog (“Tim O’Brien: The Thing He Carried and the Story He Told”)

Moderator: Steven Olsen-Smith

Arnold Hall Theater: FILM SCREENING—*BEYOND GLORY*

The acclaimed documentary *Beyond Glory* is about Stephan Lang’s one-man play that brings the sacrifices of Medal of Honor recipients to life. For 10 years, Lang staged the play on military installations across the globe. This session is introduced by NEH Chairman Jon Parrish Peede, who incorporated the play into the NEA’s Operation Homecoming: Writing the Wartime Experience workshops.

Special Presentations: 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Arnold Hall Ballroom East: TELLING YOUR STORY THROUGH FEDERAL CULTURAL AGENCIES

From the NEA’s “Operation Homecoming: Writing the Wartime Experience” and “Creative Forces” programs to NEH’s “Standing Together: The Humanities and the Experience of War” program, how the federal cultural agency shares veterans’ stories

Chairman Jon Parrish Peede & Bill O’Brien

Moderator: Thomas McGuire

Arnold Hall Theater: FILM SCREENING- *LIONESS*

Lioness traces the stories of five female support soldiers who served in Iraq in various capacities – mechanic, supply clerk, engineer – and ultimately became the first women in American history to be sent into direct ground combat. This session is introduced by the film’s director Meg McLagan.

Polaris Hall West Gallery: COMBAT CAMERA EXHIBIT

Russell Scalf, Douglas Ellis, Andrew Lee, & Nathaniel Stout (“War through the Lens”)

Moderator: Kenneth Raimondi

Conference Social: 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Please join us at HAPs bar and the Arnold Hall Ballroom.

FRIDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2018

Session 5: 8:30 AM – 9:50 AM

Polaris Hall Main Stage: WLA FELLOWS CONVERSATION

G. Kurt Piehler & Martin Löschnigg

Moderator: Jennifer Weber

Arnold Hall Ballroom East: WAR READINGS

Gary Mills (“Up-Armored”)

Bill McCloud (“Recovering the Rhythm of War”)

Terence Harkin (“The Big Buddha Bicycle Race, a novel narrated by an Air Force combat cameraman”)

David Dixon (Poetry)

Moderator: Ross Gresham

Arnold Hall Ballroom West: WOMEN WRITING WAR

Sonia Kamal, Elmaz Abinader, Bix Gabriel & Liz Eslami
 (“‘Over There’ Over Here: Women Writing War”)

Moderator: Bix Gabriel

Arnold Hall Conference Room 1: IMAGINATION ACROSS LANDSCAPE

Rolf Yngve, Peter Turchi, Mark Larabee, Elizabeth T. Gray, Jr.
 (“Maps, Charts, Cartography, and Memory in the Battlespace of Fiction, Poetry, and Memoir”)

Moderator: Rolf Yngve

Arnold Hall Conference Room 2: CINEMA & REPRESENTATION

Haning Z. Hughes (“Unforgiven: Remembering the Anti-Japanese War Through Film”)

Todd Decker (“Platoon and the Musical Hollywood War Movie after Vietnam”)

Anne Eakin Moss (“The Special Effects of War: Stalinist Cinema’s Immersive Aesthetic”)

Kevin Eubanks (“End Scene: War, Film, Representation”)

Moderator: Douglas Cunningham

Arnold Hall Lounge: CREATIVE READINGS

Carl Bartecchi (“Unheralded Medical Heroes of the Vietnam Wars”)

Francis Clarkson (“The Bus”)

Ross Cantalupo (“A Journey toward Reconciliation”)

Moderator: David Jorgenson

Arnold Hall Theater: THE CIVIL WAR AND NATIVE AMERICAN VOICES

Megan Butler (“The Cultural Politics of Walt Whitman’s Civil War Poetry”)

Michael Schaefer (“‘That Was Hawthorne’: Intertextuality in Howard Bahr’s *The Black Flower*”)

Alyssa Revels (“Battlefronts at Home: Discrimination and Recovery of Returning Indigenous Veterans”)

Karsten Piep (“‘To be Citizens of the Earth’: World War I and Native American Cosmopolitanism in Gerald Vizenor’s *Blue Ravens*”)

