

11th Congress of the European Society of Comparative Literature 11e Congrès de la Société Européenne de Littérature Comparée

University of Leeds

24-28 August 2026

Ethics and Affect: Rethinking the Text and the World

Éthique et affect: repenser le texte et le monde

**MON Cloth Hall Court
24.8.**

17:30 — Reception sponsored by the British
18:30 Comparative Literature Association and the
British Centre for Literary Translation

- 12:30 Registration opens**
Cloth Hall Court
With thanks to our four postgraduate assistants from the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies:
Emily Ainley-Zoll
Matthew Cooper
Suhad Oudah
Shiyi Zha
- 14:00** Welcome from Zsuzsa Varga, President of the European Society of Comparative Literature, and Richard Hibbitt, Vice-President of the European Society of Comparative Literature
Herringbone Room
- Plenary Lecture: Duncan Large**
(University of East Anglia)
Translating Affect (Ethically) in Age of AI
Chaired by Neil Sadler (University of Leeds)
- 15:30 Refreshments**
Downstairs in Cloth Hall Court
- 16:00 Address**
Herringbone Room
Susan Bassnett (University of Glasgow/
University of Warwick)
President of the British Comparative Literature Association
Reassessing Comparative Literature Today
Chaired by Gigliola Sulis (University of Leeds)
Respondent: Haun Saussy (University of Chicago)
- 17:00 Tribute to Brigitte Le Juez (members of the European Society of Comparative Literature)**
Herringbone Room
- 17:15 Welcome**
Professor Emma Cayley, Head of the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies, University of Leeds
Professor Shearer West, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leeds

**TUE Cloth Hall Court
25.8.**

- 09:00 Plenary Lecture**
Herringbone Room
Jean-Louis Haquette, Professeur des Universités en Littérature comparée, Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne
Le cri de la nature : mises en scène de la morale naturelle au siècle des Lumières
(*The Cry of Nature: Scenes of Natural Morality in the Age of Enlightenment*)
- Break**
- 11:00 Parallel Sessions
Session One**
- 1.1 Text and World: Cross-Cultural Circulation and Variation of Literary Texts and Their Ethical Stakes #1**
Cloth Hall HERRINGBONE
Chair: Yina Cao (Sichuan University)
- Yina CAO (Sichuan University)
The Ethics of Tidal Urban Governance: New York 2140 in Dialogue with Laozi's Philosophy of Water
 - Shunqing CAO (Sichuan University)
Variation in Translation and International Dissemination of Chinese Culture
 - Bernard FRANCO (Sorbonne Université)
From Goethe's World Literature to Pascale Casanova's World Space of Literature
 - Qilin FU (Sichuan University)
On Tōkei's Writing of a History of Chinese Literature

1.2 Ethics on the Move: Politics and Emotions in Contemporary Travel Writing #1

Cloth Hall TWEED

Chair: Luigi MARFÈ (Università di Torino)

1. Luis ALBURQUERQUE-GARCÍA (CSIC: Spanish National Research Council, Madrid)
Overview of Spanish Travelogues in Certain Textual Families after the 1940s
2. Ángel PÉREZ- MARTÍNEZ (CSIC: Spanish National Research Council, Madrid)
Digital Possibilities of a Corpus of Spanish Travel Writers
3. Sandra VLASTA (Università di Genova),
Travelling, Writing and Ironising: Sibylle Berg's Wunderbare Jahre (2016) and the Politics of Travel (Writing)
4. Camilla MAFFINELLI (IULM University, Milano)
The City of the Abyss: Travel Writing and Social Reportage

1.3 Dialogue Across Cultures: International Perspectives on Women's Voices in Azerbaijani Literature

Cloth Hall DENIM

Chair: Vlad STRUKOV (University of Leeds)

1. Rahilya GEYBULLAYEVA (Baku Slavic University and ADA University)
From Pre-Bolshevik Baku to the Post-Soviet Camp: Memory and Violence in Azerbaijani Literature
2. Shafag DADASHOVA (ADA University, Baku)
Gender, Identity, and Social Transformation in Post-Soviet Literature
3. Tatiana KLEPIKOVA (University of Regensburg)
Fractured Identities: Reading Gender and Tradition on the Move in Egana Djabbarova
4. Anne THOMPSON-AHMADOVA (Independent Scholar)
Amplifying Azerbaijani Women's Voices across Cultures: A Translator's Perspective

