

(Un)Rest: Movement, Displacement, and Disorder

*Be together; eat, dance, despair,
Sleep, be threatened, endure.
You will know the way of that.*

—Louise Bogan, “Words for
Departure”

*There are places for chaos on the
page, meaningful, apparent
confusion*

—Stanley Moss, “Chaos”



Artistic products are cultural artifacts; language and symbols exist as methods of representing new feelings, ideas, and experiences. In turbulent and profound moments of history and personal experience, art and literature attempt to capture and retell the experiences of restlessness, feelings of movement, and reactions to disorder. The 2020 New Voices Graduate Conference invites submissions that consider concepts of *(un)rest*.

This year’s conference will be held February 7th-8th at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia. We invite proposals for papers, panels, roundtable discussions, workshops, creative writing, and multi-media art. Although priority will be given to proposals that address the conference theme, submissions involving a broad range of interests and concerns within the humanities are also welcome. Possible areas of inquiry include, but are not limited to:

- Archival & Museum Studies
- Ecocriticism
- Global & Indigenous Studies
- Identity & Personal Narratives
- Revisiting Historical Perspectives
- Social Activism & Movements
- Survival, Memory, Trauma
- Traveling & Transnationalism
- Movement of People Across Borders and Boundaries
- Diaspora
- Literacy and Literacies

Submissions close October 1, 2019. Submit an abstract of 200-300 words along with contact information, a short bio, and any A/V needs to the New Voices Planning Committee via our online form at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1wI3E3PIUuVenSUNCFwbQu0I7PNMj3IzTd1HEZv4Ad8/edit>. Presenters will be notified of acceptance via email by November 1, 2019. For more information about New Voices and this call for papers, please visit our website <http://sites.gsu.edu/new-voices/>.

Creative Writing:

Creative writers are welcome to submit for multiple sessions: conference presentations, workshops with a renowned author, and/or celebratory reading at the end of the conference. For conference presentations (including individual submissions or panel roundtables), creative writing sessions



can be focused on writing practices, craft and technique, editing, publishing, pedagogy, reading-as-a-writer, or other topics concerned with navigating the writing life.

For the creative writing workshops, we seek submissions of fiction, poems, and nonfiction related to topics of unrest, movement, and disorder. The manuscript can have multiple pieces, but all work must be complete and total >1000 words.

Submissions entered by the early deadline will be considered for the Most Outstanding Creative Writing Submission award, in which the winning writer will receive a one-on-one conference with our featured workshop leader. All others will participate in a group session with our featured writer(s).

All workshop writers are invited to read at the Creative Writing Reading on Saturday night. The remainder of the reading will be “open mic” for any other creative writers who participated in the conference. Please email Megan Clark (mclark67@gsu.edu) with specific questions or concerns regarding creative writing submissions.

Literary Studies:

Calvin Thomas writes in *Ten Lessons in Theory* that theory’s “actively negative dependence marks [its] radical affinity...with literature” and that we should consider “the very project of theory as unsettling” (17, 22-23). Seen in this way, literature takes settled or rested meanings as problems rather than givens, seeking to affirm new meaning through (un)rest. We welcome papers that explore the concept of (un)rest through texts that create or react to movement, displacement, or disorder. We encourage writers to disrupt or defamiliarize traditionally accepted narratives and perspectives on texts both historical and contemporary. Submissions might also consider how the concept of (un)rest can expand discourse of literary theory and ideology. For information on specific concerns about requirements or any other questions on Literary Studies submissions, please email Elisha at eschuett1@gsu.edu.

Rhetoric and Composition:

In *Rhetoric of Motives*, Kenneth Burke wrote “...with [identification] as instrument, we seek to mark off the areas of rhetoric, by showing how a rhetorical motive is often present where it is not usually recognized, or thought to belong” (qtd. in Bizzel & Hertzog 1324). When we confront what we identify with, often we can experience moments of (un)rest, perhaps understanding more deeply what and who we are as well as what and who we are not. Through this disruption/interruption of our internal and external narratives, we can engage with the rhetorical motives that we are not always able to recognize and thereby make changes, for both better and worse. We welcome proposals that interrogate the liminal spaces created along the fault lines of (un)rest. For information on specific concerns about requirements of any other questions on Rhetoric and Composition submissions, please email jgunn1@gsu.edu.

Multimedia Art

New Voices invites submissions that consider artistic expressions of (un)rest besides the written word such as music and sound, film, performance, drama, and visual arts. For more information on specific requirements or any other questions pertaining to multimedia submissions, please email Caitlin Creson at ccreson1@gsu.edu.

