

**THE PROSAIC IMAGINARY: NOVELS AND THE  
EVERYDAY, 1750-2000**

**CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Emergency Numbers:

University Security Service: 9351-3333

Melissa Hardie (convenor): 0416125116

### Wifi login:

Access to the UniSydney-Guest network will be available 1-4 July

Guest Username: prosaic

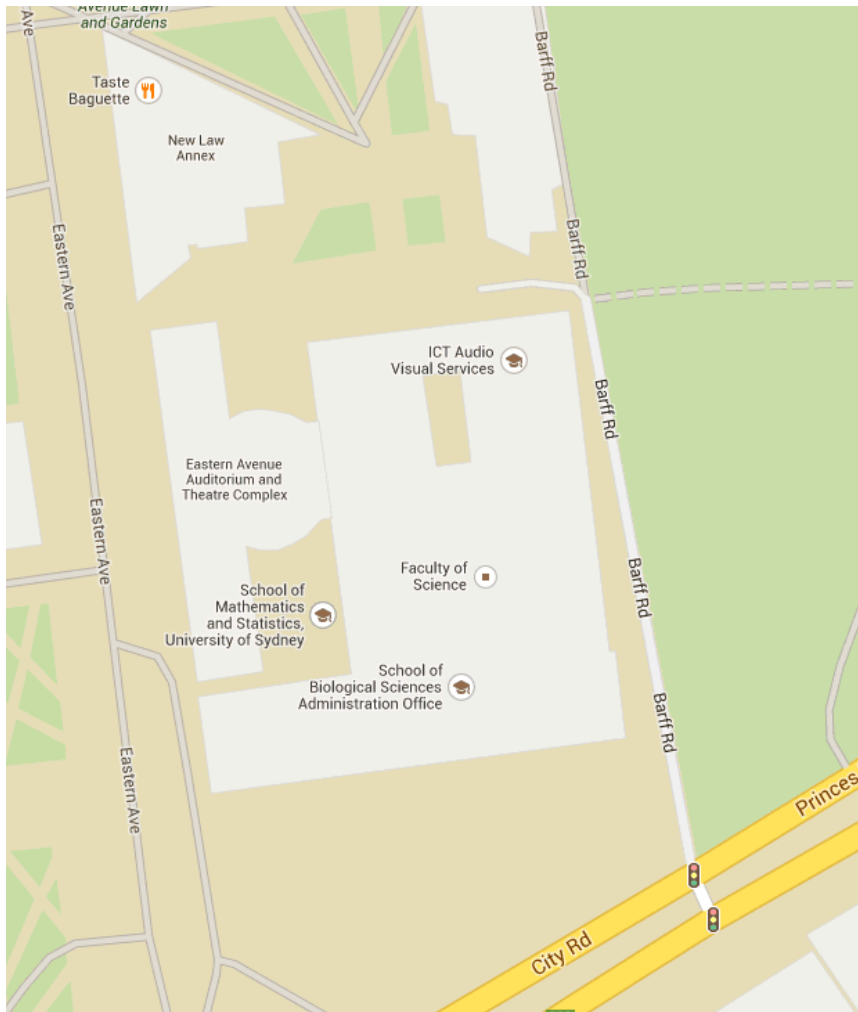
Guest Password: 21031933

### Conference Venues:

Eastern Avenue Auditorium

New Law School Lecture Theatre 024 (New Law Annex)

New Law School Lecture Theatre 026 (New Law Annex)



## Venue Locations:



**Public Transport:** City Rd buses stop at the footbridge on City Road close to Eastern Avenue. The 422, 423, 426, and 428 all travel from the city to the University. Parramatta Rd Buses stop at the footbridge on Parramatta Road and it's a short walk to Eastern Avenue. The M10, 412, 413, 436, 438, 439, 440, 461, 480, and 483 can all be caught on George St and all stop at the footbridge. The conference venues are a 10-minute walk from Redfern train station. Further maps and timetables can be found at: <<http://www.transportsw.info>>

**Taxis:** Taxis can be hailed from the street but availability is variable across the 3pm shift change.

Taxis Combined: 13 33 00

Premier Cabs: 13 10 17

Legion Cabs: 13 14 51

Silver Service: 133 100

## PROGRAM

### DAY ONE

July 1

Venue: Eastern Avenue Auditorium

#### 11-1 registration

Eastern Avenue Auditorium

#### 1-2.30

##### Session 1 *Australian Imaginaries*

Eastern Avenue Auditorium

Chair: Brigitta Olubas (UNSW)

