

‘Stories of ‘Separation’ and ‘Gathering’ in Legal and Creative Imaginaries: A Legal Humanities and Creative Writing Workshop

Wed 1st to Thurs 2nd July 2026, University of Southampton

In collaboration with the Centre for Modern and Contemporary Writing

DAY 1 (Wed 1st July): Highfield campus, venue tbc

*** Tea coffee (from 11am) ***

*** Introduction from David Gurnham (University of Southampton, School of Law) and Agnes Woolley (University of Southampton, Department of English) (11.15am) ***

Panel 1: Constitutions, Citizens and Individuals (11.30am-12.45pm)

Marcus V. A. B. De Matos (Brunel University of London, College of Law, Arts & Social Sciences), ‘Kehinde Wiley’s “The Prelude” (2021-2022) exhibition at the National Gallery on modern Constitutional Theories’

Saskia Vermeylen (University of Strathclyde, School of Law), ‘Phenomenologies of Possession: Locke, Levinas, and the Frontier in Charles Brockden Brown’s *Edgar Huntly*’

Denise Baden (author and academic at the University of Southampton, Business School), ‘Politics, Law and the Environment: *Murder in the Citizens Jury* and *The Philosopher and the Assassin*’

*** Lunch ***

Panel 2: Judgments in the Aftermath (1.15-2.30pm)

Agata Fijalkowski (Leeds Beckett University, Leeds Law School), ‘An Analysis of Ismail Kadare’s *The General of the Dead Army* through a Law and Literature Lens’

Natasha Fricker (University of Edinburgh, School of Social and Political Science), ‘Nuremberg Gothic: Reading the International Military Tribunal through the Lens of the Gothic’

Andreas Philippopoulos-Mihalopoulos (author, artist and academic at the University of Westminster), ‘Wavewriting’

*** Tea & Coffee ***

Panel 3: Law: Friend or Foe? (2.45-4pm)

Henrique Carvalho (University of Warwick, School of Law): ‘Outside Remarks: Sentencing, Estrangement, and Aesthetic Injustice’

Lucie O’Brien (University of Melbourne, Law School), ‘From integration to dissolution: Henry Handel Richardson’s *The Fortunes of Richard Mahony* and the modernist poetics of bankruptcy’

Victoria Humphreys (author), ‘Laws are spider webs through which the big flies pass and the little ones get caught’ (Honoré de Balzac): legal inequity in *Check-M8* and *Duel*’

*** Concluding remarks by David Gurnham and Agnes Woolley DG/AW (4-4.30pm) ***

*** All welcome to join Agnes and David for informal drinks at the Student Union bar ***

DAY 2 (Thurs 2nd July): Online (MS Teams)

Panel 4: Imagining Alternative Legal Futures (time tbc)

Stacie Bates (Playwright, Theatre Maker & Educator), 'Jane - A reimagining of *Jane Eyre*'

Fred Motson (Open University, School of Law), 'Searching for Utopia in the courts of England and Wales'

Miroslaw Sadowski and Alexander Simmonds (both University of Dundee, School of Law), 'Legal Realities of Time Travel: Lessons from Popular Culture'

Kathrin Beinke (University of Osnabrück, Institute for English and American Studies), 'Human Rights as Utopia'