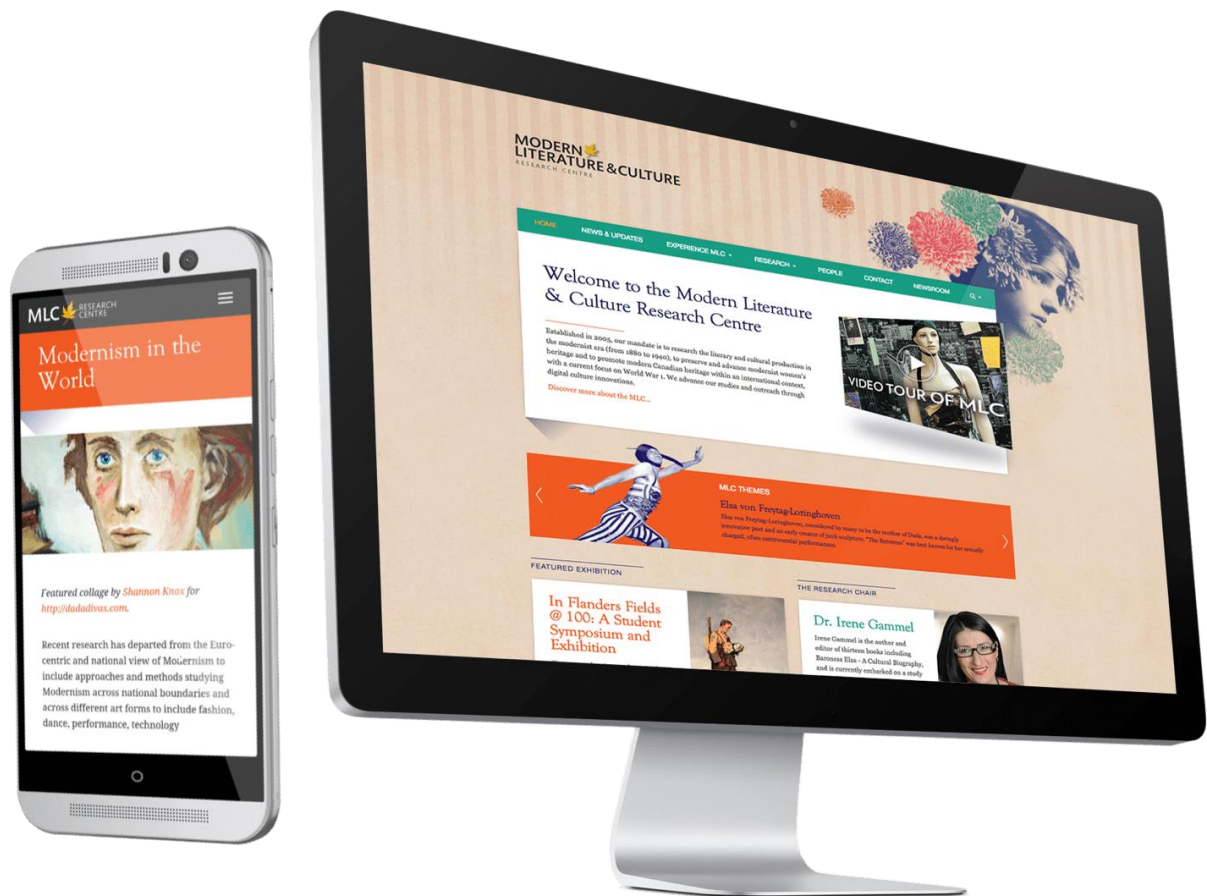


MLC Annual Report

May 16, 2020 – May 15, 2021

The COVID-19 YEAR



MLC.RYERSON.CA

Submitted by Irene Gammel, Director
Compiled by Cameron MacDonald, Research Coordinator

Pandemic Xenophobia | MLC Webinar #16

THANK YOU

Ryerson University | MLC RESEARCH CENTRE | SSHRC CRSH

Monday, Ste Brigitte
Sunday, The aftermath of
did rain, I haven't
Received several letters
Prof. Kapahuk, Miss Dubois
Kuban, Mrs White, etc.
The concert
Officers sympathetic

9 MARDI. OCTOBRE
S. Denis, év.
Rain!!!
Wrote letters
Miss Dubois, Prof.
Mrs Fred Bond
rain is def
feel lonely
Would like a letter
Dr King or some body
Would cheer me up
Rec'd letters
Spic, Rev. Logan,
Jackson,
Proof leaking - but
to pull my hair

Operation Canada

REFLECTING ON THE COVID-19 YEAR

On March 17, Ontario announced its first death by COVID-19 and declared a provincial state of emergency under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*. The closure of businesses and facilities was ordered. With Ryerson closing, my team and I shifted operations of the MLC Research Centre online, which was no small feat given that in-person exhibitions are part of our mobilization through the CFI-funded MLC Gallery and given also that we hold archival materials and rare books. We made it happen, nonetheless, by shifting and adapting our operations with a great deal of dedication, and even sacrifice, by the entire team.

