

Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies  
Supernumerary Conference

# **Measure and Excess**

June 13-15, 2018

*Hosted by Roma Tre University*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**Richard Ambrosini**, Roma Tre University

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**SPECIAL THANKS** to our host institution, Roma Tre University and to the administrative staff of the Humanities Department, University of Macerata, for their precious help.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Mary Poovey**, a cultural historian and literary scholar, has recently retired from New York University, where she was the Samuel Rudin University Professor of the Humanities. She has published on subjects ranging from feminist theory to administrative reform in nineteenth century Britain. Two of her earlier books—*A History of the Modern Fact* and *Genres of the Credit Economy*—address the history of the disciplines and the relationship between literary study and economics. In 2017, with co-author Kevin Brine, she published *Finance in America: An Unfinished Story*. This book chronicles the rise of the financial industry from the late nineteenth century to the financial crisis of 2008. She now lives in Connecticut.



Francis O’Gorman was educated as C.S. Deneke Organ Scholar of Lady Margaret Hall Oxford. He remains an active musician. After 16 years teaching at the University of Leeds, he was appointed Saintsbury Professor of English Literature at the University of Edinburgh in 2016. He has particular interests in nineteenth-century literature including Coleridge, Ruskin, Swinburne, and Trollope, and in psychoanalysis. Francis O’Gorman has written or edited 24 books (including 6 on or by Ruskin) and his most recent publications include editions of Trollope’s *The Way We Live Now* (OUP, 2016) and *Orley Farm* (OUP, 2018), *The Cambridge Companion to John Ruskin* (2015), the Twenty-first Century Oxford Authors edition of *Algernon Charles Swinburne* (2016), and volume 5 of the Oxford Selected Prose of Edward Thomas. His *Worrying: A Literary and Cultural History* (2015) was a *Guardian* ‘Book of the Week’ and a *Sunday Times* ‘Must Read’ and it was followed by *Forgetfulness: Making the Modern Culture of Amnesia* in 2017. He is currently editing *The Stones of Venice* and Wilkie Collins’s *The Moonstone* for OUP and has just completed a book called *Liberalism in Education: The Monopoly of an Idea* for the New York offices of Bloomsbury.

# MEASURE AND EXCESS

SUPERNUMERARY CONFERENCE FOR  
**INTERDISCIPLINARY NINETEENTH-CENTURY STUDIES (INCS)**  
JUNE 13-15, 2018, ROME, ITALY  
HOSTED BY ROMA TRE UNIVERSITY

## CONTENTS

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

- 8:30-5:30      **REGISTRATION**
- 9:30-10:00     **CONFERENCE WELCOME** (*Aula Magna*)  
Prof. Luca Pietromarchi (President, Roma Tre University)  
Prof. Claudio Giovanardi (Dean, School of Letters, Philosophy and Languages)  
Prof. Giorgio De Marchis (Chair, Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures)  
Menaka M. Nayyar (Cultural Attaché - Embassy of the United States of America in Italy)
- 10:00-11:30    **KEYNOTE TALK**, *Aula Magna*  
**MARY POOVEY** (New York University)  
“Modelling and its discontents”  
Introduction: Lynn Voskuil, University of Houston
- 11:30-12:00    **COFFEE BREAK**
- 12:00-1:30     **WEDNESDAY, 13 SESSION 1**
- 1A     Exhibiting Restraint and Excess**  
Aula 3, Wednesday 12:00-1:30  
*Moderator: Anat Rosenberg, Radzyner School of Law*
- “Social excess and aesthetic restraint: the case of Whitechapel in the 1880s and 1890s”  
Lucy Hartley (University of Michigan)
- “Mental excess: two freaks”  
Suzy Anger (University of British Columbia)
- “Tourism and the management of time in the ‘partly-real partly-dream country’ of Hardy’s Wessex”  
Don Ulin (University of Pittsburgh)
- 1B     Examining the Excesses of Mind and Body**  
Aula 6, Wednesday 12:00-1:30  
*Moderator: Christine Myers, Monmouth College*
- “The ‘perilous gift’ of genius: nervous exhaustion, stress, and mental excess”

Helen Goodman (Royal Holloway and NYU)

“Dangerous emotions: anger, grief, and the threat of madness”  
Amy Milne-Smith (Wilfrid Laurier University)

“Editing excess: editorial manipulation and Scottish Asylum Magazines”  
Jonathan Tinnin (University of Kentucky)

“Nineteenth-century madness verse and making sense of nonsense in Edward Lear, Lewis Carroll, and Alfred Lord Tennyson”  
Liora Connor (Princeton University)

**1C Writing the Non-Rational Self: Constructions of Subversive Personality in Medical Case Files and Fiction**

Aula 4, Wednesday, 12:00-1:30

*Moderator: Barbara Miceli, Roma Tre University*

“Writing into being: New Woman fictions of self-construction”  
Tabitha Sparks (McGill University)

