SHARP in Focus Week, June 15 - June 19, 2020

Teaching Material Texts without the Material.

How to teach Material Book History when we can’t access the materials in person.

Date:
June 15 2020, 5pm CET

Host: Sarah Werner, SHARP EC Member-at-Large

Panelists:
Megan Peiser, Assistant Professor of English, Oakland University
Emily Spunaugle, Rare Books Librarian, Oakland University
Matthew G. Kirschenbaum, Professor of English, University of Maryland

Keywords:
Co-teaching, book history, rare books collection, online teaching, handling books, BookLab, course adaptation, pedagogical practices
21:01:48 From Ellen Barth: Hi, everyone! We'll be opening the room in just a few minutes.

21:06:15 From Katherine D. Harris: So nice to “see” everyone!

21:06:16 From Jeremy Dibbell: I love "mute your faces" hahaha

21:08:17 From Julie Rak: I am listening on Treaty 6 and Region 4 Metis Nation. They are still here on their lands.

21:08:32 From Lisa Conathan: Mohican homeland

21:09:25 From Danielle: I am also listening on Treaty 6 and Region 4 Metis Nation. Cree and Metis people continue to live here.

21:09:34 From kelleee.warren: Thank you so much for the acknowledgements.

21:11:13 From Sarah Werner: https://docs.google.com/document/d/17z_E7R_jpHv7_3exkiz-n14IMMpi5vVLzzvV4C0ojvM/edit?usp=sharing

21:20:40 From Shannon Supple (she/her): SHARP shooter

21:21:12 From Andrea Reyes Elizondo: no

21:21:23 From Julie Rak: yes

21:21:26 From Brian Watson: yes

21:21:28 From Ellen Barth: yes

21:21:29 From Myrna: Yes!


21:29:53 From jlcole: That is a cool (if very inconvenient) problem to have to solve for this assignment

21:30:04 From Katherine D. Harris: Matt, can you share the assignment instructions?

21:30:21 From Julie Rak: I'm interested in how zine-like the final product was for that first book shown.
21:30:36 From Cait Coker: wow!!

21:30:42 From Anne Deschaine: WOW, that is cool!

21:30:44 From kelleee.warren: That’s fantastic!

21:30:45 From Kate Ozment: This is amazing!

21:30:49 From Julie Rak: amazing

21:30:51 From Danielle: really great

21:30:52 From Joshua Kruchten: I love that!

21:30:53 From jlcole: Wow

21:30:54 From Ellen Barth: That is wonderful!

21:30:54 From Brian Watson: oh my god

21:30:56 From Anne Coldiron: Love this

21:30:56 From Adam Smyth: Love the pill-texts

21:31:42 From Kate Ozment: yay Dylan!! This is great

21:31:44 From Julie Rak: again, wow

21:32:05 From Fabián Vega: This is awesome!

21:32:08 From Michael Erwig: What an ingenious idea!!

21:32:15 From Andie Silva: Amazing interpretation and critique of Pamela!

21:32:38 From Leslie Howsam: The text-pills are like my favourite "book" for teaching, the "Poet Lites" -- a cigarette box with twenty poems, each rolled and tipped to resemble a smoke; the box comes with a "health warning" about the risks of poetry.

21:32:49 From Sarah Horowitz: I really like that both these presentations have talked about working with books as "lab." I wonder if we might use that vocabulary more in our work with books/special collections.
21:33:05 From Laura Dietz: These projects are as beautiful as they are ingenious - I can see what Matt means by ‘generative’ constraints.

21:33:36 From Kate Ozment: i’d also love to see what scaffolded readings and reflective prompts Matt used. Obviously the class very intentionally prompted students to think this creatively.

21:33:48 From Brian Watson: 😇

21:35:13 From Adam Smyth: That was fascinating: thank you.

21:35:21 From Shannon Supple (she/her): If folks like the pill-texts, then boy are there some artists’ books out there I want you to see!

21:35:35 From Michael Erwig: Very fascinating project indeed, thank you for the inspiring input!

21:35:38 From Andrea Reyes Elizondo: I want to take a course with Matthew!

21:36:27 From Brian Watson: cat!!

21:36:28 From Alix Norton: Shannon 😊 yes!

21:36:43 From Kadin Henningsen (he/him): @Sarah Horowitz. I agree about “labs” My 19thc Amer. Lit class includes a “Material Text Lab” and my Intro to Comics and Graphic Narratives includes a “Comics Lab”

21:37:41 From Anne Coldiron: Agree about “making do” as a consistent feature of book history (e.g. Caxton certainly improvised a lot)

21:39:45 From Lisa Maruca: Megan and Emily, you were also generous about sharing those videos online so we could all learn from them!

21:41:19 From Julie Rak: The document camera idea makes a lot of sense. Megan and Emily, can you talk a bit about privacy concerns for students and how you manage those in your book history course?

21:42:27 From Kelly Wooten: Megan and Emily, Can you share more about the activities like reading by candlelight?

21:42:51 From Brian Watson: Did any of the panelists find themselves ‘falling back’ on texts that were digitized that they might not have normally? Do they see them or present them in different ways than they might have?
21:43:14 From Joshua Kruchten : Seconding Brian’s question!

21:43:48 From quarmby lawrence : How much certainty do you have in the U.S. about how teaching will be in the fall? In the U.K. we still have a lot of uncertainty about what we will be able to do, and currently still have no access to our buildings.

21:44:28 From Kate Ozment : It varies a lot here now. Everything from definitely online to definitely in person and “we don’t know” as colleges hope the state government decides for them

21:44:49 From Julie Rak : @lawrence Quarmby: in Canada, we are all teaching online this fall, all institutions, with rare exceptions which come with a lot of cleaning protocols.