Nicholas Birns, The New School, 'Letty Fox: Australianism and the Synchronic Prose of Late Modernity'

Brigid Rooney, Sydney, 'That hideous lighted tomb': house and suburb in Elizabeth Harrower's *The Long Prospect* (1958)

Monique Rooney, ANU, 'Mute Eloquence: Elizabeth Jolley's *The Well* (1986) as encrypted melodrama'

#### 2.30-4

##### Session 2 *Obscured Novels*

Eastern Avenue Auditorium

Chair: Guy Davidson (Wollongong)

Guy Davidson, University of Wollongong, 'James Baldwin and the Paradoxes of the Celebrity Novel'

Nicola Evans, University of Wollongong, 'Missing Books'

Ika Willis, University of Wollongong, 'Obscuring Genocide: Knowledge and Identity in *Hard Yards* and *Daniel Deronda*'

#### 4-4.45 afternoon tea

Eastern Avenue Auditorium

**5-5.45**

**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

Sharon Marcus, Columbia, 'The Portable Performer' (Chair Annamarie Jagose, Sydney University)

**6.00-7.30 1st keynote**

**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

Julie Park, Vassar, 'Detachable Pockets, Handwritten Letters and Samuel Richardson's *Pamela*: Portable Interiority and the Eighteenth-Century Novel (Chair Melissa Hardie, University of Sydney)

**DAY TWO**

**July 2**

**Venues: New Law School and Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

**9-10.30**

**Session 1A *Scripting the Prosaic***

**New Law School Lecture Theatre 024**

Chair: Sarah Gleeson-White (Sydney)

David Fitzgerald, Sydney, 'Chigurh's shopping list; objects and minutiae in Cormac McCarthy's *No Country For Old Men*'

Chuang Ying Xuan, U of Adelaide, 'Novelising a genre—Japanese Animation: Gender-bending'

Christine Stanton, Sydney, 'Small Measures, Great World'

**Session 1B *Prosaic Histories***

**New Law School Lecture Theatre 026**

Chair: John Plotz (Brandeis)

Stephanie Russo, Macquarie, 'Domesticating Charlotte Corday: Helen Craik's *Adelaide de Narbonne* (1800) and Private Vengeance'

Daniel Cook, Saginaw Valley State University, 'Articles of War: The Fate of Everyday Objects in Captain Marryat's Naval Adventure Novels'

Therese Taylor, CSU, "'Romantic and Pious Themes": Historical Novels about Saints'

**10-30-11 morning tea**  
**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

**11-12.30**  
**Session 2A *Networks and Novel Objects***  
**New Law School Lecture Theatre 024**

Chair: John Frow (Sydney)

Michael Falk, Sydney, 'The World of Edgeworth's *The Absentee*: A Network Analysis Approach'

Sam Dickson, Sydney, 'Realism and Everyday Mapping in Joseph McElroy's *Lookout Cartridge*'

John McVey, Monserrat College of Arts, Cambridge, Mass 'Hardware and Fiction : Genre Intersections'

**Session 2B *Colonial imaginaries***  
**New Law School Lecture Theatre 026**

Chair: Brigid Rooney (Sydney)

Philip Steer, Massey, 'Strategic Banality: The Work of the Prosaic in Novels of Early Settlement'

Tamsin O'Connor, Sydney, 'Fictive History and the penal stations of New South Wales'

**12.30-2 lunch**  
**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

**2-3.00**

**Session 3A *Prosaic Bodies***

**New Law School Lecture Theatre 024**

Chair: Melissa Hardie (Sydney)

Lydia Saleh Rofail, Sydney, 'The Prosaic and Phantasmagoric: Fictive Urban Bodies in Peter Carey's *The Tax Inspector*'

Fiona Hile, U. Melbourne, 'Generic Engineering in Michel Houellebecq's *Atomised*'

**Session 3B *Prosaic Pathologies***

**New Law School Lecture Theatre 026**

Chair: Kiernyn McKay (Sydney)

Sophia Barnes, Sydney, 'Novel-worlds: Tracing the Ripples in Doris Lessing's *The Four-Gated City*'

Emily Sutton, Victoria University of Wellington, 'Domesticating the Plague: Realism, History and the Everyday in AIDS Fiction'

**3- 3.30 afternoon tea**

**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

**3.30-4.15**

**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

Vijay Mishra, Murdoch, 'The Sonic Imaginary in Salman Rushdie' Chair John Frow (Sydney)

