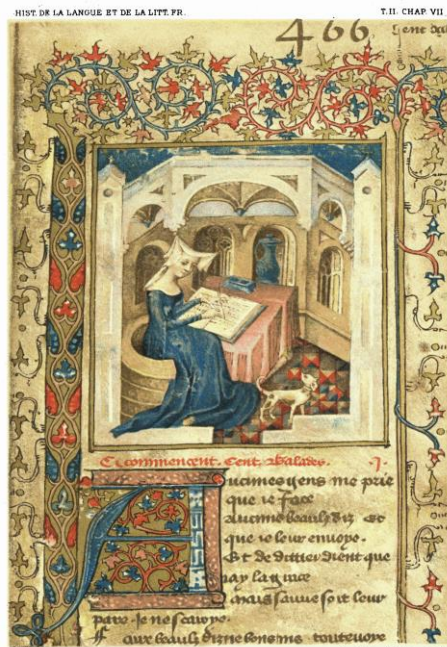


# Christianity and Literature Study Group

## Program Vancouver, June 2019



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### **The Christianity and Literature Study Group**

Co-chairs: Katherine Quinsey, University of Windsor

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<https://christianityandliteraturestudygroup.wordpress.com/>

## Christianity and Literature Study Group PROGRAM

June 1-4, 2019 - Vancouver, BC

*All sessions are held in BUCH 141 unless indicated otherwise.*

*All ACCUTE members are cordially welcome to attend sessions of the CLSG.*

Session 1: **Saturday lunchtime** (12:15-1:30 p.m.)

**Textual Voices: Heard and Seen**

*Chair: Tina Trigg (King's)*

Roxanne Harde (Alberta), "God is a wild old dog': Patty Griffin & Emmylou Harris, Stumbling into Grace"

Ken Jacobsen (Grenfell - Memorial), "Lost Books and Secret Chords: Hermeneutics and Conspiracy Theory in Contemporary David Novels"

Natasha Duquette (Tyndale), "The World through the Eyes of Jane Austen's Clergymen-Heroes"

Session 2: **Saturday early evening** (5.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.)

**Further Up, Further In: Seeking the Human in Contemporary Literature**

*Chair: Greg Maillet (Crandall)*

Ian Gibson (Waterloo), "Cormac McCarthy, Marilynne Robinson, and the Meaning of Fate"

Scott Masson (Tyndale), "Mere Humanity: C.S. Lewis & J.R.R. Tolkien's Rejoinder to the Myth of Human Progress"

Greg Maillet (Crandall), "Defending C.S. Lewis' Portrayal of Susan through Theological Aesthetics"

Session 3: **Sunday lunchtime** (12:15 p.m. to 1:30 pm)

**Classroom Circles of Conversation**

*Chair: Deborah Bowen (Redeemer)*

Melanie East (Toronto), "Reading the *Hafis-Goethe Memorial*: Envisioning a Posture of Humility in the Christian Classroom"

Jocelyn Williams (St. Mary's, AB) and Daniel Melvill Jones (St. Mary's, AB), "Border-Stalking: The Possibilities of Catholic Literature for a Pluralistic Age"

Tina Trigg (King's), "Cultivating Ways of Seeing: Reading Atwood's *Alias Grace* and *The Edible Woman*"

Session 4: ***Sunday early evening*** (5:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.)

**Poetry Reading (Room 300, Corpus Christi College)**

Host: *Connie Braun, with Tina Trigg and Katherine Quinsey*

Featuring Susan McCaslin and Tim Lilburn

**Sunday evening, 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

**CLSG annual dinner**

**Sylvia Hotel - 1154 Gilford Street**

Session 5: ***Monday morning***, 8:30-10:00 a.m. – joint session with ACCUTE

**The Inklings' Circles of Conversation**

Chair: *Monika Hilder (Trinity Western)*

Greg Maillet (Crandall), "Defences of the Human: C.S. Lewis' *The Abolition of Man* and John Paul II's *Redemptor Hominis*"

Katharine Bubel (Trinity Western), "Holy Fear, Libido Dominandi and Loving Vision: Stances to the World in Lewis's *Till We Have Faces*"

Mervyn Nicholson (Thompson Rivers), "Owen Barfield and the Archeology of Imagination"

Session 6: ***Monday lunchtime*** (12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.)

