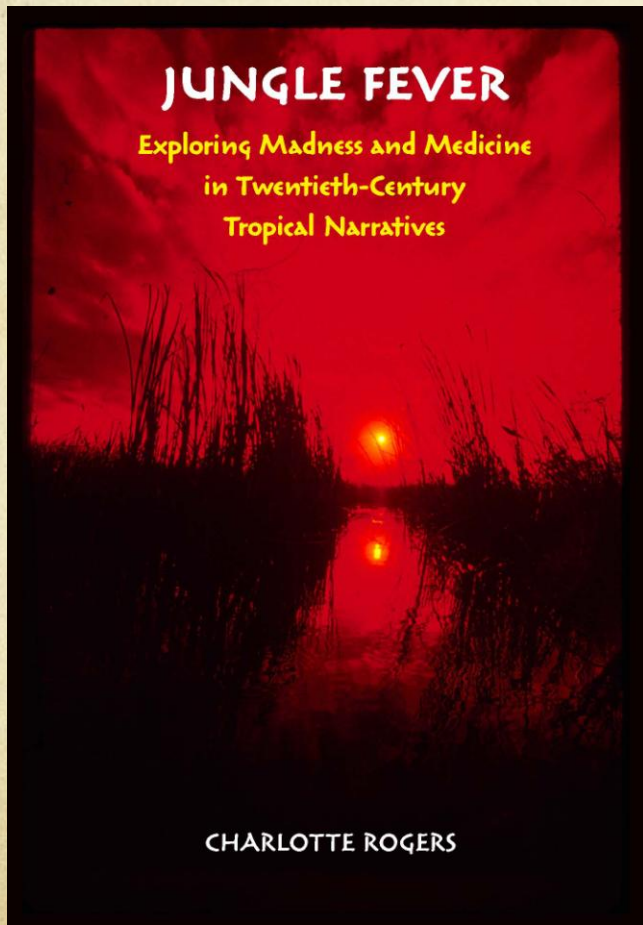


Latin American Studies and the Department of Modern and  
Classical Languages at George Mason University invite you to a

# BOOK LAUNCH PARTY

For JUNGLE FEVER  
By Mason Faculty Member  
Charlotte Rogers

Thursday, October 4th at 3:00  
JC Meeting Room A  
Refreshments will be served



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○ The sinister “jungle”—that ill-defined and amorphous place where civilization has no foothold and survival is always in doubt—is the terrifying setting for countless works of the imagination. Films like *Apocalypse Now*, television shows like *Lost*, and stories like *Heart of Darkness* all pursue the essential question of why the unknown world terrifies adventurer and spectator alike. In *Jungle Fever*, Charlotte Rogers goes deep into five books that first defined the jungle as a violent and maddening place. The reader finds urban explorers venturing into the wilderness, encountering and living among the “native” inhabitants, and eventually losing their minds.

○ Rogers explores how the canonical works of authors such as Joseph Conrad, André Malraux, Mario Vargas Llosa and others use medical and psychological terminology to present jungles and wildernesses as fundamentally corrupting and dangerous. While the jungle challenges Conrad’s and Malraux’s European travelers to question their civility and mental stability, Latin American authors such as Alejo Carpentier deftly turn pseudoscientific theories into their greatest asset, as their characters transform madness into an essential creative spark.

○ Ultimately, *Jungle Fever* suggests that the greatest horror of the jungle is the unknown regions of the character’s own mind.