“Orectic subjects and sensuous self-making in Stoddard and Dickinson”  
Rachel Blumenthal (Indiana University, Kokomo)

“Benevolent treatment and the serious stakes of play in Victorian asylum narratives”  
Louise Penner (University of Mass., Boston)

“Measure in medicine and literature: quantitative approach in the nineteenth century”  
Paolo Tortonese (University of Sorbonne Nouvelle)

**1D Queers, Drunks, Ghosts, and Undergrounds: Desire and Excess in Nineteenth-Century America**

Sala Conferenze, Wednesday, 12:00-1:30

*Moderator: Dana Seitler, University of Toronto*

“Poe, drunk”  
Dana Seitler (University of Toronto)

“In excess of Bartleby”  
Jordan Stein (Fordham University)

“Below and beyond”  
Lara Cohen (Swarthmore College)

**1E Control and Excess: Desire in Victorian Aestheticism**

Aula 7, Wednesday, 12:00-1:30

*Moderator: Tricia Lootens, University of Georgia*

“Form and excess: aesthetic *Bildung* in Vernon Lee’s ‘Prince Alberic and the Snake Lady’”  
Dustin Friedman (American University)

“Hands that refrain: the middle ranges of agency in Michael Field and Edward Burne-Jones”  
Mackenzie Gregg (University of California Riverside)

“Against desire: Lionel de Fonseka and art for life’s sake in Ceylon”  
Kristin Mahoney (Michigan State University)

“The femme fatale’s lessons: excessive *eros*, pedagogy and aestheticism in Walter Pater’s *Gaston de Latour*”

Peter Bailey (The College of the Bahamas)

**1F Metrical Measure, Metrical Excess**

Aula 9, Wednesday, 12:00-1:30

*Moderator: Clare Broome Saunders, University of Oxford*

“Swinburne’s poetics of waste”

Ewan Jones (University of Cambridge)

“Measure in excess: railway rhythms in Victorian poetry”

Irmtraud Huber (University of Bern)

“Excessive measures: *Casa Guidi Windows* and ‘superterzarimesca’”

Oliver Goldstein (University of Cambridge)

“A ‘cunning irregularity’: measure and excess in Thomas Hardy’s Gothic poetry”

Mina Vuohelainen (City, University of London)

**1:30-2:30 LUNCH**

**2:30-4:00 SESSION 2**

**2A Melodramatic Excess I: Early Melodrama**

Aula 4, Wednesday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Sara Hackenberg, San Francisco State University*

“Growth and transformation: the generic evolution of early English melodrama”

Matthew Buckley (Rutgers University)

“Melodrama, penny dreadful, and the trash culture in London theatre”

Kate Newey (University of Exeter)

“Aspects of music in the Victorian drama”

Michael Pisani (Vassar College)

**2B “Behold the Man!”: Masculine Excesses in Nineteenth-Century Spain I**

Aula 3, Wednesday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Nicholas Wolters, Wake Forest University*

“The insufficiency of excess and the construction of masculinity in Galdós’s *La sombra*”

Wan Tang (Boston College)

“Paternal excess in Benito Pérez Galdós’ *Torquemada en la hoguera* (Torquemada at the Stake)”

Gabrielle Miller (Baylor University)

“‘That man is too much!’ Sexual, sensual and sensorial excesses in Spanish short stories”

Sara Muñoz-Muriana (Dartmouth College)

“The men in the Japanese room: masculinity and decorative excess in Galdós’s *La familia de León Roch*”

David R. George (Bates College)

**2C Sizing Up Realism**

Aula 6, Wednesday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Sari Carter, Vanderbilt University*

“The measure of nothing in Gaskell’s fragmentary fictions”

Maeve Adams (Manhattan College)

“Affective excess in the ‘scenic present’: Baudelaire’s ‘Spleen’ (‘J’ai plus de souvenirs que si j’avais mille ans’) and Jameson’s *Antinomies of Realism*”

Marguerite Murphy (Hobart & William Smith Colleges)

“The excess of mimesis: reframing *The Picture of Dorian Gray*”

Nidesh Lawtoo (Institute of Philosophy, KU Leuven)

## **2D Bountiful Nature: Animals and Plants**

Aula 7, Wednesday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Lynn Voskuil, University of Houston*

“Love hurts – Victorians and the interspecies imagination”

Teresa Mangum (University of Iowa)

“‘Vegetable empires’: botanical excess and civic models in Charlotte Perkins Gilman and Olive Schreiner”

Abigail Mann (UNC – Pembroke)

“*The Human Plant*: speculations on the social applications of plant science 1890-1910”

Marc Ricard (University of Exeter)

## **2E The Political Economy of Excess**

Aula 9, Wednesday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Silvana Colella, University of Macerata*

“Hannah More on excessive foreign travel: English domestic arrangements meet British political economy”

Brian Cooper (Independent scholar)

“Feeling as excess: the role of emotion in nineteenth-century novels of political economy”