**4.30-6 Keynote 2**

**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

John Plotz, Brandeis, 'Prosaically Absorbed: Thomas Hardy, Willa Cather and Everyday Forms of Semi-Detachment'

Chair Vanessa Smith (Sydney)

**6.00 onwards- drinks, Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

## **DAY THREE**

**July 3**

**9-10.30**

### **Session 1A *Sentimental Objects***

**New Law School Lecture Theatre 024**

Chair Julie Park (Vassar)

Sara Crouch, Sydney, 'Preserving the surface boundary; the veil as epidermis in eighteenth century 'everyday' texts'

Patrick Marland, Sydney, 'Dickens and Things'

Cressida Green, Sydney, 'A Jewel Between Sisters – *Middlemarch* and non-everyday objects'

### **Session 1B *American Prosaics***

**New Law School Lecture Theatre 026**

Chair Melissa Hardie (Sydney)

Jed Evans, Sydney, 'Thomas Wolfe and the Domestication of Culture'

Kate Montague, UNSW, 'Prosaic Drama and the Postwar American Novel'

Anastasia Nicephore, Sydney, 'Paroxysm, Sublimity and the Role of the Prosaic Imaginary in Don DeLillo's novels'

**10-30-11 morning tea, Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

### **11-12.30 Session 2A *Novel Objects: the Unsettling life of Things in the novels of Philip K. Dick***

**New Law School Lecture Theatre 024**

Chair Chris Rudge (Sydney)

Chris Rudge, Sydney, 'Doctored Images: Doctors and their Devices in Philip K. Dick's 1960s novels'

Adam Hulbert, UNSW, 'The Persistent Elsewhere: Radio and the Alternate Worlds of Philip K Dick'

Patrick Cronin, Sydney, 'California Kipple: Everyday Trash in the novels of Philip K.



Dick'

**Session 2B *Prosaic Ethnographies***  
**New Law School Lecture Theatre 026**

Chair: Daniel Cook (Saginaw Valley State University)

Hayley Rudkin, Sydney, '“A craving cry I could not satisfy”: Hunger in Charlotte Brontë's *Villette*'

Yi Zheng, UNSW, 'The Prosaic History of a Provincial Revolution'

Frank Malgesini, Universidad Autonoma de Chihuahua, 'Life as We Know it: Finding Ourselves in Wildfell Hall'

**12.30-2.00 lunch**  
**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

**2-3.30**

**Session 3 *Prosaic Affects***  
**New Law School Lecture Theatre 024**

Chair Lee Wallace (Sydney)

Mimi Lu, Sydney, 'Pursuits of Happiness in Thomas Hardy's *Jude the Obscure*'

Conall Cash, UNSW, 'Cruges in Sintra: Some Considerations on Affect and the Everyday in the Realist Novel, Following Jameson'

Naomi Milthorpe, U Tas, '“Fatigues and things”: Boredom and objects in Henry Green's *Party Going*'

**4.00-4.30 afternoon tea**  
**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

**4.30-6 Keynote 3**  
**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

Maud Ellmann, Chicago, 'Everyday War: Virginia Woolf and Sylvia Townsend Warner.' Chair John Frow (Sydney)

**7 onwards: conference dinner**

## **DAY FOUR**

**July 4:**

### **9-00-10.30 Session 1 *Theorising the Prosaic* New Law School Lecture Theatre 024**

Chair Maud Ellmann (Chicago)

Elizabeth Pender, UNSW, 'Not your everyday novel: modernist novels and literary criticism in the early 1960s'

Siobhan Lyons, Macquarie, 'Novels without Readers'

Jarrad Cogle, Sydney, 'Fredric Jameson, Affect and the Realist Novel'

### **10.30-11.30 Book Launch + morning tea**

**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**

**John Frow *Character and Person* (Oxford University Press, 2014). Launched by Julian Murphet (UNSW)**

### **11.30- 1 Session 2 *Visualising the Prosaic* New Law School Lecture Theatre 024**

Chair Vanessa Smith (Sydney)

Alix Beeston, University of Sydney, 'Bad in Form: Photography and the Composite Novel in Modernism'

Omid Azadibougar, Göttingen University, 'The Novel after Cinema: Reality and Forms of Representation'

Melissa Hardie, Sydney, 'Cinematic Circulation and the Novel: *Old Acquaintance*, *Rich and Famous*, *La Flor de mi Secreto*.'

### **1-2 lunch and close**

**Eastern Avenue Auditorium**