Moderator: Daniel Couch

Session 6: 10:00 AM – 11:20 AM

Polaris Hall Main Forum: WLA FELLOWS CONVERSATION

Brian Castner & Richard Johnson

Moderator: Colonel (Ret) Thomas Bowie

Arnold Hall Ballroom East: AMERICAN HISTORY IN OUR TIME

T.J. Stiles, Patricia Nelson Limerick & James Grossman

Moderator: Chairman Jon Parrish Peede

Arnold Hall Ballroom West: WRITING FEMINISM IN THE MILITARY COMMUNITY

Abby Murray, Tracy Crow, Andria Williams & Mary Doyle

Moderator: Ana Rueda

Arnold Hall Conference Room 1: CONNECTING TO PEOPLE FROM OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

Bruce Weigl, Garrett Reppenhagen, Toni Topps & Lovella Calica
("Building Bridges")

Moderator: Lovella Calica

Arnold Hall Conference Room 2: CONCEPTUALIZING A "GOOD WAR"

Ashley Kunsu ("A 'Good' War on Terror?: Phil Klay's Redeployment and the Problem of Discrimination")

Ty Hawkins ("Justice and the Ultimate End of 'The Good War': Joseph Heller, Ben Fountain, and Questions about Right Intention")

Vincent Casaregola ("Doctrine as Justice: Films Advocating for the Doctrine of Strategic Bombing during the Cold War")

Moderator: Nathan Hall

**Arnold Hall Lounge: ASSESSING LITERATURE'S POWER TO
PIERCE THE CIVILIAN-MILITARY DIVIDE**

Liam Corley ("From War Lit to Soldier Lit: The Apolitical
Outcome of a De-Politicizing Tradition")

Hilary Lithgow ("I don't know how to speak of anything":
Finding the Right Words to Bridge the Civilian-Military
Divide")

Peter Molin ("The Civilian Reader-Military Writer Divide:
Transcending War Story Form, Tropes, and Expectations")

Lydia Wilkes ("Laughing About War with Fobbit")

Moderator: Greg Laski

**Arnold Hall Theater: MULTI-GENRE REPRESENTATIONS OF
WAR**

Warren Kluber ("Theatre of Operations/Operating Theatre:
Representing 'Surgical Warfare' in Contemporary American
Drama")

Elijah Guerra ("Tim O'Brien's Unpublished Radio Play and
Imaginative Reconstructions of the Vietnam Landscape")

Sezgi Başak Kavaklı ("Wonderlands and War Zones: A
Comparison of Narratives on Human Experience at War")

Moderator: Kreg Abshire

Special Presentations: 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Polaris Hall West Gallery: BATTLEFIELD PROJECT EXHIBIT

Jeff Beekman

Moderator: Pam Aloisa

**Polaris Hall Courtyard: NOON MEAL FORMATION & CADET
AREA ARCHITECTURAL TOUR**

Session 7: 12:30 PM – 1:50 PM

**Polaris Hall Main Forum: 30th ANNIVERSARY OF WAR,
LITERATURE & THE ARTS**

Donald Anderson, Benjamin Busch & Brian Turner

Introduction: Brig Gen (Ret) Jack Shuttleworth

Moderator: Sean Purio

Arnold Hall Ballroom East: WAR AND GENDER

Brenda Sanfilippo (“Memories That Few Have Cared to Claim”:
Rape and Representation in Ha Jin’s *Nanjing Requiem*”)

Justin Rogers (“Ananda’s Burden: Art and Trauma in Michael
Ondaatje’s *Anil’s Ghost*”)

Mareike Spychala (“Judging a Book by its Cover: Gender,
Violence, and War on the Covers of Female Veterans’
Autobiographies”)

Moderator: Brittney Szempruch

**Arnold Hall Ballroom West: HEROES, HOMECOMINGS &
TRAUMA**

Matthew Payne (“Torture and the Soldier across Two Thousand
Years”)

Peter Krause (“Between Redeployment and the Rest of Their
Lives: Problematic Homecomings in Iraq War Literature”)

Colin Halloran (“Soldier as Outlaw, Outlaw as Legend”)

Moderator: Amy Cooper

**Arnold Hall Conference Room 1: FILMMAKING
TECHNIQUES**

Kenneth Raimondi (“Telling the Veteran Story”)

James Jones (“Creating a Scene”)

Michael McCool (“Creating a Visual Style for the Air Force”)

Darren Scott (“Using internal Conflict to Make Dramatic Tension”)

