The 2017 Conference on
John Milton

October 12-14, 2017
Birmingham Alabama
The 2017 Conference on

John Milton

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Organizers of the 2017 Conference on John Milton

Co-directors
David Ainsworth, University of Alabama
Alison Chapman, University of Alabama-Birmingham

Organizing Committee
Angela Balla, University of Alabama-Huntsville
Lara Dodds, Mississippi State University
Thomas Festa, SUNY-New Paltz
Ryan Netzley, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale
Margaret Thickstun, Hamilton College
Hugh Wilson, Grambling State University

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University of Alabama Department of English
University of Alabama Printing Services
The Birmingham Doubletree Hotel Staff
The Improbable Fictions
Michelle Dowd and Geoffrey Emerson
Lacee Nisbett and Karen Coggin

Cover illustration:
Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld, An Etching of Samson, from an 1882 German Bible
Wikimedia Commons
All events except Saturday’s dinner will be held at the Doubletree Hotel.

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Thursday, October 12

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<th>Event</th>
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<td><strong>Cash Bar/Registration</strong></td>
<td>6:00 PM-9:00 PM</td>
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<td>Conference Foyer</td>
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#### Friday, October 13

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<th>Event</th>
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<td><strong>Breakfast Buffet</strong></td>
<td>7:30 AM-9:30 AM</td>
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<td>Conference Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Registration</strong></td>
<td>8:00 AM-11:00 AM</td>
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<td>Conference Foyer</td>
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#### Welcome and Plenary 1

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<td><strong>Welcome and Plenary 1</strong></td>
<td>9:00 AM-10:00 AM</td>
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<td>Heritage 1</td>
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John Rumrich (U Texas-Austin)

“Milton’s Night at the Opera”

#### FRIDAY 1

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<tr>
<td><strong>Adaptations and Afterlives 1</strong></td>
<td>10:15 AM-11:30 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centennial 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair: Michelle Dowd (Alabama)</td>
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Lara Dodds (Mississippi State)

“Tales of a Shaggy God: *Paradise Lost* and the Fall in Pulp Science Fiction”

Promise Li (Occidental)

“Phillis Wheatley: Miltonic Poetics of Black Liberation”

Wendy Furman-Adams (Whittier)

“Erotic and Romantic Eve: Paradise Lost and the Drama of Sex, 1749-1799”
Milton and Divine Violence  10:15 AM-11:30 AM
Centennial 2
Chair: Charles W. Durham (Middle Tennessee State)

Warren Tormey (Middle Tennessee State)
“Armed Saints and Devilish Engines: Milton’s Martial Millenarianism”

Chanel Cox (Texas Tech)
“Milton’s Maternal Epic: Motherhood and the Heroism of Life-Bearing in Paradise Lost”

Crystal Veronie (Southern Mississippi)
“‘When Who Can Uncreate Thee Thou Shalt Know’: Divine Violence in Paradise Lost”

Creation in Paradise  10:15 AM-11:30 AM
Arlington
Chair: Louis Schwartz (Richmond)

Hannah Trevino (West Florida)
“Divine Creativity in the Creation of Paradise Lost”

Harley Joyce Campbell (South Florida)
“‘New strength within me rise’: Empowering the Monstrous Mother of Paradise Lost”

Jeremy Cornelius (Louisiana State)
“Recuperating Gendered Matter: An Eco-Materialist Reading of Eve in Paradise Lost”

The Pleasures and Perils of Ritual  10:15 AM-11:30 AM
University
Chair: Ryan Netzley (Southern Illinois-Carbondale)

Michael Gadaleto (Penn State)
“A Failure of Guardianship: Milton’s Satirical Critique of Laudian Cambridge in Lycidas”

Trent Sanders (Tennessee)

Matthew Smith (Alabama)
“‘One fatal tree’: Eve’s Alchemical Fall in Paradise Lost”
FRIDAY 2

The Feel and Sound of Poetry 11:45 AM-1:00 PM
Centennial 1
Chair: Lara Dodds (Mississippi State)

Thomas Festa (SUNY-New Paltz)
“Of Modern Bondage”

David Ainsworth (Alabama)
“Heavenly Music and Milton’s Anti-Trinity”

Seth Herbst (US Military Academy)
“Penderecki’s Paradise Lost and the Music of Fallenness”

Space, Time, and Motion 1 11:45 AM-1:00 PM
Centennial 2
Chair: David Boocker (Nebraska-Omaha)

Thomas P. Carroll (Georgia State)
“ Kairos and Milton’s ‘Nativity Ode’: A Time to Every Purpose Under Heaven”

Angela Balla (Alabama, Huntsville)
“The ‘Two-Handed Engine’ and Revolutionary Temporality in Milton’s Lycidas”

