



Max Beerbohm, *Mr. H. G. Wells, prophet and idealist, conjuring up the darling Future* (1907)

## **Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States**

**2018 Annual Conference**

“Victorian Futures”

November 8-10

Palm Springs, California

**This conference is generously sponsored by**

- Michigan State University College of Arts and Letters
- Michigan State University Department of English
- The Office of the President, Dr. Jane Close Conoley, of California State University, Long Beach
- The Department of English, California State University, Long Beach, and Dr. Eileen Klink, Chair

**Conference Co-Organizers**

- Lana Dalley
- Neil Hultgren
- Kristin Mahoney

**Conference Assistants**

- Jennie Aspen
- Ally McGregor

**Special Thanks to**

- Cynthia Angiuli
- David Agriam
- Lisa Behrendt
- Harvey Hunt
- Joyce Morfe
- Doris Palomarez

VISAWUS 2018  
Victorian Futures  
**Keynote Speaker**

Dr. Joy Dixon  
Associate Department Head & Associate Professor of History  
University of British Columbia

“Sex and the Secular Future”

**Dr. Joy Dixon** is author of *Divine Feminine: Theosophy and Feminism in England* (2001). She has published essays on figures such as Edward Carpenter, Havelock Ellis, Annie Besant, and Mahatma Gandhi. In 2011, she co-edited with Naomi Hetherington a special issue of *Victorian Review* on the topic of religion and sexuality. Professor Dixon is currently working on a book-length study, tentatively titled *Sexual Heresies: Religion, Science, and Sexuality in Modern Britain*, that explores the impact of the new sciences of sexuality and new understandings of sexual identity on religion and religious experience, from liberal modernism to the new orthodoxies of conservative Catholicism and evangelicalism.

## Conference at a Glance

**Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 am – 3:00 pm: Registration

Location: foyer outside *San Jacinto* and *Santa Rosa*

8:00 am – 9:00 am: Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – 9:20 am: General Opening Remarks

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

9:30 am – 11:00 am: Concurrent Sessions

**1A, Temporality, Allegory, and Olive Schreiner**

*Mojave Learning Center*

**1B, Anticipatory Poetics**

*San Jacinto*

**1C, Deaths, Endings, and Innovations**

*Santa Rosa*

11:00 am – 1:30 pm: Lunch on your own

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm: Concurrent Sessions

**2A, Utopias/Radical Futures**

*San Jacinto*

**2B, The Race and Labor of (Neo) Victorian Technology**

*Mojave Learning Center*

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm: Break

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm: Concurrent Sessions

**3A, Neo-Victorian Futures**

*Mojave Learning Center*

**3B, Prophecy, Prognosis, and Teleology: Biological and Fictional Forms**

*San Jacinto*

**3C, Aesthetic Futures**

*Santa Rosa*

5:30 pm: Dinner on your own

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm: Board Meeting

Location: *San Jacinto*

7:00 pm: Board Dinner

## **Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 am – 3:00 pm: Registration

Location: foyer outside *San Jacinto* and *Santa Rosa*

8:00 am – 9:00 am: Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – 10:30 am: Concurrent Sessions

### **4A, Painting the Future**

*Santa Rosa*

### **4B, Victorian Genre's Futures**

*San Jacinto*

### **4C, Queer/Sexual Futures: Queer Music, Queer Time, and Sex Education**

*Mojave Learning Center*

10:30 am – 10:45 am: Break

10:45 am – 12:15 pm: Concurrent Sessions

### **5A, Feminist Futures and the Public Sphere**

*Mojave Learning Center*

### **5B, Economic Futures**

*San Jacinto*

### **5C, Queering Victorian Futures**

*Santa Rosa*

12:15 pm – 2:00 pm: Lunch and Business Meeting

Location: *Catalina*

2:00 pm – 3:15 pm: Concurrent Sessions

**6A, Literary History and Speculative Futures**

*Mojave Learning Center*

**6B, Animal Futures and Hereditary Futures**

*San Jacinto*

**6C, Photography, Curation and New Media Futures**

*Santa Rosa*

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm: Break

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm: Concurrent Sessions

**7A, The Future of Decadent Studies**

*San Jacinto*

**7B, Future Effects of Victorian Performance**

*Mojave Learning Center*

**7C, Remains**

*Santa Rosa*

5:00 pm – 5:30 pm: Break

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm: Cocktail Reception

Location: *Catalina* foyer

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm: Keynote Speaker

Joy Dixon (University of British Columbia), “Sex and the Secular Future”

Location: *Catalina*

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm: Dinner

Location: *Catalina*

**Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 am – 9:00 am: Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – 10:30 am: Concurrent Sessions

