



Bearing Untold Stories: A hybrid Symposium

Final Programme

Tuesday 31st May, LUMS West Pavilion, LT17

Arrival & Registration, 8:30-9:00am

English Literature
and Creative Writing

Lancaster
University



Forgotten Public Records

9.00am

The Untold Stories of Female Reformers

Chair: Professor Sharon Ruston
Head of English and Creative Writing
Lancaster University

“Ellinor Isabella Black and the transformation of early twentieth-century British social welfare”

Michael Lambert
Postdoctoral Fellow in Social Inequalities
Lancaster University

‘Writing the mining strike’: The Testimonial Poetry of Jean Gittings

Jodie Walker
Doctoral Candidate in Creative Writing
Lancaster University

**“The Progressive Qajar Princess:
A Study of Taj al-Saltaneh’s Memoir;
Crowning Anguish:**

Memoirs of a Persian Princess from the Harem to Modernity.
Raha Athari
Doctoral Candidate in English Literature
Lancaster University

Seeing the Untold Story

10.00am

Forgotten Artists and Models

Chair: Dr Andrew Tate
Reader in Literature Religion and Aesthetics
Lancaster University

“Reclaiming the bodies of Ana Medieta”

Lottie Green
Undergraduate in English and Creative Writing
Lancaster University

“Decolonising Sculpture, Princess Gouramma of Coorg’s Enduring Bust”

Izabella Gill-Brown
Doctoral Candidate in History of Art
University of York

“The Forgotten Muse: Picturing Fanny Eaton, Pre-Raphaelite Model”

Bronte Crawford
MA Student in English Literary Studies
Lancaster University

11.00am Tea Break

Liminal Untold Stories

11:30am

Writing Between the Creative and Critical

Chair: Professor John Schad
Lancaster University

“British Muslim Converts on the Page: Re-reading Edith Miriam Spray within Modernist Literature.”

Sameeya Maqbool
Doctoral Candidate in English Literature
Lancaster University

“Always Emily: An Historical Novel about the Probably Life of a Forgotten Women.”

Louise Ashton
Doctoral Candidate in Creative Writing
Lancaster University

12:15pm Lunch

The Untold Stories of Icons

1:30pm

Feminizing the forgotten archive

Chair: Dr Brian Baker
Senior Lecturer in English and Creative Writing
Lancaster University

**“I think it is isn’t exactly the thing you wanted”:
Recovering May Alcott Nieriker in the classroom and academy**

Azelina Flint
Lecturer in Nineteenth Century Literature: English and Creative Writing
Lancaster University

“‘All the shades’: The Forgotten Art of Sylvia Plath”

Sophie Harrison
Undergraduate in English & Creative Writing
Lancaster University

“Self-Making in the Archives with Margaret C. Anderson”

Krista Quesenberry
Assistant Professor of English,
Albion College

Writing forgotten women

2:30pm

Bearing the untold stories of iconoclasts

Chair: Dr Sarah Corbett
Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing
Lancaster University

“The Forgotten Lives of Pirate Women: A Historical Novel of Anne Bonny”

Sage Mitchell-Sparke
MA Student in Creative Writing
Lancaster University

“Yet some of you think I hear to call/Me by my name”:

Recalling Emilia Bassano

Margot Lubiner
Undergraduate in Creative Writing
Lancaster University

“Lost and Found: Searching and Restoring the Life Story of Mary Sherman Morgan, America’s First Female Rocket Scientist”

George Morgan
Doctoral Candidate in Visual & Performing Arts
University of Texas

3:30pm Tea Break

In the shadow of icons

4:00pm

Untold stories of the Alcott women and their circle

(panel in association with the Louisa May Alcott Society)

Chair: Dr Azelina Flint
Lecturer in Nineteenth-Century Literature:
English and Creative Writing
Lancaster University

“Woman in Search of the Sublime: May Alcott Nieriker”

