

# DFW

Illinois State University

Publications Unit, Department of English

# 2014

## The First Annual David Foster Wallace Conference



© Don Usner

*Image courtesy of Don Usner*

**Friday, May 23, 2014**

**The Bloomington-Normal Marriott  
Hotel and Conference Center  
201 Broadway Street  
Normal, Illinois 61761**

**with Keynote Speaker  
Dr. Stephen J. Burn**

# Dr. Stephen J. Burn

## Keynote Speaker



Stephen J. Burn has published widely on contemporary literature, writing both academic books and articles, and regularly reviewing fiction for the *American Book Review*, *New York Times Book Review*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*. At the heart of this work are a sequence of books about Wallace's writing—*David Foster Wallace's Infinite Jest: A Reader's Guide* (2003, 2012), *Conversations with David Foster Wallace* (2012), and (with Marshall Boswell) *A Companion to David Foster Wallace Studies* (2013)—while Burn has also published a book on Jonathan Franzen, and coedited (for Dalkey Archive Press) a collection of essays on Richard Powers. He is Reader in Post-45 American Literature at the University of Glasgow.

**Keynote Address**—For the last four years, Burn has been working with the David Foster Wallace literary estate to produce an edited volume of Wallace's letters. This volume is not intended to be a biography in letters, but rather a biography of Wallace's writing: charting his reflections on his own writing; documenting his reading; mapping his changing intellectual investments; and sharing some of the virtuoso linguistic performances he saved for his letters. In this keynote, Burn will discuss the scope of Wallace's letters, asking how the letters enhance or complicate our understanding of Wallace's work and how they help us understand Wallace's place amongst contemporary American writers.

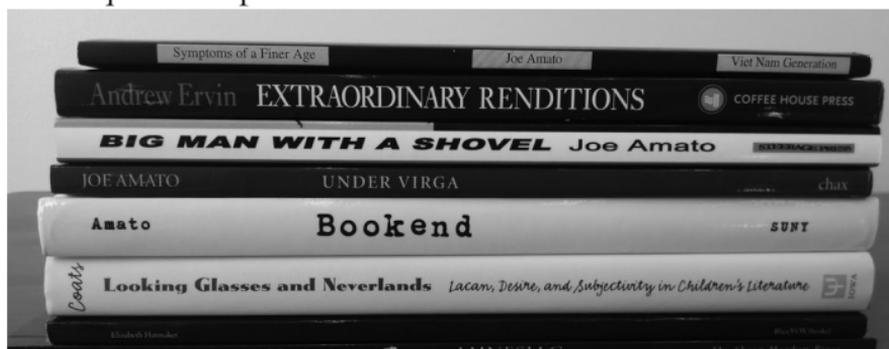
### Silent Book Auction

In conjunction with the conference, there will be a silent auction of books signed by their authors. Sealed bids will be in the form of pledges to donate to the David Foster Wallace Memorial Restricted Fund. Bidders need not be present at the conference.

Send sealed bids to:  
The David Foster Wallace Conference  
Department of English  
Attn: Jane L. Carman  
Illinois State University  
Campus Box 4240  
Normal, Illinois 61790-4240

or e-mail [DFWconference@gmail.com](mailto:DFWconference@gmail.com).

Books are being added weekly. Visit our Facebook Page at [on.fb.me/1fUrRb0](https://on.fb.me/1fUrRb0) or the conference website at <http://tinyurl.com/mue385q> for an updated list.



## Call for Papers

Submissions will be considered in three categories: Scholarship of David Foster Wallace; Scholarship of Contemporary Literature, Publishing, or Culture that considers issues including, but not limited to: innovative/experimental literature; the future of literature and/or publishing; digital vs. traditional publishing/literature; the field of publishing in relation to contemporary literature and/or culture; literature, publishing, or scholarship as art; etc.; and the presentation of Original Creative Work exemplified by any of the above issues and/or that engages its subject from an original, committed, and humane perspective.

Individuals are limited to being a part of no more than one proposal, individual or group, in each of the three categories. To avoid conflicts, individuals who are part of more than one proposal must send an e-mail to [DFWconference@gmail.com](mailto:DFWconference@gmail.com) no later than Friday, March 14, 2014, listing all proposals with titles and fellow panelists where applicable.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE EXTENDED** to Sunday, March 23 at noon. Notification of acceptance or rejection will follow shortly.

**Registration** is open at [www.conferences.illinoisstate.edu/DFW](http://www.conferences.illinoisstate.edu/DFW).

Conference registration includes book fair; all panels; keynote; continental breakfast; daylong coffee, tea, and water service; hot lunch buffet; and afternoon snack (with options for special dietary restrictions). The deadline to register is 11:59 p.m. CST on Friday, April 18, 2014.