Sarah Dredge (Sheffield Hallam University)

“Informal economies and the rhetoric of silence in *La de Bringas* (1884) and *Blanca Sol* (1889)”

Raphael Núñez Rodríguez (University of Oregon)

## **2F Sensationalism: Crime, Incest, and Murder**

Sala Conferenze, Wednesday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Amy Milne-Smith, Wilfrid Laurier University*

“Excessive reference: ‘proximity’ and personality in nineteenth-century crime fiction”

Andrew King (Greenwich University)

“Form and excess: the case of Charles Reade”

Sarah Murphy (New York University/Gallatin School)

“The Victorian fascination with the murder of Rizzio”

Christina Myers (Monmouth College)

**2G Decadence and Desire**

Aula 8, Wednesday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Olivier Tonnerre, US Military Academy*

“The poetics of excess in Jean Lorrain’s *Narkiss*”

Alexandre Burin (Durham University)

“The rhetoric of excess: covering Oscar Wilde’s trial in the French press”

Frederic Canovas (Arizona State University)

“‘Queer Reverence’: Aubrey Beardsley’s *Venus and Tannhäuser*”

Nicole Fluhr (Southern Connecticut State University)

“Sexual excess, venereal diseases, and the double standard in the New Woman novel”

Elisabetta Marino (University of Rome -Tor Vergata)

**4:15-5:45 SESSION 3**

**3A Blanks, Fillers, and Margins**

Aula 9, Wednesday, 4:15-5:45

*Moderator: Aimée Boutin, Florida State University*

“Excess space: page fillers in British periodicals”

Maria Damkjær (University of Copenhagen)

“Too fixed and too fast: how stereotypes and clichés dematerialized in the nineteenth century”

Cary Hollinshead (American University of Paris)

“Exceeding plots: Dickens, Ferrante and narrative leftovers”

Victor Xavier Zarour Zarzar (Graduate Center, CUNY)

**3B Travel Writing: Excess Abroad**

Aula 6, Wednesday, 4:15-5:45

*Moderator: Clare Broome-Saunders, University of Oxford*

“Maria Edgeworth’s thoughts on French nudity, & other consequences of the Peace of Amiens”

John Bugg (Fordham University)

“‘Full of intricacies, dark deeds, and Italian mysteries’: marketing revolutionary excess in women’s travel accounts, 1851-1855”

Rebecca Butler (Nottingham Trent University)

“From austerity to excess: Protestant travellers in Rome and the legacies of the Apostolic Church”

Brian Murray (King’s College London)

“‘You must be possessed, and you must strive to possess your possession’. Mastering physicality and emotions: Henry James’s modern Italian masculinities”

Tatiana Petrovich Njegosh (University of Macerata)

**3C Measuring Linguistic Exuberance**

Sala Conferenze, Wednesday, 4:15-5:45

*Moderator: Teresa Mangum, University of Iowa*

“Freeing spirits from prison: linguistic exuberance in John Ruskin’s *Fors Clavigera*”



Bethan Bowman (Young Harris College)

“A medium’s linguistic exuberance: the haunted origins of Saussure’s linguistics”  
Claudie Massicotte (Young Harris College)

“Measuring the voices of the world, one prodigal son at a time”  
Catherine Robson (New York University)

### **3D Temperance and Addiction**

Aula 7, Wednesday, 4:15-5:45

*Moderator: Mary Jean Corbett, Miami University*

“‘Abundant supply of stimulants’: drunkenness, addiction and faith in George Eliot’s ‘Janet’s repentance’”

Menglu Gao (Northwestern University)

“Aesthetic excess in African American temperance fiction: Francis E. W. Harper’s *Sowing and Reaping*”

Ania Pochmara (University of Warsaw)

“‘Exquisite foie-gras! Have I forgotten thee?’: the British gourmet and his perplexities in *Pelham, or Adventures of a Gentleman*”

Luisa Villa (University of Genova)

“The fascination of excess: wild behaviour and the UK temperance movement”

Annemarie McAllister (University of Central Lancashire)

### **3E Imperturbability and Its Discontent**

Aula 3, Wednesday, 4:15-5:45

*Moderator: Jolene Mathieson, University of Hamburg*

“‘Rome disappoints me much’: detachment versus commitment in Clough’s *Amours de Voyage* (1849)”

Judith Plotz (George Washington University)

“Jesuit excess in Charlotte Brontë’s *Villette*”

Julie Donovan (George Washington University)

“‘Hate and murder and madness incarnate’: Lucy Snowe’s ethics of self-fashioning”

Henna Messina (University of Georgia)

“Ethereal overwrought consciousness: Sue Bridehead as feminine modernity”

Rebecca Boylan (Georgetown University)

### **3F Immoderate Eliot**

Aula 4, Wednesday, 4:15-5:45

*Moderator: Mary Jo Bona, Stonybrook University*

“Realism, the romance of aestheticism, and the subject of desire in *Middlemarch*”

Michael Davis (Le Moyne College)

