The John Steinbeck Society of America presents

Steinbeck and the Politics of Crisis:
Ethics, Society, and Ecology

May 1-3, 2013
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Library
San José State University

Sponsored by the
Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies
Keynote Speaker
Mimi Gladstein, University of Texas, El Paso

Conference Director
Nicholas P. Taylor, Director,
Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies

Conference Steering Committee
Tom Barden, University of Toledo
Mary M. Brown, Indiana Wesleyan University
Danica Čerče, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
Paul Douglass, San Jose State University
Barbara Heavilin, Professor Emeritus, Taylor University
Luchen Li, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Wednesday, May 1

11:00AM - 12:00PM | CHECK-IN
Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor

12:00PM - 1:00PM | BUFFET LUNCH
Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor

1:15PM - 2:30PM | WELCOME AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Welcome
Nicholas P. Taylor
Director, Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies
San José State University

Keynote Address
Mimi R. Gladstein
Professor of English and Theatre Arts
University of Texas at El Paso
Outgoing President, John Steinbeck Society of America

2:45PM - 4:00PM (Concurrent Sessions)
THE MORAL PHILOSOPHY OF WINTER
Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Barbara A. Heavilin
Professor Emeritus, Taylor University
“To the other side of home where the lights are given’: Ethan Allen Hawley’s Search for Meaning in Steinbeck’s The Winter of Our Discontent”

Joseph Allegretti
Siena College
“Why Ethan Hawley Does Such Bad Things: Morals and Moral Traps”
Note: This paper will be presented in absentia.

Richard E. Hart
Bloomfield College
“The Winter of Our Discontent and Moral Progress”
THE FEMALE SPACE
MLK Library Rooms 225/229

Maygan Barker
Brigham Young University Idaho
“Cathy and the Choices Made in Eden”

David Hartwig
University of Toledo
“Conflict and Education in ‘The Chrysanthemums’”

Julianna Restivo
University of Toledo
“Crisis of the Female Body: Childbirth and the Environment in Steinbeck’s The Grapes of Wrath”

4:15PM - 5:30PM (CONCURRENT SESSIONS)
REPORTS FROM OVERSEAS
Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Danica Čerče
University of Ljubljana
“On Steinbeck’s Critical Fortunes in Eastern Europe”

Luchen Li
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
“Steinbeck’s Engagement with U.S. and International Governments”

Kiyoshi Yamauchi
Niimi College
“Burning Bright was burning bright in Japan”

MAVERICKS MARRIED: CAROL AND JOHN STEINBECK
MLK Library Rooms 225/229

Susan Shillinglaw
San José State University
“Presenting a New Biography of Carol and John Steinbeck”
5:30PM - 7:00PM | DINNER (ON YOUR OWN)

7:30PM - 9:00PM | STEINBECK FELLOWS READING
Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor

Join us for a reading of new fiction by the 2012-2013 Steinbeck Fellows. These fellowships are awarded annually by the Center for Steinbeck Studies to emerging writers of exceptional promise. This event is free and open to the public.

L. Rebecca Harris
Ms. Harris is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of San Francisco, where she earned a Master of Arts in Writing. She was an original member of WritersCorps, a unit of Americorps, the domestic Peace Corps program established by President Clinton. Through WritersCorps, she worked on several creative-writing projects with young people throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. She has taught English and Creative Writing to middle school, high school and community college students. Currently, she is a community college English instructor. She lives in Oakland, California.

Marian Palaia
Ms. Palaia received her MFA in 2012 from The University of Wisconsin at Madison, where she was the prose editor for Devil’s Lake. She also holds an MA in Creative Writing from San Francisco State. She was nominated for a 2010 AWP Intro Award, has received a Seattle Arts Council Individual Artists Award, has had stories published in Passages North and River Oak Review, and has twice been a Glimmer Train Fiction Award finalist. Marian is currently working on a novel, a collection of short stories, and a collection of non-fiction pieces, which are not necessarily about dogs, but do feature some. She and her dog Tupelo grew up together in Missoula, Montana.
Thursday, May 2

9:00AM - 9:30AM | COFFEE RECEPTION
Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor

9:30AM - 10:45AM (CONCURRENT SESSIONS)
FRESH CRITICAL APPROACHES
Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Tom Barden
University of Toledo
“He Was Translated: Euhemerism in the works and worldview of John Steinbeck”