Lauren Hehmeyer
Independent Researcher

“Our angel in the house:” The deeper meaning of Elizabeth Sewall Alcott’s terminal illness and why it matters today

Susan Hoyle Bailey
Independent Researcher

“Finding the Lukens Sisters: tracing the lives of five Little Women”

Jill Fuller
Independent Researcher

Recovering Nationalist Icons

5.00pm

The untold stories of women who wrote the nation

Chair: Dr Zoe Lambert
Lecturer in Creative Writing
Lancaster University

“Recovering the Life and Works of Frieda Cassin, the First Antiguan Novelist”

Abigayle Claggett
Doctoral Candidate in English Literature
Texas Christian University

“Las sinsombrero (“The hatless ones”): the story of two exiles”

Paula Picher Galiana
Undergraduate in English & Creative Writing
Lancaster University

6.00pm Finish

7:30pm Informal Dinner

Wednesday 1st June

10:30am
Breakfast/registration

Bearing Untold Stories from the Archive

11.00am
Rereading Women's Literary Ephemera

Chair: Dr Eleanor Bird
Research Associate/Postdoctoral Fellow
Lancaster University

**“Everything she never told:
rediscovering the life and work of Eva Frankfurter”**
Penny Simpson
Visiting Fellow in Creative Writing & Practice-based Research,
University of Essex

**“When I think and feel the most, I say the least’:
The Importance of Charlotte Fortens’ ‘Daybook’”**
Kiefer Holland
Doctoral Candidate in English Literature
University of Edinburgh

**“Paper Boats and Research Notes: Re-evaluating the
Autobiography of E.M. Butler”**
Lucy Rogers
University of Cambridge

Reimagining Untold Stories

12.00pm
Meeting forgotten women in the classroom and archive

Chair: Annette Lawrence
Metadata and Collections Librarian,
Lancaster University

**“Getting it on the Record: Expanding the Representation of Women Dancers
in SNAC (Social Networks and Archival Context)”**
Helice Koffler
Cataloguing and Metadata Associate Librarian
Thomas J. Watson Library, Metropolitan Museum of Art.

**“‘Forgotten No More’: A Pedagogical Approach to Resurrecting Women’s
Voices and Decolonizing the Humanities Curriculum”**
Riya Das
Assistant Professor of English (British/World Literature)
Prairie View A&M University Texas

12:45pm Tea Break

Beyond the Canon

1.00pm Forgotten women who resist classification

Chair: Dr Nancy Kang
Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies
University of Manitoba

“The Arab Intellectual as a Woman: The Writings of Ghada Samman”
Layla Al-Ammar
Doctoral Candidate in English & Creative Writing
Lancaster University

“‘They love women’: The Queer City and Radical Poetics of Hope Mirrlees”
James Carmichael-Davis
Doctoral Candidate in English
Lancaster University

**“Better Off Alone? Ambivalence and Community in the
WPA Witch Narratives of New Mexico”**
Nancy Kang
Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies
University of Manitoba About the Delegates

About the Delegates

Azelina Flint **azelinajoan@gmail.com**

Azelina is a Lecturer in Nineteenth-Century Literature and Creative Writing at Lancaster University and the lead organiser of the “Bearing Untold Stories” symposium. Her research concerns the recovery of understudied British and American women, and the connection between their religious faith, feminist advocacy and artistic practice.

Her first book, *The Matrilineal Heritage of Louisa May Alcott and Christina Rossetti* (2021), recovers the influence of the authors’ mystical experiences, and those of their mothers and sisters, on their life-writing and published work. Her recently published co-edited collection, *The Forgotten Alcott* (May 2022), recovers the life and works of May Alcott Nieriker: a trailblazing Abolitionist portraitist, experimental travel writer, pioneering Curator, and celebrated Turner copyist, who also happened to be Louisa May Alcott’s sister.

Azelina has published a range of peer-reviewed articles in the fields of American and Victorian Studies and is also a published poet.