**8A, New Victorian Neurologies**

*San Jacinto*

**8B, Remaking Form, Rethinking Genre**

*Mojave Learning Center*

**8C, Late-Victorian Queer Temporalities**

*Santa Rosa*

10:30 am – 10:45 am: Break

10:45 am – 12:15 pm: Concurrent Sessions

**9A, “Teaching and Learning Passion: Bridging Academic and Student Cultures”: A Pedagogy Roundtable**

*Santa Rosa*

**9B, Trans Studies and the Future of Victorian Studies: A Roundtable Discussion**

*Mojave Learning Center*

12:15pm – 2:00pm: Lunch on your own

2:00pm – 3:30pm: Concurrent Sessions

**10A, Unfinished Empires: Victorian Race, Gender, and Genre in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

*Mojave Learning Center*

**10B, Embodying Technologies: Industrial, Atomic, Virtual**

*San Jacinto*

**10C, Victorian Relics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

*Santa Rosa*

## Conference Schedule

### Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am – 3:00 pm: Registration

Location: foyer outside *San Jacinto* and *Santa Rosa*

8:00 am – 9:00 am: Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – 9:20 am: General Opening Remarks

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

Welcome from Dr. Kristin Mahoney, President, VISAWUS  
Board of Directors

Additional Conference Details from Dr. Lana Dalley, Dr. Neil,  
Hultgren, and Dr. Kristin Mahoney, VISAWUS Board of  
Directors and Conference Organizers

9:30 am – 11:00 am: Concurrent Sessions

#### Session 1A, **Temporality, Allegory, and Olive Schreiner**

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

Diana Maltz (Southern Oregon University), Moderator

Denae Dyck (University of Victoria), “Beyond the Prophetic  
Pattern: Form and the Uncertain Future of Olive  
Schreiner’s *The Story of an African Farm*”

Lindsay Wilhelm (University of California, Los Angeles),  
“‘Our dreams are prophetic’: The Future in Late-  
Victorian Feminist Allegory”

Kate Krueger (Arkansas State University), “Reproducing the  
Female Body Politic: Martyrdom and Futurity in Olive  
Schreiner’s Short Fiction”



Session 1B, **Anticipatory Poetics**

Location: *San Jacinto*

LeeAnne Richardson (Georgia State University), Moderator

Julie Wise (University of South Carolina, Aiken), “Metaphors of Futurity in Augusta Webster’s *English Rispetti*”

Tara Thomas (University of California, Santa Cruz), “Queer, Metamorphic Community in Michael Field’s *To an Exile*”

Heather Bozant Witcher (Saint Louis University), “‘never focused’: Swinburne, Chelsea, and French Impressionism”

Session 1C, **Deaths, Endings, and Innovations**

Location: *Santa Rosa*

Genie Babb (State University of New York, Plattsburgh), Moderator

Bryn Gribben (Seattle University), “The Shape of Things to Come: What Endings Tell Us about the Future”

Constance Fulmer (Pepperdine University), “Facing the Future after Death in George Eliot’s Poetry and Novels”

Lisa Surridge and Mary Elizabeth Leighton (University of Victoria), “Future Impressions: Anne Thackeray’s *The Story of Elizabeth* as Proto-Impressionist Text”

11:00 am – 1:30 pm: Lunch on your own

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm: Concurrent Sessions

**Session 2A, Utopias/Radical Futures**

Location: *San Jacinto*

Tara MacDonald (University of Idaho), Moderator

Diana Maltz (Southern Oregon University), “‘Lethargic Soullessness’: A Late-Victorian Utopian Fellowship Critiques Edward Bellamy’s *Looking Backward* and William Morris’s *News from Nowhere*”

John Murphy (Art Institute of Chicago), “The Utopian Leap from William Blake to William Morris”

Shyam Patel (University of California, Irvine), “ ‘Petrifactions from Distant Ages’: Victorian Historiographies and the Future of Ruins”

**Session 2B, The Race and Labor of (Neo) Victorian Technology**

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

Denae Dyck (University of Victoria), Moderator

Nathan N. Kapoor (University of Oklahoma), “The Dam at the World’s End: Reimagining Imperialism in New Zealand Through the Lake Coleridge Dam”

Susan Zieger (University of California, Riverside), “Logistical Life: Nineteenth-Century Narratives of Commodity Animation”

Kellie Holzer (Virginia Wesleyan University), “‘Most men are human’: Race and the Type-Writer Girl”

