

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD SOCIETY

2025 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Eugene Lang Building, The New School, 65 W 11th Street, New York, NY 10011

Conference panels will take place in the following rooms:

Wollman Hall, Fifth Floor
Frank Kingdon Lecture Hall, Room 407
Alice Rice Cook Lecture Hall, Room 404

*See **Map** in the back of the program for more details.

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

9:00 am – 4:00 pm	The Great Gatsby Boat Tour (optional)
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OPTIONAL EVENT: Join Kevin Fitzpatrick as our host as we depart Port Washington, Long Island, for a cruise between East and West Egg. Attendees are encouraged to arrive Saturday night and join organizers on the train out to Port Washington or if you fly in Saturday night you can stay in Great Neck or Port Washington itself. If you arrive early Sunday morning, it's still possible to make this trip. We will watch bags while you ride the water!

***Please arrive at Penn Station (Long Island Railroad Gate) by 9:00AM to make the first boat! (additional instructions available on pgs. 17-18 of this program).**

5:30–8:00 pm	Opening Reception	Glucksman Ireland House 1 Washington Mews
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The Glucksman Ireland House at New York University, one of the world's leading centers for the study of Ireland, Irish America, and the Irish diaspora, is located in the heart of Greenwich Village. A warm and welcoming place to visit and a hub for all things Irish, the Ireland House is the ideal venue to begin our conference.

Plenary 1 Something Gorgeous About Him: The Men of *Gatsby*

Moderator: **Jocelyn Mosman:** The Gatsby Girl (@yourgatsbygirl / @travelstylemagic)
Featuring: **Michael Busani:** Nick Carraway (and playwright), *Great Gatsby! A Pop Parody Musical*
Keivon Akbari: George Wilson, *Immersive Gatsby*
Cullen Gray: playwright, *The Great Gatsby Experience*

In the past two years, there have been numerous adaptations of *The Great Gatsby* into various stage productions, from musicals to plays to immersive productions to ballets to cabarets to parodies. Following two prior panels focused on the “multiverse” of *Gatsby* stage productions (*Champagne Problems: The Women of Gatsby* (2024) and *Within and Without: The Multiverse of Gatsby* (2025)) comes *Something Gorgeous About Him: The Men of Gatsby*, a panel discussion featuring three creatives (Keivon Akbari, Michael Busani, and Cullen Gray) from three separate *Gatsby*-inspired productions (*Immersive Gatsby*, *Great Gatsby! A Pop Parody Musical*, and *The Great Gatsby Experience*). This panel will focus on the nuances of portraying *Gatsby*’s male characters onstage in immersive productions, parodies, and musicals, what motivates these characters, and in what ways these characters remain relevant to today's audiences.

MONDAY, JUNE 23

8:00–8:20 am	“My Splendid Mirage: F. Scott Fitzgerald, New Yorker”	Wollman Hall
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Welcome from **Anne Margaret Daniel**, Conference Director.

8:30 am–1:00 pm	Registration	Eugene Lang Bldg
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8:30–10:00 am

Panel 1A **Film Screening: The Great Failure that Gave Us *The Great Gatsby*** **Kingdon 407**

Featuring a discussion with filmmakers **Brendon & Julianna Whalen Henderson**.

In 1923, F. Scott Fitzgerald was drowning. His quest to fulfill his lifelong dream of becoming a playwright wasn't panning out quite as expected. If things didn't turn around quick, he'd have to pawn the furniture. This is the story of alcohol, ambition, decadence, and despair. This is the story of *The Vegetable*.

Includes interviews with society members James L.W. West III, Jackson Bryer, Mark Taylor, and Anne Margaret Daniel, as well as commentary from Charles Scribner III and Kait Kerrigan.

Panel 1B **Form** **Cook 404**

Moderator: **Tom Birch, University of New Hampshire**
The Possibility of Form: Fitzgerald's Liminal Poetic Practice

Agata Handley, University of Łódź
“I have tried to follow the outline and spirit of *The Great Gatsby*”: A Dialogue between Fitzgerald and Hemingway's *The Sun Also Rises*

Evan Hulick, Catholic University of America
Narratorial Playfulness in Fitzgerald and Pynchon
Anjalee Nadarajan, York University, Toronto

10:45 am–12:15 pm

Panel 2A **Medals, Mothers, and Women in *The Great Gatsby*** **Kingdon 407**

Moderator: **Sarah Churchwell, University of London**
That Medal from Little Montenegro: Fictio Cedit Veritati, or Fiction Yields to Truth on the French Riviera

Kendall Taylor, Independent Scholar
Maternal Ecologies in *The Great Gatsby*: Uncovering Repressed Themes of Motherhood and Nature
Karen Cruz, Ravenscroft School

The Sexuality of Daisy Fay and the Orchid Women
Paul Stapleton, North Carolina Central University

Panel 2B New Perspectives**Cook 404**Moderator: **Marie-Agnès Gay, Université Jean Moulin – Lyon 3**

F. Scott Fitzgerald and the Dualism of American Modernism in the Market

Scott Tucker, University of Texas at Dallas

Fat Gaspar and the “Lowsiest Story I Ever Wrote”: Fatness and the Politics of Fat Shaming in Fitzgerald’s Short Fiction

Thomas Fahy, Long Island University

Fitzgerald’s Unwanted Child: Ricoeur’s Mimesis in the Polish Translation of “The Curious Case of Benjamin Button”

Bartosz Warzycki, Academy of Applied Sciences, Nowy Targ, Poland**12:15–1:15 pm Lunch and *The Great Gatsby* as Graphic Novel****Plenary 2 From Page to Panel: Adapting *The Great Gatsby* into a Graphic Novel Wollman Hall**

Featuring author **K. Woodman-Maynard**, whose graphic novel adaptation of *The Great Gatsby* makes “us feel as though we’re watching the events of F. Scott Fitzgerald’s 1925 novel through gems held up to the light” wrote a reviewer for the *Wall Street Journal*. “Synesthetes will delight as the Roaring Twenties come alive in mellifluous watercolors informed by both period ephemera and pure imagination,” wrote the *School Library Journal*, “as visual metaphors wash over the page, fascinating experiments with figure and ground toggle between surrealism and pitiless reality.” And *Foreword Magazine*, in a five-star review, noted that “the original’s themes of obsession, deception, reinvention, and the dissatisfactions of the wealthy are all captured . . . But the graphic novel has its own distinct style, helping to elaborate on those themes—and on the characters.” Woodman-Maynard will discuss her process, as well as the resulting fusion of image and text that became her adaptation.

Moderator: **Maggie Gordon Froehlich, Pennsylvania State University–Hazleton**

*Catered lunch will be served.

1:30–3:00 pm**Plenary 3 A Friendship Like No Other: Scott Fitzgerald and Sap Donahoe Wollman Hall**

Fitzgerald’s teenage friendship with Charles “Sap” Donahoe is well-known, but the broader family connections are less well documented. **Mel Barker** and **Stu Wilson** discuss the relationships between Scott, Sap, and the rest of the Donahoe family, particularly the Charles’ older brother Harry, as well as the Donahoes’ involvement in Montana copper and its influence on “The Diamond as Big as the Ritz.” They will also look at previously unseen Fitzgerald related materials in the possession of the Donahoe family, including letters and documents related to Fitzgerald’s time in Montana and at the Newman School, and candid assessments of Scott and Zelda. Charles’s granddaughter, **Ann Donahoe**, will join the conversation via video call! Ann is the eldest of Charles’ four grandchildren. Born and raised in Seattle, she continues to live in the area with her family. Ann is a great admirer of F. Scott Fitzgerald’s work.

