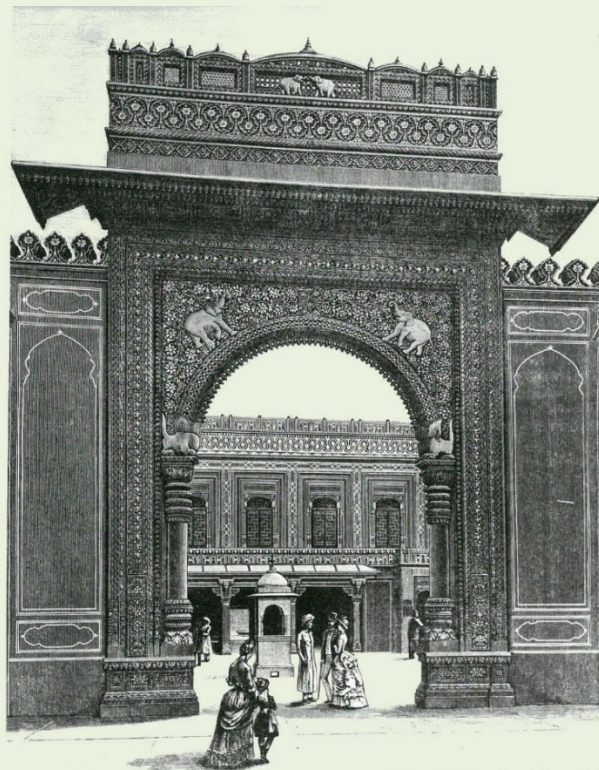


Meet me in St. Louis for **VISAWUS 2025:**
Gateways
October 3-5, 2025

Saint Louis University

Keynote Speaker: Kristin Mahoney, Michigan State University

Plenary Panelists: Eleanor Courtemanche, Jill Galvan, and William McKelvy
Magic Lantern Show: Shalyn Claggett, Mississippi State University



The Gwalior Gate, the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, 1886, RIBA Collections. SOURCE: Builder, vol. LI (1886 July 3), 16.

Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States
2025 Conference



Gateways

Saint Louis University

About the location: Saint Louis University is a Catholic, Jesuit institution in mid-town Saint Louis, founded in 1818. The campus and surrounding neighborhood abound with buildings dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Saint Louis University is also close to the St. Louis Art Museum, the Missouri History Museum, the St. Louis Botanical Gardens, and many beautifully preserved Victorian House Museums, including the Samuel Cupples House on campus as well as the Campbell House Museum and Chatillon-Demenil Mansion nearby.

Institutional Sponsors:



Planning Committee: Anne Stiles, Neil Hultgren, Richard Fulton,
Julie Codell, Ashley Nadeau, & Solveig Robinson

Conference at a Glance

Friday October 3rd, 2025

8:00 AM	9:30 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast (Pere Marquette Gallery)
9:30 AM	10:00 AM	Introduction & Welcome (Pere Marquette Gallery)
10:00 AM	11:30 AM	Panel 1 (Pere Marquette Gallery)
11:30 AM	12:00 PM	Morning Break: Coffee/Tea/Snacks (Pere Marquette Gallery)
12:00 PM	1:30 PM	Panel 2A (Pere Marquette Gallery) & Panel 2B (Verhaegen 219)
1:30 PM	2:30 PM	Lunch Provided (Pere Marquette Gallery)
2:30 PM	4:00 PM	Panel 3A (Pere Marquette Gallery) & Panel 3B (Verhaegen 219)
4:00 PM	4:30 PM	Afternoon Break: Coffee/Tea/Snacks (Pere Marquette Gallery)
4:30 PM	6:00 PM	Plenary Panel (Pere Marquette Gallery)
6:30 PM	8:00 PM	Board Meeting & Dinner
6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Everyone else: dinner on your own