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm: Break

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm: Concurrent Sessions

Session 3A, **Neo-Victorian Futures**

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

Constance Fulmer (Pepperdine University), Moderator

Brian Donnelly (University of California, Santa Barbara),  
“Future (*Great*) Expectations: Recolonizing the Past in  
the Neo-Victorian Novel”

Sophia Andres (University of Texas of the Permian Basin),  
“Gian Lorenzo Bernini’s ‘Marble Dream’: George Eliot  
and Abraham Verghese”

Melissa Purdue (Minnesota State University, Mankato), “The  
Transformation of Victorian Monsters in Gail Carriger’s  
Neo-Victorian ‘Parasol Protectorate’ Series”

Session 3B, **Prophecy, Prognosis, and Teleology: Biological and  
Fictional Forms**

Location: *San Jacinto*

Lisa SurrIDGE (University of Victoria), Moderator

Margaret A. Miller (University of California, Davis), “An  
Incipient Bog-Woman: Maggie Tulliver’s Prognosis in  
George Eliot’s *The Mill on the Floss*”

Lauren Peterson (University of California, Davis), “Designing  
the Victorian Serial: Prophecy within *The Woman in  
White*”

Justin Prystash (National Taiwan Normal University),  
“Idealism, Teleology, and Samuel Butler”

Session 3C, **Aesthetic Futures**

Location: *Santa Rosa*

Kristin Mahoney (Michigan State University), Moderator

Rebecca Mitchell (University of Birmingham), “West-Coast  
Aestheticism and *The Lark*”

Imogen Hart (University of California, Berkeley), “Arts and  
Crafts between the Wars”

Gregory Mackie (University of British Columbia), “Decadence  
Redux in *Fifty Drawings by Aubrey Beardsley (1920)*”

5:30 pm: Dinner on your own

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm: Board Meeting

Location: *San Jacinto*

7:00 pm: Board Dinner

## Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am – 3:00 pm: Registration

Location: foyer outside *San Jacinto* and *Santa Rosa*

8:00 am – 9:00 am: Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – 10:30 am: Concurrent Sessions

### Session 4A, **Painting the Future**

Location: *Santa Rosa*

Imogen Hart (University of California, Berkeley), Moderator

Avigail Moss (University of Southern California), “Envisioning Total Loss: Insuring Art in Nineteenth-Century Britain”

Julie Codell (Arizona State University), “Back to the Pre-Raphaelite Future: Mutable Time, Suspended History and the End of Progress”

Gursimran Oberoi (University of Surrey and Watts Gallery), “*She Shall Be Called Woman*: The Legacy and Controversy Surrounding G. F. Watts’s Art and the Women’s Suffrage Campaign”

### Session 4B, **Victorian Genre’s Futures**

Location: *San Jacinto*

Kristin Mahoney (Michigan State University), Moderator

Richard Dellamora (Trent University), “From the 1880s to 2008: Virginia Woolf and Alan Hollinghurst Write the Long Twentieth Century”

Kathy Alexis Psomiades (Duke University), “Perpetual Peace: The Victorian Future in John Crowley’s *Great Work of Time*”

So Park (Gustavus Adolphus College), “Asian Futures of the Victorian Novel”

Session 4C, **Queer/Sexual Futures: Queer Music, Queer Time, and Sex Education**

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

Lana Dalley (California State University, Fullerton), Moderator

Nikolai Endres (Western Kentucky University), “Victorian Music of the Future: Richard Wagner and Oscar Wilde”

Laura Eldridge (The Graduate Center, CUNY), “The Ghosts of Future Present”

Emily D. Wicktor (North Dakota State University), “‘She can do all this and still know that she is safe’: Protected Futures, Sexual Pedagogy, and Victorian Pornography”

10:30 am – 10:45 am: Break

10:45 am – 12:15 pm: Concurrent Sessions

Session 5A, **Feminist Futures and the Public Sphere**

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

Julie Codell (Arizona State University), Moderator

Anne Stiles (Saint Louis University), “Millennial Futures in Charlotte Perkins Gilman’s *Herland* and the Writings of Mary Baker Eddy”

Solveig Robinson (Pacific Lutheran University), “A calling worthy to be undertaken by gentlewomen”: Ethel Gordon Fenwick and the Future of Nursing”

Kristen Waha (Grove City College), “‘Hindu Heroines, Girl Graduates’: Narrating Mythic Archetypes in Turn-of-the-Century Indian Women’s Educational Reform Movements”

Session 5B, **Economic Futures**

Location: *San Jacinto*

Kellie Holzer (Virginia Wesleyan University), Moderator

Jill Rappoport (University of Kentucky), “*Hester’s Pearls: Imagining Women’s Property Rights Outside of the Marriage Plot*”