Michael Lambert **m.lambert3@lancaster.ac.uk**

Michael is a Fellow in Social Inequalities in the Sociology Department at Lancaster University He will shortly be leaving to take up a role as Research Fellow at the University of Birmingham. He has previously held post-doctoral positions at the University of Liverpool and Liverpool Hope University

His work offers a social history of social policies in twentieth century Britain and its Empire, centred primarily on Liverpool and North West England, and their global connections. He has been involved in the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry exploring child migration practices and policies, and the Joint Committee of Human Rights Inquiry concerning the forcible adoption of children of unmarried mothers from the 1940s to the 1970s. His first monograph, *Managing decline: governing the NHS in Liverpool, 1978-96* is due to be published by Liverpool University Press in 2023.

Jodie Walker **j.walker19@lancaster.ac.uk**

Jodie is a second year PhD student in English at Lancaster University Her project focuses on four watershed moments in recent British history through the lens of an institutional silencing and an ‘organised forgetting’.

Drawing on often unpublished or little-known testimonial poetry from these landmark events, her thesis argues that these works open up a different cultural space in which to push against a political obfuscation of events and reconstruct collective memory. Prior to her tenure at Lancaster, Jodie studied at the Universityersities of Cambridge and Glasgow, and worked for two years in Widening Participation in schools, colleges and communities in West Cumbria.

Raha Athari **r.athari@lancaster.ac.uk**

Raha is a first-year PhD student in English Literature and Creative Writing at Lancaster University, funded by Arts and Humanities Research Counsel NWCDTP. Her PhD thesis, entitled “Alienated Memories: Reconstructing the Self in Autobiographical Writings of Diasporic Iranian Women2, focuses on diasporic memoirs by Iranian women after the 1979 Revolution.

She examines how the autobiographical narrators of these texts narrate their traumatic memories of immigration and conflictual multiple identities. She also focuses, in turn, on the process of scriptotherapy and making sense of the past through narration in these memoirs. She has done both her BA and MA in English Language and Literature at Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran.

Lottie Green **charlotteevegreen@gmail.com**

Lottie is a literary witch and English Literature and Creative Writing student from the Brontë country. Surrounded by great moorlands and the prose and poetry of incredible women like the Brontë sisters and Sylvia Plath, she’s enraptured by the beauty and creativity their gravesites can evoke.

She has circled many a table discussing social issues and has been involved in a number of campaigns such as speaking in Manchester and Leeds on period poverty and violence against women, Helen Antrobus’ First in the Fight book, and working with The Guardian on a climate crisis piece. Her poetry, published in a few publications, disembowels womanhood, youth, and society – dragging her from moors to lakes, essays to scripts, in her new era of writing and telling forgotten female narratives which feature Greenham Common Women’s Peace Camp and Suffragette arsonist Lillian Lenton.

Izabella Gill-Brown **izzy.gill-brown@york.ac.uk**

Izabella is a second-year PhD candidate supervised by Professor Jason Edwards at the University of York. Her research examines the relationships and roles of Anglo-Indian sculptural portraits produced in the nineteenth-century for the British Royal Family, based on the exploration of specific case studies.

Her wider interdisciplinary interests include material cultures, feminist and postcolonial criticisms of the long nineteenth-century, and the conservation of fine art. Izabella received her MA in Conservation of Fine Art at Northumbria University at Newcastle, specialising in Easel painting and frame conservation with a focus on the treatment of monochromatic artworks. Prior to this, she gained her BA in History of Art at the University of York.

Brontë Crawford **b.crawford1@lancaster.ac.uk**

Brontë is a current postgraduate student at Lancaster University working towards her MA in English Literary Studies. Her primary areas of interest include Gothic studies, Victorian art and literature, ecocriticism, and embodiment. She is currently writing on Gothic gastronomies in the fiction of Angela Carter and Helen Oyeyemi, as well as working with the University’s Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences in researching the hidden history of mahogany furniture and its connections to the transatlantic slave trade.