“‘Left to myself’: immoderate experience and the turn to religion in the novels of George Eliot”

Ilana Blumberg (Bar Ilan University)

“‘In no sense free’: self-determination in *Daniel Deronda*”

Veronica Mitnacht (University of California Berkeley)

“Sizing up the character: body measurements in George Eliot’s fiction”  
Alessandra Grego (John Cabot University)

**6:00** **BUS TO JOHN CABOT UNIVERSITY**

**6:30** **DRINKS RECEPTION, LEMON TREE COURTYARD, GUARINI CAMPUS**  
Sponsored by the Department of English Language and Literature, John Cabot University

**THURSDAY, June 14**

**9:00-6:00** **REGISTRATION**

**9:30-11:00** **SESSION 4**

**4A Refining Romantic Visions**

Aula 6, Thursday, 9:30-11:00

*Moderator: Brian Cooper, independent scholar*

“Dorothy Wordsworth and the egotistical sublime”  
Sylvia Cutler (Brigham Young University)

“‘Too huge for mortal tongue, or pen of Scribe’: limits of signification in Keats’s *Hyperions*”  
David Lo Ka Tat (Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen)

“‘Fine excess?’ The grotesque in John Keats’s ‘Isabella, or the pot of Basil’ and 19<sup>th</sup> century painterly renderings of the poem”  
Małgorzata Łuczyńska-Hołodys (University of Warsaw)

“Eternity, interrupted: Coleridge, Baudelaire, and the imperial logic of laudanum”  
Edward Cutler (Brigham Young University)

**4B Extravagance and Restraint: Fashioning Gender**

Aula 7, Thursday, 9:30-11:00

*Moderator: Shannon Russell, John Cabot University*

“Style and satire: extravagant female fashions in nineteenth-century Argentina”  
Ines Corujo Martín (Georgetown University)

“Near mis(tres)ses: checking female sexuality in Victorian narrative”  
Katie Peel (University of North Carolina Wilmington)

“‘I must remain true to the faith that is in me’: measuring the impact of science on religion in the writing of Eliza Lynn Linton”  
Fiona Snailham (Greenwich University)

**4C Flowery Rhetoric: Gendered Aesthetics**

Aula 9, Thursday, 9:30-11:00

*Moderator: Sarah Artt, Edinburgh Napier University*

“Imitation of death – eros/thanatos in Edward Burne Jones’s appropriation of Botticelli’s *Primavera*”  
Elisa Korb (Misericordia University)

“‘Schismatic praise’ and excessive discourtesy in John Ruskin’s *Modern Painters*”  
Meghan Freeman (Manhattanville College)

“Arrested development: Michael Field’s amateur poetics”  
Benjamin Hudson (Rollins College)

**4D Word and Image: Measuring Sensory Overload in the Long Nineteenth Century**  
Aula 4, Thursday, 9:30-11:00  
*Moderator: Margueritte Murphy, Hobart & William Smith Colleges*

“The noisome nineteenth century”  
Aimée Boutin (Florida State University)

“Measuring ocular Flâneurism: the eye-witness of Baudelaire and Meryon’s memory sensorium”  
Lauren Weingarden (Florida State University)

“Prints and poetry: measuring and mitigating cultural trauma in Haussmann’s Paris”  
Jennifer Pride (Southern New Hampshire University)

**4E Operatic Decadence: Singers and Dancers**  
Aula 8, Thursday, 9:30-11:00  
*Moderator: Andrew King, Greenwich University*

“Overwrought and overweight: Italian opera singers in nineteenth-century culture”  
Anna Maria Barry (Royal College of Music Museum)

“Discipline and decadence: the paradox of the *Danseuse* at the Paris Opera”  
Madison Mainwaring (Yale University)

“Louis Véron and the performed excess of the Académie Royale de Musique, 1831-1835”  
Andrea Christmas (Northwestern University)

“Measure and excess in *Yanko le Bandit*: the gipsy dancer in nineteenth-century France”  
Amanda Lee (Colgate University)

**11:00-11:30 COFFEE BREAK**

**11:30-1:00 SESSION 5**

**5A The Measure of Excess: the Image of Italy in 19<sup>th</sup>-Century American Culture** (Organized by the  
*Interdepartmental Center for Italian American Studies, University of Macerata*)  
Aula 3, Thursday, 11:30-1:00  
*Moderator: Valerio Massimo De Angelis, University of Macerata*

“Race, religion, and the contradictions of identity: Frederick Douglass visits Rome in the wake of other Americans”  
Dorothy M. Figueira (University of Georgia)

“From caricature to character: echoes of Italy in Henry James”  
Fred L. Gardaphé (John D. Calandra Institute, City University of New York)

“Louisa May Alcott’s *Moods*: Italy, the Roman Republic, and sensational excess”  
Sabrina Vellucci (Roma Tre University)