Moderator: Kenneth Raimondi

Arnold Hall Conference Room 2: HOW WE REMEMBER WAR

Susan Eastman (“Propagating Forgetfulness: The Immediacy of Memorializing the War on Terror”)

Sarah Maltby (“Identity and Memory Work as News Determinants”)

Andrea Bellot (“‘The Memories of war are vivid’: Representing and Remembering the Malvinas/Falklands War in the Media”)

Moderator: Melody Pugh

Arnold Hall Lounge: WAR AND CHILDREN’S LITERATURE

Chris Crowe and Jonathan Ostenson (“Collateral Damage: Representations of War in Young Adult Literature”)

Ashley Christ (“‘Post-Black’ Identity in Rita Williams-Garcia’s *One Crazy Summer*”)

Moderator: Ashley Christ

Arnold Hall Theater: PERSONAL RENDERINGS OF WAR

Jane CoomberSewell (“The Time of My Life: How World War II is Represented in the Work and Private Writings of Joyce Grenfell”)

Ted Engelmann (“The Diaries of Dang Thuy Tram: A Story of War and Peace in Viet Nam”)

Jessica Hines (“My Brother’s War”)

Moderator: Sarah Austin

Session 8: 2:00 PM – 3:20 PM

Polaris Hall Main Forum: WLA FELLOWS CONVERSATION

Dunya Mikhail & Maurice Decaul

Moderator: Richard Johnston

Arnold Hall Ballroom East: THE ARTIST'S ROLE IN THE TIME OF GLOBAL CONFLICT

Arturo Navarro, Krzysztof Wodiczko & Peter Williamson

Moderator: Jonathan McGregor

Arnold Hall Ballroom West: LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, AND THE U.S. ALL-VOLUNTEER FORCE

Lt Gen (Ret) Christopher Miller (“Yesterday at War with Tomorrow: Language as a Strategic Variable”)

Caleb Cage (“The All-Volunteer Force and the Civilian-Military Divide”)

John Howell, Jr. (“‘There I Was’: Building Combat Resilience Through a Literature-Based Discussion Program”)

David Eisler (“Unburdened: The Influence of the Shift to an All-Volunteer Force on American War Fiction”)

Moderator: William Lee

Arnold Hall Conference Room 1: THE POWER OF WAR, ART & REMEMBERING

Grace O'Connor (“Bearing Witness: Entangled Subjects within/around/do to Starving Child with Vulture”)

Claudia Hauer (“Paul Nash on the Forever-Altered Landscapes of War”)

Barbara Robins (“Re/Membering Family and the Slim Buttes Battle of 1876”)

Moderator: Andrea Van Nort

Arnold Hall Conference Room 2: SUPERHEROES AND RESISTANCE

Stacey Peebles (“Superheroes and Contemporary War Stories”)

Matthew Hill (““Making the War American’: Appropriating Guerilla Resistance Narratives in World War II Popular Films”)

Hira Salman (“The Iraq Invasion and the Portrayal of East vs. West in Justice League: The Flashpoint Paradox”)

Moderator: Steven Olsen-Smith

Arnold Hall Lounge: WAR LITERATURE PERSPECTIVES

Hannah Williams (“Naming the Dead: Literary Memorials in the War Literature of Bierce, Graves, and Vonnegut”)

Jen Shelton (“Using Regeneration to Teach World War I to American Students”)

Lynn Houston (“Why Women Wait and Write: The Poetry of Jehanne Dubrow, Elyse Fenton, and Lisa Houlihan Stice”)

Moderator: Kelly Griffith

Arnold Hall Theater: DAUGHTERS’ STORIES OF THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR AND WWII

Magdalena Bogacka-Rode (“Daughter of War: the Female Exile in Martha Gellhorn’s Spanish Civil War Fiction”)

Andreea Mica Prundeanu (“A Legacy of Shame: Identity and Trauma in the Writings and Testimonies of Franco-German Children of the Second World War”)

Susan Jacobowitz (“Daughters Draw War: C. Tyler’s You’ll Never Know Trilogy and Bernice Eisenstein’s I Was a Child of Holocaust Survivors”)

Moderator: Robert Stefanek

Keynote: 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Arnold Hall Ballroom East:

