

SEAC CONFERENCE: 'DISRUPTING' THE CITY: URBAN CRIS(E)S IN  
CONTEMPORARY BRITISH LITERATURE AND ART

Avignon Université, 14-15 October 2021

Salle 0E32 – Campus Centre ville

Convened by Elsa CAVALIÉ & Justine GONNEAUD (ICTT)

THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER

**MORNING SESSION**

9am Welcome

**9.15 – 9.30 Conference Opening**

**9.30-10.30 Plenary session #1: Nick Bentley (Keele University)**

Working-class City Spaces: Deindustrialisation, Displacement, and Gentrification in Contemporary  
British Fiction

Chairs: Elsa Cavalié & Justine Gonneaud

*Coffee break*

**11 – 12.30 Panel 1: Centre & Margins**

Chair: Nick Bentley (Keele University)

- Writing Urban Crisis from the Centre or the Periphery of the Capitalist World-System: Comparative Perspectives on John Lanchester's *Capital* - Marianne HILLION (Sorbonne Université - Warwick University)
- Flight, Flânerie and Focalization in James Kelman's *How Late it Was, How Late* - James DALRYMPLE (Université de Grenoble)
- Digging Deep: Iain Sinclair's *London Overground/Underground* - Catherine LANONE (Université Paris Sorbonne)

## AFTERNOON SESSION

### 2.30 – 3.30 Plenary session #2: Lauren Elkin

Paying attention in the 21st century city

Chair: Catherine Lanone (Université Paris Sorbonne)

*Coffee break*

### 4 – 5.30 Panel 2: Divided Geographies

Chair: Vanessa Guignery (ENS Lyon)

- Bare Life in Nikesh Shukla's *Run, Riot* (2018) and Guy Gunaratne's *In Our Mad and Furious City* (2018) - Rebecca BLANCHARD (Université de Tours)
- Crisis of the 'Event', Guy Gunaratne's *In Our Mad and Furious City* (2018) - Georges LETISSIER (Université de Nantes)
- Speaking the City, Disrupting the City: How immigrant-descent Spoken Word poets reclaim Britain's postcolonial multicultural cities by enacting their disruption(s). - John SANNAEE (Université Paris 8)

## FRIDAY 15 OCTOBER

### MORNING SESSION

Chair: Catherine Bernard (Université de Paris)

### 9.30-10.30 Plenary session #3 Charlotte Gould (Université de Paris Nanterre)

The Inclusions and Exclusions of British Public Art: creating art for the successful city or for the just city?

*Coffee break*

### 11 – 12 Panel 3: Art & disruption

- Banksy's Disruption of London : a reappropriation of the city through art - Youssef FERDJANI (Université de Toulon)
- Disruption by Opportunity and by Design: The London squat party scene, 1993-2021 - Stéphane SADOUX (Grenoble School of Architecture (ENSAG))

## AFTERNOON SESSION

### 2 – 4.30 Panel 4: Historicizing Disruption: Past & Future

Chair: Laurent Mellet (Université de Toulouse)

- Interrupted Trains of Thoughts – Public Transports in Modernist Fiction of the early 20th century Great Britain : An Aesthetics of Disruption - Maud DE LUGET (Université Paris 3)
- Spatialising Character in *The Crimson Petal and the White*: The Figure of the Prostitute in the Neo-Victorian Urban Space - Lilia LOUATI MEZGHANI (Université Toulouse Jean Jaurès)

*Coffee break*

- Cohabitation, Crisis, and Commonality at the Other End of the Universe – Disrupting the Urban Space in China Miéville’s *Embassytown* - Deborah BRIDLE - (Université Côte d'Azur, CTEL)
- Ruins of the Future: Decaying Urban Landscapes in Richard Jefferies, J.G Ballard and Angela Carter’s Speculative Fiction (*After London, The Drowned World and The Passion of the New Eve*)’- Quitterie De BEAUREGARD - (Sorbonne Université)