“Disciplining excess: Nathaniel Hawthorne’s critique of rational science in ‘Rappaccini’s Daughter’”  
Valerio Massimo De Angelis (University of Macerata)

**5B Excessive Animals and Animals Excess**

Aula 4, Thursday, 11:30-1:00

*Moderator: Valerie Stevens, University of Kentucky*

“Centaur trouble: perils of horse power and embodied excess on nineteenth-century Euro-American stages”

Kim Marra (University of Iowa)

“Aping illness: visualizing excessive Simian subjects in experimental medicine”

Kathleen Pierce (Rutgers University)

“Excessive animals and crawling, clawing human-animal sympathy in *The Woman in White*”

Valerie Stevens (University of Kentucky)

“Weights, measures and excess in British horseracing”

Nancy Henry (University of Tennessee)

**5C Transforming Waste: Pollution and Purification**

Sala Conferenze, Thursday, 11:30-1:00

*Moderator: Abigail Mann, UNC – Pembroke*

“Energy, evolution, and excess”

Barri Gold (Muhlenberg College)

“Pores and purification: measuring character through the skin”

Ariane De Waal (University of Innsbruck)

“Manet’s ragpicker, aging and urban refuse”

Shira Gottlieb (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

**5D Controlled Exuberance**

Aula 6, Thursday, 11:30-1:00

*Moderator: Maria Paola Svampa, Columbia University*

“Paul Gauguin’s measurable exuberance”

Caroline Ferraris-Besso (Gettysburg College)

“Artistic control and the image of the artist as savage in Gauguin’s art and writings”

Claire Moran (Queen’s University, Belfast)

“A symbolist battle between the ephemera and corporeal: John White Alexander’s *Isabella and the Pot of Basil*”

Erika Schneider (Framingham State University)

“Ekphrasis and cultural mobility in Joanna Bailie’s *Lines to a Teapot*”

Aishah Al-Shatti (Kuwait University)

**5E The Measure of Colonialism**

Aula 7, Thursday, 11:30-1:00

*Moderator: Rebecca Butler, Nottingham Trent University*

“Mapping race and measuring difference: Thomas Huxley and racial discourse in late-Victorian Britain”

Thomas Prasch (Washburn University)

“Witnessing ethics as excess in Olive Schreiner’s *The Story of an African Farm*”  
Sari Carter (Vanderbilt University)

“Nature’s excess: Flora Annie Steel’s ecological conscience”  
Anna Despotopoulou (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)

**5F Experimental Forms and Measures**

Aula 9, Thursday, 11:30-1:00

*Moderator: Irmtraud Huber, University of Bern*

“Germs, gemmules, and other durational forms: Hardy and the color of heredity”  
Pearl Brilmyer (University of Pennsylvania)

“Forms and transformation in mathematics and literature”  
Imogen Forbes Macphail (University of California)

“The Victorian Intelligence test”  
Sarah Lyons (University of Kent)

“The Pendleton Act and the origins of modern intelligence”  
Michael Collins (University of Kent)

**1:00-2:30 LUNCH**

**2:30-4:00 SESSION 6**

**6A Melodramatic Excess II: Beyond Generic Boundaries**

Aula 4, Thursday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Shannon Russell, John Cabot University*

“‘Irreconcilable antagonisms’: race, class and nationalism in nautical melodrama”  
Ankhi Mukherjee (Oxford University)

“Melodramatic ‘excess’ and forms of ‘measure’ in Dickens”  
Carolyn Williams (Rutgers University)

“Melodrama, Dickens and the Broadway musical”  
Sharon Aronofsky Weltman (Louisiana State University)

“Metamodern melodrama”  
Juliet John (University of London-Royal Holloway)

**6B “Behold the Man!”: Masculine Excesses in Nineteenth-century Spain II**

Aula 3, Thursday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Sara Muñoz-Muriana, Dartmouth College*

“The problem with ‘doctors without borders’: excess and futurity in José Fernández Bremón’s ‘Un crimen científico’”  
Leigh Mercer (University of Washington)

“The guardians of excess: negotiating disease and discretion in XIX century Spain”  
Erika Sutherland (Muhlenberg College)

“Manufacturing the Catalan bourgeois: masculine containment and excess in Oller’s *La febre d’or* (“Gold Fever”) and Casas’ Portraiture”  
Nicholas Wolters (Wake Forest University)

**6C Imperial Measures**

Sala Conferenze, Thursday, 2:30-4:00  
*Moderator: Nancy Henry, University of Tennessee*

“Disgusting pleasures and imperial gothic”  
Pamela Gilbert (University of Florida)

“Eadweard Muybridge and the colonial limit”  
Robert Aguirre (Wayne State University)

“‘The living grave’: representing *Sati*”  
Nancy Rose Marshall (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

“Imperial excess and global ecology: the strange case of Robert Louis Stevenson”  
Luis McAuley (Washington State University)

**6D Beyond the Fitting Medium of Poetics**

Aula 7, Thursday, 2:30-4:00  
*Moderator: Maria Paola Svampa, Columbia University*