Sameeya Maqbool **s.maqbool@lancaster.ac.uk**

Sameeya is a second-year AHRC-funded PhD candidate in English Literature at Lancaster University She is exploring the obscure life of Edith Miriam Spray (1870 – 1956), the third or fourth Islamic wife of Abdullah Quilliam, who founded England’s first mosque in 1891. At the chronological centre of her research are very particular events; namely, the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire in 1923 and the founding of England’s first purpose-built mosque in 1891.

This exploration takes the novelistic form and finds or imagines the figure of Miriam in the pages of her contemporary, the modernist author Katherine Mansfield.

Louise Ashton **l.ashton3@lancaster.ac.uk**

Louise is a first-year creative writing PhD student in the Department of English Literature and Creative Writing at Lancaster. She am writing a novel that seeks to be an act of commemorative fiction that bears witness to the real experiences of women who experienced maternity and labour at Ravensbruck concentration camp. She graduated from the MA English Literary Studies programme at Lancaster University in 2018. She also holds a first-class degree in English and Creative Writing from the University of Bolton, and a PGCE in Literacy and ESOL at distinction level. Having previously taught on access programmes at both the University of Bolton, and the University of Manchester, she is passionate about widening participation across higher education, particularly in the North West.

Sophie Harrison **s.harrison14@lancaster.ac.uk**

Sophie is a third-year undergraduate student at Lancaster University, where she has just completed her degree in English Literature with Creative Writing.

Her primary focus is on feminist literary criticism throughout a range of time periods, reflected in her undergraduate dissertation on the moral constraints on the fairy tale heroine. In the autumn, she will be starting her master’s degree at the University of St Andrews in Women, Writing and Gender, with a master’s thesis focusing on psychoanalytic feminism and fragmented identity in confessional poetry.

She plans to continue this focus into doctoral study and academic research. She also writes poetry, often with an element of surrealism and has been strongly influenced, both personally and creatively, by the work of Sylvia Plath, including her often-overlooked artwork. She is from Liverpool and my greatest loves besides poetry and literature are her pugs, Mabel and Dolly.

Krista Quesenberry **kquesenberry@albion.edu**

Krista is an Assistant Professor of English at Albion College in Albion, Michigan (USA). She studies twentieth- and twenty-first-century lifewriting. For more than ten years, Krista served as an editorial and research assistant to the Hemingway Letters Project, which is publishing with Cambridge University Press all of Ernest Hemingway’s known outgoing correspondence.

She is currently co-editing a volume of correspondence between author Kay Boyle and editor James Laughlin, as well as completing a long-term archival research project on modernist marvel Margaret Anderson. Her other research interests include interdisciplinary feminist theory and graphic memoirs about illness, caretaking, and disability. Krista holds dual-title Ph.D.s in English and in Women’s Studies from Penn State University (2016), and at Albion she teaches professional writing, technical writing, and journalism.

Sage Mitchell-Sparke **sage.robin.reader@gmail.com**

Sage is a tea-drinking/(bourbon-drinking), writer. Raised in Seattle, Washington by loving “it-builds-character” academics, she graduated from Oberlin College with a BA in English and Cinema. After working in LA for a few years, editing screenplays and hating retail, she decided to get her MA.

Her stories usually include feminist twists inside old fantastical worlds. She enjoys Nutella, Pratchett books, violin concertos, heists, sci-fi shows about stupid teenagers, complex traumatic backstories, and analytical discussions of worldbuilding or class-based/racialized/gendered systems within magical realities. She has currently finished a YA fantasy novel and is looking to publish.