Nadine Weiss (Cambridge)
“Milton’s Many Talents: Milton’s Sonnet 7 and Barnabe Barnes’s Talent Sonnet Number 38”

God in the Garden: The World of Paradise Lost 11:45 AM-1:00 PM
Arlington
Chair: Mary C. Fenton (Western Carolina)

Peter Picetti (Nevada-Reno)

Jonathan William Thurston (Michigan State)
“Non nobis: Apiculture in Milton’s Paradise Lost”

Daniel Gillespie (Memphis)
“Saving Satan from Relativism: Good and Evil in Paradise Lost”
Milton’s Thinking in the 1640’s  
University  
Chair: Edward Jones (Oklahoma State)  

Andrea Walkden (CUNY-Queens C)  
“The Ocean of the Isle: Britain, Europe, and ‘Lycidas’”

Brendan Prawdzik (Penn State)  
“‘Set and Solemn Paneguries’ and the Trinity Manuscript Dramatic Sketches”

Ben LaBreche (Mary Washington)  
“Francis Bacon and Milton’s Early Political Theory”

Lunch (on your own)  
1:00 PM-2:30 PM

FRIDAY 3

Adaptations and Afterlives 1: Milton in America  
Centennial 1  
Chair: Elizabeth Sauer (Brock)  

Dayton Haskin (Boston College)  
“When Hawthorne Sent ‘The New Adam and Eve’ to the Harvard College Library”

John Rogers (Yale)  
“Miltonic Endowment: Nineteenth-Century Mormonism and the Sacred Performance of Paradise Lost”

Ian Bickford (Bard College at Simon’s Rock)  
“‘Have You Ever Read Milton, Captain?’: Tagore, Star Trek, and Milton’s Intergalactic, Postcolonial Return”

Marriage and Conversation  
2:30 PM-3:45 PM

Centennial 2  
Chair: Kristin Pruitt (Christian Brothers)  

Emily E. Stelzer (Houston Baptist)  
“Marriage as Mysterion in Paradise Lost”

Sarah Banschbach Valles (Texas Tech)  
“‘Of nuptial Sanctity and marriage Rites’: Milton’s Theory of Conversation and Ritual”
Space, Time, and Motion 2  
Arlington  
Chair: John Rumrich (Texas-Austin)

Matthew Dolloff (Georgia State)  
“Gabriel’s Trumpet: Milton and Seventeenth Century Conceptualizations of Infinity”

Chris Koester (Alabama)  
“Mathematical Milton: Nesting Infinities and the Plurality of Worlds in *Paradise Lost*”

D. Geoffrey Emerson (Alabama)  
“‘His Magnetic Beam’: Visually and Narratively Illustrating Cosmic Motion in *Paradise Lost*”

The Habit of Virtue  
University  
Chair: Margaret Thickstun (Hamilton)

Jeffrey Gore (Illinois-Chicago)  
“Pedagogical Aporias and the Problem of Justice”

Jason A. Kerr (Brigham Young)  
“*De Doctrina Christiana* as an Artifact of Lived Religion”

Christian Leithart (Villanova)  
“‘Vertue Tri’d’: Habits and the Source of Goodness in *Paradise Lost*”

FRIDAY 4

Milton’s Debts  
Centennial 1  
Chair: Angela Balla (Alabama-Huntsville)

Ryan Netzley (Southern Illinois-Carbondale)  
“Learning Use: Debt, Exchange, and Dependency in *Paradise Lost*”

Hsing-hao Chao (National Taichung U of Education)  
“Debt and Grace in Milton’s Later Poems”

Alison Chapman (Alabama-Birmingham)  
“Milton in a World of Bonds”
**Milton and the Italians**  
4:00 PM-5:15 PM  
Centennial 2  
Chair: Hugh Wilson (Grambling State)

Catherine G. Martin (Memphis)  
“Milton in Love: The Italian Sonnets, a Study in Decanonization”

James Ross Macdonald (U of the South)  
“Petrarch’s *Tenace Visco* and the ‘Gums of Glutinous Heat’”

John Mulryan (St. Bonaventure)  
“Bernadino Ochino’s *Tragedy* (1549): An Apostate Franciscan’s Model for Milton’s Satan”

**Miltonic Adaptations and Afterlives 2**  
4:00 PM-5:15 PM  
Arlington  
Chair: Kevin Donovan (Middle Tennessee State)

Katarzyna Lecky (Bucknell)  
“Milton’s Samson, Homer’s Phoenix, and the Deposition of Charles II”

Jameela Lares (Southern Mississippi)  
“Milton for Mississippi”

Miklos Peti (Karoli Gaspar)  
“*Paradise Lost* on the Hungarian Stage in 1970”

**The Limits of the Rational: Dreams, Folly, and Madness**  
4:00 PM-5:15 PM  
University  
Chair: William Shullenberger (Sarah Lawrence)

