

Steinbeck and the Twenty-First Century:
Reading, Teaching, Translating

March 22-24, 2023

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Library
San José State University

Symposia Speakers

Barbara Heavilin, Editor in Chief, *Steinbeck Review* & Steinbeck Bibliographer, Oxford
UP

Ron Rash, Parris Distinguished Professor of Appalachian Cultural Studies,
Western Carolina University

Conference Director

Daniel Lanza Rivers, Director, Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies

Conference Steering Committee

Danica Čerče, Associate Professor of Literature in English, *University of Ljubljana*

Cecilia Donohue, Professor Emeritus, *Madonna University*

Brian Railsback, Professor of English, *Western Carolina University*

Barbara Heavilin, Editor in Chief, *Steinbeck Review* & Steinbeck Bibliographer, Oxford UP

Carter Davis Johnson, PhD Candidate, *University of Kentucky*

Sponsored by the International Society of Steinbeck Scholars and *Steinbeck Review*

Wednesday, March 22

12:00PM – 12:45PM

Check-In and Italian Lunch

Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor

Welcome

Daniel Lanza Rivers

Director, Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies

1:00PM - 2:15PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Steinbeck's Big Books (Virtual/Streamed Session)

Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Kiyoshi Yamauchi (*Panel Chair*)

Niimi University, Japan

"Itaru Nii, the First Translator of *The Grapes of Wrath* into Japanese"

Miona Dinić

University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

"Mythical women in *East of Eden*"

Prerna Pawar

Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi

"Sailing to Eden with Steinbeck"

Steinbeck's Contemporary Relevance (In Person)

AAACNA Studies Center, MLK Library 5th Floor

Danica Čerče (*Panel Chair*)

University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts

"Writing Darkness: Steinbeck's Travels with Charley"

Barbara Heavilin

Editor in Chief, *Steinbeck Review* and Steinbeck Bibliographer, Oxford UP

"Announcing *Crossroads America: Steinbeck's Travels with Charley*"

Nicole Henares

English Teacher, Lowell High School, San Francisco

"The Allegory Of John Steinbeck's *Cannery Row*"

2:30PM - 3:45PM

Steinbeck Studies Retrospective: Roundtable (Hybrid: Virtual and In Person)

Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Kevin Hearle (Panel Chair/ Discussant)
Independent Scholar

Richard Astro
Drexel University

Mimi Gladstein
University of Texas, El Paso

Bob Demott
Ohio University

4:00PM – 6:00PM

Symposium: “No Prophets...nor prophecy”: *Travels with Charley’s longue durée* and Deep Time” (In Person/Streamed)

Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Barbara Heavilin
Editor in Chief, *Steinbeck Review* and Steinbeck Bibliographer, Oxford UP

Thursday, March 23

8:30AM - 9:30AM

Traditional Breakfast

Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor

9:30AM - 10:45AM (Concurrent Sessions)

Recurring Motifs in John Steinbeck's Works (Hybrid: In Person/Streamed Session)

Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Daniel Lanza Rivers (*Panel Chair*)

San José State University

"Environmental Visions and John Steinbeck's Trees"

Cecilia Donohue

Madonna University (retired)

"The Potable Steinbeck: Reading through the Lens of Alcoholology"

Brian Duchaney

Bridgewater State University

"'I love you and I'm homesick too': An Examination of Steinbeck's Wartime Letters to Gwyn"

Sophia Hlavaty

Stanford University

"The Failure of Steinbeck's Doctors"

Pedagogy and the Works of John Steinbeck, I of II (In Person)

AAACNA Studies Center, MLK Library 5th Floor

Kathleen Hicks (*Panel Chair*)

Arizona State University

"Lessons Learned: Teaching Steinbeck Research to Online Undergraduate English Majors"

Isabel Scarlett Harrison

Community English Center

"Guiding Long Term English Learners Through John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*"

Beth Linder Carr

Fresno City College

"On Teaching the Grapes of Wrath"

11:00AM – 12:15PM

Keynote Address (In Person / Streamed)

Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Ron Rash: Ron Rash writes about the often-stereotyped people of Southern Appalachia and his work sets the record straight in a way that reaches local, national, and international audiences. Two of his novels, *Serena* and *The World Made Straight*, have been made into feature films. Among his numerous literary awards: a Guggenheim Fellowship, two O. Henry Prizes, and the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award for *Burning Bright*.

12:30PM - 1:30PM

Mediterranean Lunch

Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor

1:45pm - 3:00PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Pedagogy and the Works of John Steinbeck, II of II (Virtual/Streamed Session)

Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Samantha Covais (Panel Chair)

Binghamton University

“Of Mice and Men for the Contemporary Classroom”

Lauren Williams

Richmond Symphony

“Steinbeck and Western Classical Music: An Interdisciplinary Educational Approach”

Ron Clavier & John B. Simpson

Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist and past member, Advisory Board, Center for Steinbeck Studies

Ph.D., Professor Emeritus (Physiology and Biophysics), SUNYBuffalo

“Is Steinbeck Still Relevant to Today’s Current Social and Political Discourse?”

Steinbeck’s Women

AAACNA Studies Center, MLK Library 5th Floor

Daniel Lanza Rivers (Panel Chair/Discussant)

San José State University

Marissa Martinez

Arizona State University

“The Role of Women During Times of Disparity: Analyzing Women in *The Grapes of Wrath* and *A Russian Journal*”

Susan Shillinglaw

San José State University (Emeritus)

“Toni Jackson and Ed Ricketts: Partners and Visionaries, 1940-47”

3:15PM - 4:30PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Steinbeck and Religion (Hybrid: Virtual/In Person Session)

Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Elisabeth Bayley (Panel Chair)

Loyola University

“The Ecological Imagination within John Steinbeck’s ‘Saint Katy the Virgin’”

Chaker Mohamed Ben Ali

University of 20th August 1955, Skikda, Algeria

“Echoes of Islam in *The Grapes of Wrath* (Part II)”

Danny Levin

Independent Scholar

“Steinbeck’s *Timshel*: Life philosophy and/or Hebrew typo?”

Steinbeck in a Global Context (In Person)

AAACNA Studies Center, MLK Library 5th Floor

Mimi Gladstein (Panel Chair)

University of Texas at El Paso

“Soldiering with Steinbeck”

Kotaro Nakagaki

Senshu University, Japan

“Steinbeck’s Travelogues during the Early Cold War Years: A Look at the Common People in *A Russian Journal* (1948)”

Jeffrey Yeager

Bluefield State University

“Literary Naturalism, Teleological Thinking, and the Politics of Medical Professionalization in *The Pearl* and *The Forgotten Village*”

Friday, March 24

8:30AM - 9:30AM

Energy Breakfast

Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor

9:30AM - 10:45AM

Steinbeck & Mexico (Hybrid: Virtual and In person)

Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor

Carter Davis Johnson (*Panel Chair*)

University of Kentucky

“A Naturalist Bildungsroman: Violence and Heartbreak in Steinbeck's *The Red Pony* and Cormac McCarthy's *All the Pretty Horses*”

Didier Arcade Loumbouzi

Mariem Ngouabi University, Republic of Congo

“A Structural Reading of John Steinbeck's *The Pearl* and ‘Flight’”

Chuck Etheridge

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

“Steinbeck and Vasconcelos: Group Man and La Raza Cosmica”

11:00AM - 12:30PM

Lunch Boxed Sandwiches/Steinbeck Review/Society Business Meeting

Center for Steinbeck Studies, MLK Library 5th Floor

12:30PM – 2:30PM

Film Screening of Lifeboat

Schiro Program Room, MLK Library 5th Floor