Moderator: **Ross K. Tangedal, University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point**

3:15–4:45 pm

Panel 3A Major Works I**Kingdon 407**

Moderator: **Thomas Fahy, Long Island University**
 “An Odd, Pointless Story”?: Geraldine Burke and the Chevalier O’Keefe in *The Beautiful and Damned*
Deborah Davis Schlacks, University of Wisconsin–Superior
 “The Rich Boy,” “My Lost City,” and the Dream
Tanja Cvetković, University of Niš
Tender Is the Night: Everybody’s Protest Novel?
Erin Templeton, Converse University

Panel 3B *Tales of the Jazz Age***Cook 404**

Moderator: **Maralisa Marra, Duquesne University**
 The Anecdote as Big as the Anthropocene
Alex Benson, Bard College
 Gothic Modernism in *Tales of the Jazz Age*
Nurul Aini Binte Ithnin, Nanyang Technological University
 Dislocation and Relocation in Fitzgerald’s “May Day”
Tom Birch, University of New Hampshire

5:00–6:30 pm

Plenary 4 A Conversation with Martyna Majok**Wollman Hall**

Join conference director **Anne Margaret Daniel** and society president **Jackson Bryer** in conversation with award-winning playwright **Martyna Majok**.

Martyna Majok (pronounced “My-Oak”) was born in Bytom, Poland, and raised in New Jersey and Chicago. She was awarded the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for her Broadway debut play, *Cost of Living*, which was nominated for the Tony Award for Best Play. Other plays include *Sanctuary City*, *Queens*, and *Ironbound*, which have been produced across American and international stages, and the libretto for *Gatsby: An American Myth*, with music by Florence Welch and Thomas Bartlett.

TUESDAY, JUNE 24

8:30–10:00 am

Panel 4A *Zelda and Scott: Art and Life***Wollman Hall**

Moderator: **Heidi Kunz, Randolph College**
 From New York to Algeria through the French Riviera: The Fitzgeralds' Confrontation with Otherness
Elisabeth Bouzonviller, Jean Monnet University
 Visions of Beauty: Florenz Ziegfeld's Influence on the Fitzgeralds in New York, 1920–1924
Sharon Skeel, Independent Scholar
 “I could be a whole world to myself if I didn’t like living in [David’s] better”: An Intertextual Study of *Save Me The Waltz* and Scott’s New York Novels
Elisha Wise, University of Sheffield

Panel 4B *The Great Gatsby: Time, Influence, Humor***Kingdon 407**

Moderator: **Deborah Davis Schlacks, University of Wisconsin–Superior**
 Responsibility in the Question of Beginning: A Reconsideration of the Problem of Chronology in *The Great Gatsby*
Tatsuro Ide, Tohoku Gakuin University
 Undetected Debts to Classical and Contemporary Works in *The Great Gatsby*
John Kuhnle, Independent Scholar
The Great Gatsby: American Comedy
Andrew Clark, Humber College

Panel 4C *Reading Gatsby***Cook 404**

Moderator: **William Blazek, Liverpool Hope University**
Gatsby at 100: Citadel English Majors on the Cultural Import of the Novel
Lauren Rule Maxwell, The Citadel, featuring students Noah L. Miller and Quentin Walsh
 “I was within and without”: Vision, Imagination, and Empathy in *The Great Gatsby*
William Clark, University of Tulsa
 Gatsby—You ARE the father! How *The Great Gatsby* Has Changed Over 100 Years
Lisa of Troy, Goodreads.com

10:15–11:45 am

Panel 5A *The Great Gatsby: American Dreams and Histories***Wollman Hall**

Moderator: **Mark Cirino, University of Evansville**
 A Matter of Chance: The History of *The Great Gatsby* Reconsidered
Rachel Suffern, North Carolina State University
 American Nightmares: *The Great Gatsby* and the Cautionary Tale of American Success
Sophia Giudici, Catholic University of America
 “An Elusive Rhythm, a Fragment of Lost Words”: The State of the American Dream from *Gatsby* to Gorman
Camryn Brewer, University of Southern California

Panel 5B Class & Politics**Kingdon 407**

Moderator: **Erin Templeton, Converse University**
 “New York is Going Crazy!”: F. Scott Fitzgerald and Prohibition
Theodore Jansen, University of Cincinnati
 Polo Ponies and the Presidential Dog: Animals, Long Island, and the Classicism of Eugenics in *The Great Gatsby*
Lauren Moffat, University of Glasgow
 “I’d a little rather not be the polo player”: The Equestrian Complication in Fitzgerald’s Class Politics
Katie Warczak, University of Pittsburgh

Panel 5C Reading the Fitzgeralds**Cook 404**

Moderator: **Maggie Gordon Froehlich, Pennsylvania State University–Hazleton**
 Writing Against Erasure: Zelda Fitzgerald’s Short Stories and Literary Autonomy
Michiko Takahashi, Fukuoka University
 Object Discourse in “The Rich Boy”
Pascale Antolin, Bordeaux Montaigne University
 “He Had Gone Into No-Man’s Land Alone”: Battling With Oneself In “Not In The Guidebook”
Marie-Agnès Gay, Université Jean Moulin – Lyon 3

11:45 am–12:15 pm Lunch on Your Own*
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12:15–1:45 pm

Plenary 5 Devotedly, With Dearest Love**Wollman Hall**

Featuring an original play, *Devotedly, With Dearest Love: The Love Letters of F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald*, written by **Lorrie Kyle, Rollins College**.

***Feel free to bring your lunch to the session!**

2:00–3:30 pm

Panel 6A Fitzgerald’s American Geography: A Roundtable**Kingdon 407**

Moderator: **Ross K. Tangedal, University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point**
 Where Things Happen on a Big Scale: The East
Mark Cirino, University of Evansville
 A Little More Look, See, Act: The West
Maggie Gordon Froehlich, Pennsylvania State University–Hazleton
 Not the Wheat or the Prairies of the Lost Swede Towns: The Midwest
Ross K. Tangedal, University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point
 I Write About It as I Saw It: The South
Robert W. Trogon, Kent State University

Panel 6B Reading Zelda Fitzgerald**Cook 404**

Moderator: **Erin Templeton, Converse University**
 F. Scott and Zelda's Tragic Demise: *Gatsby*
Maralisa Marra, Duquesne University
 Thriving in Chaos, Loss, and Hope in a Silent Land
Gloria Monaghan, Wentworth Institute of Technology
 "There's nothing so much fun as this": Dance in Zelda Fitzgerald's Short Stories
Meryl Cates, New York, New York

3:30–4:30 pm**Panel 7A Film Screening on *Gatsby* Sites****Wollman Hall**Featuring **Steven Goldleaf, Pace University.****6:00–8:00 pm**

An Evening with Jay McInerney at the Irish Consulate
MetLife Building, 200 Park Ave floor 17, New York, NY 10166

With many thanks to Brian Murphy, we have been invited to enjoy a reception at the Irish Consulate celebrating Fitzgerald's Irish heritage. Featuring critically acclaimed author **Jay McInerney**! This is a ticketed event, with the first 90 conference registrants automatically invited to attend. We will celebrate Jay (*Gatsby*) and Jay (McInerney)!

Jay McInerney is the author of twelve books, most recently *Bright, Precious Days* (2016). His other novels are *Bright Lights*, *Big City* (1984), *Ransom* (1985), *Story of My Life* (1988), *Brightness Falls* (1992), *The Last of the Savages* (1996), *Model Behavior* (1999), and *The Good Life* (2006), which received the Grand Prix Littéraire at the Deauville Film Festival in 2007. His short story collection *How It Ended* (2009) was named one of the 10 best books of the year by *The New York Times*. McInerney's work has appeared in *New York*, *Vanity Fair*, *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Guardian*, *The Times Literary Supplement* and *The New York Review of Books*. He writes a monthly wine column for *Town & Country* and was previously the wine columnist for *The Wall Street Journal* and *House and Garden*. Many of those columns were collected in *Bacchus and Me* (2000) and *A Hedonist in the Cellar* (2006). In 2006, McInerney won the James Beard MFK Fisher Award for Distinguished Writing. His most recent wine book, *The Juice: Vinous Veritas* was published in 2012. McInerney's screen credits include the screenplay for *Gia* (1998), starring Angelina Jolie, and *Bright Lights, Big City* (1988), starring Michael J. Fox. In 1989, McInerney was named a Literary Lion by the New York Public Library.