All submissions should be sent to [DFWconference@gmail.com](mailto:DFWconference@gmail.com), noting in the subject line the category of the submission (David Foster Wallace Scholarship; Scholarship of Contemporary Literature, Publishing, Culture; or Original Creative Work).

### **Submissions of Scholarship of David Foster Wallace & Submissions of Scholarship of Contemporary Literature, Publishing, or Culture**

**Individual submissions** should consist of two documents and be submitted as PDF, doc, docx, or rtf files.

- The first document should be a cover sheet listing the category at the top of the page, either “David Foster Wallace Scholarship” or “The Scholarship of Contemporary Literature, Publishing, or Culture,” and contain the title of the presentation, submitter’s name (as it will appear in the program), address, phone number, e-mail, affiliation(s) or independent scholar status, and a 100-word bio in third person.
- The second document should list “David Foster Wallace Scholarship” or “The Scholarship of Contemporary Literature, Publishing, or Culture” at the top of the page and contain the title of the presentation (exactly as it appears on the cover sheet) with a 300-word abstract. The second document should be free of all names.
- In most cases, individual panelists will be organized in groups of four, allowing fifteen minutes per presentation with an additional thirty minutes for Q&A and discussion.

**Panel submissions** should consist of two documents and be submitted as PDF, doc, docx, or rtf files.

- The first document should be a cover sheet listing the category at the top of the page, either “David Foster Wallace Scholarship” or “The Scholarship of Contemporary Literature, Publishing, or Culture,” followed by the title of the panel with the panel’s organizer/chair’s name (as it will appear on the program), address, phone number, e-mail, affiliation(s) or independent scholar status, and a 100-word bio in third person; and the individual title of each presentation with the panelist’s name (as it will appear in the program), address, phone number, e-mail, affiliation(s) or independent scholar status, and a 100-word bio in third person. If the panel organizer/chair will also be presenting, her/his name and information will appear twice in this document.
- The second document should list “David Foster Wallace Scholarship” or “The Scholarship of Contemporary Literature, Publishing, or Culture” at the top of the page and contain the title of the presentation (exactly as it appears on the cover sheet); a

justification for grouping panelists; the title of each paper, and contain a 300-word abstract for each. The second document should be free of all names.

- There is no limit on the number of panelists per session, but be cognizant of the fact that presentations will last no more than one hour with an extra thirty minutes being devoted to Q&A and discussion.

### **Submissions of Original Creative Work**

Note: There are no limits on the level of creativity allowed in individual or panel presentations. Works that deal with other artistic forms and mediums, multi-genre works, cross-genre works, hybrid works, and works without genre are welcome. Experiments in both form and presentation are encouraged. All creative work should engage its subject from an original, committed, and humane perspective.

**Individual submissions** should consist of two documents and be submitted as PDF, doc, docx, or rtf files.

- The first document should be a cover sheet with “Original Creative Work” at the top of the page and contain the title of the presentation, submitter’s name (as it will appear in the program), address, phone number, e-mail, affiliation(s) or independent scholar status, and a 100-word bio in third person.
- The second document should list “Original Creative Work” at the top of the page and contain the title of the presentation (exactly as it appears on the cover sheet) with the entire creative submission suitable for a fifteen-minute presentation. Work to be presented in a nontraditional manner should note how the work will be presented near the top of the second document. The second document should be free of all names.
- In most cases, individual panelists will be organized in groups of four, allowing fifteen minutes per presentation with an additional thirty minutes for Q&A and discussion.

**Panel submissions** should consist of two documents and be submitted as PDF, doc, docx, or rtf files.

- The first document should be a cover sheet with “Original Creative Work” at the top of the page and contain the title of the panel with the panel’s organizer/chair’s name (as it will appear on the program), address, phone number, e-mail, affiliation(s) or independent scholar status, and a 100-word bio in third person; and the individual title of each presentation with the panelist’s name (as it will appear in the program), address, phone number, e-mail, affiliation(s) or independent scholar status, and a 100-word bio in third person. If the panel organizer/chair will also be presenting, her/his name and information will appear twice in this document.
- The second document should list “Original Creative Work” at the top of the page and contain the title of the presentation (exactly as it appears on the cover sheet); a justification for grouping panelists; the title of each paper and contain the entire text for each presentation with respect to time limits. Work to be presented in a nontraditional manner should note how the work is to be presented near the top of the second document. The second document should be free of all names.
- There is no limit on the number of panelists per session, but be cognizant of the fact that presentations will last no more than one hour with an additional thirty minutes being devoted to Q&A and discussion.

At least one panelist in each of the three categories will be recognized and asked to make a short (approximately five-minute) presentation at the luncheon in addition to being part of a featured panel.

For questions about submissions that do not fit any of these guidelines, for questions about submissions that will be presented in a nontraditional manner that is difficult to articulate within the submission guidelines, and for general conference questions, e-mail [DFWconference@gmail.com](mailto:DFWconference@gmail.com).