1.4 Paternity, Myth and Ethical Responsibility

Cloth Hall WOOL

Chair: Andy Stafford (University of Leeds)

1. Ian ELLISON (Jesus College, University of Oxford)
Posthumous Authorship: After the Death of the Author
2. Emily AINLEY-ZOLL (University of Leeds)
Myth, Affect, and the Ethical Responsibility in the Works of Roland Barthes
3. Giuseppina CALENDIA (Independent Scholar)
Translating Affect: Ethical Responsibility and Emotional Resonance in Literary Translation

1.5 Non-Human/More-than-Human #1

Cloth Hall COTTON

Chair: Rosanne GALLENNE

(Université de Toulouse Jean Jaurès)

1. Catrinel POPA (University of Bucharest)
Speaking Across Species. Human/ Non-Human Encounters in East-European Contemporary Fiction
2. Paula PÉREZ-RODRÍGUEZ (Institute of Language, Literature and Anthropology – Spanish National Research Council)

Literary Listening Before Recording: An Affective and Acoustic Assemblage Between Things, Animals, and Humans through Onomatopoeia

3. Rachel NISBET (University of Leeds)
Gothic Feelings: Frankenstein, Reworked to Speculate on Rights of Nature
4. Salvatore LATTARULO (University of Bari Aldo Moro)
Waiting for a Second Prometheus: Italo Svevo's visionary rewriting of the Myth of the Mad Scientist at the End of Zeno's Conscience in light of today's Anthropocene Debate

12:30 Lunch

14:00 Session Two

2.1 Text and World: Cross-Cultural Circulation and Variation of Literary Texts and Their Ethical Stakes #2

Cloth Hall HERRINGBONE

Chair: Qing YANG (Sichuan University)

1. Yunzhu CAO (Sichuan University)
Circulation, Variation and Integration: Ford Madox Ford's Cultural Cosmopolitanism
2. Binhua WANG (Lingnan University, Hong Kong)
'Writing the Self Twice' across languages and cultures: The 'BY/OF/FOR the Self' Triad in the Delegated Self-Translation of Chinese Translator Yang Xianyi's Autobiography
3. Xingzhi ZHAO (Sichuan University)
Text as Semiosis: How Cross-Cultural Interpretants Shape the Transformation of World Literature
4. Qing YANG (Sichuan University)
From Hanshan Poems to Cold Mountain Paintings: Cross-Cultural and Cross-Medial Variation of Literary Texts

2.2 Ethics on the Move: Politics and Emotions in Contemporary Travel Writing #2

Cloth Hall TWEED

Chair: Sandra VLASTA (Università di Genova)

1. Nicoletta ASCIUTO (University of York)
Paris with English Eyes: Hope Mirrlees and the Writing of Paris: A Poem (1920)
2. Javier Alonso PRIETO (Universidad de Valladolid)
A New Nature Writing: Journeys against the Anthropocene from an Ecological and Social Literary Perspective
3. Luigi MARFÈ (Università di Padova)
Travel Writing, Post-tourism and the Ethics of Seeing
4. Giovanni Salvagnini ZANAZZO (Università di Padova)
Philippe Forest and the Ethics of French Neo-Japonisme: Between Universalism and the Rhetoric of Otherness

2.3 Gendered Storytelling In and From Azerbaijan: Contemporary Artistic, Curatorial and Film Practice

Cloth Hall DENIM

Chair: Tatiana KLEPIKOVA (University of Regensburg)

1. Lala ALIYEVA (Independent Filmmaker)
Collecting as Methodology: Visual Storytelling in Post-colonial Contexts

2. Suad GARA (European Graduate School/
Independent Filmmaker)
*Storytelling With and Against the Female Gaze:
Meta-Textual Readings*
3. Vlad STRUKOV (University of Leeds)
*Storytelling of the Silent Period: Azerbaijan's
Contemporary Art of the 1980s–90s*
4. Zahra MAMMEDOVA (University of Brno /
Independent Filmmaker)
*Embodied Affects and Ethical Frames: Gendered
Voices and Curation of Azerbaijani Art*

2.4 Environmental Literatures

Cloth Hall WOOL

Chair: Rachel NISBET (University of Leeds)