Margot Lubliner **m.lubliner@lancaster.ac.uk**

Margot is an actor and playwright from Northern California. After completing a BA (Hons) Literature with Creative Writing at Lancaster University this year, she will begin a MA Acting degree at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts in the fall. Her first play, entitled *Against Our Necks*, was developed from the ‘Justice for Magdalenes’ archive of interviews with survivors of the Magdalene Laundries. Earlier this year, she co-wrote the short film *hey, that’s life!* with Darby McDonough which premiered as part of the Intensive Arts festival at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, where Margot studied acting before moving to the United Kingdom. Unfit is her second play.

George Morgan

www.georgedmorgan.com / hexxalon@gmail.com

George has a BA in Creative Writing from California State University Channel Islands and an MFA in Writing for the Performing Arts through the University of California Riverside’s Palm Desert graduate writing program. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Visual and Performing Arts from the University of Texas at Dallas. George has written more than a dozen stage plays and musicals including *Second To Die*, *Nevada Belle*, and *Thunder in the Valley*. He also wrote the score for the children’s musical *The Trial of Goldi Locks*.

In 2001 his play *Second To Die* was adapted into a feature film starring Paul Winfield and Erika Eleniak. George’s screenplays have won numerous awards, including *Short Line*, which won first place in the International Family Film Festival screenwriting contest. George is a member of both the Dramatists Guild and the Writers Guild of America. He and his wife Lisa live in McKinney, Texas with their three adopted children Dalton, Marijane, and Joey.

Lauren Hehmeyer

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Lauren is a speaker, writer, artist, and independent scholar. She has presented papers at the Thoreau Annual Gathering in Concord, Massachusetts, and in Paris, France. Her co-edited collection is entitled *The Forgotten Alcott: Essays on the Artistic Life and Literary Legacy of May Alcott Nieriker* (2022). Her current project is an edited collection entitled *Enlarging the Canon: Essays on the Minor Books of Louisa May Alcott*.

Susan Bailey

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Susan is the curator of the Louisa May Alcott is My Passion website, now in its 12th year. She is also the Administrator of the Facebook group, “Louisa May Alcott: A Group for Fans, Readers, & Scholars” sponsored by Louisa May Alcott’s Orchard House and the Louisa May Alcott Society.

She is the author of *Louisa May Alcott: Illuminated by The Message* (ACTA Publications, 2018). *River of Grace: Creative Passages Through Difficult Times* (Ave Maria Press, 2015) and a contributor to *The Forgotten Alcott* (Routledge, May 2022) and *Alcott’s Imaginary Heroes: The Little Women Legacy* (Pink Umbrella Books, LLC, 2018). Susan is currently working on the first-ever biography of Elizabeth Sewall Alcott. From the United States, she lives in central Massachusetts with her husband, Rich, and has two grown children.

Jill Fuller

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Jill is a librarian and writer with a Bachelor of Arts in History from Winona State University and a Master of Library and Information Studies degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. A former genealogy librarian and archivist, she is currently the Marketing & Communications Librarian for a library system in southeast Wisconsin. Fuller is also the co-author and co-host of *Let Genius Burn*, a podcast exploring the life and legacy of Louisa May Alcott. She has presented on Alcott and *Let Genius Burn* for the *Lost Ladies of Lit* podcast, the Louisa May Alcott Society annual gathering in 2021, and local museums. Learn more about the podcast and listen to past episodes at letgeniusburn.com or on [Instagram @letgeniusburn](https://www.instagram.com/letgeniusburn).

Abigayle Claggett

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Abigayle is a Ph.D. candidate in English Literature at Texas Christian University, where she teaches composition and literature courses. Her research interests include nineteenth-century transatlantic women’s writing, women’s literary networks, Antiguan literary production, and the intersections of psychology, pedagogy, and literature. She is the Teaching Resources Editor for the Teaching Transatlanticism site (<https://teachingtransatlanticism.tcu.edu/>) and the Editor of *SociologicalYou*, a digital introductory sociology textbook. Abigayle has published on the first Antiguan novel, women’s mental health in nineteenth century literature, and feminist pedagogy. Her most recent research focuses on the earliest Antiguan novel, and she is currently working on digitally recovering Antigua’s first literary journal.

