Melville’s Measures
October 17-19, 2019
Université de Lille – Université de Paris
An international conference organised by CECILLE (EA 4074, Université de Lille) and LARCA (UMR 8225, Université de Paris).
Convened by Hélène Cottet (Université de Lille), Auréole Clavier (Université de Lille), Emilia Le Seven (Université de Paris), Ronan Ludot-Vlasak (Université de Lille), Edouard Marsoin (Université de Paris) and Cécile Roudeau (Université de Paris).
With the help of Caroline Hildebrandt, Thibault Lefebvre, Mathilde Louette, Cloé Mariacourt and Vincent Soubeyrand.
Special thanks to Constantin Bobas, Jean-Marie Boeglin, Raphaël Lamiral, Bruno Legrand and Marie-France Pilarski.

Scientific committee
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Bruno Monfort (Université Paris Nanterre)
Mark Niemeyer (Université de Bourgogne)
Samuel Otter (University of California, Berkeley)
Cécile Roudeau (Université de Paris)
October 17th  
(Lille - MESHS)

9.00-9.45am Registration

9.45-10am Welcome

10.00-11.00am Plenary address by Cody Marrs: “On Melville and Beauty” [MESHS Room 2]

11.00-11.15am Coffee Break

11.15am-12.45pm Session 1
Panel 1 Poetic Measures  
(Chair: Elizabeth Duquette) [MESHS Room 2]
- Samuel Otter: “Moby-Dick, Prose, and Poetry: Regarding the ‘Extracts’”
- Katie McGettigan: “Measuring the Noise of War in Battle-Pieces”
- Mathieu Duplay: “Surviving the Wreck: Herman Melville, Alize Goodman, and the Power of Catastrophe”

12.45-2.00pm Lunch

2.00-3.30pm Session 2
Panel 2 Arithmetics of Pain (Chair: Meredith Farmer) [MESHS Room 2]
- Thomas Constantinesco: “I must calculate over again: Melville’s Measure of Pain”
- David Blake: “Keep thy finger on it: The Prosthetics of Measurement in Moby-Dick”
- Ryan Heryford: “The Odd Inches: Melville’s Measured Incorporeality”

3.30-4pm Coffee Break

4.00-5.30pm Session 3
Panel 4 (Un)disciplined bodies? (Chair: Samuel Otter) [MESHS Room 2]
- Édouard Marsoin: “Of men, [fat men] are the good measures’: Melville’s Diets”
- Arturo Corujo: “On the (Im)possibility of Giving a Measure of Oneself: Anatomy, Narration, and Subjectivity in Herman Melville’s White-Jacket”
- Pilar Martinez Benedi: “‘Where was White-Jacket then?’: Spatial Confinement and Unbounded Corporeality in Melville’s Man-of-War”

Panel 3 Melville’s Approximations (Chair: Hélène Cottet) [MESHS Room 3]
- Federico Bellini: “I did not trouble myself with the odd inches’: Approximating Melville”
- Béatrix Pernelle: “Bartleby’s Measurings and Figurings: The Writer’s Impossible Accounting of the Other”

7.30pm Conference Dinner  
(Brasserie de la Paix)

October 18th  
(Lille - MESHS)

9.00-10.30am Session 4
Panel 6 Rescaling Melville (1): The Measures of Revolutions (chair: Édouard Marsoin) [MESHS Room 2]
- Duncan Faherty: “‘Melville knew the score’: Remeasuring ‘Benito Cereno’ as an Index of the Globality of the Black Atlantic”
- Elizabeth Duquette: “The Fog of Tyranny in ‘Benito Cereno’”

10.30-11.00am Coffee Break

11.00am-12.30pm Session 5
Panel 7 Measures of Authority: Deconstructive Approaches (chair: Thomas Dutoit) [MESHS Room 2]
- Richard Anker: “The Measure of Authority. Figuring the Political and Deconstructing the Death Penalty in Billy Budd, Sailor”
- Nicholas Spengler: “Like the needle to the load-stone: Emergency Politics and the Foundation of Authority in White-Jacket and Moby-Dick”
- Tae Sung: “The Unappropriated Gift: Melville and the Measureless Measure of the Impersonal”

Panel 8 Chartless Voyages (chair: Michel Imbert) [MESHS Room 3]
- Julien Nègre: “The World in a Footnote: Examining Ahab’s Chart in Chapter 44 of Moby-Dick”
- Divyajyoti Singh: “Moby-Dick to Modern Science Writing: Quantum Understanding, Cosmic Quests”

12.30-1.30pm Lunch

Panel 9 Melville’s Frequencies (Chair: Katie McGettigan) [MESHS Room 2]
- Marcy Dinius: “Some bold or indecent expression: Reading the Asterisks in ‘Benito Cereno’”
- Alex Benson: “The Waveform of ‘The Encantadas’”

Panel 10 Tracing Melville (Chair: Nicholas Spengler) [MESHS Room 3]
- Tony McGowan: “Melville’s Reliquary Reformations”
- Yuji Kato: “Herman Melville in the Measurement of Contemporary Cultures: Transplantations of His Texts in Leos Carax’s POLA X and Kenzaburo Oe’s Death by Water”

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