

VISAWUS

Zoom Series 2022-23: Victorian Promises

"WHAT CAN AREA STUDIES OR CRITICAL COMPARATIVISM OFFER VICTORIAN STUDIES?"

A Virtual Roundtable

Friday, 16 September 2022

9:00 AM Pacific Time

In their introduction to a recent issue of *Victorian Literature and Culture*, Sukanya Banerjee, Ryan Fong, and Helena Michie suggest that “it might be time to collaborate with disciplinary formations such as area studies, which are marked by their cross-disciplinary and primarily non-European focus. To bridge the gap between nineteenth-century studies and area studies—to twin, in other words, the temporal axis with a spatial one—is one way to ‘lateralize’ Victorian Britain, to think of widening in coeval terms” (6-7).

Join us for a conversation about the prospects of widening Victorian Studies by integrating the methods and knowledges of Area Studies and Critical Comparativism. Participants will explore the following questions. Are there horizons to “widening” the field of Victorian Studies? How can scholars and teachers overcome the obstacles—both real and imagined, mental and institutional—to such “widening”?

For instance, how can we address language barriers or scanty knowledge of non-western vernacular texts? How do we develop networks of collaborators, including vernacular speakers, translators, regional specialists?

Join the Roundtable Discussion

Live Link: [Control click to join](#)

Participants:

Zarena Aslami, Associate Professor of English
Michigan State University

Anna Berman, Assistant Professor of Russian Literature
University of Cambridge

Ross G. Forman, Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literary Studies
University of Warwick

Kellie Holzer, Professor of English
Virginia Wesleyan University



The Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States