6:30–close**Speakeasy Cabaret with Brooke di Spirito**

Join Society member Brooke Di Spirito and her performance troupe as they debut a new show, special for the Fitzgerald Society conference, in a location only fitting: a real speakeasy, discovered from Prohibition days. Find the sign for the "Lower East Side Toy Company"—don't be alarmed by the dark alley ahead of you. Down a cold flight of stairs, through the side alley, and hidden between two buildings you will find our home for the evening. Two shows will be featured, one at 6:30pm and a second at 9:00pm.

For the true Fitzgerald experience, feel free to stick around after the show...NYC bars don't close until 4AM Location: The Back Room, 102 Norfolk St, New York, NY 10002 (walking distance from the F, M, J, Z, 6 trains).

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

“well, the less fashionable of the two”

Great Neck Bus Tour and Inn at Great Neck Reception (Optional)

Maybe, but since *The Great Gatsby* has never really gone out of fashion, memorializing West Egg (Great Neck and King’s Point) forever, let’s take a present journey into the past to see what remains of Fitzgerald’s imaginary world of 1922. A train ride from the city, like those taken by Nick and Gatsby, will bring us out on the “slender riotous island” to the railroad station in Great Neck. From there a bus ride will carry us up and down the “enormous” egg, giving us an opportunity to see Gold Coast mansions, Ring Lardner’s house where he caroused with Scott while looking across the “courtesy bay” to Port Washington, and the very home where Fitzgerald wrote the first words of his new novel. Featuring longtime society member **Walter Raubicheck** as guide!

We’ll meet at the **Long Island Railroad terminal at Grand Central Station** (called **Grand Central Madison**) at **10:30 AM** to take the **10:49AM** train to Great Neck. Bring a box lunch, but be prepared for a late afternoon reception at the charming Great Neck Inn.

**Plenary 6 *Gatsby’s* Apotheosis—from the Swinging 60s Onward:
Charles Scribner III in Conversation with Jennifer Nolan**

Fitzgerald Society board member **Jennifer Nolan** delves into lesser-known, behind-the-scenes details about *The Great Gatsby’s* publishing history in the latter part of the twentieth century in a scholarly conversation with **Charles Scribner III**, who oversaw the publication of *The Great Gatsby* and other literary classics at Charles Scribner's Sons during much of this period.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26
8:30–10:00 am
Panel 8A *The Great Gatsby: Contemporary Readings I*
Kingdon 407

Moderator: **Jennifer Nolan, North Carolina State University**
 The Great Irish Diaspora Novel? Assessing *The Great Gatsby* on its Centenary
Mary Burke, University of Connecticut
 Reading Fitzgerald and Race in the Magazines and Beyond
Mark Noonan, New York City College of Technology-CUNY
 Gatsby as a New Human: Affirmation of Self, This World, and Life in *The Great Gatsby*
Kentaro Sugino, Shinshu University

Panel 8B Muses, Mothers, and Scholars
Cook 404

Moderator: **Jackson Bryer, University of Maryland**
 Ginevra King and Edith Cummings: Fitzgerald's Midwestern Muses
Sue Hoover Epstein, Independent Scholar
 Fitzgerald and Margaret Carroll Turnbull
Robert Garnett, Gettysburg College
 Tea with Zelda: Henry Dan Piper and the Early Years of Fitzgerald Scholarship
Mary Jane La Vigne, Independent Scholar

10:15–11:45 am
Panel 9A Fitzgerald, Race, and Politics
Kingdon 407

Moderator: **Juan Decastro, The New School**
 The Plantation as Big as the Ritz?: Blackness and Place in the Works of F. Scott Fitzgerald
Cameron Sauers, The Pennsylvania State University
 Gatsby's Other New York Islands: Segregation, Incarceration, Abjection
Jonathan Goldman, New York City College of Technology
 Gatsby Agonistes: How Conservative Presidential Historians Read (and Misread) Fitzgerald
Kirk Curnutt, Troy University

Panel 9B *The Great Gatsby: Contemporary Readings II*
Cook 404

Moderator: **Timothy Penner, University of Manitoba**
The Great Gatsby and "The Rich Boy": Fitzgerald's Men and the Spectrum of Dark Romanticism
Doni Wilson, Houston Christian University
 Can You Identify This Body?: The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire and the Materialism of Grief in *The Great Gatsby*
Paria Rahmani, University of North Texas
 White Lies and Black Swans: Intertextuality and the Riddle of Race in *The Great Gatsby*
Richard Gabri, Bentley School

11:45–12:30 pm
BREAK

12:30–2:00 pm

Plenary 7**Gatsby @ 100 #1****Wollman Hall**

Moderator: **Ross K. Tangedal, University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point**
 Beyond “Doctor Eckleburg's Persistent Stare”: Revisiting Chapter 2 in 2025
Jennifer Nolan, North Carolina State University
 “Great Party, isn’t it?”: Fossil Fuel Economy, Climate Crisis, and the Green Morals of Excess
Niklas Salmose, Linnaeus University
 “To Clear This Set of Misconceptions Away”: *Gatsby* and the Romance Hero
Kirk Curnutt, Troy University

2:15–3:45 pm

Panel 10A History & Materiality**Kingdon 407**

Moderator: **Douglas Sheldon, University of Illinois Chicago**
 The Letters of F. Scott Fitzgerald: A Bibliographical Examination
Ross K. Tangedal, University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point
 The Minnesota Fitzgerald Materials: An Overview
Kathryn Hujda, Minnesota Historical Society
 “Old Gatsby. Old Sport”: The Curious Course of Gatsby's Iconic Salutation
Horst Kruse, University of Münster

Panel 10B Fitzgerald and Film**Cook 404**

Moderator: **Jamie Korsmo, Paris-Saclay University**
 “How do you do, old sport? I’m Gatsby”: Robert Redford’s Star Persona in *The Great Gatsby* (1974)
Timothy Penner, University of Manitoba
Gatsby as 1949 Hollywood Film Noir: Alan Ladd, Paramount, and the Hard-Boiled Crime Film Genre
Arne Lunde, University of California, Los Angeles
The Beautiful and Damned: Revisiting F. Scott Fitzgerald’s Other New York Novel through the Lens of Cinema
Natasha Farrell, Memorial University

4:00–5:30 pm

Panel 11A The Environment, Gender, and Sexuality in Fitzgerald**Kingdon 407**

Moderator: **Cameron Sauers, The Pennsylvania State University**
 “Aesthetic Wonder” and the Anthropocene
Barbara E. Will, Dartmouth College
The Great Gatsby in Gay New York
Maggie Gordon Froehlich, Pennsylvania State University, Hazleton
 “I love New York, even though it isn’t mine”: Women and New York in Fitzgerald and Capote
Aleksandra Žeželj, Independent Scholar

Panel 11B *The Great Gatsby: Illustrations and Media***Cook 404**Moderator: **Philip McGowan, Queen's University Belfast***The Great Gatsby* Illustrated**Thomas Flynn, Independent Scholar**Animating Fitzgerald's Nostalgia: Nostalgic Representations in *The Great Gatsby* and its Graphic Novel Adaptations**Ursula Vooght, Independent Scholar***The Great Gatsby*, Pulitzer, and *The New York World*: True Stories of the News**Conor J. McManus, Independent Scholar****5:45–6:45 pm****The F. Scott Fitzgerald Society Board Meeting****Cook 404**

*Board members and leadership only.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