Robert Olen Butler

Introduction: Brig Gen Andrew Armacost

Robert Olen Butler has published sixteen novels—The Alleys of Eden, Sun Dogs, Countrymen of Bones, On Distant Ground, Wabash, The Deuce, They Whisper, The Deep Green Sea, Mr. Spaceman, Fair Warning, Hell, A Small Hotel, The Hot Country, The Star of Istanbul, The Empire of Night, Perfume River—and six volumes of short fiction—Tabloid Dreams, Had a Good Time, Severance, Intercourse, Weegee Stories, and A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain, which won the 1993 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. In 2013 he became the seventeenth recipient of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Award for Outstanding Achievement in American Literature. He also won the Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Foundation Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award. He has twice won a National Magazine Award in Fiction and has received two Pushcart Prizes. He has also received both a Guggenheim Fellowship in fiction and a National Endowment for the Arts grant. His stories have appeared widely in such publications as The New Yorker, Esquire, Harper’s, The Atlantic Monthly, GQ, Zoetrope, The Paris Review, Granta, The Hudson Review, The Virginia Quarterly Review, Ploughshares, and The Sewanee Review. His works have been translated into twenty-one languages, and he was a charter recipient of the Tu Do Chinh Kien Award given by the Vietnam Veterans of America for “outstanding contributions to American culture by a Vietnam veteran.” Butler is a Francis Eppes Distinguished Professor holding the Michael Shaara Chair in Creative Writing at Florida State University.



War, Literature & the Arts Conference Fellows

Brian Castner is a nonfiction writer, former US Air Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal officer, and veteran of the Iraq War. He is the bestselling author of *All the Ways We Kill and Die*, *Disappointment River*, and the war memoir *The Long Walk*, which was adapted into an opera and named an Amazon Best Book. He is the co-editor of *The Road Ahead*, a collection of short stories featuring veteran writers.

(Friday, 10:00-11:20 AM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Maurice Decaul, a former Marine, is a poet, essayist, and playwright, whose writing has been featured in the *New York Times*, *The Daily Beast*, *Sierra Magazine*, *Epiphany*, *Callaloo*, *Narrative*, *The Common*, and others. His play *Dijla Wal Furat*, *Between the Tigris and the Euphrates* was produced in New York City by Poetic Theater Productions. He is a graduate of Columbia University and New York University.

(Friday, 2:00-3:20 PM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Elyse Fenton is the author of the poetry collections *Clamor*, winner of the 2010 University of Wales Dylan Thomas Prize, and *Sweet Insurgent* (*Saturnalia* 2017), winner of the Alice Fay di Castagnola Prize. Her work has been published in *The New York Times*, *Best New Poets*, *American Poetry Review*, *Pleiades*, and *Prairie Schooner*, and has been featured on NPR's *All Things Considered* and PRI's *The World*. She is a graduate of Reed College and the University of Oregon.

(Thursday, 12:30-1:50 PM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Richard Johnson is a field artist and visual journalist. He has helped cover the war in Afghanistan for *The National Post*—traveling with Canadian and U.S. forces, and the war in Iraq for the *Detroit Free Press*—embedding with the United States Marine Corps. Many of his fieldwork reportage sketches from Iraq and Afghanistan are held by the Smithsonian Museum of Armed Forces History, and the United States Marine Corps Museum.

(Friday, 10:00-11:20 AM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Martin Löschnigg earned a Ph.D. from Graz University (1993), where he is now Professor of English, Chair of the Section on the New English Literatures and Deputy Director of the Centre for Canadian Studies. His main research interests include narrative theory, autobiography, the English novel, the literature of war, and Canadian Literature.

(Friday, 8:30-9:50 AM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Meg McLagan is a filmmaker and cultural anthropologist. She co-directed the feature documentary *Lioness*, which won the Center for Documentary Studies Filmmaker Award at Full Frame Documentary Festival, and screened at the Tribeca Film Festival, Human Rights Watch Film Festival, and many other venues including the U.S. Congress. She earned a Ph.D. in anthropology from New York University.

(Thursday, 10:00-11:20 AM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Dunya Mikhail is an Iraqi American poet and author of *The War Works Hard* (2005), translated by Elizabeth Winslow. The collection won the PEN Translation Award, was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize, and was selected as one of the 25 Best Books of 2005 by the New York Public Library. *Diary of a Wave Outside the Sea* (2009), co-translated with Elizabeth Winslow, won the Arab American Book Award.