Saturday October 4th, 2025

8:00 AM	9:30 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast (Pere Marquette Gallery)
9:30 AM	11:00 AM	Panel 4A (Pere Marquette Gallery) & Panel 4B (Verhaegen 219)
11:00 AM	11:30 AM	Morning Break: Coffee/Tea/Snacks (Pere Marquette Gallery)
11:30 AM	1:00 PM	Panel 5A (Pere Marquette Gallery) & Panel 5B (Verhaegen 219)
1:00 PM	2:00 PM	Business Lunch Provided (Pere Marquette Gallery)
2:00 PM	3:30 PM	Panel 6A (Pere Marquette Gallery) & Panel 6B (Verhaegen 219)
3:30 PM	3:45 PM	Walk to Samuel Cupples House
3:45 PM	5:45 PM	Tour and Reception at Samuel Cupples House
5:45 PM	6:00 PM	Walk to Pere Marquette Gallery
6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Keynote Lecture (Pere Marquette Gallery)
7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Banquet Dinner (Pere Marquette Gallery)
8:00 PM	9:00 PM	Magic Lantern Show (Pere Marquette Gallery)

Sunday October 5th, 2025

8:00 AM	9:30 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast (Pere Marquette Gallery)
9:30 AM	11:00 AM	Panel 7A (Pere Marquette Gallery) & Panel 7B (Verhaegen 219)
11:00 AM	11:30 AM	Morning Break: Coffee/Tea/Snacks (Pere Marquette Gallery)
11:30 AM	1:00 PM	Panel 8 (Pere Marquette Gallery)
1:00 PM		Conference Ends

Detailed Program (*Draft 9/14/2025*)

Friday October 3rd, 2025

- 8:00 AM 9:30 AM Registration and Continental Breakfast (Pere Marquette Gallery)
- 9:30 AM 10:00 AM Introduction & Welcome (Pere Marquette Gallery)
Anne Stiles, Saint Louis University
- 10:00 AM 11:30 AM **Panel 1: Physical Sciences** (Pere Marquette Gallery)
Moderator: Amy Woodson-Boulton, Loyola Marymount University
Anne Stiles, Saint Louis University, “The Occult Half-life of Victorian Atomic Theories”
Tyson Stolte, New Mexico State U, “Energies and Combinations: The Woman in White, Plot, and the Victorian Physical Sciences”
Neil Hultgren, CSU Long Beach, Brooding over the Cosmos: Olaf Stapledon’s ‘Last Men,’ Decadence, and the Romance Form”
- 11:30 AM 12:00 PM Morning Break: Coffee/Tea/Snacks (Pere Marquette Gallery)
- 12:00 PM 1:30 PM **Panel 2A: Travelers** (Pere Marquette Gallery)
Moderator: Anne Stiles, Saint Louis University
Daniel Stuart, Texas Tech University, “All We Restless Travellers”: Travel, Self-Discovery, and Procuring The Grand Tour Experience in Dickens’s Little Dorrit
Lindsay Wilhelm, Oklahoma State University, Victorian Travelers in the Liminal Pacific
Angie Blumberg, Auburn University, Exploring Egypt with Baedeker at the Fin de Siecle: A Critical Itinerary
- Panel 2B: Industry, Urban Life, and the Postsecular** (Verhaegen 219)
Moderator: Diana Maltz, South Oregon University
Dagni Bredesen, Eastern Illinois University, The Literary Remains of London’s Docklands and the Thames River Police in the Long Nineteenth Century: Where are the Guardians of London’s Gateway to the World?
Jason Finch, Åbo Akademi University (Finland), Tram Contestations: Texts Representing Industrial Conflict around Public Transport in London and Saint Louis, 1877–1900
Denae Dyck, Texas State University, From Suspicion to Hope: Postsecular Thresholds in the Poetry of Thomas Hardy and Dollie Radford
- 1:30 PM 2:30 PM Lunch Provided (Pere Marquette Gallery)

