

## Grad Stud Conf - Arresting the Flow (Evanston, April 2006)

Julia Ng

An Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference, April 14-15 2006

THE PROGRAM IN COMPARATIVE LITERARY STUDIES  
GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE  
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

[http://www.wcas.northwestern.edu/complit\\_arrestflow/](http://www.wcas.northwestern.edu/complit_arrestflow/)ARRESTING THE FLOW  
April 14-15, 2006

with keynote addresses by:

Bernhard Siegert

(Professor of History and Theory of Cultural Technologies,  
Bauhaus-Universität Weimar)

Jules Law

(Professor of English and Comparative Literary Studies,  
Northwestern University)

and response from:

Peter Fenves

(Joan and Sarepta Harrison Professor of Literature,  
Northwestern University)

call for papers:

"Arresting the Flow", the first annual graduate conference organized by Northwestern University's Program in Comparative Literary Studies, seeks to provide a platform for the formulation of a cohesive understanding of flow. The terms flow, flux, and fluid are ubiquitous in the history of Western thought-and its polemics. From Heraclitus to Plotinus, Augustine to Leibniz and Kant, Hölderlin to Heidegger, Benjamin to Deleuze and Derrida, flow has been variously defined: "fluid" have been the borders between self and other, "fluctuating" the "influences" of the uncontrollable and uncreated on organized space and time, "flowing" the conditions-and metaphors-of exchange and transmission, knowledge and self-consciousness, circulation and infection. One thing, though, has remained constant: that flow incorporates a concern for the overflowing of certain limits of being and experience, whether those be placed between man and God, mind and body, self and world, neurotransmitter and memory, eye and screen, place and journey. And yet, "flow" seems to demand

its own, conceptual arrest.

Fields as diverse as psychoanalysis, film and media studies, philosophy, theatre, religion, the history of science, geography, urban studies, law, political science, economics, literary studies, architecture and art history, among others, continue to be marked by the effects of flow.

themes:

Papers are invited to address, but are not limited to, topics such as:

The ebb and flow of thought

Flow and interruption

Flow at the source of permanence

Flow as negativity

Flow and the concepts of home and shelter

Rivers and bends, streams and eddies

Autoimmunity, law and politics

Volition, flow, resistance

Circulation(s)

Currents

Modeling flow and the impact on design

"Flow" as a paradigm of social theory

The metaphor of flow

Rethinking "influence": local, national, global, cross-disciplinary

Fluencies

Temporal flow and perception

Wandering, migration, and the production of space

Liquid space

Political states and states of flux

"Uneven flow" and the transgression of borders

"Total flow", streaming, and the subject of media

Landscape, fluidity and viscosity

Body fluids at the crossroads of the histories of

medicine, religion, literature

Fluidity of identity and concept: race/gender/ethnicity, genre/form/structure

submission guidelines:

The primary language of the conference is English. Presentations should last roughly 20 minutes. Please send an abstract of 250-300 words as a Word attachment to Julia Ng (j-ng@northwestern.edu). On a separate cover page please list the proposed title, author's name, affiliation, brief biographical statement focusing on academic work (approx. 100 words) and contact information. Please indicate if you will require technological support (overhead, slide projector, etc.). Deadline for submissions is December 1, 2005.

ArtHist.net

for more information:

Please visit [http://www.wcas.northwestern.edu/complit\\_arrestflow/](http://www.wcas.northwestern.edu/complit_arrestflow/)  
for continually updated information on the conference.

organized by:

Joel Morris, Julia Ng, Dan Nolan and Paul North

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