**CLSG Plenary Speaker 2019 – Holly Faith Nelson (Trinity Western)**

**"What Seventeenth- and Early Eighteenth-Century Literature Has to Teach Us About Living in a Polarized Age"**

Chair: *Katherine Quinsey (Windsor)*

Session 7: ***Monday early evening*** (5:00-6:30 p.m.)

**Disability, Identity, and Narrative**

Chair: *Tina Trigg (King's)*

Monika Hilder (Trinity Western), "Battling the Darkness: Imagery of Mental Illness and Wellness in C. S. Lewis's Writings"

Bettina Stumm (Corpus Christi), "Facing the Broken Body: Reading Life Narratives of Illness and Disability"

Philip Mingay (King's), "Shoebox in the Attic: Colonialism and Autoethnography"

Session 8: ***Tuesday lunchtime*** (12:15-1:30 p.m.)

**Christian Ecocriticism**

Chair: *Katherine Quinsey (Windsor)*

Katharine Bubel (Trinity Western), "Merton, Lilburn, and Zwicky: A Common Vision of Ecospiritual Wisdom"

Deborah Bowen (Redeemer), "Listening to the Voice of Creation"

Ariel Little (Thompson Rivers), "Singing with the Stars and the Farae: The Interconnectedness and Interdependence of Creation in L'Engle's *A Wind in the Door*"



*St Louis Psalter (Wikimedia Commons)*

## Biographical Notes

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### 2019 Plenary Speaker:

**Holly Faith Nelson** is Professor and Chair of English, and Co-Director of the Gender Studies Institute, at Trinity Western University. She has published widely on British literature of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, including essays on William Lithgow, William Shakespeare, Henry Vaughan, Margaret Cavendish, Anne Conway, Aphra Behn, Daniel Defoe, William Cowper, Robert Burns, and James Hogg. She has co-edited nine volumes, most recently *Games and War in Early Modern English Literature: From Shakespeare to Swift*, forthcoming with Amsterdam UP. She has also recently completed a SSHRC-funded monograph with Sharon Alker, entitled *Besieged: Early Modern British Siege Literature, 1642-1722*

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### Contributors:

**Deborah Bowen** recently retired as Chair of English at Redeemer UC, but still teaches several courses, including Environmental Literature. She has published two books and over thirty book chapters and articles; she regularly reviews Canadian poetry, and is presently working on a SSHRC-funded project entitled “The Voice of Environmental Hope in Contemporary Ontarian Poetry.”

**Katharine Bubel** recently completed her PhD in English at the University of Victoria. Her dissertation, “Edge Effects: Poetry, Place and Spiritual Practices,” investigates the work of Jeffers, Roethke, Hass, Levertov, and Zwicky. She teaches at Trinity Western University and has published in various journals, including *Renascence*, *The Merton Annual*, and *North Wind*.

**Natasha Duquette** is professor of English at Tyndale University College. She has edited the collection *Jane Austen and the Arts* (2013). Her monograph *Veiled Intent: Dissenting Women’s Aesthetic Approach to Biblical Interpretation* was published in 2016. In 2019, Fortress Press will release her *30-Day Journey with Jane Austen*.

**Melanie East** is a PhD candidate at the University of Toronto specializing in the Victorian and Edwardian novel. Her dissertation focuses on experimental romance under the late-Victorians and early Modernists. Her other areas of interest include Thomas Hardy, WWI literature, neo-Victorian novels, and intersections between Christianity and Literature.

**Ian Gibson** is a third-year PhD candidate in the department of English Language and Literature at the University of Waterloo. He has research interests in contemporary American literature and theology, in the intersections of literature and philosophy, and in the often-tricky notion of postsecularism.

**Roxanne Harde** is Professor of English at the University of Alberta's Augustana Faculty, where she researches and teaches American literature and culture, focusing on popular culture and children’s literature. Roxanne recently held the Fulbright Canada Visiting Research Chair at Vanderbilt, working on a project entitled, “Still Searching: Singer-Songwriters, Americana Dreams.”

**Monika Hilder** is Professor of English at Trinity Western University, co-founder and co-director of Inklings Institute of Canada with Dr. Stephen Dunning, and has published a 3-volume study of C.S. Lewis and gender, including *Surprised by the Feminine: A Rereading of C.S. Lewis and Gender* (2013)..

**Ken Jacobsen** is an Associate Professor at Grenfell Campus, Memorial University. His primary area of research and publication is Early Modern literature: drama, rhetoric, theology, and philosophy.

