



Modernist Revolutions

Paradigms of the New and Circulations of the Word
in American Poetry

The purpose of this conference is to revisit poetic modernism and its vicissitudes throughout a century of writing. Indeed from the New York Armory Show and the publication, arranged from London by Ezra Pound, of the first Imagist poems in Chicago's *Poetry* magazine in 1913 to Rachel Blau DuPlessis's "surge into twenty-first century poetry and poetics," her latest installment in an open-ended 26-year project in 2013 (*Surge: Drafts 96-114*), the writing of innovative verse has gone through a bewildering sequence of movements, breaks, manifestoes and revolutions. To such an extent that one may wonder if the word revolution should not be understood literally, thus pointing to a global poetics spinning on itself at an angle, its inherent obliquity failing to prevent the perpetual return of the same, and the paradoxical establishment of a tradition of the new. Such debate about radical change is unavoidably haunted by Eugene Jolas and his "Revolution of the Word" *transition* issue of 1929, with his much-quoted essay fostering the literary craftsman's use of a dismantled syntax, along with his disintegration of pre-existing words and fashioning of a new, multilingual tongue—the literary means, in his view, for an intercontinental revolution. The participants will tackle the double bind of innovative writing, the transnational circulations of revolutionary claims, and the migratory forms of the new in American poetry from H.D. to DuPlessis.

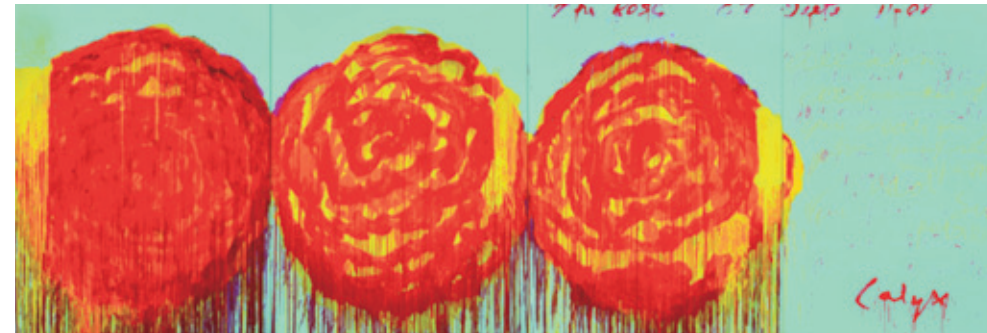
Keynotes

Rachel BLAU DUPLESSIS

Professor Emerita, Temple University, USA

Cristanne MILLER

SUNY Distinguished Professor, University at Buffalo, USA
Tocqueville-Fulbright Chair 2013-2014 at Paris Diderot



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16-17 January 2014

UNIVERSITÉ TOULOUSE II LE MIRAIL

Maison de la Recherche, Salle D 29

Keynotes

Rachel BLAU DUPLESSIS

Cristanne MILLER

Bilingual Poetry Reading

DICKINSON COLLEGE, TOULOUSE

16 January at 7 PM

Rachel BLAU DUPLESSIS

Abigail LANG

Elizabeth WILLIS

Organizer

Clément Oudart

(« Poétiques », CAS, UTM)
clement.oudart@univ-tlse2.fr



THURSDAY 16 JANUARY
2014

Université Toulouse II-Le Mirail, Maison de la Recherche (D29)

1.30 pm CONFERENCE OPENING by **Philippe BIRGY** (director of CAS—Cultures Anglo-Saxonnes), **Nathalie COCHOY** (director of « Poétiques », CAS, Axe 5) & **Clément OUDART** (conference organizer)

Chair : Nathalie Cochoy (Université Toulouse II-Le Mirail)

2 pm CONFERENCE KEYNOTE 1
Cristanne MILLER (SUNY Distinguished Professor, U. Buffalo/Tocqueville-Fulbright Chair 2013-2014 at Paris Diderot): *(Women Writing) The Modernist Line*

2.50 pm Questions/Debate

3 pm **Viorica PATEA** (U. Salamanca): *Eliot's Transgressions of the Individual Talent and Strategies of Renewal*

3.30 pm Coffee break

3.45 pm **Bart EECKHOUT** (U. Antwerp): *Hearing Wallace Stevens in Sylvia Plath*
4.15 pm **Nicholas MANNING** (U. Paris-Sorbonne): *The Sincerity of the Rear-Guard? Escaping the Sincere in Innovative American Poetics*

4.45 pm Questions/Debate

Dickinson College in France
40, rue du Japon, Toulouse

6.30 pm – 8.30 pm Cocktail, welcome speech by **Sylvie TOUX** (director of Dickinson College in France) & bilingual poetry reading featuring

- RACHEL BLAU DUPLESSIS
- ABIGAIL LANG
- ELIZABETH WILLIS

9 pm Conference dinner at La Brasserie des Beaux-Arts



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FRIDAY 17 JANUARY
2014

Université Toulouse II-Le Mirail, Maison de la Recherche

Chair: Clément Oudart (U. Toulouse II-Le Mirail)

10 am CONFERENCE KEYNOTE 2
Rachel BLAU DUPLESSIS (Prof. Emerita, Temple U.): *Long Poems in our Time: Numbers, Genres, Encounters—with emphasis on the work of H.D.*

10.50 am Questions/Debate

11 am **Hélène AJI** (U. Paris Ouest Nanterre): *Of Being Astonished: Rachel Blau DuPlessis and Lyn Hejinian's Anti-Dogmatic Statements*

11.30 am **Elizabeth WILLIS** (Wesleyan U.): *Everybody's Autodidacticism: American Counter-traditions and the Democratic Ideal*

12 am Questions/Debate

12.15 – 1.30 pm Lunch break (Buffet, D 28)

Chair: Philippe Birgy (U. Toulouse II-Le Mirail)

1.30 pm **Delphine RUMEAU** (U. Toulouse II-Le Mirail): *Geology and Genealogy in Eleni Sikelianos' California Poem: Make it New, Make it Epic!*

2 pm **Abigail LANG** (U. Paris Diderot): *The Ongoing French Reception of the Objectivists. Transatlantic Circulation and the Vicissitudes of the New*

2.30 pm **Xavier KALCK** (U. Paris-Sorbonne): *What the Reader New*

3 pm Questions/Debate

3.15 Coffee Break

Chair: Wendy Harding (U. Toulouse II-Le Mirail)

3.45 pm **Axel NESME** (U. Lyon 2): *The Sublime Object of H.D.'s Poetic Ideology*
4.15 pm **Isabelle ALFANDARY** (U. Sorbonne Nouvelle): *H.D.'s Tribute to Freud*

4.45 pm Questions/Debate

5 pm Conclusion