(Friday, 2:00-3:20 PM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Dan O'Brien is a playwright, poet, and librettist. His play, *The Body of an American*, is the winner of the Horton Foote Prize for Outstanding New American Play and the inaugural Edward M. Kennedy Prize for Drama among other awards. O'Brien's third collection of poetry, *New Life*, was published by CB Editions in London in 2015, and by Hanging Loose Press in Brooklyn in 2016. He holds a BA in English & Theatre from Middlebury College and an MFA in Playwriting & Fiction from Brown University.

(Thursday, 12:30-1:50 PM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

G. Kurt Piehler is the Director of the Institute of World War II and the Human Experience and Associate Professor of History at Florida State University. He is author of *Remembering War the American Way* (Smithsonian Institution Press, 1995, reprint ed., 2004) and *World War II* (Greenwood Press, 2007) in the *American Soldiers' Lives* series. He earned his bachelor's degree from Drew University and his Ph.D. from Rutgers University.

(Friday, 8:30-9:50 AM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Helen Thorpe's award-winning journalism has appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *New York magazine*, *The New Yorker*, *Slate*, *Texas Monthly*, *5280*, and *Harper's Bazaar*. Her radio stories have aired on *This American Life* and *Sound Print*. She is the author of *Just Like Us*, *Soldier Girls*, and *The Newcomers* (Scribner). She earned degrees from Princeton University and Columbia University.

(Thursday, 10:00-11:20 AM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Special Presenters on 30th Anniversary of War, Literature & the Arts

Donald Anderson is the Editor of *War, Literature & the Arts* and author of *Fire Road*, *Gathering Noise from My Life*, and *Below Freezing*. A former Air Force officer, he now lives in Colorado, where he directs creative writing at the United States Air Force Academy. He earned an MFA from Cornell University.

(Friday, 12:30-1:50 PM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Brian Turner is an American poet, essayist, and professor. He won the 2005 Beatrice Hawley Award from his debut collection *Here, Bullet*. His honors include a Lannan Literary Fellowship, NEA Literature Fellowship, and the Amy Lowell Poetry Travelling Scholarship. He earned a MFA in Poetry from the University of Oregon. Turner is the Director of Sierra Nevada College's Master of Fine Arts program.

(Friday, 12:30-1:50 PM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Benjamin Busch is a veteran US Marine officer, writer, filmmaker, and illustrator. He's the author of the memoir *Dust to Dust* (Ecco) and his essays have been published in Harper's, The New York Times Magazine, War Literature & the Arts, and on NPR. His poems have appeared in North American Review, Prairie Schooner, Five Points, Michigan Quarterly Review and Epiphany, among many others.

(Friday, 12:30-1:50 PM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

Special Performance of Outside Paducah

J.A. Moad II is a former Air Force C-130 pilot with over 3,000 flight hours and more than 100 combat sorties. He served as an English Professor at the United States Air Force Academy and continues to serve as an editor and blogger for their international journal, War, Literature & the Arts (WLA). His short stories, poetry and essays have appeared in a variety of journals and anthologies, and he is the recipient of the Consequence Magazine Fiction Award. In addition to writing, he has performed on stage at the Library of Congress and at The Guthrie Theater as part of The Telling Project - Giving Voice to the Veteran Experience. In the fall of 2017, he performed in his play, *Outside Paducah - the Wars at Home* in New York City at the Wild Project Theater and was nominated for the New York Innovative Theater Award (NYIT) for Outstanding Solo Performance. He is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, Southern Illinois University, and Augsburg College. He currently resides in Northfield, MN.

(Thursday, 2:00-3:30 PM, Polaris Hall Main Stage)

National Endowment for the Humanities Featured Presenters

Jon Parrish Peede is the presidentially appointed Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency that awards more than \$120 million annually. His previous positions include publisher of the Virginia Quarterly Review at the University of Virginia, Literature Grants Director at the National Endowment for the Arts, Counselor to NEA Chairman Dana Gioia, Director of the NEA Operation Homecoming: Writing the Wartime Experience program, Director of the NEA Big Read program, Director of Communications at Millsaps College, and Editor at Mercer University Press. He co-edited a book on Flannery O'Connor.

