

CALL FOR PAPERS
The Revolutionary Atlantic: Acts of Alienation and Sediton, 1780-1830

October 10-12, 2013

Université Paris-Sorbonne

A conference sponsored by the Charles Brockden Brown Society
(www.brockdenbrownsociety.ucf.edu)

250-word proposal deadline: Monday January 14 (Acceptances announced Monday February 18, 2013). Please send a proposal in Word.doc format to: Nicholas Miller [n.e.miller@wustl.edu]. For any questions, please contact: Philip Barnard at philipb@ku.edu

How does the Atlantic system with its literatures during the era of the American, French and Haitian revolutions speak to the present era? The conference theme emphasizes recent interest in the ways that the revolutionary era's geoculture registers shocks to and departures from the systemic logic of early modernity. The revolutionary Atlantic and emerging global world-system is full of weird, aberrant, or emergent cultural artifacts and performances, many of which do not fit into exceptionalist or nationalist literary and cultural narratives or canons. From our perspective today, what are the most salient aspects of the revolutionary age and its literatures? Do they resist canonization? Is "difference" something other than declension? The US novelist, essayist and editor Charles Brockden Brown is often associated with the gothic and critical perspectives on the period's dominant ideologies, but this ninth Brown Society meeting will encourage attention to a broad range of texts and practices beyond those associated with Brown and his writings alone. Likewise, we encourage relevant proposals that are interdisciplinary or that concern non-U.S. literatures.

The Revolutionary Atlantic will be the ninth biannual conference organized by the Brown Society. Our conference culture aims to create a space of egalitarian consideration free from career-oriented and competitive attitudes, a place for new work to blossom. In this light, we have no concurrent sessions, so that all may be heard by all. Because of time/space constraints, we may ask you to reframe your proposed talk as a brief (5-10 minute) presentation for inclusion within a roundtable format.

Possible topics include and are not limited to:

Weird literatures of the revolutionary age / Tyranny and its discontents / Radicalism and Conservatism in the period's literatures / Alternative feminisms / Politics of the Gothic and other narrative genres / Recovered Atlantic women writers / Revolutionary women / The British Godwin-Wollstonecraft circle and Anglophone "Jacobin" and "anti-Jacobin" writings / Representations and struggles of or in the Pacific / Weird domesticities and the counter-private / Medicine, the body and the weird: pus, vomit, semen, sweat, blood, tears / Reclaiming weird legacies: cultural afterlife(s) of the revolutionary era / Weird time and space: temporality, narrative, revolution / Weird sex-gender: narratives of transvestism and bodily revolution / Terror, conspiracy, paranoia, scapegoating as organizing tropes / "Savages", Indian-hating, Lusophobia / Racial revolution, slavery,

abolition / Weird dimensions of sentiment and sensibility; weird affect / Idiosyncrasies, madness, and mental “alienation”: psychology, demography, dysfunction / Weird religion, evangelicism, fanaticism / Ghosts, goblins, the satanic, spiritualism / The Caribbean in narratives of the Revolutionary Age / Abnormality as resistance to capitalist discipline / Weird commerce: speculation, forgery, theft / Genres and modes in periodical writing (serial essays, anecdotes, modes of reprinting, etc.) / Gothic from architecture to literature and politics / Revolutionary theater and performance / Aspects of revolutionary painting, visual culture, or music / Hermits, pirates, saints, and seers / Alternative histories or counter-factual tales / Imposture, fraud, hoax, and masquerade

Travel Support for Graduate Students:

Two travel awards of \$500 each for graduate student participation will be awarded, funded by the Brown Society. Criteria for these travel subventions will favor students at the dissertation stage (over those in earlier stages of degree work) and those who have not previously presented at a CBBS meeting. Graduate students applying for a subvention should indicate their interest in a cover letter and provide information about whether or not they are ABD.

<http://www.brockdenbrownsociety.ucf.edu>