

**The Cormac McCarthy Society Conference 2009**

**June 28<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup> 2009**

**The CAPITAL Centre, University of Warwick**

***Programme of Events***

**Sunday**

6pm Wine reception CAPITAL Foyer

**Monday**

9.30 Welcome (**Nick Monk, Rick Wallach**)

10-11.15 Panel (3 papers)

Revisiting the *Oeuvre* – Chair: **Shane Schimpf**

**Jan Nordby Gretlund** “McCarthy and the American Literary Tradition”

**Erica Steakley** “The Universal Prophet of Destruction Figure in McCarthy’s Fiction”

**Phil Snyder** “Cormac McCarthy’s Sense of Hospitality”

11.15-11.30 Coffee

11.30-12.45 Panel (3 papers)

Genre – Chair: **Rick Wallach**

**Scott Chancellor** “Dismantling and Remantling the Western: *Blood Meridian* and *All the Pretty Horses*”

**Ciaran Dowd** “A Novel in Dramatic Form” – Metaphysical Tension in *The Sunset Limited*”

**Dianne Luce** “The Painter’s Eye: Waterscapes in *The Road*”

12.45-1.30 Lunch

1.30-2.45 Panel (3 papers)

Intertextuality – Chair: **Yvonne-Marie Rogez**

**John Ferer** "From Blue to Blood: The Influence of Jean Toomer's *Blue Meridian* on Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian*"

**Michael Madsen** "The (Un)familiar Necrophile: Reading Freud's 'The Uncanny' in Cormac McCarthy's *Child of God*"

**Euan Gallivan** "Cold Dimensions, Little Worlds: Self, Death and Motion in *Suttree* and Beckett's *Murphy*.)

2.45-3pm Coffee

3pm-close

**Peter Josyph**

CORMAC MCCARTHY'S HOUSE

For over a decade, author/artist Peter Josyph has grappled with the theme of Cormac McCarthy's house in El Paso, Texas, where McCarthy produced some of his most compelling works, including *Blood Meridian* and *All the Pretty Horses*. In painting, in film, and in a forthcoming book called *Cormac McCarthy's House*, Josyph has treated McCarthy's house as the representative image of a great American poet and of the complexity of the artist's life in America. In conjunction with the exhibition currently at the Capital Centre, Josyph will be reading from his new book, which is a celebration of, and meditation on, the adventure of taking another artist's life and work as a motif for one's own.

**Tuesday**

9.45 – 11.15 Panel (4 papers)

Language and Linguistics – Chair: **Dianne Luce**

**Delys Synder** "Hierarchy and Community: A Linguistic Analysis of the Reigning Female in McCarthy's *All the Pretty Horses*"

**James Vanden Bosch** "Diction, Grammar, and Free Indirect Style in Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*"

**Anthony Warde** "'Whatever form you spoke of you were right': Multivalence and Ambiguous Address in *The Road*"

**Yvonne-Marie Rogez** "Lo the thing's inside: Cormac McCarthy's Empty Signifiers from *The Orchard Keeper* to *Blood Meridian*"

11.15-11.30 Coffee

11.30-12.45pm Panel (3 papers)

Film – Chair: **David Holloway**

**John Cant** “The Silent Sheriff: *No Country for Old Men* –A Comparison of Novel and Film”

**Julie Assouly** “*No Country for Old Men* (2008): the Shadow of the Spaghetti Western”

**Rick Wallach** “The Dialogue of Intertextuality: *No Country for Old Men* as Fictional and Cinematic Text”

12.45pm-1.45 Lunch

1.45-2.45 Facilitated Seminar Discussion

**Tim Green** “‘The Shore of a Void’”: Scrutinizing McCarthy’s Moral Imagination. A discussion of Cormac McCarthy’s “moral imagination,” especially as it manifests (or not) in *Blood Meridian* and *The Road*.

2.45-3.15 Coffee

3.15-Close Performance

**Sunset Limited.**

Rehearsed reading directed by Tom Cornford of the Globe Theatre and the University of Warwick. The performance will feature professional actors and will be the first in the UK. Tom and the actors will take questions after the performance.

**Wednesday**

10-11.15 Panel (3 papers)

The Road – Chair: **John Cant**

**Pierre Lagayette** “The Road Not Taken: Randomness and Choice in McCarthy’s *No Country for Old Men* and *The Road*”

**Carole Juge** “Crossing the Road Beyond Darkness: Transcending Romantic Heroism in McCarthy’s *The Crossing* and *The Road*”

**Chris Walsh** “‘They studied the pieces of map but he’d little notion of where they were’: Cartography and Ethical Mapmaking in *The Road*”

11.15-11.45 Coffee

11.45-12.45 Theory Building

**Nick Monk:** “The American Southwest”. Please note that this is an interactive session.

12.45-1.30 Lunch

1.30-2.15 Panel (2 papers)

*Nationalism and the Future 1* – Chair: **Peter Josyph**

**Tony Harrison** The Exhaustion of the Myth of the West in *The Road* and *No Country for Old Men*”

**Sarah MacLachlan** “‘There’s days I’m in favour of givin’ the whole damn place back to em’: Violence, Mexico and the Allegorical Impulse in Cormac McCarthy’s *No Country For Old Men*”

**Jim O’Sullivan** “Mapping Oblivion in *The Road*: America’s Last Adam and the End of American Exceptionalism”

2.45-3 Coffee

3pm-4.15 Panel (3 papers)

*Nationalism and the Future 2* Chair: **Rick Wallach**

**David Holloway** “Reading *The Road* and *No Country for Old Men* as ‘9/11 novels’”

**Susan Hawkins** “‘Everything uncoupled from its shoring’”: Navigating the Late World in Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*”

**Mohammed Sharafuddin.** “The Spiritual End of *The Road*.”

4.15 **Closing remarks**

7.30 Conference Banquet