Mukta Mahajan
North Maharashtra University, India
“Novelist as Philosopher: An Oriental Appreciation of Steinbeck”

Ryder W. Miller
Independent Scholar
“John Steinbeck, Spaceship Earth Cosmonaut”

JOHN STEINBECK, ECO-CRITIC
MLK Library Rooms 225/229

Elisabeth Bayley
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
“An Ecocritical Analysis of John Steinbeck’s To a God Unknown”

Zach Fishel
University of Toledo
“To a Man Unknown: Steinbeck and Metaphysical Responses to Land Crisis”

Dr. SD Palwekar
Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur, India
“Ecoconsciousness in Select Works of John Steinbeck”

11:00AM - 12:15PM (CONCURRENT SESSIONS)
A CATALOGUE OF STEINBECK ARCHIVISTS
Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Herb Behrens
National Steinbeck Center, Salinas
...he comes bucking over

JOHN STEINBECK, who writes with equal facility of Men and Men of Cannery Row, and named East of Eden, learned about them and his pharmacy by doing the paunchy work of a harness hand in California's Salinas Valley. There the heat waves shimmer across each acre as the one shown here in Thomas Hart Benton's fine watercolor and that is intimately known.
the stubble in a jeep...

writes JOHN STEINBECK, famous novelist

JOHN STEINBECK

The sun is straight overhead. There isn't enough shade to fit under a dog. The threshing machine clanks in a cloud of choking yellow chaff-dust. You wear a handkerchief over your nose and mouth, but your throat aches and your lips are cracking. Your shirt is black with sweat, and inside you're dry as the Los Angeles River. The water in the barrel tastes like chaff. It only makes you thirstier.

Let's say the boss is a man of sense and humanity. When the machine stops for lunch, he comes bucking over the stubble in a jeep, and on the back seat is a wash boiler of crushed ice and bottles of Ballantine Ale. A boss will never lack for thirsting hands.

Well, first you take a big swallow to cut the crust, and suddenly you can taste again. Then you let cold Ballantine Ale roll into your parched throat like spring rain on the desert. Smooth malt and hops pull together against heat and dust and weariness. That's the biggest thirst I know, and the best antidote.

more people like it...more people buy it...than any other ale...by Four to One

BALLANTINE ALE
Dennis Copeland  
Monterey Public Library  

Donald Kohrs  
Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University  

John Straw  
Ball State University  
Note: The material presented by Mr. Straw, who could not attend the conference, will be photocopied and distributed to the audience.  

Peter Van Coutren  
Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies  
San José State University  

PUSHING THE BOUNDARIES OF GENRE  
MLK Library Rooms 225/229  

Katie Karnehm  
Indiana Wesleyan University  
“And Still the Box Is Not Full’: Creative Nonfiction and Redemption in Steinbeck”  

Ryder W. Miller  
Independent Scholar  
“John Steinbeck and Genre Fiction”  

Zeke Saber  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
“Authentically Distant? A Study of John Steinbeck”  

12:00PM - 1:00PM | BUFFET LUNCH  
Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor  

1:15PM - 2:30PM (CONCURRENT SESSIONS)  
MAN AND MACHINE  
Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor  

Laura DeLucia  
University of Toledo  
“Reading the Signs on Route 66: Positioning Steinbeck’s Automobiles”
Renata Lucena Dalmaso  
Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina / University of Michigan  
“‘Modern Monsters,’ Old Habits: Relationships Between Nature, Humans, and Technology in John Steinbeck’s *The Grapes of Wrath*”

**PERSPECTIVES ON THE PEARL**  
*MLK Library Rooms 225/229*

Kamlakar K Askar  
Dhanwate National College, Nagpur University, Nagpur, India  
“Steinbeck’s *The Pearl*: A Saga of the Pauper”

Ed Sams  
San José State University  
“Steinbeck’s Haunted Tree: Two versions of *The Pearl*”

Shane Wood  
La Sierra University  
“The Pearl, the Payoff, and the Repercussion: An Analysis of Quickly Obtained Wealth and its Ramifications in Steinbeck’s *The Pearl* and Collins’ *The Hunger Games*”

**2:45PM - 4:00PM (CONCURRENT SESSIONS)**  
**STEINBECK AND RACE IN AMERICA**  
*Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor*