Paula Picher Galiana

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Paula is a third-year student of Creative Writing and English Language. Born on the east coast of Spain, she moved as a child to the capital, Madrid, where she recently was immersed on her first publication: *Rediscovering Poetry* (“Reencontrando la Poesía” in Spanish), a poetic anthology where she reflects on the concept of poetry and personifies it to talk about poetry as her companion. As a poet and a feminist, she aims to use poetry and art as a tool to denounce and share the female experience in art and, with her new project in English, to give those women who were silenced and forgotten their voice back.

Penny Simpson

pennyclaire.simpson@gmail.com

Penny is a creative-based research practitioner and novelist. Currently, she is Visiting Fellow in the Department of Literature, Film and Theatre Studies, University of Essex, and she is a former Honorary Research Fellow at Birkbeck, University of London. Her publications include two novels, a collection of short stories, and academic journal articles about her creative-critical research practice.

Forthcoming publications include an essay about the fiction of Leonora Carrington in the edited collection *Place and Space in Interwar Women’s Literature* and an article about the role of art making in narratives of migration and diaspora for *Literature Interpretation Theory Journal*. In spring 2022, she has been commissioned to run a series of creative writing workshops for the WISE Wellness Hub project organised by Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board.

Kiefer Holland

Kiefer is a fourth-year PhD candidate in English Literature at the University of Edinburgh and the Secretary of the Scottish Association for the Study of America. His research, which is funded by the Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities, examines the nineteenth-century writing, speeches, and storytelling of six African American women: Jarena Lee, Maria Stewart, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Charlotte Forten, and Anna Julia Cooper. He has submitted his thesis and is currently awaiting his viva. He holds a BA in English Literature from the University of Brighton and an MSc in US Literature from the University of Edinburgh.

Lucy Rogers

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Lucy is a first-year PhD candidate at the University of Cambridge (Hughes Hall) and a member of the Faculty of English. Her research is funded by a Jebb Studentship and Sarah Squire Scholarship. Her doctoral project focuses on the first female ‘dons’ who taught and conducted research at the women’s colleges of the University of Cambridge in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

It examines the rhetorical and compositional practices utilised by these women in their personal papers, investigating how they used the process of writing such texts to construct a range of academic identities. Lucy previously obtained a BA in English from University College London and an MPhil in Modern and Contemporary Literature from the University of Cambridge. Before starting her PhD she worked in University outreach for several years and is still involved with various different access initiatives.

Helice Koffler

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Helice is an archivist and special collections librarian with extensive experience with performing arts archives and collections. She is currently working on the National Endowment for the Humanities grant project “Research and Outreach: Increasing representation of Indigenous American, Hispanic American, Asian American and Pacific Islander artists in The Met’s Thomas J. Watson Library.”

Previously she was Processing Archivist for the Shubert Archive, where she developed the Early Employees Project and served as editor of *The Passing Show*, the annual newsletter. Helice received a B.A. with a double major in Art History and English, as well as an M.A. in English from Hunter College, City University of New York. She earned her M.L.I.S. at the Palmer School of Library & Information Science, Long Island University. She is a Certified Archivist and has worked as a freelance archival consultant.

In addition, Helice has been active with numerous professional and scholarly organizations, including the Society of American Archivists and Theatre Library Association. For several years she was the editor of *Performance!*, the newsletter of the SAA Performing Arts Section and is Member-at-Large for the SAA Design Records Section.

James Carmichael-Davis

j.carmichael-davis@lancaster.ac.uk

James is a PhD candidate in English Literature at Lancaster University Using the post-critical mode to question the very act of literary criticism he attempts to see beyond the traditional understanding of modernist poetry and produce readings that are strange and, at some points, incomprehensibly personal, so better reflecting the literature of the modernist period.