1. Francesca BALESTRO (University College London)
*Against Eventualisation: Ecological Unfeeling in
Contemporary Autobiographical Fiction*
2. Annamaria ELIA (Sapienza University of Rome)
*Italy and Petrocultures: Oil and Affect in the 20th and
21st Centuries*
3. Elisa FORTUNATO (Università degli Studi di Bari)
*Writing the Anthropocene: Interpersonal Dynamics in
Eleanor Catton's Birnam Wood*
4. Stefania RUTIGLIANO (University of Bari)
*Ethics and Affect in Cli-fi: Robinson's The Ministry for
the Future and Ehrlich's Malé*

2.5 Non-Human/More-than-Human #2

Cloth Hall COTTON

Chair: Salomé PAUL (University College Dublin/Gaiety
School of Acting)

1. Anna ALBREKTSON (Stockholm University)
*English Gardens and Swedish Sensibility: Cultural
Ecology, Affective Aesthetics and Ethics in Helena
Maria Linnerhielm's Poetry*
2. Viviana FIORENTINO (Queen's University Belfast)
and Rosanne GALLENE (Université Toulouse
Jean Jaurès)
*"Hortosophical Encounters": The Garden as an
Inspirational Space of Creativity in Poetry by Women
in Mid-Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries Ireland*
3. Francesca MEDAGLIA (Sapienza University of
Rome)
*Ethics and Affect in Complex Television Storytelling:
Paradises, Demons, and Miracles*

Break

16:00 Session Three

3.1 ESCL Excellence Award for Collaborative Research 2026: Award Ceremony

Cloth Hall HERRINGBONE

Welcome and Opening Remarks (Marijan Dović, Chair
of the Committee)

Conversations with Editors of Shortlisted Volumes:

- Ioana Alina Bako for *Géographies Insolites*
- Levente T. Szabó for *Acta Comparationis—An
Alternative Genealogy of World Comparatism*
- Hany Rashwan for *Arabic, Persian, and Turkic
Poetics: Towards a Post-Eurocentric Literary Theory*

3.2 Ethics and Affect: Dialogues across Texts, Nālandā Traditions, and Worlds

Cloth Hall TWEED

Chair: Smita SINGH (Nālandā University)

1. Lucy GETTMAN (American University)
*Using the Blogosphere to Elevate Narratives of Wom-
en and Political Leadership Among Academics and
Practitioners*
2. Dawn CAMPBELL (University of South Carolina)
*Pedagogical Practices and Liminal Spaces:
Re-imagining and Re-conceptualizing Marginality
Through Feminist Standpoint Epistemology*
3. Smita SINGH (Nālandā University)
*Ethics and Affect: Parallel Epistemologies from
Nālandā to the Present*

3.3 Book's New Heartbeat: Empathy, Existentialism, and Evaluation

Cloth Hall DENIM

Chair: Shuyue LIU (University of Nottingham)

1. Shuyue LIU (University of Nottingham)
*Shared Flavour of Feeling: Articulating and Evoking
Affect through Language of Food in Angela Hui's
Takeaway (2022)*
2. Simone REBORA (University of Verona)
*Being and Reading: Existential Discourse on the
Goodreads Platform*
3. Lore DE GREVE (Ghent University)
*Keeping Up with the Reads: A Qualitative and
Quantitative Approach to Digital Social Reading in the
Web 2.0 in Analysing Literary Criticism and Reader
Engagement*

3.4 Intercultural Dialogues

Cloth Hall WOOL

Chair: Irena HAYTER (University of Leeds)

1. Akiko TAKEUCHI (Hosei University, Tokyo)
*From Mandala to Stage: Transtemporal Sacred Space
in the Noh Play Taema*
2. Vanessa CASATO (Ca' Foscari University, Venice)
*Altered Perception in Ritual Performance: from
Zeami's Taema to Alcman's Partheneion 1*
3. Peina ZHUANG (Sichuan University)
Comparative Literature across the World in 2026

3.5 Ethical Affects: Literary Responses to Certainty and Commodification

Cloth Hall COTTON

Chair: Richard HIBBITT (University of Leeds)

