

**Response Forum XVIII**  
**January 30, 2019**  
**Works-in-Progress Discussions**

**Information on Presenters and Their Topics:**

**Anna Nelson**

*Our Southern Homes: African American Representations of the South in the Postbellum United States, 1868-1903*

The project focuses on literary representations of the South written by African American authors after the Civil War through the early twentieth century and suggests that the idea of a Southern homeland fostered a sense of shared history and culture within the postbellum nation's Black community.

**Amín Pérez**

*Subverting the Empire's Thought from the Colony. The Role of the Humanities in a French Colonial War*

How do scholars coming from the different colonies meet for the same concern of reflecting on a postcolonial society under the fire of colonialism? This presentation traces an unknown transnational experience of scholars who meet and read each other during the Algerian Liberation War to account for a new scientific paradigm able to portray an emancipated humanity.

**Yanna Yannakakis**

*Native Contracts: Indigenous Custom and the Spanish Laws of Obligation in Eighteenth-Century Oaxaca, Mexico*

This project analyzes how native people braided together indigenous norms, Christianity, and Spanish law to produce their own legal jurisdiction in Oaxaca, Mexico, during the eighteenth century. Through cooperation and contestation with Spanish officials, priests, and native allies and rivals, indigenous authorities developed a repertoire of legal strategies with which to engage with rapid political and economic change, and establish a new social order.

**Lizzy LeRud**

*What the Age Demanded: The Poetry-Prose Debate in American Literature, 1825-2016*

This project uncovers the surprising intellectual history of a false dichotomy that quickly grew to govern the way we read, write, teach, and interpret literature today.

**Michael Peletz**

*Sharia Transformations: Cultural Politics and the Rebranding of an Islamic Judiciary*

This project draws on anthropological research spanning the period 1978-2018 to explore how the Southeast Asian nation of Malaysia, arguably the most economically successful Muslim-majority country in the world, has endeavored to rebrand, modernize, and expand its system of Islamic law so that it is more responsive to women's claims and otherwise more attuned to the concerns of the nation's citizens, Muslim and non-Muslim alike.

**Falguni Sheth**

*The Hijab and the Production of Acceptable Muslim Women*

Description Forthcoming

**Miriam Udel**

*No Grimmer than Grimm: Children's Literature and the Jewish 20th Century*

We tell our children stories for the world we hope to create. This was especially true of the idealistic, and often ideological, Yiddish authors and educators who began to write for children in the early decades of the twentieth century. This corpus of nearly a thousand stories, poems and plays has been largely overlooked by scholars, but it can open up a new window onto the global Jewish twentieth century.

**Corinna Zeltsman**

*Ink under the Fingernails: Printing and the Materiality of Politics in 19th-Century Mexico City*

Dr. Zeltsman's book manuscript examines how everyday practices and acute conflicts surrounding print production and consumption shaped Mexico's urban political culture and the contours of liberalism across the long nineteenth century.

**Rosemary Magee**

*Recombination: Stories at the Interstices*

Combining elements of prose and poetry, my genre bending project explores interconnected dimensions of art and science.

**Jenny Wang Medina**

*K-world: South Korea and the Creation of Global Korean Culture*

We will examine the development of national culture and cultural production in South Korea (hereafter Korea) that led to the creation of the Global Korea Brand as a national export from 1994-2014. The book is the first scholarly study of the relationships between the South Korean state, cultural producers, and international cultural institutions in the development of Korean culture in the post-division period that incorporates the "high" and "low" cultural mediums of literature, film, and television. Korea's instrumentalization of national culture as a product and symbol of its successful move from developing to developed nation harnessed the capabilities of its home-grown information culture to create a specifically South Korean image of "Global Korea."