Through this lens he explores how female modernists fictionalise the city of Paris between 1920 and 1939, focusing on the work of Hope Mirrlees and Jean Rhys. The revelation of the subjective narrator that heralded the modernist period finds itself within literary criticism. He is a co-founder and editor of the post-critical journal *Errant* and has spoken at several events, including an evening where he interviewed Professor Sandeep Parmer, from the University of Liverpool, discussing Hope Mirrlees, Mina Loy and post-critical writing. Most recently he organised and hosted a symposium of post-critical writing at Lancaster Castle.

Riya Das

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Riya is Assistant Professor of English (British/World Literature) at Prairie View A&M University, a public Historically Black University in Prairie View, Texas. Das previously taught at Binghamton University, SUNY, where she completed her PhD. She specializes in nineteenth-century British literature with an interest in gender, empire, and narrative form.

Her research and teaching interests include gender, empire, Gothic fiction, science and literature, and nineteenth-century poetry. She received a Faculty Senate Award for Excellence in Teaching at Prairie View A&M University for the 2020-2021 academic year. Her work has appeared in *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* and *Nineteenth-Century Gender Studies*. She has also written for the *Austin Chronicle*. Das is currently working on her first book project, *Women at Odds: Indifference, Antagonism, and Progress in Late Victorian Literature*, which received a full-time, twelve-month National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant.

Her book will reassess female solidarity in the Victorian novel and demonstrate the overlooked role of strategic antagonism and indifference in fashioning female progress. *Women at Odds* also received the Mellon Faculty Support Award at Prairie View A&M University. Further details about her research and teaching can be found on her website.

Layla AlAmmar

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Layla is a writer and academic from Kuwait with a Masters in Creative Writing from the University of Edinburgh. She is a third-year PhD student at Lancaster University, researching Arab women’s fiction through the lens of literary trauma theory. She has published journal articles on the novels of Adania Shibli as well as the collection *Palestine + 100*, and she is currently co-editing a Special Issue, *Wombs and Tombs: Hauntings and Generational Trauma in Arab Women’s Writing*.

Her debut novel, *The Pact We Made* (2019) was longlisted for the Authors’ Club Best First Novel Award and nominated for the First Book Award at the Edinburgh International Book Festival. Her second novel, *Silence is a Sense* (2021), was shortlisted for the William Saroyan International Prize for Writing. She has written for *The Guardian*, *LitHub*, the *TLS*, *Sekka Magazine*, and *Arablit Quarterly*.

Nancy Kang

Nancy.Kang@umanitoba.ca

Nancy is Canada Research Chair in Transnational Feminisms and Gender-Based Violence and Associate Professor of Women’s and Gender Studies at the University of Manitoba. She co-authored *The Once and Future Muse: The Poetry and Poetics of Rhina P. Espailat* (2018) with Silvio Torres-Saillant. It won Honorable Mention for Best Book (2021) by the Society for Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW). Her co-edited book with Michael Nieto Garcia, *Problematic Paradigms: Latina/o Discourses and the Contours of Americanness* is under preparation for the University of Texas Press.

"There is no agony like bearing an untold story inside you"

So wrote Zora Neale Hurston on her 1937 novel, ***Their Eyes Were Watching God***, a story of the untold lives of three generations of African American women.

Responding to the growing movement to decolonise the curriculum, this symposium celebrates the lives of forgotten women whose contributions to influential creative and cultural movements have been obscured on account of their race, sexuality, economic background, or disability, as well as their gender. Hosted by the Department of English Literature and Creative Writing at Lancaster University, it showcases research in the fields of literary studies, art history, creative writing, performing arts, history, and area studies. The event endeavours to "allow space to what would otherwise be hidden, crossed out, mutilated" (Meena Alexander) and to promote the research of students of all levels alongside professionals both within and outside of the academy, in order to create an inclusive and democratic research environment.

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