21:46:10 From Joshua Kruchten : If there’s time I’d love to hear a little bit more about how our panelists thought through teaching/exploring questions of materiality in a synchronous vs. asynchronous modality!

21:46:16 From Beth DeBold : Yes, Emily--that point is right on

21:46:34 From Lauren Williams : Agreed! Well said Emily!

21:46:35 From sarah sussman : That is such a great response, Emily, for faculty and librarians working together

21:46:46 From Alan Galey : Inspiring panel -- thanks!  
Q1: Could anyone say more about treating the digital facsimiles, files, etc. themselves as objects of study? (Thinking of Sarah's work here.)  
Q2: Any thoughts on teaching remotely with born-digital materials like ebooks? It's a category we haven't discussed yet, though it connects to the facsimiles-as-objects-not-just-surrogates approach.

21:46:47 From Rachel Hart : Yes entirely agree that archivists and librarians can make connections and team teaching is really stimulating - I learn such a lot from my academic colleague with whom I team teach palaeography!

21:46:50 From quarmby lawrence : Thank you @Kate Ozment and @Julie Rak

21:47:07 From Brian Watson : thank you all for your AMAZING answers :) 

21:49:28 From Anne Coldiron : Thanks for this great session.

21:49:30 From kathleenwalkup : I had my students look at artists books from the Women’s Studio Workshop, which are all in full pdf format online. One discussion we had around these surrogates is what students were missing in not being able to handle the books.
21:49:46 From Amanda Watson (she/her) : Thank you for this session!

21:49:50 From Eleanor Shevlin : Yes, many thanks for a great session!

21:49:57 From Shannon Supple (she/her) : Yes, Kathleen!

21:49:59 From benjamin albritton : Thank you for a great session!


21:50:15 From Laura Dietz : Thank you for a great session!

22:01:57 From Lauren Williams : Thanks for this great session!

22:02:42 From Sarah Schmidt : Thank you! This has been very helpful.

22:02:45 From Jenny : Apologies to Breakout Room 6 for leaving abruptly! I didn’t realize that would happen! Thanks for helping me think through the library perspective!

22:02:46 From Matthew G. Kirschenbaum : If folks had specific questions for me, feel free to hit me on twitter, @mkirschenbaum

22:02:55 From Melissa McAfee : sarah - could you send link to Google doc?

22:02:56 From Brian Watson : this was great and very helpful!!

22:03:02 From Joshua Kruchten : Thank you all so much!

22:03:05 From Patrick Crowley : Thanks so much for this! Sorry I have to run, but this was really excellent!

22:03:10 From Cait Coker : This was very useful and thanks to everyone involved!!

22:03:13 From Megan Peiser (she/her) : Tweet us @MeganPeiser and @the_embrarian

22:03:15 From Melissa McAfee : Great session! Thanks so much!

22:03:16 From Evi Heinz : Thanks to the organisers and speakers, great session!

22:03:19 From Danielle : fantastic and very helpful thank you!

22:03:25 From Jeremy Dibbell : Thank you all! Super useful and so nice to see everyone!
22:03:25 From will-slauter: This was a fantastic session, thanks so much!

22:03:28 From Sara Belasco: lol hi brian that was meant for everyone

22:03:29 From Eleanor Shevlin: Yes, yes—very good—thanks to all!

22:03:37 From Anselm’s iPad: thanks for focusing on this aspect of our work

22:03:38 From Sal Robinson: The collegiality and positivity of this session has been really great!

22:03:38 From S Gregg: Thans to Matt, Meha

22:03:40 From Cheryl Cowdy: Thanks for the fabulously helpful session!

22:03:47 From Diane Dias De Fazio: Really great conversation in our breakout rooms, and inspiring presentations! Thank you all!

22:03:47 From Julie Rak: It was interesting and useful. Thank you!

22:03:48 From Michael Erwig: Thank you very much for giving the opportunity of taking part today to all of us!

22:03:52 From S Gregg: Thanks to Matt, Megan, Emily, Sarah

22:03:52 From kathleenwalkup: Thanks, Everyone. Great session.

22:03:57 From Alan Galey: Amen

22:04:01 From Danielle: amen

22:04:09 From Susan Greenberg: Thanks to everyone!

22:04:13 From S Gregg: Also thanks to Seth, Alexandra, Katherine

22:04:34 From Sal Robinson: Oh wow this sounds amazing

22:04:42 From Ruth Rogers: Thank you so much for an excellent session. Onward!

22:04:43 From Danielle: @Matt - thanks for sharing all those lovely books!
Advice about student privacy and access
* move from sending things to student addresses to purchase of materials
* give students choices about backgrounds for video
* headphones as required equipment for Megan’s class

Librarians and Conservators
* Use the knowledge base they have. They want to partner.
* Conservation: students see that material work and love it, online Megan and Emily did an Instagram online version of pulling books for students…because they love the behind the scenes work.

* MK shouts out to conservation labs

Michael–talking about visiting rare book rooms and the current challenge with that (sorry this was notes from Breakout Room 1). Will send to SW

22:04:53 From Kate Donovan : This was great! Thanks so much, everyone!

22:04:59 From Kadin Henningsen (he/him) : Thanks so much!!

22:05:01 From Bianca Falbo : Thank you!

22:05:02 From Alan Galey : Thank you all!

22:05:03 From Andie Silva : Thank you for an excellent session!!

22:05:07 From Ellen Barth : Thank you, Sarah and panelists!

22:05:10 From Maureen Maryanski : Thank you so much! This was a brilliant session!