8:30–10:00 am

Panel 12A Major Works II**Wollman Hall**

Moderator: **William Blazek, Liverpool Hope University**
 “Darkling I listen”: The Art of Renunciation in *The Great Gatsby* and *Tender Is the Night*
Nathalie Cochoy, University of Toulouse
 Fitzgerald’s “Richly Poor” Stories
Bret Maney, Lehman College
 Failing Fathers and Self-Generation in F. Scott Fitzgerald’s “Absolution”
Catherine Delesalle-Nancey, Université Jean Moulin – Lyon 3

Panel 12B Lesser Known Stories**Kingdon 407**

Moderator: **Mark C. Taylor, Independent Scholar**
 “I Didn’t Get Over”: Context and Content in Fitzgerald’s Overlooked War Story
Jamie Korsmo, Paris-Saclay University
 Search for Identity: “Two for a Cent”
Bruce Grimshaw, Independent Scholar
 Admonishment for the Aging: Fitzgerald’s Vision of Maturity, Vitality, and Success
Katelyn Schuler, Troy University

**Panel 12C Repeating the Past in the Public Domain:
Re/Teaching *The Great Gatsby* after 2021****Cook 404**

Moderator: **Catherine R. Mintler, University of Oklahoma**
 The Great War and Tragic Revival: Tragedy and Pessimism in the Work of the Lost Generation
Nixon Gorka, University of Texas at Tyler
 Through the Eyes of Jordan Baker: A Study of *The Great Gatsby* and Its Queer Legacy
Autumn Furr, University of Oklahoma
 The Chosen and the Beautiful Gives Voice to the Anti-Asian Racism Unheard in *The Great Gatsby*
Savannah Flynn, University of Oklahoma
 Transcending the Gangster: Daisy Buchanan as Femme Fatale
Joe Carlson, University of Oklahoma

10:15–11:45 am

Panel 13A *The Great Gatsby* and Adaptation/Reimagining**Kingdon 407**

Moderator: **Kathryn Hujda, Minnesota Historical Society**
 A *Gatsby* Twin Bill: The Film and Theater Productions Come to the Twin Cities
Stu Wilson & Mel Barker, Independent Scholars
 Beyond Fitzgerald: Herbert Brenon, the Irishman Who First Brought *The Great Gatsby* to the Silver Screen
Brian Murphy, Technological University of Dublin
The Gatsby Gambit: Reimagining *Gatsby*
Claire Anderson Wheeler, Independent Scholar

Panel 13B Teaching *Gatsby***Cook 404**

Moderator: **Christina Rand Irmen, Indiana University**
 “When Gangster Eyes Are Smiling”: Reading and Teaching *The Great Gatsby* as a Gangster Novel
Catherine R. Mintler, University of Oklahoma
 A Decent Stroke of Work: Teaching *The Great Gatsby* to English Language Learners
Douglas Sheldon, University of Illinois Chicago
 Designing a Student-Focused, Skills-Based American Literature Course with *Gatsby* at the Center
Catherine Walshak, Northern Virginia Community College

11:45 am–12:45 pm**BUSINESS MEETING + LUNCH****Wollman Hall*****Catered lunch will be served.****1:00–2:30 pm****Panel 14A Fitzgerald and Other Writers****Kingdon 407**

Moderator: **Ross K. Tangedal, University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point**
 The Catholic Element: F. Scott Fitzgerald's “Absolution” and James Joyce's “The Sisters”
John Clarke, Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement
 The Ones with the Big Names and Money: Reading Tennessee Williams’s *Sweet Bird of Youth* through *The Great Gatsby*
Ahmed Honeini, University of London
 Not Handled with Care: The Reaction to F. Scott Fitzgerald’s “Crack-up” Essays and Thomas Wolfe’s “The Story of a Novel”
Mark C. Taylor, Independent Scholar

Panel 14B Jordan & Daisy: Another Perspective on Gender & Sexuality**Cook 404**

Jordan & Daisy (+ *Tom* + *Nick*), scenes from a new drama by **Johanna Beale Keller, Syracuse University**

2:45–4:15 pm**Plenary 8 *The Great Gatsby*: New Editions, New Perspectives****Wollman Hall**

Moderator: **William Blazek, Liverpool Hope University**, Penguin Modern Classics 2nd Edition
 The Cambridge Centennial Edition | The Oxford World’s Classics 2nd Edition
Sarah Churchwell, University of London
 The Norton Library Edition
Anne Margaret Daniel, The New School
 The Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Museum Illustrated Teaching Edition
Alaina Doten, The Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Museum (Montgomery, AL)
 The Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition
Philip McGowan, Queen's University Belfast

4:30–5:30 pm

Plenary 9 Gatsby @ 100 #2**Wollman Hall**

Moderator: **Maggie Gordon Froehlich, Pennsylvania State University, Hazleton**
 “Intricate Machines”: Seismographic Sensitivity and Overlooked Materiality
Philip McGowan, Queen’s University Belfast
 Accidental Courses, Accidental Burdens
Sarah Churchwell, University of London
 The Last Word
William Blazek, Liverpool Hope University

5:45-7:15 pm An Evening with Jay McInerney and ERS
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Plenary 10 Jay McInerney in Conversation, featuring the Elevator Repair Service (ERS)

The Auditorium
Alvin Johnson/J.M. Kaplan Hall
66 West 12th Street

Jay McInerney in conversation with **Anne Margaret Daniel**. McInerney is the author of twelve books, most recently *Bright, Precious Days* (2016). His other novels are *Bright Lights*, *Big City*, *Ransom*, *Story of My Life*, *Brightness Falls*, *The Last of the Savages*, *Model Behavior*, and *The Good Life*, which received the Grand Prix Littéraire at the Deauville Film Festival in 2007. His short story collection *How It Ended* was named one of the 10 best books of the year by *The New York Times*. McInerney’s work has appeared in *New York*, *Vanity Fair*, *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Guardian*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, and *The New York Review of Books*. When *Bright Lights*, *Big City* was published in 1984, McInerney was compared to Fitzgerald, and his novel set in New York City to *Gatsby* and *The Beautiful and Damned*. McInerney, who has said *Gatsby* is the novel he’s reread most, will speak about Fitzgerald, his influence and legacy—and his own most recent novel in progress.

The Elevator Repair Service dazzled the world in 2010 with *GATZ*, their almost seven-hour production of *The Great Gatsby*. In *The New York Times*, Ben Brantley called *GATZ* a “work of singular imagination and intelligence,” one “reader’s gradual but unconditional seduction by a single, ravishing novel.” We are delighted to welcome founder and Artistic Director **John Collins**, and members of the ERS, to the stage this evening.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

9:00–10:30 am

Panel 15A *The Great Gatsby: New Readings & New Histories*
Kingdon 407

Moderator: **Niklas Salmose, Linnaeus University**
 Hopalong Gatzidy

William Blazek, Liverpool Hope University
 “Old sport!”: Nick by Any Other Name Is Just as Indicative

Johan Nilsson, Linnaeus University
 A Search for Identity: From Gatz to Gatsby
Patrick O’Sullivan Greene, Independent Scholar

Panel 15B Books and Broadway
Cook 404

Moderator: **Jackson Bryer, University of Maryland**
The Great Gatsby and the Stage

Kira Compton, University of Southern Mississippi
 “His Fingers on a Ouija Board”: Adapting *The Great Gatsby* for the Broadway Stage

Michael S.D. Hooper, Independent Scholar
 “The books? Absolutely real”: Manifesting *The Great Gatsby* through Novelistic Immersion
Christina Rand Irmen, Indiana University

10:45 am–12:15 pm

Panel 16A Fitzgerald’s New York
Wollman Hall

Moderator: **Jennifer Firestone, The New School**
 Scott Fitzgerald’s Lost New York

Alaina Doten & Maire Martello, The Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Museum (Montgomery, AL)
 “All the iridescence of the beginning of the world”: Fitzgerald’s Post-War New York

Alice Kelly, University of Warwick
 Fatal Machinery: Tragedy’s Emerald Eyes in Fitzgerald’s New York
Jessie Reid, University of Leicester