Tara MacDonald (University of Idaho), “Economic Independence and Counterfactual Thinking in Late-Victorian Feminist Utopias”

Lana Dalley (California State University, Fullerton), “‘A baby is not very much’: Maternal and Economic Futures in Olive Schreiner’s *Story of an African Farm* and *Undine*”

Session 5C, **Queering Victorian Futures**

Location: *Santa Rosa*

Emily D. Wicktor (North Dakota State University), Moderator

Emily R. Lyons (University of Arizona), “Disciplined Expectations: BDSM Temporalities and Pleasures in *Villette*”

Michael Harwick (The Ohio State University), “Cruising Erewhon: Samuel Butler and the Queerness of Futures Past”

Mackenzie Gregg (University of California, Riverside), “Edward Carpenter’s Queer Commons”

12:15 pm – 2:00 pm: Lunch and Business Meeting

Location: *Catalina*

2:00 pm – 3:15 pm: Concurrent Sessions

**Session 6A, Literary History and Speculative Futures**

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

Molly Youngkin (Loyola Marymount University), Moderator

Genie Babb (State University of New York, Plattsburgh),  
“Tradition and the Individual Talent of Mr. H. G. Wells”

Neil Hultgren (California State University, Long Beach), “*The  
Time Machine*, Without the Machine: Hodgson  
Reimagines Wells”

J. Jeffrey Franklin (University of Colorado, Denver), “The  
Future of God”

**Session 6B, Animal Futures and Hereditary Futures**

Location: *San Jacinto*

Lana Dalley (California State University, Fullerton), Moderator

Jessica Straley (University of Utah), “Animal Economies in  
Arthur Morrison’s *Zig Zags at the Zoo*”

Anna Feuerstein (University of Hawai’i-Mānoa), “Animal  
Welfare Goes Abroad: The Imperial Futures of Animal-  
Human Relationships in the RSPCA’s *Animal World*”



Session 6C, **Photography, Curation and New Media Futures**

Location: *Santa Rosa*

Katherine Voyles (University of Washington, Bothell),  
Moderator

Shannon Couey (University of North Texas), “‘horrible  
proofs’: Photography, Punishment, and Panopticism in  
Henry James’s *The Turn of the Screw*”

Jillian Lerner (The University of British Columbia),  
“Photographic Futures Past: The Faces of Scientific Self-  
Promotion”

Heidi Kaufman (University of Oregon), “Archival Curation:  
Writing a Future for Jamaica’s Violent Past”

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm: Break

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm: Concurrent Sessions

Session 7A, **The Future of Decadent Studies**

Location: *San Jacinto*

Jessica Straley (University of Utah), Moderator

Kristin Mahoney (Michigan State University), “Richard Bruce  
Nugent: Transnational Decadence and the Harlem  
Renaissance”

Patricia Pulham (University of Surrey), “Decadence and the  
Occult: The Case of Robert Smythe Hichens”

Anna Maria Jones (University of Central Florida),  
“Synesthesia, Sex, and Violence: Decadent Aesthetics in  
Angela Carter’s ‘Moral Pornography’”

Session 7B, **Future Effects of Victorian Performance**

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

Richard Fulton (Washington State University), Moderator

Rachel Howerton (University of California, Riverside),  
“Fashioning the Music of the Future: The Reception  
History of Hector Berlioz’s *Damnation of Faust* in  
Victorian Britain and its Impact on Twentieth-Century  
British Music”

Scott D. Banville (Nicholls State University), “Tony Pastor’s  
Traveling Company: Forging the Future of American  
Popular Culture One Performance at a Time”

Richard Hill (Chaminade University of Honolulu) and Laura  
Eidam (University of Oregon), “Robert Louis  
Stevenson’s *Jekyll and Hyde*: From Theater to Film”

Session 7C, **Remains**

Location: *Santa Rosa*

Solveig Robinson (Pacific Lutheran University), Moderator

Jessica Krzeminski (University of California, Davis), “Living  
Fossils: The Transatlantic Atemporal Body”

Angie Blumberg (Auburn University), “Last Days of Future  
Past: Victorian Pompeii in the First World War”

Rebecca Ehrhardt (University of Southern California), “What  
Do We Talk about When We Talk about John Harmon?”

