Fifty Years of Cormac McCarthy
October 8-10, 2015

Conference Schedule

All panel sessions will be held in the River Room, Third Floor (Room 300), in the University Center

Thursday, October 8

1 p.m.  Registration and check-in opens. University Center.

3 – 4:30 p.m.  Special session for first-time conference presenters.
Jeffrey Scraba, University of Memphis, panel chair.
Details TBA.

4:30 p.m.  Registration and check-in closes.

6-6:45 p.m.  Special Event: Peter Josyph reads “Our Rhode Island Shakespeare” from his forthcoming eBook, The Wrong Reader’s Guide to Cormac McCarthy: All the Pretty Horses.
Fountain View Room, University Center

Society Webmaster Marty Priola’s new publishing venture, Priola House, presents a collectible broadside of text and image by author and visual artist Peter Josyph, whose McCarthy-related exhibitions have shown worldwide. His books include Cormac McCarthy’s House: Reading McCarthy Without Walls, and Adventures in Reading Cormac McCarthy. Josyph will be available for Q&A at a signing event following the reading, where the broadsides may be purchased at special conference rates.

6-7:30 p.m.  Welcoming Reception
Fountain View Room, University Center

Greetings: Rick Wallach, Ringmaster; Steven Frye, President, The Cormac McCarthy Society; Stacey Peebles, Editor, The Cormac McCarthy Journal; Jeffrey Scraba, Department of English, University of Memphis.

7:30 – 9:15 p.m.  Opening Panel: Fifty Years of Cormac McCarthy

1.  Fifty Years of McCarthy’s Writing in Blood. David Harris, Deakin University (Australia).
3.  Cormac McCarthy’s Anti-Landscapes. Michael Madsen, University of Southern Denmark.
5.  The Human Clock. Candy Minx, independent scholar.

9:30 p.m. until  The Musical Cormackians Jam Session. Eugene Young, Compère.
Commons Area, Fogelman Ballroom, 4th Floor.
Friday, October 9

8:30 – 9 a.m.  Registration and check-in; continental breakfast buffet

9 – 10:45 a.m.  Session I: The Orchard Keeper I

3. The Orchard Keeper, Appalachia, and the Geologic Imaginary. Clarissa Nemeth, University of Kansas.

10:45-11 a.m.  Break

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Session II: The Appalachian Period

1. Narrative Modes in McCarthy’s Early Novels: A Surface Reading. Bill Hardwig, University of Tennessee.
2. Place and Genre in Outer Dark. Jeffrey Scraba, University of Memphis. (Short Break)
4. The Art of Seeing Lester Ballard. Christopher White, Governors State University.

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  Lunch Break

1:30 – 3:15 p.m.  Session III. Performance I

1. The Studied Presence of Traditional and Popular Music in the Fiction of Cormac McCarthy. Gene Young, Sam Houston State University.
2. Memory and Nostalgia in John Hillcoat’s Adaptation of The Road. Marie-Reine Pugh, Brigham Young University. (Short Break)
4. Bears that Dance, Bears that Don’t: The Troubled History of Blood Meridian and Film Adaptation. Stacey Peebles, Centre College.

3:15 – 3:30 p.m.  Break
3:30 – 5 p.m.  
**Session IV. Religion, Irreligion, Sacrilege: Order and Disorder in Cormac McCarthy**

2. Storytelling: Cormac McCarthy’s Narrative Religion. Emily Brower, Baylor University.

5 – 5:15 p.m.  
Break

5:15 – 6:45 p.m.  
**Session V. The Orchard Keeper II: Ethical Considerations**

2. The Vanishing Boundaries of Human-Animal Coexistence in McCarthy’s Novels. Liana Andreasen, South Texas College.

7:45 p.m.  
**Plenary Dinner and Guest Speaker**

Fogelman Executive Center Dining Room, 3rd Floor (Entrance on 2nd Floor)

Speaker: Brian Evenson

9:30 p.m. until  
**Los Cormackianos Musicales, Redux.** Gene Young, Maestro.

Commons area, Fogelman ballroom, 4th Floor.
**Saturday, October 10**

9 a.m. Continental Breakfast Buffet

9:15 – 10:45 a.m. **Session VI: The Orchard Keeper III**

1. Interpreting the Opening Sequence of *The Orchard Keeper* along Religious Lines. Brett Lewis, Andover-Newton Theological School.
2. Of Fish and Fowl and Every Creeping Thing: Biblical Fauna in *The Orchard Keeper*. Wallis Sanborn, Our Lady of the Lake University.
3. The Burial of the Dead from The Waste Land to *The Orchard Keeper*. Marco Petrelli, University of Rome, Italy.

10:45 – 11 a.m. Break

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Session VII: Hidden Systems: McCarthy’s Poetics of Determinism and Fatalism**

1. Fatal Loss in McCarthy’s Tennessee. Brad Bannon, University of Tennessee.
2. Doom’s Adumbration: *Suttree* and the Problem of Fatalism. John Vanderheide, Huron University College.

12:30 – 1:45 p.m. Lunch Break

1:45 – 3 p.m. **Session VIII: Pedagogy**

1. Teaching *The Orchard Keeper* in High School. Jamie Brummer.
3. McCarthy’s Style in *The Orchard Keeper*: A Digital Approach. Delys and Phil Snyder, Brigham Young University.

3 – 3:15 p.m. Break

3:15 – 4:45 p.m. **Session IX: Performance II**

2. “You see everything in black and white:” AAVE, SAE and Philosophical Opposition in *The Sunset Limited*. Connie Yost, Millersville University.

4:45 – 5 p.m. Break
5 – 6:30 p.m.  

**Session X: McCarthy’s West**

3. “Like some supplicant to the darkness over them all”: The Good of John Grady Cole in *Cities of the Plain*. Russell Hillier, Providence College.

6:30 p.m.  

**President’s valedictory: Steven Frye**

7 p.m.  

**At Liberty**
Navigating the University

The official hotels for the conference are the Holiday Inn (HI, map coordinates E-4) and the Fogelman Executive Center (FEC, E-5). The FEC is located just to the south across Central Avenue from the Holiday Inn; from there, walking directions to the University Center (UC, G-11), where most of the conference events will take place, are as follows:

- Go out the main (west) entrance of FEC and turn left.
- Turn left onto pedestrian path just past the parkade, at the U of M sign.
- Turn right at the campus map to take the diagonal path across campus.
- Turn right where path ends; the UC is the huge building straight ahead, just opposite the clock tower.