“Poetics, para(normal)texts: Kipling’s *Kim*, poetic excess, and the uncanny incursions of Victorian poetry”  
Tricia Lootens (University of Georgia)

“EBB’s negotiations with William Blake’s ‘excess’”  
Clare Broome-Saunders (University of Oxford)

“Rossetti’s ‘scanty measure’”  
Mina Gorji (University of Cambridge)

“Nuancing nuance: materiality, expression, and Walter Pater’s poetics”  
Atti Viragh (University of California, Berkeley)

**6E Pushing the Limits: New Cultural Forms**

Aula 6, Thursday, 2:30-4:00  
*Moderator: Jessica Jacquet, University of Montpellier 3*

“Edgar Allan Poe takes the measure of the mid-century urban mystery narratives”  
Sara Hackenberg (San Francisco State University)

“Melville’s mildness: on *Moby Dick*”  
Anne-Claire Le Reste (Paris Nanterre University)

“Audience excess and the ‘primitive’ birth of charisma”  
Tom Wright (University of Sussex)

“The antinomies of autonomy: transcending/negating the excess of individual agency in U.S. culture”  
Richard Hardack (University of California Berkeley)

**6F Moderate and Immoderate Exercise**

Aula 9, Thursday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Alessandra Grego, John Cabot University*

“Excessive education? Measuring female higher education’s power through the athletic academic”  
Laura Rotunno (Penn State Altoona)

“*Mens sana in corpore sano*: Émile Zola and Eugène Paz on literature and exercise”  
Carmen Mayer (University of Alabama)

“Vital energies: reading measure, excess, and gender in late Victorian mind-body practices”  
Narin Hassan (Georgia Tech)

**4:00-4:30 COFFEE BREAK**

**4:30-6:00 SESSION 7**

**7A Darwinian Forms, (Post)Darwinian Excesses**

Aula 4, Thursday, 4:30-6:00

*Moderator: Lynn Voskuil, University of Houston*

“Darwin’s ‘imagination’ and the form of evolutionary theory”  
Cannon Schmitt (University of Toronto)

“Out on a limb: biosemiotics and Darwinian species life in Hardy and Woolf”  
Sarah Winter (University of Connecticut)

“The time machine age: post-Darwinian outrages in scientific romances and prose fantasy”  
John Plotz (Brandeis University)

“Darwinian excesses”  
George Levine (Rutgers University)

**7B Controlling Dickens, Updating Brontë**

Aula 3, Thursday, 4:30-6:00

*Moderator: Sophia Jochem, Free University of Berlin*

“Narration, feeling, and excess: reading *Jane Eyre* in the ‘Me Too’ era”  
Deirdre D’Albertis (Bard College)

“‘Her habit of making the most of everything’: in appreciation of flat characters in Dickens’s *Dombey and Son*”  
Sophia Jochem (Free University of Berlin)

“‘Waterside characters’: portside dispossession and the creation of Enclosed wet-docks, pathologizing thieves, and the influence of Commons preservation within print culture in *Our Mutual Friend* (1864-65)”  
Lucy Morse (University of Exeter)

**7C Money Matters: Legal Limits and Capitalist Excess**

Aula 6, Thursday, 4:30-6:00

*Moderator: Frederik Van Dam, Radboud University*

“Managing capital’s excess: sustainability and the Victorian Posthuman”

Sarah C. Alexander (University of Vermont)

“The uses of extremes: from reactionary jeremiads to socialist satires”  
Frank Palmeri (University of Miami)

“Figuring the law of genre: advertising and consumer excess in Britain, 1850-1914”  
Anat Rosenberg (Radzyner School of Law)

“Aestheticism and the excesses of wealth: Jamesian concepts of marriage and art during the gilded age”  
Sharon Worley (University of Houston Downtown)

## **7D Staging Excess**

Aula 7, Thursday, 4:30-6:00

*Moderator: John McCourt, University of Macerata*

“Accumulating noise: voice and performance in Joseph Stirling Coyne’s *An Unprotected Female* (1850)”

Richard Pearson (National University of Ireland Galway)

“George Bernard Shaw’s 1896 critique of *The Prisoner of Zenda* (1894), and the evolution of ‘Ruritanian’ as a concept in literature, theatre, and film”

Frank Scheide (University of Arkansas)

“Sensation and feminine musical agency in Jessie Fothergill’s *The First Violin*”

Catherine Hobbs (University of California Berkeley)

“The Brontës’s juvenile excesses: play, precocity and regression”

Vanessa Smith (University of Sydney)

## **7E Artistic Constructions and Beyond**

Sala Conferenze, Thursday, 4:30-6:00

*Moderator: Laura Rotunno, Penn State Altoona*

“The construction of the gentleman artist in Victorian Britain”

Caroline Dakers (University of Arts London)

“Artists’ street and the proliferation of text and image: excess and illustration”

Mary L. Shannon (University of Roehampton, London)