- 2:30 PM 4:00 PM **Panel 3A: Gothic, Fantasy, and the Occult** (Pere Marquette Gallery)
 Moderator: Ashley Nadeau, Utah Valley University
 Kristine Swenson, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Eugenic Reincarnation: Arabella Kenealy and the Romance of the Soul
 Colten Biro, Davis and Elkins College, “Thinking Through the Rabbit Hole: Lewis Carroll’s “Inward Turn” Toward Liberal Character Development”
 Cameron Dodworth, Methodist University, “Gothic is a Gateway Genre: Victorian Forays into the Gothic via the Poor and Working Class”
- Panel 3B: Translation and The Archive** (Verhaegen 219)
 Moderator: Kellie Holzer, Virginia Wesleyan University
 Josh Brorby, Oxford College of Emory University, How Many Omar Khayyáms Can There Be? Literary Translation at the Gateways of Identity
 Seohyon Jung, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Jane Eyre in Transit: Exploring Postcolonial Reception across Fifteen Korean Translations
- 4:00 PM 4:30 PM Afternoon Break: Coffee/Tea/Snacks (Pere Marquette Gallery)
- 4:30 PM 6:00 PM **Plenary Panel** (Pere Marquette Gallery)
 Moderator: Amy Woodson-Boulton, Loyola Marymount University
 Eleanor Courtemanche, UIUC, The Violence of the Feminist Movement
 Jill Galvan, Ohio State University, Horror and Finality
 William McKelvy, Washington University, Blindness and Iconoclasm in the Age of Steam
- 6:00 PM 8:00 PM Board Meeting & Dinner
- 6:00 PM 8:00 PM Everyone else: dinner on your own

Saturday October 4th, 2025

- 8:00 AM 9:30 AM Registration and Continental Breakfast (Pere Marquette Gallery)
- 9:30 AM 11:00 AM **Panel 4A: Indigenous Perspectives** (Pere Marquette Gallery)
- Moderator: Amy Woodson-Boulton, Loyola Marymount University
- Diana Maltz, Southern Oregon University, Settler-Colonial Gateways in Lionel Haweis's *Tsoqalem: A Weird Indian Tale of the Cowichan Monster* (1918)
- Robert Aguirre, University of Windsor, *Muybridge, Indigeneity, and Sovereignty on the Alaskan Frontier*
- Panel 4B: Feminist Perspectives** (Verhaegen 219)
- Moderator: Ashley Nadeau, Utah Valley University
- Lexie Broemmer, St. Louis University, *The Invisibility of Women's Work and Worth: The Problem of Margaret Hale's Portrayal in North and South*
- Katie Thorman, St. Louis University, *Institutionalizing Boundary-Benders: 'Insane' Victorian Women in England and California*
- Alycia Gilbert, University of Washington, "Come to Me"; *Gendered Gateways and Gothic Appetites in Dracula* (1897) and *Nosferatu* (2024)
- 11:00 AM 11:30 AM Morning Break: Coffee/Tea/Snacks (Pere Marquette Gallery)
- 11:30 AM 1:00 PM **Panel 5A: The Visual** (Pere Marquette Gallery)
- Moderator: Amy Woodson-Boulton, Loyola Marymount University
- Diana L. Gander Ostrander, Anoka Technical College, "From Within, Outward": The Liminal and Sacred Space of Frank Lloyd Wright's Organic Architecture
- Shalyn Claggett, Mississippi State University, *From Stage to Screen: Melodrama in Magic Lantern Shows*
- Emma O'Donnell, St. Louis University, *Surveilling the Reader in Charlotte Bronte's Vilette: Lucy, Surveillance, and the Reader*
- Panel 5B: Publishing and Music** (Verhaegen 219)
- Moderator: Solveig Robinson, Pacific Lutheran University
- Solveig Robinson, Pacific Lutheran University, *Exit and Reenter: Charles Rideal's Publishing Misadventures*
- Whitney Thompson, Independent Scholar, "My Heart is Over the Sea": The Transatlantic Fame of the British Balladeer Charlotte Alington Barnard
- Phyllis Weliver, St. Louis University, *Music, Literature and Liberalism: Contact Points from London to Melbourne*
- 1:00 PM 2:00 PM Business Lunch Provided (Pere Marquette Gallery)

