



The Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement (MIRCI)
with co-sponsor, Ryerson University Department of English,
are hosting a conference on the topic of:

**Representing Motherhood:
Mothers in the Arts, Literature, Media and Popular Culture
Friday, May 21 - Saturday, May 22, 2010, Ryerson University**

Friday, May 21, 2010

9:00am-10:00am

REGISTRATION

10:00am-11:30am

SESSION A1: MOTHERS, REPRESENTATION AND MEDIA

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 662

CHAIR: Liz Podnieks (Ryerson University)

Mediating Moms: An Overview of Mothers in Popular Culture

Liz Podnieks (Ryerson University)

Representation and Lack of Representation of Young Mothers' Realities in HIV Prevention Campaigns

Linda Hunter (University of Guelph)

Cesarean Section on Demand - Representations in Media and Pop Culture: A Feminist Bioethics Response

Manavi Handa (Ryerson University)

SESSION A2: WORKSHOPS

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 652

CHAIR- Kathleen McDonnell (Author, Playwright)

The New Mother

Kathleen McDonnell (Author, Playwright)

Learning to Drive

Che Marville (Executive Director, Children's Own Museum)

11:30 am-11:45am

BREAK

11:45am-1:15pm

SESSION B1: MOTHERS AND VISUAL CULTURE I

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 662

CHAIR: Linda Hunter (University of Guelph)

Representing Motherhood through Fine Art of the 18th and 19th Centuries

Linda Hunter (University of Guelph)

Virtual Pregnancy and Parenthood: Representations of Reproduction in Videogames and Online Worlds

Lauren Cruikshank (York University)

SESSION B2: MATERNAL LITERATURES; MOTHERING IN THE ACADEMY

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 651

CHAIR: Andrea O'Reilly (York University)

Images of Mothers in Children's Picture Books: A Comparative Assessment

Regina Edmonds (Assumption College)

“Tam Lin”: Reclaiming Mothering as a Feminist Option in Young Adult Fiction

Beverly Jones Redekop (University of the Fraser Valley)

What Time Is It?!: An early career Academic/Artist/Mom seeks to reconcile the biological and tenure clocks

Christine Young (University of San Francisco)

1:15pm-2:15pm

LUNCH break

(*bring your lunch for a film screening of “Maverick Mother” in SHE 662 (52 min)*)

2:15pm-3:45pm

SESSION C1: MOTHERS IN THE MEDIA AND MATERNAL LITERATURES

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 652

CHAIR: Linda Hunter (University of Guelph)

Supermoms: Representations of Femininity in Tabloid Media

Dina Hanafy (Independent Scholar)

“I am not mad: I am black”: Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s Critique of Anglo-American Abolitionist Discourse about Enslaved Black Mothers

Deborah Byrd (Lafayette College)

3:45pm-4:00pm

BREAK

4:00pm- 5:30pm

SESSION D1: MOTHERS IN FILM I

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 662

CHAIR – Shira Richter (Artist, Filmmaker)

“I’m Not Your Fucking Mommy!” Post-partum Depression and Devilish Daughters in *The Ring 1 & 2*

Amanda LeBlanc (The University of Manitoba)

Selfless to Selfish: Trajectory of “Mother” from Bollywood’s *Mother India* to *Pyar Mein Twist*

Amber Fatima Riaz (University of Western Ontario)

**SESSION D2: PERSPECTIVES ON SOUTH ASIAN MOTHERING:
VOICES OF PUNJABI-CANADAIAN MOTHERS**

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 652

CHAIR- Jasjit Kaur Sangha (University of Toronto)

Conceptualizing South Asian Mothering

Jasjit Kaur Sangha (University of Toronto)

Sikh Mothering

Tarnjit Johal (Producer)

Motherhood and mother tongues: Parenting in an alien language

Tahira Gonsalves (York University)

5:30pm-7:00pm

DINNER break

7:00pm-10:30pm

MIRCI GALA LITERARY FUNDRAISING EVENING

Featuring readings by award winning writers:

Di Brandt – author of *So this is the world & here I am in it* http://www2.brandonu.ca/di_brandt/

Margaret Christakos – author of *Excessive Love Prostheses* <http://www.poets.ca/linktext/direct/christakos.htm>

Afua Cooper - author of *Copper Woman* <http://www.afuacooper.com/>

Rishma Dunlop - author of *White Album* <http://www.rishmadunlop.com>

Diane Flacks – author of *Bear with Me* <http://www.dianeflacks.com/>

Susan Glickman – author of *Running in Prospect Cemetery* <http://www.susanglickman.com/>

Marni Jackson – author of *Pain* <http://www.marnijackson.com/>

M. Nourbese Philip – author of *Zong!* <http://www.nourbese.com/>

Althea Prince - author of *The Politics of Black Women's Hair* <http://www.altheaprince.com>

Jane Satterfield – author of *Daughters of Empire* <http://www.redroom.com/author/jane-satterfield>

Miriam Toews - author of *Summer of My Amazing Luck*

http://www.mbwriter.mb.ca/mapindex/t_profiles/toews_m.html

Priscilla Uppal - author of *Traumatology* <http://www.priscilauppal.ca/>

(*Tickets for the Gala are \$65. There will be fundraising, friends, food and a full literary evening.

