

The Transatlantic Walt Whitman Association and the Walt Whitman Initiative are pleased to announce

The Twelfth Annual International Whitman Week Seminar and Symposium
New York University, New York City, USA
27 May – 1 June, 2019

Invitation for Applications to the 12th Transatlantic Walt Whitman Seminar

Founded in Paris in 2007, the Transatlantic Walt Whitman Association (TWWA) invites students, researchers, and Whitman enthusiasts to participate in its 12th annual Whitman Week. To celebrate Walt Whitman's 200th birthday on May 31, 2019, the TWWA will be held in association with the Walt Whitman Initiative in New York City, where for five days, participants will have the opportunity to enjoy world-class presentations, lively discussions, walking tours, and Whitman-centric performances and events at locations throughout Manhattan and Brooklyn. The week will feature a seminar for students interested in Whitman and Whitman's poetry, a symposium of international scholars and graduate students, and a pilgrimage to the Poet's Long Island birthplace on his birthday.

TWWA's Mission

Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* remains a landmark of modern poetry and world literature. Every year new editions of Whitman's work are published in a variety of languages; an ever-expanding group of poets "reply" to him in their own work; his poems are set to music and quoted in films; he is invoked in political, cultural, gender, and sexuality discussions; and he continues to maintain a substantial presence in college and university curricula globally. In response to this continuing phenomenon, TWWA sponsors a yearly International Whitman Seminar, during which students come together for an intensive, credit-bearing course taught by an international team of Whitman specialists (see <http://transatlanticwhitman.org>).

Seminar Structure

The seminar consists of five days, two of which offer opportunities for experiential learning through instructor-led tours and site visits throughout Whitman's Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Long Island. Three days of instruction will be held at NYU's Center for the Humanities, and include morning plenaries by each of the four international instructors, and afternoon small group sessions with more personalized instruction and student-led wrap-up discussions. The theme for this year's conference is "Walt Whitman's New York," and the materials of study will include the revolutionary first edition of *Leaves of Grass*, the provocative third edition (which includes the "Calamus" and "Enfans d'Adam" clusters), Whitman's antebellum journalism and juvenilia-- all of which were written while Whitman was resident in New York.

Faculty

Eric Conrad

Eric Conrad is a dean at Columbia Grammar & Preparatory School (New York, NY) whose Whitman scholarship has focused on the intersection of book design and literary promotion. He is a board member of the Walt Whitman Initiative, a former managing editor of the *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*, and a former assistant editor for the *Walt Whitman Archive*.

Sascha Pöhlmann

Sascha Pöhlmann is associate professor in American Literary History at LMU Munich, Germany. He is the author of *Future-Founding Poetry: Topographies of Beginnings from Whitman to the Twenty-First Century* (Rochester, NY: Camden House, 2015), and has written essays on Whitman's poetry and prose, as well as on their relation to Washington, D.C., Mark Z. Danielewski's novel *Only Revolutions*, and Cascadian Black Metal.

Lindsay Tuggle

Lindsay Tuggle is a poet and cross-genre writer based in Sydney, Australia. Her first book, *The Afterlives of Specimens*, uncovers the convergence of mourning rituals and anatomical investigations undertaken by the poet Walt Whitman and his medical and literary contemporaries to challenge divisions between science and spirit (University of Iowa Press's Whitman Series). Lindsay is currently a Research Associate at the Writing and Society Research Centre at Western Sydney University.

Edward Whitley

Edward Whitley is Associate Professor of English at Lehigh University. He is the author of *American Bards: Walt Whitman and Other Unlikely Candidates for National Poet* (North Carolina, 2010), and the co-editor of *Whitman among the Bohemians* (Iowa, 2014) and *Walt Whitman in Context* (Cambridge, 2018), both with Joanna Levin. He and Robert Weidman are the creators of the website *The Vault at Pfaff's: An Archive of Art and Literature by the Bohemians of Antebellum New York*.

Housing

International students will be housed with NYC-based students at no cost.

Applications for the Seminar

Applications for the seminar should include a curriculum vitae, a one-page statement of interest, and a letter of support from an instructor who knows the applicant well. All of these materials, including the letter of recommendation, should be submitted by e-mail to the organizers, Karen Karbiener (kk55@nyu.edu), Éric Athenot (athenot.eric@orange.fr) and Jesse Merandy (jesse.merandy@bgc.bard.edu) by December 15, 2018. If you have any questions about the International Whitman Week 2019, do not hesitate to contact the organizers at any time.

For more information, including the daily seminar schedule, please visit:

<http://waltwhitmaninitiative.org/international-whitman-week-2019/>

TU Dortmund University, Germany (2008) | Université François-Rabelais, Tours, France (2009)
Università degli Studi di Macerata, Italy (2010) | Universidade Estadual Paulista, Araquara, Brazil (2011)
Szczecin University, Poland (2012) | Northwestern University, Chicago, USA (2013)
Otto-Friedrich-University Bamberg, Germany (2014) | Ludwig-Maximilian-University in Munich, Germany (2015)
University of Exeter, England (2016) | Université Paris-Est Créteil, France (2017)
TU Dortmund University, Germany (2018)