University of Delaware Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

Distinguished Scholars Series

Public Lecture

Homecomings: Dislocated Memory and Uneasy Returns in Borges

Sylvia Molloy

Sylvia Molloy is Albert Schweitzer Professor of Humanities at New York University, where she teaches Latin American and Comparative literatures. Her critical work includes La Diffusion de la Littérature hispano-américaine en France au XXe siècle; Las letras de Borges; At Face Value: Autobiographical Writing in Spanish America; Hispanisms and Homosexualities (in collaboration with Robert Irwin) and many essays on 19th- and 20th-century Latin American literatures and cultures. She is also the author of two novels, En breve cárcel and El común olvido, and a collection of short prose pieces, Varia imaginación. She has been a fellow of the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Social Science Research Council, and the Civitella Ranieri Foundation. She has served as President of the Modern Language Association of America and of the Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana.

The lecture will reflect on modes of homecoming in literature, specifically on homecoming narratives in Borges. It will deal with constructions of home and the homely, with migration and nostalgia, translation and trauma, with returns, possible or impossible, and with memory and alienation.

Monday, April 19 4:00 p.m. 126 Lerner Hall

(Reception to follow lecture: Lerner Hall Atrium)

This is the forty-eighth public lecture in the Distinguished Scholars Series sponsored by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.