We launched the Pandemic Webinar Series, starting its planning in March as the first of its kind in Canada. At the time of writing this prologue, it is still running—the longest cultural and arts focused initiative addressing the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada. To date we have had 56 international speakers and almost 2,000 participants, offering an international dialogue on the role of the arts and culture in navigating the pandemic and preparing for recovery. Our book on the topic is forthcoming with Routledge.

During this stressful time, we delivered on an ambitious research agenda with five books published and forthcoming and a sixth book in preparation, along with forty-two articles, chapters, op-eds, and other pieces of criticism published—an amazing result by an inspired and outstanding team of researchers. We have launched new partnerships with the AGO, the McMichael Collection of Canadian Art (Kleinburg) and Canadian Women Artists History Initiative (Concordia) for an upcoming hybrid (in person and online) conference entitled *Modernisms, Inside & Out*, as well as an exhibition with Carleton University Art Gallery, and special projects with the War Heritage Research Initiative at Royal Roads University.

We revamped our online archival system to make it even more accessible. I invite you to browse our Operation Canada website with its new discoveries, and to explore the ways in which the MLC Research Centre mobilizes publicly engaged arts and humanities. I hope you enjoy this summary of achievements of the MLC Research Centre during a tumultuous and historic year.

Irene Gammel, Director

THE MLC RESEARCH CENTRE

Name and Address

Modern Literature and Culture Research Centre (MLC)
111 Gerrard Street East (4th Floor)
MLC Gallery
111 Gerrard Street East (Ground Floor)
Tel: 416-979-5000 ext. 4771
Twitter: [@MLC_Research](https://twitter.com/MLC_Research)

Note on location:

Over the past academic year, the MLC has been working remotely as per stay-at-home guidelines posed by the University. Furthermore, due to irreparable water damage in the GER Building, the MLC is currently in the process of moving its operations to 415 Yonge Street (YNG-1802). Research operations will be transferred and continue there once it is safe to do so.

MLC Director & Executive Team

Dr. Irene Gammel, Professor, Faculty of Arts, Director
Dr. Cintia Cristiá, Assistant Professor, FCAD, Academic Lead – Executive Committee
Cameron MacDonald, MA, MLC Coordinator
Jaclyn Marcus (ABD), Executive Member
Dr. Jason Wang, Executive Member, Space & Technology

MLC Research Associates

See [our website](#) for a listing of current research associates who are involved in projects.



2020-2021 SUMMARY ACHIEVEMENTS

Funding

Infrastructure and Operations: CFI, OVPRI, Faculty of Arts
 Research Projects: SSHRC, Mitacs, UKRI-Globalink

Research Themes and Projects

- Modernism and modernity; multimodal art practices
- Pandemic narratives and creative resilience through arts- and humanities-based approaches
- Operation Canada: Reconceptualizing the World War I diary from the trenches to the home front
- Preservation and exploration of Canadian and international women's heritage
- Decolonizing the avant-garde

Research Output

5 books published or accepted for publication

42 peer-reviewed and non-peer-reviewed articles, book chapters and critical and creative pieces (including 6 under revise and resubmit) with top tier outlets

30 conference papers and invited talks presented (or accepted) internationally with top tier venues

2 Exhibitions

4 successful grant applications

1 SSHRC-Funded Digital Project

Operation Canada: The Canadian War Diary Digital Project

Sponsored by SSHRC Insight Grant; in partnership with Ryerson University Library

9 diaries transcribed, analysed, annotated, and digitized; 12+ students trained. <https://wardiaries.ca/>.

Major Partnerships

1 Conference (hybrid): Modernisms, Inside & Out: September 30 – October 2, 2021; organized by MLC (Ryerson) in partnership with the Canadian Women's Art History Initiative (CWAHI, Concordia University), AGO, and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection (Kleinburg); the conference is funded via the Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art.

Events and Other Digital Research Mobilization

12 international Pandemic webinars: <https://bit.ly/mlcpandemic>

12 Vimeo videos created

11,247 followers across Twitter and Facebook

21 stories published on the MLC website

2 E-Newsletters shared

Training/Mentorship: 21 HQP

2 PhD dissertations supervised

4 MA supervised

2 Postdoctoral Fellows supervised

13 Other Trainees (RAs, Fellows) including 5 UG, 4 MA, 3 PhD, 1 Research Coordinator supervised

Digital Archiving and Library

118 new records digitized and added to the MLC database for a total of 4,055 catalogue records with 6,930 archived images

Library Database for a total of 3,455 records

Overhaul and update of archival system from FileMaker Pro to Omeka



SPONSORS AND PARTNERS



EVENT PARTNERS