1. Dilara ALTUN (Istanbul University)
*The Tyranny of Statistical Certainty: Affective Resist-
ance and the Musillian Sense of Possibility*
2. Hans DEMEYER (University College London) and
Sven VITSE (Utrecht University)
*Affective Crisis and the Possibility of Ethics in
Contemporary Fiction*
3. Huaiyu QIN (Shanghai International Studies
University)
*Late Style as Humanistic Resistance: Critique of
Cultural Commodification in David Lodge's Author,
Author*

18:00 – Social event at the historic Queens Hotel
19:30 *City Square – in front of Leeds Railway Station and close to Cloth Hall Court for those who have signed up*

Hosted by the research project '**Transitions: Examining Changing Regimes of Sexuality in Post-Soviet Muslim Republics**', conducted across Leeds and Regensburg Universities. This is a chance to meet the project team and talk to scholars and practitioners interested in de-centering research in comparative literatures and cultures. The social follows on the two panels on 'Gendered Storytelling In and From Azerbaijan', sponsored by the research project. The social includes a welcome drink and light bites.

WED Cloth Hall Court / 26.8. Michael Sadler Building

Parallel Sessions

09:00 Session Four

4.1 Differentiation Ethics Beyond Divides: Comparative Thinking and its Ethics

Cloth Hall HERRINGBONE

Chair: Olga SOLOVYEVA (Independent Scholar)

1. Haun SAUSSY (University of Chicago)
Comparison as Ethics: Philosophical Considerations
2. Olga SOLOVYEVA (Independent Scholar)
Transnational Comparison and Epistemology of Circulation: Reverse Perspective as the Crux of Disciplinary Ethics
3. Ryan JOHNSON (Adelaide University)
"Je ne suis pas de votre race": Asia, Europe, and the Ethics of Comparison in Blaise Cendrars' Moravagine

4.2 Interrogations Éthiques et Quête Identitaire dans la Littérature Plurilingue #1

Cloth Hall TWEED

Chair: Caroline FISCHER (Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour)

1. Yves LANDEROUIN (Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour)
Interrogations Éthiques et Quête Identitaire dans la Salomé (1893) d'Oscar Wilde
2. Antonella IPPOLITO (Universität Potsdam)
L'identité Multilingue Comme Trait Constitutif de la Modernité Méditerranéenne dans le Drame Itaca! Itaca! de Jacques Thiers, Leonardo Sole et Franco Scaldati (1997)
3. Iringó CORA (Transilvania University of Braşov)
Écrire l'Écart: La Poétique de l'indicible chez Nancy Huston

4.3 Authorship, Adaptation and Ethics: From Medieval Texts to Modern Translations #1

Cloth Hall DENIM

Chair: Rahilya GEYBULLAYEVA (Baku Slavic University and ADA University)

1. Rahilya GEYBULLAYEVA (Baku Slavic University and ADA University)
Ethics, Literature and Authorship Across Time
2. Sevinj BAKHYSH (Independent Scholar)
The Fool as Ethical Agent: Jesters, Tricksters, and Mediators in Cultural Traditions and Bulgakov's Master and Margarita
3. Sabina El Khan AGABABAYEVA (Baku Slavic University)
Intertextuality in Contemporary Azerbaijani Postmodern Prose (Based on Kamal Abdulla's Novel The Valley of the Wizards)
4. Aygul HAJIYEVA (Manuscripts Institute, Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Baku)
Archetypes and Ethical Approaches in Translation
5. Ganjala Marif ABBASOVA (ADA University, Baku)
National Consciousness and Intellectual Resistance in Akhundov's Writings (Letters to Kemaluddovle, The Deceived Stars)

4.4 Prison, Canal, Desert, and City: Writing Sites /Space and Transcontinental World-Making in the 20th Century

Cloth Hall WOOL

Chair: Fraser McQUEEN (University of Leeds)

1. Gustavo INFANTE (University of Bristol)
Imprisonment, Torture, and Despair: Ethical and Aesthetic Readings in Prison Writing
2. Carlos F. GRIGSBY (University of Bristol)
Canal Zone Literature across Languages: Joaquín Beleño, Eric Walrond, and Maryse Condé
3. Shuangyi LI (University of Bristol)
African Desert, Chinese Cityscape, and the Travelling Gaze in Sanmao's and Noo Saro-Wiwa's Sino-African Writings

