

THE RESEARCH CENTER FOR URBAN CULTURAL
HISTORY PRESENTS A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE ON



*NO PROSPECT:
ROMANTICISM AT
THE EDGE*

Romanticism is characterized by both a progressively optimistic mood, and a reactive, phobic sense of any possibility of a way forward. This conference addresses that latter mood, which is so predictive of our own times and fear of the end of the world that scientists have recently announced as already on course to take place. “No Prospects” orients explorations of Romanticism’s ongoing concern to discover suggestive, imaginative possibilities for continuance in the face of the very real prospect of “no future,” and/or the erasure of all that is known of the past. What visions were and are possible under such conditions? Without a standardized point of reference in an increasingly destructive world system there could be no prospect from which to stand or comprehend the world. For the Romantics, the ethical as well as aesthetic response was mitigated not just by political critique but by the sense that there may be no way forward. Confronted with such a dilemma, Romantics and post-Romantics confronting similar ontological dilemmas have sought for ways to engage opacity, abstraction, hauntings, resistance and ruins-- issues that papers in this conference will address.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND
9 : 0 0 - 5 : 0 0 P M

AM Sessions: The College Club, 44 Commonwealth Ave.
PM Sessions: UMB Wheatley Hall, 6TH fl., Crossley Lounge

For conference schedule see www.umb.edu/rcuch, then choose Events and Conferences page

For Conference Registration click on registration link for No Propsect, same page

**KEYNOTE: DAVID L. CLARK, PROFESSOR OF
ENGLISH AND CULTURAL STUDIES, MCMASTER UNIVERSITY**

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS:

**WILLIAM KEACH, BROWN UNIVERSITY; SONIA HOFKOSH, TUFTS
UNIVERSITY; DAVID COLLINGS, BOWDOIN COLLEGE; ORRIN WANG,
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND; JACQUES KHALIP, BROWN UNIVERSITY
FOREST PYLE, UNIVERSITY OF OREGON**