**Daniel Melvill Jones** is completing his undergraduate degree in English at St. Mary’s University in Calgary, Alberta. Daniel’s writing has appeared in several online magazines, including “Christ and Pop Culture” and “Mockingbird,” and he is the co-creator of “Assumptions”, a podcast in which a Christian and an Atheist try to better understand each other’s worldview.

**Ariel Little** holds a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Humanities from Trinity Western University. She recently conducted a SSHRC funded research project investigating the holistic presentation of health in classic children’s novels. Currently, she is an instructor at Thompson Rivers University.

**Gregory Maillet** is Professor of English at Crandall University in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada. A literary generalist, he has published articles on a wide variety of authors, and two recent books on Shakespeare: *Learning to See the Theological Vision of Shakespeare’s King Lear* (2016) and *Reading Othello as Catholic Tragedy* (2018). He is also co-author, with David Lyle Jeffrey, of a book entitled *Christianity and Literature: Philosophical Foundations and Critical Practice* (2011).

**Scott Masson** is an Associate Professor of English Literature at Tyndale University College, Toronto. He has research interests in hermeneutics, literary theory, theological anthropology, and the destruction of the humanities by the human sciences. His book on it is entitled *Romanticism, Hermeneutics, and the Crisis of the Human Sciences* (Routledge, 2016).

**Philip Mingay** is Associate Professor of English at The King's University in Edmonton. He teaches postcolonial and Canadian literature, as well as literature and film, and literary theory for Education students. He has written about V.S. Naipaul, pedagogy, and art education in early postcolonial literature.

**Mervyn Nicholson** is author of *Male Envy: The Logic of Malice* and *13 Ways of Looking at Images: Studies in the Logic of Visualization*, as well as oodles of articles in journals such as *Monthly Review*, *Journal of the History of Ideas*, *PMLA*, *brightlightsfilm*, *Literature/Film Quarterly*, *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*, *Wordsworth Circle*.

**Bettina Stumm** is Assistant Professor of English Literature at Corpus Christi College. Her research and publications focus on theories and practices of ethical responsibility in life writing and have extended to consider the ethical dimensions of academic composition as well. She is currently completing a composition textbook foregrounding ethical research and writing practices.

**Tina Trigg** is Associate Professor and Chair of English at The King's University in Edmonton. She has published on Canadian fiction, poetry, psychology and literature, translation, and pedagogy. Tina researches Margaret Atwood, inclusive education, and narrative as a site of hope. She currently serves as Co-Chair and Treasurer of CLSG.

**Jocelyn Williams** is an academic and creative writer who teaches literature at St. Mary's University, Calgary, Alberta, where she is Associate Professor and Chair of Humanities. She is grateful for meaning, which she locates in her exchanges with students and the Treaty 7 land of her Catholic campus. She pursues the rare combination of truths and optimism in her conversations and research on 20th century poetry and prose, national narratives, and recovery.

## Biographical Notes: Poets

**Tim Lilburn** is a Western Canadian poet and essayist. He has written eleven books of poetry, as well as a three-volume essay collection on *eros*, politics, and the environment, recently completed with *The Larger Conversation* (University of Alberta Press, 2018). His most recent book of poetry is the masque *The House of Charlemagne*, published by the University of Regina Press, 2018. Lilburn is a two-time nominee and successful winner of the Governor General's Award (*Kill-site*, 2003); he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 2014, and in 2017 became the first Canadian to be awarded the European Medal of Poetry and Art, the Homer Prize. His *Selected Poems* will be released in China in 2019. Lilburn teaches at the University of Victoria.

**Susan McCaslin** is a BC poet who has published fifteen volumes of poetry, including *Into the Open: Poems New and Selected* (Inanna, 2017). Her most recent volume is a multi-genre work of creative non-fiction, written in collaboration with J.S. Porter, *Superabundantly Alive: Thomas Merton's Dance with the Feminine* (Wood Lake, 2018). Susan resides in Fort Langley, British Columbia where she initiated the Han Shan Poetry Project as part of a successful campaign to protect an endangered rainforest along the Fraser River. She taught English and Creative Writing at Douglas College in New Westminster for 23 years.

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***The Christianity and Literature Study Group has proudly been an Allied Organization of ACCUTE since 1988.***

CLSG is a non-profit organization with an annual conference at Congress. All funds collected are directed towards conference events, literary readings, and member services/events.

***For membership information & news, please visit us at:***  
**[christianityandliteraturestudygroup.wordpress.com](http://christianityandliteraturestudygroup.wordpress.com)**