Courtney Parker (Alabama)  
“‘God is also in sleep’: The Imaginative Power of Dreams in *Paradise Lost*”

Hasting G. Chen (National Taiwan)  
“John Milton and the Discourse of Madness”

Maura Brady (Le Moyne)  
“Disability, Aesthetic Nervousness, and the Folly of Samson”
Open Bar
Conference Foyer 6:30 PM-9:30 PM

Dinner
Heritage 1 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Samson Agonistes
Heritage 1 8:00 PM-9:00 PM

Improbable Fictions

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Saturday, October 14

Breakfast Buffet
Conference Foyer 7:30 AM-9:30 AM

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SATURDAY 1

The Sonnets
Centennial 1 9:00 AM-10:15 AM
Chair: David Ainsworth (Alabama)

William Shullenberger (Sarah Lawrence)
“Schrödinger’s Book: Milton’s 1645 Poems and the Ode ‘To John Rouse, Librarian of Oxford University’”

Dianne Berger (Georgia State)
“And by Occasion Foretells God’s Wrath on the Church in Rome: Milton’s ‘On the Late Massacre in Piedmont’”

Laura DeFurio (Alabama)
“How Milton Read The Life and Death of Sir Henry Vane (1662)”
Space, Time and Motion 3 9:00 AM-10:15 AM
Centennial 2
Chair: Gardner Campbell (Virginia Commonwealth)

Andrea Brunken (Brigham Young)
“The Hermeneutics of Messianic Time in Paradise Lost”

Stephen J. Schuler (Mobile)
“Just in Time: Milton on God, Time, and Eternity”

David Boocker (Nebraska-Omaha)
“Absence and Presence in Paradise Lost”

Adaptations and Afterlives 3 9:00 AM-10:15 AM
University
Chair: Wendy Furman-Adams (Whittier)

Angelica Duran (Purdue)
“The meaning not the name”: Dryden’s ‘Three Poets’ and Borges’s ‘Los destinos’”

Clay Greene (Yale)
“Rational Theodicy and Miltonic Imitation: Praeexistence (1714)”

William John Silverman, Jr (SUNY-Suffolk)
“Tasting the Fruit: Miltonic Echoes in Latter-Day Scriptures”

SATURDAY 2

Miltonic Heterodoxies 10:30 AM-11:45 AM
Centennial 1
Chair: Thomas Festa (SUNY-New Paltz)

Edward Jones (Oklahoma State)
“Milton and the Tothill Fields Chapel”

Gardner Campbell (Virginia Commonwealth)
“Surprised by Sin and incommensurability”

Jessica Ramer (Southern Mississippi)
“Milton’s Cherry-Picking of Halakah to Make a Case for Divorce”
**Imagining the Ideal State** 10:30 AM-11:45 AM
Centennial 2
Chair: Alison Chapman (Alabama-Birmingham)

Carl Sweat IV (Georgia State)
“The Prince of Darkness: Machiavellian Virtue and *Paradise Lost*”

Stephen B. Dobranski (Georgia State)
“Milton and ‘The Best of Texts’: the Death of Charles I”

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**Milton Reads the Bible** 10:30 AM-11:45 AM
Arlington
Chair: Jameela Lares (Southern Mississippi)

Hugh F. Wilson (Grambling State)
“The Transmogrification of John Milton”

David V. Urban (Calvin)
“Milton’s Hermeneutics of Parable Interpretation”

Karen Clausen-Brown (Walla Walla)
“‘Not in their idol-worship, but by labor’: Isaiah’s Sabbath Teachings in *Samson Agonistes*”

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**PLENARY 2** 12:00 PM-12:45 PM
Heritage 1

Elizabeth Sauer (Brock)
“Studied for Action: Milton’s Commonplacing, Consumption, Classification”

**CONFERENCE ENDS**

**Saturday Excursion/Dinner** 5:30 PM-8:00 PM
Birmingham Civil Rights Institute
(Must have registered for the separate banquet event)

Includes time to browse the galleries. The BCRI is at 520 16th Street North; we will have drivers available to ferry people over and back again to the Doubletree.
Clemson University Press

Clemson University Press (in association with Liverpool University Press) seeks to enhance its publication program in literary and interarts scholarship on the Early Modern and Restoration periods.

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Early Modern Culture

Founded in 2000 by David Star and Crystal Bartolowich, Early Modern Culture, an open-access, peer-reviewed journal, strives to create something like the active and ongoing inquiry of a good seminar. Hence, the journal publishes works in progress by major scholars in early modern studies, along with a set of responses from readers.

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To celebrate the 350th anniversary of the publication of PARADISE LOST we have launched an endowment fund to protect Milton’s Cottage - the place where it was completed - in perpetuity

We invite members of the 2017 Conference on John Milton to join us in protecting Milton’s only surviving residence for future generations

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