Cash bar will also be available.

Tickets: www.motherhoodinitiative.org)

Saturday, May 22, 2010

9:30am-10:00am

REGISTRATION

10:00am-11:30am

SESSION E1: WRITING MATERNITY

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 652

CHAIR – Kathleen Cummins (York University)

deadbabyblog: Constructing Identity As Mother and Researcher Via Blogging

Jennifer Cypher (York University)

What I Learned From the Mamasphere: Emergent surprises in doctoral research

May Friedman (York University)

SESSION E2: MOTHERING AND THE ACADEMY II

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 651

CHAIR- Christine Young (University of San Francisco)

The Phenomenological Limitations of Choice: When Graduate School Becomes Untenable for Mothers

Lisa Carley Hotaling (Saybrook Graduate School and Research Center)

Intensive Mothering: Imperfect Madness

Linda Ennis (York University)

SESSION E3: MATERNAL LITERATURES III

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 662

CHAIR – Judith Mintz Sanchez (Trent University)

She Killed Her in a Bracket: Exploring Maternal Loss in Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse*

Jessica O'Reilly (Ryerson University)

Mothers, Mothering, and the Unspoken Truth found in fiction by Morrison, Chase-Riboud, and Limon

Lisa Elwood (Herkimer County Community College)

11:30am-11:45am

BREAK

11:45am-1:15pm

SESSION F1: MATERNAL ACTIVISMS AND WRITING MATERNITY

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 662

CHAIR – Linn Baran (Writer/Activist)

Constructing motherhood: Cultural discourse and mothers of children with special needs

Madeline Burghardt (York University)

"I've Spent My Whole Life Preparing to Raise Teenagers": Links between Mothering and Raving

Julie Gregory (Queen's University)

Alice at Dusk: Notes on Fieldwork and Poetry

Maki Motapanyane (Thorneloe University)

'NNEKA' – The Bitter Sweet Journey of Motherhood in Igbo Society

Vivian Ihechu (Researcher)

SESSION F2: MOTHERS IN FILM II

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 651

CHAIR – Kathleen Cummins (York University)

The Cinematic Representation of Solo Mothers by Choice and Non-Normative Family Structures in the Autobiographical Hybrid Documentary *Maverick Mother*

Janet Merewether (Macquarie University and Honorary Associate, University of Sydney)

On the Edge of Genre: The Interrogating Maternal Gaze in the Films of Anne Wheeler

Kathleen Cummins (York University)

1:15pm-2:15pm

LUNCH break

(*bring your lunch for a film screening of “Maverick Mother” in SHE 662 (52 min)*)

2:15pm-3:30pm

SESSION G1: GENETICS AND REPRODUCTION

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 662

CHAIR – Shira Richter (Artist, Filmmaker)

Mothers: Central Heroes in the Story of the Human Race

Angela Huntsman (Australian Institute of Human Development and Principle Researcher)

Jodie Hedley-Ward (Author)

Coming to Terms: Ethics, Motherhood, and the Cultural Science Fiction of the Gene

Stuart J. Murray (Ryerson University)

Is there an “appropriate” time to become a mother? Motherhood as a patriarchal institution and its influence on the timing of the first birth

Veronika Novoselova (York University)

3:30pm-3:45pm

BREAK

3:45pm-5:15pm

SESSION H1: MOTHERS AND VISUAL CULTURE II

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 662

CHAIR- Shira Richter (Artist, Filmmaker)

Mothers Who Shoot: Women in Professional Photography

Myrl Coulter (Writer, Photographer)

Canadian Mother/Visual Artist: (Not So) Difficult Choices

Judith Mintz Sanchez (Trent University)

Visually ARTiculating Motherhood

Shira Richter (Artist, Filmmaker)

SESSION H2: SINGLE MOTHERING AND COUNTER MATERNAL DISCOURSES

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 651

CHAIR- Linn Baran (Writer/Activist)

Black Mothering in a Reconstituted Home Situation

Nancy Fraser (York University)

The Last Quarter – The DVD: Challenging Representations of Lone Moms Living in Poverty
Diana L. Gustafson (Memorial University)

Deconstructing the “Black Single Mother” Discourse
Melinda Vandenberg (University of Toronto)

SESSION H3: WORKSHOPS

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (SHE) ROOM 652

CHAIR- Tara Goldstein (University of Toronto)

Singing Our Mothers’ Stories
Roslyn Schwartz (Singer/Songwriter)

Harriet’s House: Mothering and Daughtering in an Adoptive Same-Sex Family
Tara Goldstein (University of Toronto)

***Special thanks to our additional conference sponsors:**

**Office of the Dean, Faculty of Arts, Ryerson University;
The School of Early Childhood Education, Ryerson University;
The Modern Literature and Culture Research Center, Ryerson University.**

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