

17th Annual Norman Mailer Conference
Mailer on Politics, Public Life, and Pop Culture
Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, PA
October 10-12, 2019

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10th

- 9:00-10:00 **Business Meeting** (Breiseth 107)
- 10:15-11:15 **The Politics of American Democracy:** Bob Begiebing, "Mailer and the Founders"; Robert Saxe, "'A Little Better Than They Should Have Been': Norman Mailer and the Romance of the Kennedys"; Alex Hicks, "Norman Mailer, White Working Class Male and 'Left Conservatism'"; Moderator: Nicole DePolo (Breiseth 106)
- 11:30-12:30 Session #1: **Mailer in the Public Eye:** Matthew Hinton, "The Pugilist vs. The Publisher: Norman Mailer Takes On"; Chondell Villines, "Mailer and Celebrity"; Bill Lowenberg, "Mailer: A Life in Pictures"; Moderator: Robert Saxe (Breiseth 107)
- Session #2: **Philosophical Foundations & Political Connections:** Raj Chandarlapaty, "The Hipster"; Alex Hicks, "Mailer's Marxist Politics"; Ann von Mehren, "*Armies of the Night*, Mitch Goodman, and the CPA"; Moderator: Jerry Lucas (Breiseth 106)
- 12:30-1:45 Lunch on Your Own
- 2:00-3:00 Session #1: **Mailer and Journalism**
Jason Mosser, "Mailer's Literary Journalism in Context"; Sal Fallica, "In the Red Light: History Biding Its Time"; Victor Peppard, "Mailer and Breslin: Champions of the Little Man and the Outlaw"; Moderator: Phil Sipiora (Breiseth 107)
- Session #2: ***Of a Fire on the Moon After 50 Years*** Carol Holmes-Alpern, "*Of a Fire on the Moon: A Retrospective*";

Walter Lewallen, "That Sinking Feeling"; Moderator: Enid Stubin (Breiseth 106)

3:15-4:15 **Current Mailer Projects:** Mike Lennon; Jerry Lucas; Susan Mailer; Maggie McKinley (Breiseth 106)

4:30-5:30 **Book Reading: Susan Mailer, *In Another Place*** (Breiseth 107). *Book Signing to Follow in Weckesser Hall at Opening Reception.*

5:45-7:00 **Opening Reception** (Weckesser Hall), sponsored by Wilkes Maslow Family Creative Writing Program and the University Advancement Office

7:00-8:00 **Tour of Mailer Reading Room and Collection and Dedication of Nancy Ellen Craig's Mailer Portrait** (Farley Library, 2nd Floor)

Dinner on your own

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11th

9:00-10:00 **Mailer and McLuhan:** Nicole DePolo; Jerry Lucas; Sal Fallica (Breiseth 106)

10:15-11:15 **Norman Mailer and the Actor's Studio:** John Buffalo Mailer; Timothy Nolan; Mike Lennon (Breiseth 107)

11:30-12:30 Session #1: **Mailer and Violence:** Mark Olshaker; Marc Triplett; Maggie McKinley (Breiseth 106)

Session #2: **Mailer's French Connection:** Jeanne Fuchs, "Mailer in Translation"; Jason Mosser, "Mailer and Malaquais in Conversation"; Mike Lennon, "Mailer and Stendhal"; Moderator: Victor Peppard (Breiseth 107)

12:30-1:45 Lunch on Your Own; **Board Meeting & Lunch in Miller Room, Henry Student Center**

2:00-3:00 Session #1: **Advertisements and Influences:** Enid Stubin, “*Advertisements for Myself: Mailer’s Workes*”; Ray Vince, “Angst, Authorship, and the Critics: *Advertisements*, ‘The Snows of Kilimanjaro,’ and ‘The Crack-Up’”; Erik Nakjavani, “Limit Situations: A Recurring Theme in Hemingway’s and Mailer’s Works”; Moderator: Jason Mosser (Breiseth 106)

Session #2: **Art and Criminality:** James Taylor, “Mailer and Jack Henry Abbott Revisited: Some Famous Writers and Their Convict Projects”; Phil Sipiora; “Literary Rhetoric in *The Executioner’s Song*”; Edward Birzin, “Mailer and *The Faith of Graffiti*”; Moderator: Matthew Hinton (Breiseth 107)

3:45-4:45 ***The Executioner’s Song: A 40th Anniversary Panel Discussion, with featured speaker Larry Schiller;***
Moderator: Mike Lennon (Breiseth 107)

5:00-6:30 Dinner on your own

7:00-9:00 **Screening of *The Executioner’s Song*, followed by Q&A with Larry Schiller** (Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts, South St.)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12th

9:00-10:00: **Undergraduate Work on Mailer:** John Buffalo Mailer and Nicole DePolo (Breiseth 106)

10:15-11:30 **Two Films on Beverly Bentley:** Stephen Mailer’s “Flaubrucht: A Celebration of Life” and Antonia Colodro’s “Beverly”; Introduced by Stephen Mailer (Breiseth 107)

11:45-12:45 **Wilkes Readers’ Theater:** *The Time of Our Time* (Breiseth 106): Bonnie Culver, Wendy Hinton, Matthew Hinton, Jason Miller and Jan Quackenbush

1:00-3:00 **Luncheon & Keynote Address:** Maggie Mailer (Henry Student Center Ballroom, 2nd Fl.)

This year's keynote address was funded by a generous donation from Mashey Bernstein.