Alicia Contreras  
University of California, Riverside  
“The Troubled Southwest: Regionalist Imperatives in John Steinbeck’s *The Grapes of Wrath* and Américo Paredes’s *George Washington Gómez*”

Jason A. Harvey  
Central Michigan University  
“Traveling Inequality: Race Relations’ Plight Blights an Esteemed Career”

Kotaro Nakagaki  
Daito Bunka University, Japan, and Chief Director, The John Steinbeck Society of Japan  
“Imagining the American Eden: Searching for the Origins of *America and Americans*”
STEINBECK AND THE HUMAN ANIMAL
MLK Library Rooms 225/229

Zhang Changsong
Concord University College, Fujian Normal University
“Steinbeck’s Biological View of Man”

Barnaby McLaughlin
University of Rhode Island
“Poodles Maketh the Man: Companion Species and American Identity in John Steinbeck’s *Travels With Charley*”

Maria Roxana Murgulet
University of Craiova, Romania
“Morality - the Outcome of Evolutionary Mechanisms in John Steinbeck’s Writing”

Note: This paper will be presented in absentia.

4:15PM - 5:30PM (CONCURRENT SESSIONS)
NEW ECONOMIC APPROACHES
Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Jose Atil
La Sierra University
“The Grief and Pain of Mice and Men: Regio-ecomarxism in the Shadow of the Salinas Valley of Death”

Jeffrey Yeager
West Virginia University
“Waiting for Lefty: Re-Reading *In Dubious Battle* through the Lens of Clifford Odets”

TRACING INFLUENCES
MLK Library Rooms 225/229

Jerry Entze
University of Portland
“The Winning of Tom Joad: Examining the Harold Bell Wright/John Steinbeck Connection”

Jamie Renda
The University of Toledo
“Of Mice and Men and Monsters: Steinbeck’s Beowulf Gloss”
Friday, May 3

9:00AM - 9:30AM | COFFEE RECEPTION
Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor

9:30AM - 10:45AM (CONCURRENT SESSIONS)
EUGENICS, DISABILITY, AND THE COURTS
Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

**Kevin Hearle**
Independent Scholar
“‘I wouldn’ tell nobody what happened’: Tom Joad and McAlester Prison”

**Kathleen Hicks**
Arizona State University
“The Negative Impact of the Lennie Small Figure on Americans’ Perceptions of People with Developmental Delays”

**Yuji Kami**
Soka University, Tokyo, Japan
“Steinbeck’s Naturalistic Creed: Focusing on Of Mice and Men”

**PASTURES OF HEAVEN**
MLK Library Rooms 225/229

**Paul S. Allison**
Indiana Wesleyan University
“The Pastures of Heaven: A Novel Collision of Stories”

**Mary M. Brown**
Indiana Wesleyan University
“To Read a Fine Thing: An Ekphrastic Response to Steinbeck”

**Alesya Petty**
San José State University
“Problems of Steinbeck’s Poetics: Polyphony, Harmony, and Dissonance in The Pastures of Heaven” (Winner of Louis Owens Essay Prize)
11:00AM - 12:15PM (CONCURRENT SESSIONS)

VIOLENCE AND WAR REPORTING
Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

John J. Han and Aya Kubota
Missouri Baptist University (USA) and
Bunka Gakuen University (Japan), respectively
“Repulsed and Fascinated: Steinbeck’s Ambivalent Representation of Violence”

Felicia M Preece
University of Toledo
“Front Lines to Front Pages: the by-lines of John Steinbeck
and Ernest Hemingway”

ON CANNERY ROW
MLK Library Rooms 225/229

Micah Levi Conkling
West Virginia University
“‘Half Christ and Half Satyr’: Seeing the Postsecular in Cannery Row”

Bill Lancaster
Texas A&M - Commerce
“The Inverted Economy of Steinbeck’s Cannery Row Ecology”

James Lethbridge
Bloomfield College
“Humanity Reflected in a Tide Pool: Steinbeck, Cannery Row, and Pre-Socratic
Philosophy”

12:00PM - 1:00PM | BUFFET LUNCH
Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor

2:00PM | DEPARTURE FOR STEINBECK FESTIVAL IN SALINAS (OPTIONAL)
Acknowledgements

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