(Thursday, 3:30-4:30 PM, Arnold Hall Ballroom East)

Bill O'Brien is Director of Creative Forces: NEA Military Healing Arts Network and Senior Advisor for Innovation at the National Endowment for the Arts. Since 2011, Bill has led Creative Forces, a national initiative led by the NEA in partnership with the DOD and the Department of Veteran Affairs to accelerate healing and promote wellness and resiliency for Service Members, veterans, and families recovering from trauma. Previously, he produced numerous award-winning theatrical productions, including the Tony-honored Deaf West Theatre Production of Big River.

(Thursday, 3:30-4:30 PM, Arnold Hall Ballroom East)

T.J. Stiles, an independent historian, is the author of *Custer's Trials: A Life on the Frontier of a New America*, winner of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for History. It received the Spur Award for Best Western Biography and the William H. Seward Award for Excellence in Civil War Biography. He also wrote *The First Tycoon: The Epic Life of Cornelius Vanderbilt*, which won the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Biography and the 2009 National Book Award for Nonfiction. He is also author of award-winning book *Jesse James: Last Rebel of the Civil War*. With 2018 funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, he is writing a biography of Theodore Roosevelt.

(Friday, 10:00-11:20 AM, Arnold Hall Ballroom East)

Patricia “Patty” Nelson Limerick is the Faculty Director and Chair of the Board of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado Boulder, where she is also a professor of environmental studies and history. She is the author of *Desert Passages*, *The Legacy of Conquest*, *Something in the Soil*, and *A Ditch in Time*. A recipient of the MacArthur Fellowship and the Hazel Barnes Prize (the University of Colorado’s highest award for teaching and research), she has served as president of the American Studies Association, the Western History Association, the Society of American Historians, and the Organization of American Historians, as well as the vice president for teaching of the American Historical Association.

(Friday, 10:00-11:20 AM, Arnold Hall Ballroom East)

James Grossman is Executive Director of the American Historical Association. Formerly Vice President for Research and Education at the Newberry Library, he has taught at the University of Chicago and the University of California, San Diego. He is the author of *Land of Hope: Chicago, Black Southerners, and the Great Migration* and *A Chance to Make Good: African-Americans, 1900-1929*, and project director and coeditor of *The Encyclopedia of Chicago*. *Land of Hope* received awards from the Gustavus Myers Center for Human Rights and the Illinois State Historical Society. *A Chance to Make Good* won awards from the New York Public Library and the National Council for the Social Studies. He serves on the boards of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, Center for Research Libraries, and National Humanities Alliance (Vice-President).

(Friday, 10:00-11:20 AM, Arnold Hall Ballroom East)

Conference Bus Schedule

Thursday, 20 September

Buses from the Hilton Garden Inn Parking Lot to USAFA Arnold Hall

Departure

Garden Inn Hotel Parking Lot

7:15 AM

11:15 AM

Arrival

USAFA: Arnold Hall

7:45 AM

11:45 AM

Buses from USAFA Arnold Hall to the Hilton Garden Inn Parking Lot

Departure

USAFA: Arnold Hall

12:15 PM

6:15 PM

Arrival

Garden Inn Parking Lot

12:45 PM

6:45 PM

Friday, 21 September

Buses from the Hilton Garden Inn Parking Lot to USAFA Arnold Hall

Departure

Garden Inn Hotel Parking Lot

7:15 AM

11:15 AM

Arrival

USAFA: Arnold Hall

7:45 AM

11:45 AM

Buses from USAFA Arnold Hall to the Hilton Garden Inn Parking Lot

Departure

USAFA: Arnold Hall

12:15 PM

5:15 PM

Arrival

Garden Inn Parking Lot

12:45 PM

5:45 PM

Notes

Notes

—In Act 3 of *Outside Paducah - the Wars at Home*, a veteran's midnight encounter at a bar in the rustbelt remnant of his hometown brings the past and the present into an explosive, searing reality.



Photo by Hunter Canning



“BOOTS ON THE GROUND”

By: Richard Johnson

Cramped, swaying, noisy, greasy, hot, and intermittently filled with diesel smoke and dust, the ubiquitous USMC Assault Amphibious Vehicle (AAV) is far from the nearest water body, but operates just as well delivering often nauseated Marines to the battlefield. Sketched that night after joining members of Fox Company on the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit as they rolled and bumped through the Djibouti desert, as part of Operation Alligator Dagger in 2018.