Panel 16B *The Great Gatsby: Thresholds of Interpretation*
Kingdon 407

Moderator: **Catherine Delesalle-Nancey, Université Jean Moulin – Lyon 3**
 America the Beautiful: Paratextual Explication in Polish translations of *The Great Gatsby*

Łukasz Barciński, University of Rzeszów
 Introducing Gatsby: Paratextual Elements in the Macedonian Reception of Fitzgerald’s Classic

Svetlana Jakimovska, Goce Delčev University
 Within and Without: *The Great Gatsby* as a Novel of Thresholds
Pascal Bardet, University of Toulouse-Jean Jaurès

Panel 16C Boats and Belief**Cook 404**

Moderator: **Kirk Curnutt, Troy University**
 Launching a Literary Tourist Opportunity
Kevin Fitzpatrick, Independent Scholar
 The Concept of Marriage in F. Scott Fitzgerald's Works from the Viewpoint of Catholic Morality
Lucyna Harmon, University of Rzeszów
 Da Vinci Code 2.0: Fitzgerald and Ginevra's Daisy Chain
Mark Anderson, Independent Scholar

12:15 –1:00 pm	BREAK	
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***Lunch on your own.**

1:00–2:30 pm		
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Panel 17A Teaching Fitzgerald**Kingdon 407**

Moderator: **Alaina Doten, The Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Museum (Montgomery, AL)**
 “Compelled into an Aesthetic Contemplation”: Exploring Fitzgerald's Style in the Classroom
Madeline Horan, Taipei American School
 “It is too soon....”: Teaching Scott Fitzgerald, American Studies, and the Roaring 2020s
Robert Bleil, Pennsylvania College of Technology
 The Diamond as Big as the Seine: Teaching Fitzgerald in a French Port City
Drew Eisenhauer, University of Le Havre

Panel 17B *The Great Gatsby*: History and Adaptation**Cook 404**

Moderator: **Kira Compton, University of Southern Mississippi**
 Adapting *The Great Gatsby* to Popular Cultures
Estelle Jailliard, University of Perpignan
 Modernism to Postmodernism: Shifts in the Adaptation of Fitzgerald's Works
Shane Soormally, Independent Scholar
Gatsby and Consumerism
Miguel Ramón, Santa Rosa Junior College

5:00-close	Closing Banquet	
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TRAVEL INSTRUCTIONS FOR VARIOUS EXCURSIONS

SUNDAY, JUNE 22



The Great Gatsby Boat Tour

The participants will split into two groups at Penn Station, in equal numbers, Group 1 is NICK and Group 2 is JORDAN. Tour Leader of NICK is Kevin and Tour Leader of Jordan is Michele. **Note:** The participants who will require extra time should be in NICK.

Meetup

Penn Station at Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) gate.

Meet 8:45-9:00AM

Fares: \$9.75 one-way off-peak; \$6.50 one-way off-peak seniors.*

NICK and JORDAN Depart 9:28AM to Port Washington. Arrive 10:16AM

Rally and Transit to Wharf

Groups NICK and JORDAN walk 0.9 mile (or Lyft or Uber) to Inspiration Wharf
405 Main Street, Port Washington, NY.

Boarding

NICK boards the *Angler* at approximately 11:00AM JORDAN waits onshore at Louie's Prime, 395 Main St, Port Washington, NY 11050. The tour is approximately 90 minutes. At 12:30/12:45PM JORDAN boards the boat and NICK goes to Louie's Prime for lunch.

Port Washington

From approximately 2:00-3:00 NICK and JORDAN are at Louie's Prime or are walking/riding to return to the Port Washington LIRR Station. Be at Port Washington LIRR station no later than 3:15 (if missed...the next train is 4:27, arriving at Penn at 5:14PM).

Return

Board LIRR train at 3:27PM to Penn Station. Arrive at Penn Station at 4:14PM NICK and JORDAN both arrive together at Penn Station at 4:14PM Kevin and Michele will escort the groups out of Penn, and direct them to get back to their hotels to prepare for the opening night gala at 6 pm.

Notes:

Kevin Fitzpatrick and Michele Gouveia are licensed NYC Sightseeing Guides. Kevin will lead NICK and narrate the boat tour; Michele will lead JORDAN and accompany the group on the tour and train.

***LIRR Tickets:**

Option One, to save time: Download the Train Time App:

<https://www.mta.info/traintime>

And buy the tickets on the app; the conductor will scan the app on smart phones.

*Buy the roundtrip in advance (Penn Station to Port Washington roundtrip, Off Peak)

Option Two, in-person paper tickets, arrive early: Buy before 9 am with credit or debit card from kiosk in Penn Station.

The conductor collects/scans tickets on train (no reserved seats). If you don't have a ticket, the price is almost double to purchase from conductor.

PLENARY SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Plenary 1 — Something Gorgeous About Him: The Men of *Gatsby*



Jocelyn Mosman (moderator) is a NYC-based lawyer, poet, content creator, and teacher. She received her J.D. (Boston University School of Law) and her LL.M. in European Law (Université Paris II Panthéon-Assas) and is licensed to practice law in New York. She works full-time as an immigration lawyer, teaches business law courses at the University of Central Missouri part-time, and is a theatre content creator on social media. Additionally, she has published three volumes of poetry and is currently working on her fourth. Jocelyn has seen 10 different *Gatsby* productions across two countries and multiple states over the last two years. She is known on social media as “The Gatsby Girl” for her passion for *The Great Gatsby* and its various stage adaptations, from parodies to ballets to musicals to immersive theatre to cabarets to plays to parties. Follow Jocelyn @travelstylemagic on all platforms.



Michael Busani (panelist) is a NYC-based theater artist and producer. He is the former Artistic Director of Off-Beat Players, a nonprofit theater company for young adults with disabilities, and he currently serves as Co-Chair on the Board of Directors. As a playwright, he has had several pieces performed at various Off-Broadway venues across the city, including Soho Playhouse and the Players Theatre. His early 2000s pop parody musical, *Great Gatsby!*, performs monthly at the PIT Loft to sold-out houses. Training includes The Barrow Group and the Brooklyn Comedy Collective.



Keivon Akbari (panelist) is a Brooklyn-based actor, singer, musician who received his BFA from NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts through the Atlantic Acting School. Keivon is known for roles in *The Great Gatsby: Immersive* (Off-Broadway), *MacGyver: The Musical* (Stages Houston), *Tosca Tehran* (Atlantic Theater Company), *Bismillah* (The Wild Project). TV/Film: *The Night Agent* (Netflix), *Tehrangelles*, *Spectator*. He is also a classically trained concert pianist and can play many additional instruments.



Cullen Gray (panelist) is a DC-based theatre and film producer, director, and writer known mostly for immersive, site-specific storytelling. As the creative force behind Naut Human Productions, and their series of acclaimed regional productions, Cullen brings classic stories to life in bold, new, and unexpected ways. Having last produced *The Dracula Experience* for Halloween, Cullen is currently adapting F. Scott Fitzgerald’s classic for *The Great Gatsby Experience*, an outdoor production of the timeless story set at George C. Marshall’s historic Dodona Manor in Northern Virginia.

Plenary 2 — From Page to Panel: Adapting *The Great Gatsby* into a Graphic Novel



K. Woodman-Maynard is an author, illustrator, and comics coach who explores acceptance and self-expression through her watercolor comics. Her next book is a graphic novel adaptation of *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt coming September, 2025 (Farrar, Straus & Giroux). Her debut, *The Great Gatsby: A Graphic Novel Adaptation* (Candlewick Press), was called “hugely rewarding” by *The Wall Street Journal* and a finalist for best graphic novel of the year from *Foreword Reviews*. She’s a graduate of Harvard University where she studied animation and worked for many years as a designer. She has a weekly Substack called *Creating Comics* where she encourages artists to create more and feel less bad about themselves in the process.