- 2:00 PM 3:30 PM **Panel 6A: Journalism and Nonfiction** (Pere Marquette Gallery)
Moderator: Ashley Nadeau, Utah Valley University
Jeffrey Jackson, Monmouth University, “Great Comprehensive Systems”: Harriet Martineau and Household Words in 1850
Heather Bozant Witcher, Auburn University at Montgomery, Pre Raphaelite Journalism
Livia Arndal Woods, University of Illinois at Springfield, The Modern Housewife at the Boundaries
- Panel 6B: Victorian Femininity** (Verhaegen 219)
Moderator: Denae Dyck, Texas State University
Burke De Boer, Texas State University, Furies, Maids, and Libation Bearers: The Theatricality of Amy Levy’s “Xantippe”
Sara Odens, Auburn University, Gateway Bonnets: Painting the Echoes of Nineteenth-century Ideals in Contemporary New Domesticity
Kellie Holzer, Virginia Wesleyan University, Cornelia Sorabji and “The Parsi Girl of the Period” (or Eliza Lynn Linton as a “gateway” to Cornelia Sorabji’s feminism)
- 3:30 PM 3:45 PM Walk to Samuel Cupples House
- 3:45 PM 5:45 PM Tour and Reception at Samuel Cupples House
- 5:45 PM 6:00 PM Walk to Pere Marquette Gallery
- 6:00 PM 7:00 PM **Keynote Lecture:** Kristin Mahoney, Michigan State University, Love’s Cross Currents: Theosophy and Transnational Kinship (Pere Marquette Gallery)
Moderator: Anne Stiles, Saint Louis University
- 7:00 PM 9:00 PM Banquet Dinner (Pere Marquette Gallery)
- 8:00 PM 9:00 PM **Magic Lantern Show:** Shalyn Claggett, Mississippi State U. (Pere Marquette Gallery)

Sunday October 5th, 2025

8:00 AM 9:30 AM Registration and Continental Breakfast (Pere Marquette Gallery)

9:30 AM 11:00 AM **Panel 7A: The Law** (Pere Marquette Gallery)

Moderator: TBD

Sara Van Den Berg, Saint Louis University, Milton and the Madwoman in the Divorce Court: Durham v. Durham (1885)

Teresa Huffman Traver, CSU Chico, "The Woman or the Priest? Tragic Jesuit Love Stories"

J Myles Hesse, Saint Louis University, "Stammering is not allowed in this establishment": Institutional Gatekeepers in James Malcolm Rymer's The Unspeakable

Panel 7B: Art (Verhaegen 219)

Moderator: Diana Maltz, South Oregon University

Julie Codell, Arizona State University, Gateway to Fame: Victorian Art Dealers

So Young Park, Gustavus Adolphus College, "Limitations Set by Inexorable Circumstance": Arthur Morrison's The Painters of Japan

Susana Montañés-Lleras, Case Western Reserve University, Introducing the Artist as Narrator: Walter Crane's Sixpenny New Series Book Cover and Children's Books Publishing

11:00 AM 11:30 AM Morning Break: Coffee/Tea/Snacks (Pere Marquette Gallery)

11:30 AM 1:00 PM **Panel 8: Poetry and Classics** (Verhaegen 219)

Moderator: Anne Stiles, Saint Louis University

Makayla Putman, Texas State University, "Is It Eách One?": Fire, Darkness, and the Liminal God in Hopkins's Sonnets

Türkü Su Marasalı, St. Louis University, Christina Rossetti: Interrogating Traditional Gendered Roles in the Sonnet

Ari Hutchinson, St. Louis University, Wilde and the Sphynx: The Answer is Not (Only) "Man"

1:00 PM Conference Ends

Event Locations (See Map on Following Page)

Pere Marquette Gallery

DuBourg Hall, 221 N. Grand Blvd, 2nd Floor, St. Louis, MO 63103

- Location for **registration, most panels, and all meals.**
- Located on the **second floor of DuBourg Hall.**
- **Easiest entry:** Grand Blvd./Father Biondi Way entrance.

Verhaegen 219

Verhaegen Hall, 3634 Lindell Blvd, 2nd Floor, St. Louis, MO 63108

- Location for **some concurrent panels.**
- Situated on the **second floor** of Verhaegen Hall, which is connected to DuBourg Hall.

Samuel Cupples House

3673 W. Pine Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63108

- A **historic Victorian house** on SLU's campus.
- Location of Saturday afternoon reception at just after 3:30pm.
- About a **3-minute walk from Pere Marquette Gallery.**

Angad Arts Hotel

3550 Samuel Shepard Dr, St. Louis, MO 63103

- Official **conference hotel.**
- About an **8-minute walk from Pere Marquette Gallery.**

Element Hotel Midtown

3763 Forest Park Ave, St. Louis, MO 63108

- Official **conference hotel.**
- About a **12-minute walk from Pere Marquette Gallery.**

Saint Louis University Campus Map

