Journal #8

This week we were instructed to read 2 articles, both based on a common activity in both the USA and British Canada during the 1800’s known as a ‘Charivari’ (citation). The two articles we were instructed to read were: Allen Greer’s “From Folklore to Revolution: Charivari and the Lower Canadian Rebellion of 1837.” And Susanna Moodie’s “Roughing it in the Bush, or, life in Canada.”

I personally found Moodies paper was more intriguing and informative. Where I found Greer’s paper pretty informative but also very repetitive. I found that in Greers paper he kept bring up points that were already addressed earlier in his paper and just wording his questions in different matters. In Moodie’s paper we were instructed to queue in in the article on page.221 at “Do tell me…” and end at our reading at “…and end at “Laughing-stock of such people!” on page 225.

So, what is a Charivari? A Charivari is described as “A cacophonous mock serenade, or a series of discordant noises, typically performed by a group of people in derision of an unpopular person or in celebration of a marriage.”(citation) Of course there are also underlying factors to this tradition: such as status values, and racial values. There are also such events as far as shamming and murder! In SOMEONES paper they talk about a brutal (unnessicary) murder based on (sonemthing) that ended with the murder of a coloured man.