“Piranesi’s views of Rome: map, index, hyperlink”

Jeanne Britton (University of South Carolina)

“How to fall in love with an image? The poetry of affective absorption versus aesthetic disinterestedness in the long nineteenth century”

Jolene Mathieson (University of Hamburg)

## **7F Freaking Science**

Aula 9, Thursday, 4:30-6:00

*Moderator: Valerio Massimo De Angelis, University of Macerata*

“Science and narrative excess in *Jekyll and Hyde*”

Renata Kobetts-Miller (City College of the City University NY)

“Excessively inhuman: heterogenesis and homunculi in Maugham’s *Magician*”



Rebecca Sheppard (University of British Columbia)

“‘Democracy and Diamonds’ in Victorian popular science”  
Anne Terrill (Rutgers University)

**7G Sensual Excess in the Victorian and Neo-Victorian Novel**

Aula 8, Thursday 4:30-6:00

*Moderator: Andrew King, Greenwich University*

“Ascetic excess and the starving male body in Elizabeth Gaskell’s *Mary Barton*”  
Charlotte Boyce (University of Portsmouth)

“Sculptural form and tactile excess in Henry James’s *Roderick Hudson*”  
Patricia Pulham (University of Surrey)

“‘If music be the food of love, play on’: soundscapes and affective sensoriality in Neo-Victorian fiction”  
Rosario Arias (University of Málaga)

“Picturing deviance in Neo-Victorian art: make it new (by making it old)”  
Saverio Tomaiuolo (University of Cassino)

**8:00-11:00 CONFERENCE DINNER, PALAZZO BRANCACCIO**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 15**

**9:00-6:00 REGISTRATION**

**9:30-11.00 SESSION 8**

**8A Bodies That Mean Too Much**

Aula 6, Friday, 9:30-11:00

*Moderator: Jennifer Camden, University of Indianapolis*

“‘I wasn’t a whore, I was a slut’: the mythicised sexuality of *La Goulue*”  
Will Visconti (University of Sydney and University of London)

“‘Voluptuous Rubens beauty’: sexuality, appetite and the excessive female body in the mid-Victorian novel”  
Clare Walker-Gore (University of Cambridge)

“Forming the Uranian: how late-Victorian novel attempts to explain the causes of male homosexuality”  
Matthew Kaiser (University of California, Merced)

“Re-measuring masculinity: the new vision for hegemony in *The Coming Race*”  
Michael Kramp (Lehigh University)

**8B Diagnosing the Body**

Sala Conferenze, Friday, 9:30-11:00

*Moderator: Mary Jean Corbett, Miami University*

“Fashionable illness: excess, medicine, and class in the silver fork novels”  
Abby Boucher (Aston University)

“‘Every portion of female figure is presented to view’: excessive anatomy, Victorian museums, and *The Law and the Lady*”  
Verity Burke (University of Reading)

“Touch, breakage and the hair jewellery of the Brontës”  
Heather Hind (University of Exeter)

“The intelligence of excess in *Pride and Prejudice*”  
Tatiana Jukić (University of Zagreb)

## **8C Financial Fantasies: Fictions of Capital**

Aula 4, Friday, 9:30-11:00

*Moderator: Silvana Colella, University of Macerata*

“Theorizing market volatility: Frank Norris’s *The Pit*”  
Carolyn Benack (Duke University)

“The political economy of novelistic prose”  
Trisha Banerjee (Harvard University)

“Catherine Gore’s *Pin-Money*: from silver-fork excess to Victorian measure”  
Luca Brezzo (University of Genoa)

“‘The business of life’: Henry James’s *The Portrait of a Lady* and the economy of desire”  
Frederik Van Dam (Radboud University Nijmegen)

## **8D Mastering Restraint, Extinguishing Excess**

Aula 8, Friday, 9:30-11:00

*Moderator: Tatiana Petrovich Njegosh, University of Macerata*

“A broken task for a broken world: reimagining extinction with Thoreau’s mystical empiricism”  
Rachael DeWitt (University of California Davis)

“Excessive bodies and power dynamics in *The Yellow Wallpaper*”  
Cristina Di Maio (University of Macerata)

“‘As we are completely masters, we may afford to be lenient’: balancing authority and liberty in Cooper’s *Red Rover*”  
Jessica Jacquel (University of Montpellier 3)

**11:00-11:30**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**11:30am-1:00pm**

**KEYNOTE TALK, Aula Magna**

**FRANCIS O’GORMAN** (University of Edinburgh)

“What would an excess of pleasure in reading mean?”

