

Call for Papers: Travel Writing and the Southern Gothic

South Atlantic Modern Language Association Convention, November 2011, Atlanta, GA
International Society for Travel Writing

The International Society for Travel Writing announces its regular panel session for the 2011 convention of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association. The convention will be held 4-6 November 2011, at the Loews Atlanta Hotel, in Atlanta, GA.

The term "Southern Gothic" is applied mostly to fictional narratives, with the usual cast of authors – Faulkner, Caldwell, Welty, O'Connor, et. al. – cited as the genre's foremost practitioners. However, Rebecca C. McIntyre argues in a recent issue of *Southern Cultures* that "Long before the gothic Souths of William Faulkner or Flannery O'Connor, travel writers ... conceived of certain southern scenes ... as 'gothic'"

"Travel Writing and the Southern Gothic" will explore the intersection of travel writing and the Southern Gothic, focusing on the use of gothic imagery in depicting landscape, inhabitants, ambiance, and/or behavior in travel writing about the American or global South. Papers may draw from a variety of approaches. Preference will be given to papers that discuss non-fictional travel narratives, or that discuss fictional travel narratives in the context of theoretical or critical approaches to travel literature.

Please submit electronically (Microsoft Word or PDF) abstracts of 250-350 words to Russ Pottle, International Society for Travel Writing, at rpottle@misericordia.edu. Abstracts should include submitter's name, title, institutional affiliation, and contact information. Deadline for abstract submissions is 15 June 2011. Notification will be made by 22 June 2011. Information about the SAMLA conference will be available shortly at <http://samla.gsu.edu/>.