Plenary 3 — A Friendship Like No Other: Scott Fitzgerald and Sap Donahoe



In 2012, **Mel Barker** and **Stu Wilson** founded the nonprofit organization, Fitzgerald in Saint Paul, and they served as the local co-chairs for the 2017 Fitzgerald conference in Saint Paul. For the past five years, they have been researching Montana details related to “The Diamond as Big as the Ritz.” They have completed a book-length manuscript on this research (currently out for review) and authored a forthcoming article in the journal of the Montana Historical Society. **Mel Barker** is a retired sociology professor and former lead researcher and clinical data analyst for the Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department in Minneapolis. **Stu Wilson** is a national library consultant, having assisted over 200 libraries across the U.S., and published and presented widely in the library field. Mel and Stu are now actively retired and live in Columbia Falls, Montana, close to their favorite young people, truly scary bears, and spectacular mountains.

Plenary 4 — A Conversation with Martyna Majok



Martyna Majok (pronounced “My-Oak”) was born in Bytom, Poland, and raised in New Jersey and Chicago. She was awarded the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for her Broadway debut play, *Cost of Living*, which was nominated for the Tony Award for Best Play. Other plays include *Sanctuary City*, *Queens*, and *Ironbound*, which have been produced across American and international stages, and the libretto for *Gatsby: An American Myth*, with music by Florence Welch and Thomas Bartlett. Other awards include a Guggenheim Fellowship, The Steinberg Distinguished Playwright Award, Arthur Miller Foundation Legacy Award, The Obie Award for Playwriting, The Hull-Warriner Award, The Academy of Arts and Letters’ Benjamin Hadley Danks Award for Exceptional Playwriting, The Sun Valley Playwrights Residency Award, Off Broadway Alliance Best New Play Award, The Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding New Play, The Hermitage Greenfield Prize, as the first female recipient in drama, The Champions of Change Award from the NYC Mayor’s Office, The Francesca Primus Prize, two Jane Chambers Playwriting Awards, The Lanford Wilson Prize, The Lilly Award’s Stacey Mindich Prize, Helen Merrill Emerging Playwright Award, Charles MacArthur Award for Outstanding Original New Play from The Helen Hayes Awards, Jean Kennedy Smith Playwriting Award, ANPF Women’s Invitational Prize, David Calicchio Prize, Global Age Project Prize, NYTW 2050 Fellowship, NNPN Smith Prize for Political Playwriting, and Merage Foundation Fellowship for The American Dream. Martyna studied at Yale School of Drama, Juilliard,

University of Chicago, and Jersey public schools. She was a 2012-2013 NNPN playwright-in-residence, the 2015-2016 PoNY Fellow at the Lark Play Development Center, and a 2018-2019 Hodder Fellow at Princeton University. Martyna is currently adapting Ray Bradbury’s “Fahrenheit 451” for the Broadway stage and has developed TV projects for HBO and written feature films for Plan B/Pastel/MGM/Orion. Martyna lives in Manhattan with her partner, actor Bobby Conte, and their cat, Kić

Plenary 5 — Devotedly, With Dearest Love



Lorrie Kyle is a playwright and administrator, and currently the executive director, office of the president at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida. She has held more or less the same role for 33 years and through the administrations of four presidents. She's the author of a play, *Devotedly, With Dearest Love*, which traces the doomed relationship between F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald through their love letters. According to Fitzgerald Society Board Member Gail Sinclair, a former Rollins College administrator and colleague of Kyle's, "What Lorrie has produced is a wonderful tribute to [the Fitzgeralds], to their interesting and adventurous lives together and to the artful use of language that both Scott and Zelda demonstrated in their separate as well as their jointly written publications."

Plenary 6 — Charles Scribner III in Conversation



Charles Scribner III, an art historian in New York City, is known for his expertise in Baroque art, music, religion, and literature. As an author, editor, and lecturer, he delves into the connections between these disciplines, bringing fresh perspectives to art history. His work often focuses on authors published by the family firm Charles Scribner's Sons, founded in 1846. His most recent book, *Scribners: Five Generations in Publishing* (Lyons Press, 2023), tells the inside story of five generations—over 150 years—at the legendary publishing house of Charles Scribner's Sons, beginning with its founding in an unused chapel in downtown New York, continuing through its golden era on Fifth Avenue above the famous landmark bookstore and down to the present day. The author, the fifth of the Charleses to work at that house of celebrated authors, provides an inside view of the family members, editors, and authors of this colorful literary history.

Plenary 7 — Gatsby @ 100 #1



Jennifer Nolan is Associate Professor of English at North Carolina State University. Dr. Nolan's research falls at the intersection of two interrelated domains: twentieth-century American literature and periodical studies. Her scholarship focuses on F. Scott Fitzgerald, the short story, and illustration, with particular emphasis on the cultural, historical, editorial, and visual contexts of popular American magazines in the first half of the twentieth century. She is the editor, with Alexandra Mitchell, of *The Complete Magazine Stories of F. Scott Fitzgerald, 1921–1924* (University of Edinburgh Press, 2023). She serves on the board of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Society and was the program director for its 14th International Conference held in Saint Paul, MN in 2017.



Niklas Salmose is Professor in the Department of Languages at Linnaeus University (Sweden). Dr. Salmose has published and presented internationally on Fitzgerald, nostalgia, Nordic noir, Hitchcock, cinematic style in fiction, modernism, the Anthropocene and Hollywood, animal horror, intermediality, and sensorial aesthetics in fiction, as well as broadly in the environmental humanities. His most recent book is *F. Scott Fitzgerald: A Composite Biography* (University of Minnesota Press, 2024), which he edited with David Rennie, and which features several society members as contributors. He serves on the board of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Society and was the program director for its 16th International Conference held in Växjö, Sweden in 2023.



Kirk Curnutt is Professor and Chair of English at Troy University. For many years he served on the board of the Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Museum in Montgomery, Alabama, and since 2013 has served as the executive director of the international F. Scott Fitzgerald Society. He also serves as the managing editor of *The F. Scott Fitzgerald Review*. He is the author of several works of fiction and criticism on not only Fitzgerald but also Ernest Hemingway, Toni Morrison, William Faulkner, the 1970s, and popular music. His most recent book is *F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Beautiful and Damned: New Critical Essays* (LSU Press 2022), which he co-edited with William Blazek and the late David Ullrich.



Ross K. Tangedal (moderator) is Associate Professor of English and Director/Publisher of the Cornerstone Press at the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point. The author or editor of several books, articles, and chapters on American literature, book history, and bibliography, his forthcoming books include *Good Country: Ernest Hemingway and the American West* (University of Nevada Press), which he edited with Douglas Sheldon, and *The Routledge Companion to F. Scott Fitzgerald* (Routledge), which he is editing with Helen Turner and Philip McGowan, and he has served as an associate volume editor for the NEH-funded Hemingway Letters Project since 2018. He is program director, with Maggie Gordon Froehlich, of the 17th International Fitzgerald Conference held in New York City in 2025.

Plenary 8 — *The Great Gatsby*: New Editions, New Perspectives



Sarah Churchwell is Chair of Public Understanding of the Humanities and Professor of American Literature at School of Advanced Study as the University of London (UK). She is the author or editor of several books, including *Careless People: Murder, Mayhem and the Invention of The Great Gatsby* (Penguin 2013). Professor Churchwell has been a Man Booker Prize judge and received the Eccles British Library Writer's Award in 2015. Her journalism has been published in the *New York Review of Books*, *Atlantic*, *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *Prospect*, *Guardian*, *TLS*, *New Statesman*, *Sunday Times*, and many others. She most recently wrote the introduction to the Cambridge Centennial Edition of *The Great Gatsby* (2025).



Anne Margaret Daniel is a writer and editor who teaches at the New School University in New York City and at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson. Her most recent books on Fitzgerald include the bestselling edition of his last complete short stories, *I'd Die For You And Other Lost Stories* (Scribner/Simon & Schuster 2017), the Norton Library edition of *The Great Gatsby* (2022), the second edition of the Oxford World's Classics *Tales of the Jazz Age* (2023), and, with James L.W. West III, *The Great Gatsby: The 1926 Broadway Script* (Cambridge University Press 2024). She is the conference director and site coordinator of the 17th International Fitzgerald Conference held in New York City in 2025.