5:00 pm – 5:30 pm: Break

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm: Cocktail Reception

Location: *Catalina* foyer

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm: Keynote Speaker

Location: *Catalina*

Joy Dixon (University of British Columbia), “Sex and the  
Secular Future”

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm: Dinner

Location: *Catalina*

## **Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 am – 9:00 am: Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – 10:30 am: Concurrent Sessions

### **Session 8A, New Victorian Neurologies**

Location: *San Jacinto*

Genie Babb (State University of New York, Plattsburgh),  
Moderator

Matthew Kaiser (University of California, Merced), “Reading  
Dickens in a Neurodiverse World”

Megan Arkenberg (University of California, Davis), “‘It Is  
Hard to Be Literal’: Metaphor and Future Science in  
Arthur Machen’s Neurological Gothic”

### **Session 8B, Remaking Form, Rethinking Genre**

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

J. Jeffrey Franklin (University of Colorado Denver), Moderator

Anna Novakov (University of New Mexico, Taos), “Waiting  
for the Future: Scientific Spirituality and the Work of  
Hilma af Klint”

LeeAnne Richardson (Georgia State University), “The Archaic  
Avant-Garde: Verse Drama Looks to the Future ”

Samantha Morse (University of California, Los Angeles),  
“Affecting Futurity in the *Fin-de-Siècle* Gothic”

Session 8C, **Late-Victorian Queer Temporalities**

Location: *Santa Rosa*

Neil Hultgren (California State University, Long Beach),  
Moderator

Joseph Bristow (University of California, Los Angeles),  
“Walter Pater and the Clairvoyant Body”

Molly Youngkin (Loyola Marymount University), “Trans New  
Woman: Across Genre, Gender, and Technology”

Ellen Crowell (Saint Louis University), “Telegraphing in Queer  
Cipher”

10:30 am – 10:45 am: Break

10:45 am – 12:15 pm: Concurrent Sessions

Session 9A, **“Teaching and Learning Passion: Bridging Academic  
and Student Cultures”: A Pedagogy Roundtable**

Location: *Santa Rosa*

Sophia Andres (University of Texas of the Permian Basin)

Participants will receive a copy of *The Little Orange Book: Short  
Lessons in Excellent Teaching* (University of Texas Press, 2015)

Session 9B, **Trans Studies and the Future of Victorian Studies: A Roundtable Discussion**

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

Lisa Hager (University of Wisconsin-Waukesha), Moderator

Lisa Hager (University of Wisconsin-Waukesha), “Victorian Trans Phenomena: A Trans-Inclusive Reading of Nineteenth-Century ‘Female Husbands’”

Ardel Haefele-Thomas (City College of San Francisco), “Outstanding Surgeon and Social Reformer: Dr. James Miranda Barry at the Intersection of Feminist and Trans History”

Jolene Zigarovich (University of Northern Iowa), “Narrativizing Victorian ‘Pseudo’ Sexualities and Genders”

Gregory Luke Chwala (Clemson University), “The TransGothic Ecologies of H. Rider Haggard’s *She*”

12:15pm – 2:00pm: Lunch on your own

2:00pm – 3:30pm: Concurrent Sessions

Session 10A, **Unfinished Empires: Victorian Race, Gender, and Genre in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

Location: *Mojave Learning Center*

Ardel Haefele-Thomas (City College of San Francisco),  
Moderator

Shelby Wilson (University of California, Santa Cruz), “Blood Doubles: Sheridan Le Fanu’s *Carmilla* on Film”

Mike Cronin (Boston College, Ireland), “*Lagaan*: Not Just Once Upon a Time”

Renée Fox (University of California, Santa Cruz), “Emma Donoghue’s Wondrous Realism”

Session 10B, **Embodying Technologies: Industrial, Atomic,  
Virtual**

Location: *San Jacinto*

Neil Hultgren (California State University, Long Beach),  
Moderator

Christopher J. McGeorge (University of Southern California),  
“Ford Madox Brown and Victorian History Painting after  
the Bomb”

Amy Wong (Dominican University of California), “Thackeray,  
*Cornhill*, and the Extensions of Man”

Beatrice Sanford Russell (University of Southern California),  
“Love’s Labor; or, Are Swinburne’s Knights Actually  
Cyborgs?”

Session 10C, **Victorian Relics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

Location: *Santa Rosa*

Bryn Gribben (Seattle University), Moderator

Katherine Voyles (University of Washington, Bothell), “There  
Is No Post-9.11 Novel”

Ann Tandy Treiber (University of Minnesota), “Dead Men Tell  
No Tales, But They Might Show You Your Future:  
Cemeteries, Burial Practices, and the Transformation of  
London and Its Characters”

Teresa Traver (California State University, Chico), “‘Foreign  
Children’ in the Twenty-First Century: Should It Have a  
Future?”

# Meeting Room Map for the Renaissance Palm Springs Hotel