Introduction: Shannon Russell, John Cabot University

**1:00-2:30**

**LUNCH**

**2:30-4:00**

**SESSION 9**

**9A Extreme Paris**

Aula 3, Friday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Carmen Mayer, University of Alabama*

“Les Halles as a place of excess in Zola’s *Le ventre de Paris*”

Cyrielle Faivre (Providence College)

“The constraints of the city, the constraints of the text: spatial pressure in Émile Zola’s *Les Rougon-Macquart*”

Jordan Bessette (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

“Victor Hugo’s ‘spectral abstraction’: avant-garde art in excess of Romantic poetics”

Aurelia Cojocaru (University of California Berkeley)

“Literary Excesses of the Fictional French Nobility”

Olivier Tonnerre (US Military Academy)

**9B Buttoned Up and Loose: Performing Control**

Aula 6, Friday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Jennifer Camden, University of Indianapolis*

“The machinery of the law in Wilkie Collins’s *The Woman in White*”

Jennifer Camden (University of Indianapolis)

“The dilemma between measure and excess – and the clerk’s solution”

Daniel Jenkin-Smith (Aston University)

“‘The first well-dressed philosopher in the history of thought’: the dandy and philosophical excess in *An Ideal Husband*”

Marylu Hill (Villanova University)

“Universal sorrow? Mourning Queen Victoria”

Michael Ledger-Lomas (King’s College London)

**9C Pathologies of Excess**

Sala Conferenze, Friday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Helen Goodman, Royal Holloway and NYU*

“Unseen excesses: medical photography and artistic realism”

Corinna Wagner (University of Exeter)

“Measuring an uncontrollable mind: feminine melancholy and emotional excess in nineteenth-century British culture”

Anna Isbell (University of Iowa)

“19<sup>th</sup>-century psychiatry: measured control to immeasurable excess”

Douglas Page (Penn State Altoona)

“The everyday excess of the human unconscious: the somnambulist as model of Victorian subjectivity”

Rebecca Wigginton (Carnegie Mellon University)

**9D Multiplying Masculinities**

Aula 9, Friday, 2:30-4:00

*Moderator: Mariaconcetta Costantini, Pescara University*

“‘Enough to fill nine museums’: Darwinian fecundity, overpopulation, and death in Kingsley’s *Water-Babies*”

Paul Driskill (Tufts University)

“A comparative study of diverging duplicates: Guy de Maupassant, Robert Louis Stevenson and H. G. Wells”

Eloïse Sureau (Butler University)

“‘Fill up the blanks’: poetic ‘whelming in G.M. Hopkins’s ‘Epithalamion’”

Elizabeth Howard (University of Minnesota)

**4:00-4:30 COFFEE BREAK**

**4:30-6:00 SESSION 10**

**10A Proliferating Forms: Adaptation**

Sala Conferenze, Friday 4:30-6:00

*Moderator: Sara Hackenberg, San Francisco State University*

“Excessive silence and punctured quiet: *Lady Macbeth* (2016)”

Sarah Artt (Edinburgh Napier University)

“Why Oliver wants more: literary adaptations and/as excess”

Marty Gould (Brunel University and University of South Florida)

“The final problem: excessive remembering and forgetting in *Sherlock*”

Amy Billone (University of Tennessee)

“Felicien Rops’ *The Pornocrats*: from aesthetics to politics”

Angelo Capasso (La Sapienza University)

**10B Spanish Limits and Desires**

Aula 3, Friday 4:30-6:00

*Moderator: Sara Muñoz-Muriana, Dartmouth College*

“The excessive wish for empire: the impossibility of procreation between unfit men and barren women in *La Regenta* and *Fortunata y Jacinta*”

Marina Cuzovic-Severn (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

“Heavy luggage for such a short trip: Galdós and *El equipaje del rey José*”

Ana Rueda (University of Kentucky)

“The uncontainable abundance of Dickens’s London and Galdós’s Madrid”

Linda Willem (Butler University)

**10C Italian Vistas II**

Aula 8, Friday 4:30-6:00

*Moderator: Anthony Tamburri, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute*

“‘The Monstrosity of Excess: De Roberto’s *I Viceré*’”

Christina Carnemolla (Duke University)

“Marko Antun Vidović and his idea of tyrant: a desire of supreme authority”

Nikica Mihaljević and Gordana Galić Kakkonen (University of Split)

“Rewriting a cliché: Camillo Boito and Venice in *Storielle vane* (1891)”  
Marguerite Bordry (Paris-Sorbonne University)

“‘Our fair girl-boy’: queer decadence in Michael Field's imperial *Roman Trilogy*”  
Tara Thomas (University of California Santa Cruz)

**10D Exploring Boundaries**

Aula 9, Friday 4:30-6:00

*Moderator: Aiko Okamoto-Macphail, Indiana University*

“Death and the oriental excess: French travellers in Eastern Europe”  
Anca Mitroi Sprenger (Brigham Young University)

“‘Buried among the ruins’: fire, fever and death in Victorian images of Athens”  
Efterpi Mitsi (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)

“Measuring to exceed boundaries”  
Aiko Okamoto-Macphail (Indiana University)

“Seeing, exploring, knowing: the art of geology in New Granada”  
Alejandro Celeita (University of Southern California)

18:30 Conference Closing and Drinks Reception  
Roma Tre University