Alaina Doten is the Executive Director of The Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Museum on 919 Felder Avenue in Montgomery, Alabama, a post she has held since 2019. The Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Museum is the only museum dedicated to the lives and legacies of Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald. Their mission is to preserve their histories and artifacts while continuing their legacies by promoting understanding and education in the literary arts, fine arts, music and dance to a local and international audience. Doten is the editor of The Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Museum Illustrated Teaching Edition of *The Great Gatsby* (2021).



Philip McGowan is AHSS Associate Dean for International Mobility & Student Experience at Queen's University Belfast (Ireland) and has been a member of the board of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Society since 2005. He is the series editor of Oxford University Press's centenary editions of F. Scott Fitzgerald, which includes his edition of Fitzgerald's *This Side of Paradise* (2020), and editor of the Penguin (U.S.) edition of *The Great Gatsby* (2021). Recent books include *The Great Gatsby and Related Stories from All the Sad Young Men* (Penguin 2025) and *The Routledge Companion to F. Scott Fitzgerald* (forthcoming), with Helen Turner and Ross K. Tangedal.

William Blazek (moderator): see bio in **Plenary 9**.

Plenary 9 — Gatsby @ 100 #2



William Blazek is Emeritus Professor of American literature and modern culture at Liverpool Hope University (UK). He is a founding coeditor of the *F. Scott Fitzgerald Review* and has served on the executive board of the Fitzgerald Society since 2008 and as the society's vice president since 2020. He edited the 2022 Oxford World's Classics edition of *The Beautiful and Damned; Twenty-First-Century Readings of Tender Is the Night* (Liverpool University Press 2007), with Laura Rattray; and *F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Beautiful and Damned: New Critical Essays* (LSU Press 2022), with Kirk Curnutt and the late David Ullrich.

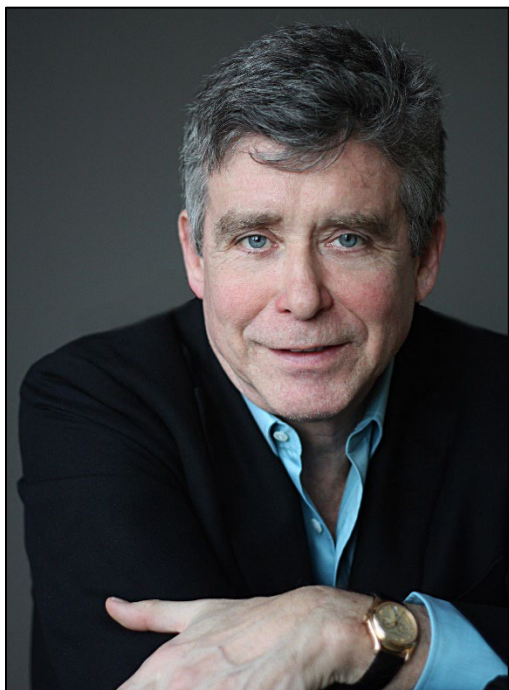


Maggie Gordon Froehlich (moderator) is Associate Director of Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of English and women's, gender, and sexuality studies at The Pennsylvania State University–Hazleton. Froehlich's research interests include American literature and culture; Modernism; gender and sexuality studies; gay/lesbian/queer studies; women writers; Louise Gluck; F. Scott Fitzgerald; William Faulkner; and studies in popular culture, including crime/detective genres in fiction, film, and television. Her work on Fitzgerald has been published in *The F. Scott Fitzgerald Review*, *The Space Between*, and *The Journal of Men's Studies*. She is program director, with Ross K. Tangedal, of the 17th International Fitzgerald Conference held in New York City in 2025.

Philip McGowan: see bio in **Plenary 8**.

Sarah Churchwell: see bio in **Plenary 8**.

Plenary 10 — Jay McInerney in Conversation, featuring the Elevator Repair Service (ERS)



Jay McInerney is the critically acclaimed author of twelve books—nine of which are works of fiction, with the most recent being *Bright, Precious Days* (2016). *Time Magazine* cited his first bestselling novel, *Bright Lights, Big City* (1984), as one of nine generation-defining novels of the twentieth century. Translated into more than 20 languages, it has irrefutably achieved the status of a contemporary classic. “Each generation needs its Manhattan novel, and many ache to write it” noted the *New York Times Book Review*, “but it was McInerney who succeeded”.

His other novels are *Ransom* (1985), *Story of My Life* (1988), *Brightness Falls* (1992), *The Last of the Savages* (1996), *Model Behavior* (1999) *The Good Life* (2006). Described as “McInerney’s most fully imagined novel as it is his most ambitious and elegiac” by *The New York Review of Books*, McInerney’s novel *The Good Life* also received the Grand Prix Littéraire at the Deauville Film Festival in 2007. *How It Ended* (2009), a collection of short stories spanning his entire career, was named one of the 10 best books of the year by *The New York Times*. *Bright, Precious Days*, his third novel about Russell and Corrine Calloway, garnered broad critical acclaim; reviewers at both the *Daily* and *Sunday New York Times* expressed their hope that there would be another book in the cycle.

McInerney has written for numerous literary and popular publications including *New York Magazine*, *Vanity Fair*, *The New*

Yorker, *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Guardian*, *Corriera della Serra*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, and *The New York Review of Books*.

Jay currently writes a monthly wine column for *Town & Country Magazine* and prior to this, from 2010 to May 2014, wrote one for the *Wall Street Journal*. From 1996 to 2007 he wrote a monthly wine column for Condé Nast’s *House and Garden*. Many of those columns were collected in *Bacchus and Me* (2000) and *A Hedonist in the Cellar* (2006). In 2006 McInerney won the James Beard MFK Fisher Award for Distinguished Writing for his food and wine work. His most recent wine book, *The Juice: Vinous Veritas* was published in May 2012 to great critical acclaim.

Again, successfully straddling genres, McInerney wrote the screenplay for the critically acclaimed film *Gia* for which Angelina Jolie won a Golden Globe, and which launched her acting career. He also wrote the 1988 United Artists film version of his novel, *Bright Lights, Big City*, which starred Michael J. Fox. A quintessential New York voice and persona (and in the spirit George Plimpton), McInerney played a recurring character on the television show, *Gossip Girl* (2010 and 2011), one on *CSI New York* (2012) and most recently narrated a documentary on the letters of F. Scott Fitzgerald for the BBC (2013).

Favorably comparing his work to that of F. Scott Fitzgerald and J.D. Salinger, *The New York Times* describes it as the “voice of a generation.” In 1989 McInerney was named a Literary Lion by the New York Public Library.

McInerney is the father of two children, Barrett and Maisie, is married to Anne Randolph Hearst, and divides his time between Bridgehampton, New York, and New York City.



Elevator Repair Service, founded in 1991 by Artistic Director **John Collins**, creates original works with an ongoing ensemble. ERS’s theater pieces are built around a broad range of subject matter and literary forms; they combine elements of slapstick comedy, hi-tech and lo-tech design, both literary and found text, and the group’s own highly developed style of choreography. ERS creates its performances through extended periods of collaboration. A typical development cycle includes 4-6 intensive work periods within a 2 year period, which conclude with work-in-progress showings. Time off between

development is filled with touring and presentations of finished works. Following completion, the piece is presented in NYC for an extended run and is toured throughout the US and abroad.

