10:15-10:45: Coffee

10:45-11:00: Opening Welcome and UCSB Literature and the Mind Faculty Introductions
Kay Young, Director of Literature and the Mind, Professor of English and Comparative Literature

11:00-12:00: “Phantasmal Intersubjectivity: Mental Co-Presence and the Emsery of Literary Characters”
Marco Bernini, Durham University, Department of English Studies
Introduced by Aranye Fradenburg, Founder and Director Emeritus of Literature and the Mind (2011-2013), Professor of English and Comparative Literature

12:00-1:00: “Embodiment and the Physics of Intersubjectivity in Contemporary ‘Lab Lit’”
Marco Caracciolo, Ghent University, Department of Literary Studies
Introduced by Julie Carlson, Director Emeritus of Literature and the Mind (2013-2016), Professor of English

1:00-2:00: Lunch

2:00-3:00: “Mediated Intersubjectivity: Pamela, Julie and 4e Cognition in the Public Sphere”
Karin Kukkonen, University of Oslo, Department of Literature, Area Studies and European Languages
Introduced by Jan Caldwell, Associate Professor of English

3:00-4:00: “Enaction, Emotion and Reflective Attention in Narrative”
Merja Polvinen, University of Helsinki, Department of Modern Languages
Introduced by Dominique Jullien, Professor of French and Comparative Literature

4:00-4:30: Final Discussion

4:30: Wine and Cheese Reception

MARCO BERNINI is a Wellcome Trust Postdoctoral Fellow at Durham University, England and a member of “Hearing the Voice,” an interdisciplinary project on voice-hearing, at Durham University, England. He is a member of the “Narrative and Complex Systems” project (University of York) and the “History of Distributed Cognition” project (University of Edinburgh). Bernini’s interests include narrative theory, modernist fiction, and cognitive science. He is the co-author of Letteratura e scienze cognitive (“Literature and Cognitive Sciences”) (2013, with Marco Caracciolo).

MARCO CARACCIOLO is Assistant Professor in English and Literary Theory at Ghent University, Belgium. His projects include “Narrating the Mesh: Ecology and the Non-Human in Contemporary Fiction and Oral Storytelling” and “Embodiment and Cosmic Perspective-Taking in 20th Century Fiction.” Caracciolo is the author of The Experientiality of Narrative: An Enactivist Approach (2014) and Strange Narrators in Contemporary Fiction: Explorations in Readers’ Engagement with Characters (2016), and he is co-author of Letteratura e scienze cognitive (2013, with Marco Bernini) and A Passion for Specificity: Confronting Inner Experience in Literature and Science (2016, with Russell T. Hurlburt).

KARIN KUKKONEN is Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Oslo, Norway. She set up the collaborative project “Eye Movements in Literary Reading” at the University of Oxford, and she is a member of the IGEL North project on reading processes. Kukkonen’s interests include narratology, cognitive literary study, eighteenth-century literature, poetics, and comics. She is the author of Contemporary Comics Storytelling (2013) and Studying Comics and Graphic Novels (2013), and she is the co-editor of Metalepsis in Popular Culture (2011, with Sonja Klimek).

MERJA POLVINEN is University Lecturer of English Philology at the University of Helsinki, Finland. She is a steering group member in “Cognitive Futures in the Arts and Humanities,” a member of the “Narrative and Complex Systems” project at the University of York, and Chair of the Academic Advisory Board for Fafnir: The Nordic Journal of Science Fiction and Fantasy Research. Since her dissertation Reading the Texture of Reality: Chaos Theory, Literature and the Humanist Perspective (2008), Polvinen has published articles on cognitive narratology, literature and science, and speculative fiction.
The Literature and the Mind Initiative is a collaborative research center that brings together literary scholars, members of the Sage Center of the Mind, and the Brain Initiative, along with graduate students and undergraduates who specialize in cognitive approaches to literary studies. We are so grateful to our visiting scholars for joining us this weekend and feel thrilled to facilitate a “meeting of minds” experience with cognitive literary theorists from across the Atlantic.

Literature and the Mind sincerely thanks the Department of English, the Comparative Literature program, the Graduate Center for Literary Research, and the College of Creative Studies for co-sponsoring with us and making this conference possible.

Image on front cover: M.C. Escher, Bond of Union (1956)