



# Hemispheres and Stratospheres: The Idea and the Experience of Distance in the International Enlightenment

*The Eighth Noel Symposium*

Sponsored by the James Smith Noel Foundation  
Organized by Kevin L. Cope (Louisiana State University) and  
Samara Cahill (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)

The Noel Collection  
The Noel Memorial Library of Louisiana State University in Shreveport  
December 12 & 13, 2013

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2013

7:15 pm: Evening reception for Symposium participants, their partners,  
and Noel Foundation Board Members  
The Petroleum Club of Shreveport  
*Shuttle transportation from the Hilton Hotel lobby*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2013

8:45 am: Depart for The Noel Collection  
*Shuttle transportation from the Hilton Hotel lobby*

9:15 am: Welcome by Noel Collection Curator Robert C. Leitz, III

9:30 am: Introductory comments and overview  
Conference Co-Director Kevin L. Cope

10:00 am: Paper One: Roger Lund, Lemoyne University  
“Looking Down: Meditations on Elevation and Epistemology in the Long  
Eighteenth Century”

10:50 am: Paper Two: Samara Cahill, NanyangTechnological University  
“(T)ex(t)ilic Nationalism: Distance and Belonging in Jane Barker’s ‘Patch-  
Work Screen’ Narratives”

11:40: Lunch at Country Tavern Barbecue  
*Shuttle transportation from the Noel Memorial Library*

12:55 am: Paper Three: Phyllis Thompson, East Tennessee State University  
“Journeys to the Edge: The Idea and Experience of Distance in Archival Research”

1:45 pm: Cultural outing to the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum  
*Shuttle transportation from the Noel Memorial Library; return via shuttle  
to the Hilton Hotel at 4:30 pm*

6:30 pm: Dinner at Giuseppe’s Italian Restaurant  
*Shuttle transportation from and return to the Hilton Hotel lobby*



*Dinnerware imaged the  
enthusiasm for distance*



*A traveler from far-away  
Mercury lands in Paris*



*Settlers ask the ceiling to reveal the  
immensity of the Louisiana Purchase*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2013

8:30 am: Depart for The Noel Collection  
*Shuttle transportation from the Hilton Hotel Lobby*

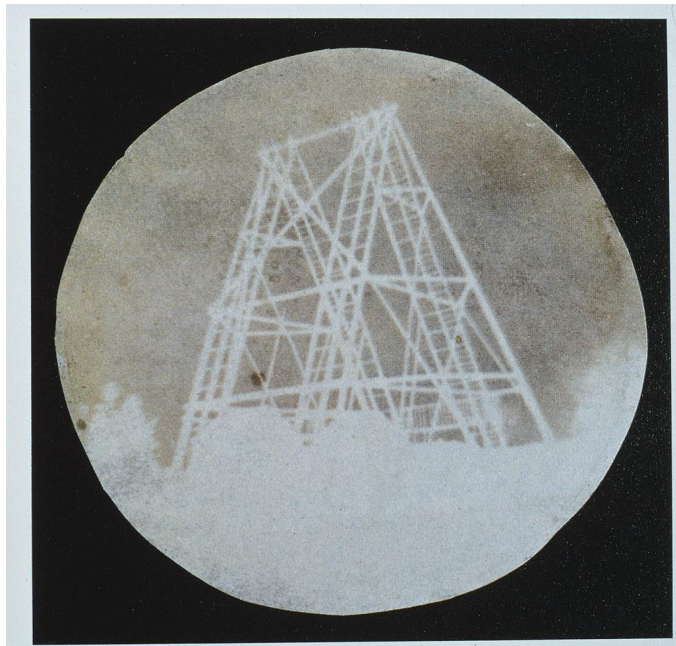
9:00 am: Paper Four: Chandrava Chakravarty, West Bengal State University, Kolkata  
“Connecting Hemispheres, Playing with Distance: Rammohun Roy and Modern India”

9:50 am: Paper Five: William Stargard, Pine Manor College  
“Space and the Meaning of Distance in the Architecture of Bernardo Vittone”



*Domes lent architectural form to imagined vastness*

10:40: BREAK



*Seeming still to peer into deep space, this uncanny early photographic image of William Herschel's telescope carriage suggests that space sees us through the lens of time*

10:50: Paper Six: Shirley Chew, Nanyang Technological University  
“Beauty out of Strangeness: Revisiting Eighteenth-Century Collections of South East Asian Natural History”

11:40 am: Lunch at Indigo Bistro Indian Restaurant  
*Shuttle transportation from the Noel Library*

1:15 pm: Cultural outing to the R. W. Norton Art Gallery  
*Shuttle transportation from the Indigo Bistro; return via shuttle to the Hilton Hotel at 4:30 pm*

6:30 pm: Dinner at The Shreveport Club  
*Shuttle transportation from and return to the Hilton Hotel lobby*



*Panoramas played a key role in the eighteenth-century rendering of distance*



Happy Travels

We will see you again soon, long  
before a blue moon!