KUEHL–DONALDSON FELLOWS, 2025

A short history: in the early 2000s the Fitzgerald Society established what was originally called the John Kuehl Travel Fellowship to support graduate student attendance at our conferences, named in honor of the Princeton scholar who co-authored *Dear Scott/Dear Max* and the original *Basil and Josephine* stories with future Society president Jackson R. Bryer. Originally funded by Prof. Kuehl's wife, Linda Kandel Kuehl, after her husband's 1998 passing, the award's name was expanded in 2021 to celebrate the similarly influential legacy of the late biographer Scott Donaldson. For nearly thirty years, the fellowship has helped sponsor many of the future stars of Fitzgerald criticism and conferencing. Recipients who have gone on to enviable scholarly careers include Lauren Rule Maxwell, Sara Kosiba, Ross K. Tangedal, Martina Mastandrea, Ahmed Homeini, and many more.



Joe Carlson is a junior at the University of Oklahoma, double majoring in Film and Media Studies and Psychology. Originally from Tulsa, Oklahoma, he is passionate about storytelling, mental health, and the intersection between media and human behavior. Joe combines creative vision with psychological insight to explore meaningful narratives through film.



Kira Compton is a PhD candidate in English at Southern Mississippi University. She received her MFA at Boise State University, where she served as associate editor of *The Idaho Review*. Her work and reviews have been published in *The Florida Review*, *The Hemingway Review*, and elsewhere. She has presented papers at the Ernest Hemingway Conference, the ALA Conference, and the Ketchum Hemingway Seminar.



Natasha Farrell is a PhD candidate and teaching fellow in Memorial University's English Department. Her dissertation "Star-Dust in Hollywood"—on the cultural critiques of British writers and artists of the Jazz Age, Jan and Cora Gordon—is supported in part by federal funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. She specializes in American literature of the interwar period and film studies.



Savannah Madison Flynn is an undergraduate and aspiring pharmacist at the University of Oklahoma. She prioritizes researching race and ethnicity in American literature. She seeks to understand the characterizations and stereotypes of various ethnic demographics in order to comprehend how generalizations harm the image of minority communities.



Autumn Furr is an undergraduate student at the University of Oklahoma, studying international studies and English literature. Her research focus is the intersectionality between queer studies and fan culture. Autumn is particularly focused on how fan communities contribute to keeping classic literature accessible for all readers.



Sophia M. Giudici is a PhD student in English at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Originally from New Jersey, she received her B.A. in English from Fordham University in 2019 and a Masters in Teaching at Montclair State University in 2021. She taught middle school before returning to her studies at Catholic University, where she earned her MA in English this past fall. Sophia is also a poet and artist. She has been published in two online journals, *Vermilion* and *Latin@ Literatures*, and the Hank Center at Loyola University Chicago's *Nexus*.



Nixon Gorka is an undergraduate at the University of Texas at Tyler studying history. Her research interests include twentieth-century American intellectual and cultural history, with a specific focus on historiography and twentieth-century intelligence studies. She seeks to use literature as a cultural tool in a greater historical analysis.



Christina Irmen is a PhD student in English Literature at Indiana University. She graduated with honors in English at the University of Pennsylvania, where her honors thesis explored Fitzgerald's experimental use of genre and its impact on interpretation in *The Great Gatsby*. Stemming from an interest across forms, she went on to receive a Master's in Theatre and Performance Studies at Washington University. Christina's research interests include Modernism, Aesthetics, Reception, and Adaptation with an emphasis on adaptations of *The Great Gatsby*.



Nurul Aini Binte Ithnin is currently working on a Master's degree exploring gothic modernism in Fitzgerald's *Tales of the Jazz Age*. Specifically, she is interested in the intricate intersections between Fitzgerald's conceptualization of the 'real', whether through the material or immaterial, and Lacanian psychoanalysis. She is also working on a paper on motifs of medievalism in Fitzgerald's short stories.



Estelle Jailliard is a PhD candidate at the University of Perpignan (UPVD), France, under the supervision of Professor Jocelyn Dupont. Her doctoral thesis, undertaken in September 2024, deals with the variety of film adaptations derived from Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. Her focus is on the processes of recontextualization and film semiotics. She also works as a teacher of English for high school students in Paris, where she lives.



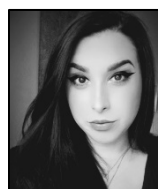
Jamie Korsmo, PhD, is an American/French scholar. She defended her doctoral dissertation, "Performing Americanness from the American Renaissance to the Lost Generation," in December 2024 at Paris-Saclay University, which focused on cultural performance and transnational issues, specifically in expatriate American Literature including authors such as Fitzgerald, Hemingway, and Henry James. She has taught American & British Literature, English Grammar, and Composition courses at several universities (both in America and France) over the past 15 years.



Noah L. Miller is most satisfied when he is serving others, and he harnesses his career as a cadet at The Citadel to do just that. As the editor-in-chief for Citadel's *The Gold Star Journal*, he helps promote students' academic achievements by providing them a place to showcase their work. He wants to go to law school and have a career in prosecution. Noah hails from Camden, South Carolina.



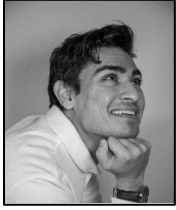
Anjalee Nadarajan is a PhD candidate in English literature at York University near Toronto, Canada. Her dissertation studies novels by Thomas Pynchon and Kim Stanley Robinson to uncover the role of patience cultivated between reader and narrator and among the novels' characters. She has a diverse range of literary interests, having written and presented on authors from Frances Burney to Olivia Shakespear to Joseph Conrad to Kazuo Ishiguro.



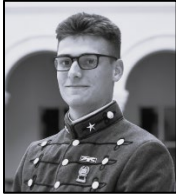
Paria Rahmani is a PhD candidate in English Literature at the University of North Texas. Her research is on 20th and 21st century American modern and postmodern novels and novellas depicting human embodiment and experience, with interests in affect theory, phenomenology, and temporality. Her dissertation closely reads texts surrounding bereavement and looks at grief as form, taking into consideration the way in which historical contexts have influenced their particular expression. This is her second conference presentation for the Fitzgerald Society.



Jessie Reid is a PhD candidate at the University of Leicester, specializing in Anglo-American Modernism. Her research explores the intersections of trauma, psychoanalysis, and modernity in early 20th-century literature, with a focus on Virginia Woolf and F. Scott Fitzgerald. She is currently completing corrections to her doctoral thesis on death in the works of Woolf and Fitzgerald. A professional musician, she performed on the Glastonbury 2024 Acoustic Stage. Her new single, "Daisy"—an ode to *The Great Gatsby*—was released in May 2025.



Shane Soormally's research delves into the adaptation of literary works to the screen, with a particular emphasis on the shift from modernism to postmodernism in cinema. His work critically examines how Fitzgerald's novels, especially *The Great Gatsby*, have been reinterpreted across different cinematic eras. His broader interests encompass myths, Jungian psychology, the supernatural in film and television, and retrofuturism. Additionally, he has conducted extensive research on the soft power of the United States through television series and the evolving intertextuality of teen drama television series in the digital age.



Quentin Walsh is a physics and English double major at The Citadel. He is a member of the Distinguished Scholars Program, Vice President of the Honors Program, President of Turbela Verborum: The Citadel's English Club, President of The Calliopean Literary Society: The Citadel's Debate Society, Secretary of The Society of Physics Students, Treasurer of the Chess Club and edits for *The Gold Star Journal* and *The Shako*. He is captain of The Citadel's Army STAR research team and competes with both The Citadel's Ethics Bowl Team and International Physics Competition Team. Quentin plans to commission into the Army upon graduation.



Elisha Wise is a PhD researcher at the University of Sheffield who works on twentieth-century American Literature and life-writing. Her thesis will read Sylvia Plath's collective works as an 'intertextual autobiography' and examine her curation of self-images across autobiographical modes of writing. Wise has a long-standing research interest in F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald, the former of whom was the subject of her BA thesis. In 2018, she presented a research paper on depictions of Zelda in contemporary feminist biofiction to a student symposium at York St. John University. She also had a mini-essay exploring Taylor Swift's allusions to the Fitzgeralds published by *Post45* in 2020.

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