4.5 Movement, Travel and Spatiality

Cloth Hall COTTON

Chair: Sandra VLASTA (Università di Genova)

1. Lieven AMEEL (University of Helsinki)
The Narrative Forms and Civic Roles of Site-specific Literature: A Comparative European Perspective
2. Tomasz EWERTOWSKI (Shanghai International Studies University)
Affects, Adventure, Exoticism – Polish and Serbian Travel Writing about India 1869–1914
3. Olga SPRINGER (Dublin City University)
Female Walking in Charlotte Brontë's Villette (1853) and Jane Eyre (1847) and Virginia Woolf's Mrs Dalloway (1925)
4. Juanjuan WU (Tsinghua University)
Affective Encounters and the Ethics of Sounds in Victorian Women's Travel Narratives on China

4.6 The Feminine and Feminist Engagements

Michael Sadler Building LG10

Chair: Irena HAYTER (University of Leeds)

1. Stephanie NG (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)
Public Impasse and Private Feeling in Sally Rooney's Beautiful World, Where Are You
2. Isabella VILLANOVA (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)
Affect, Belonging, and Women's Resilience in the Short Stories of Leila Aboulela and Chika Unigwe
3. Ayako YOSHINO (University of Leeds)
Imperial Attachment/Amnesia and Feminist Desire: Victorian England as an Affective Refuge in 2000s Japan

4.7 Death and Grief

Michael Sadler Building LG19

Chair: Alessio BALDINI (University of Leeds)

1. Delphine RUMEAU (Université Grenoble Alpes)
The Ethics of Elegiac Poetry. Tombeaux for Federico García Lorca
2. Sofija TODOROVIĆ (University of Belgrade)
Declared Dead, Still Alive: Ethics of Identity and Affective Responses to 'Administrative Death' in Luigi Pirandello and Goran Tribuson
3. Selvin YALTIR (Boğaziçi University)
The Ethics of Ironic Grief: Individual Mourning, Affect and Fictionalization

4.8 Community

Michael Sadler Building LG15

Chair: Duncan WHEELER (University of Leeds)

1. Martina MISIA (University of Bergamo)
The Ethic of the Epic: Poetic Form and the Making of Communities
2. Teresa GARCÍA-SALCEDO (University of Córdoba)
Glimpses of Relationality: Affective Encounters and Ontological Community in Zadie Smith's NW
3. Glyn HAMBROOK (University of Wolverhampton/ Universidad Complutense de Madrid)
Taking the 'Brit' out of 'BrexLit'

4.9 Representations of Violence

Michael Sadler Building LG16

Chair: Salomé PAUL (University College Dublin/Gaiety School of Acting)

1. Bandhuli CHATTOPADHYAY (Université de Lille)
Recounting Vengeance: Affective Experience and Ethical Reflexivity in Sharadindu Bandyopadhyay's Rakta-Sandhya (1930)
2. Gisele FRIGHETTO (State University of Campinas/ Université Clermont Auvergne)
Poetics of Otherness and Resistance in Micheline Verunsch's The Sound of the Jaguar's Roar
3. Sitong ZHANG (University of Edinburgh) and Yaquan LIANG (University of Edinburgh)
Rethinking Justice through Intimacy: Borders, Affect, and Ethics in The Flowers of War

Break

11:00 Session Five

5.1 National Pantheons of Europe #1

Cloth Hall HERRINGBONE

Chair: Marijan DOVIĆ (Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana)

1. Marijan DOVIĆ (Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana)
National Pantheons of Europe: Frameworks for Comparative Inquiry
2. Jernej HABJAN (Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana)
The Semiotic Square of the Mausoleum: The Case of Nineteenth-Century Paris
3. Daša LIČEN (Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana)
National Pantheons in the Absence of the Nation
4. Luka VIDMAR (Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana)
A Dream of an Austrian Pantheon

5.2 Interrogations Éthiques et Quête Identitaire dans la Littérature Plurilingue #2

Cloth Hall TWEED

Chair: Bernard FRANCO (Sorbonne Université)

1. Marina O. HERTRAMPF (University of Passau)
Le Français Comme Nouvelle Patrie ou le Conflit Éthique entre le Rêve de Liberté et la Nostalgie du Pays Natal
2. Sabine KRAENKER (University of Helsinki)
Les Récits de Vie Translingues: Quête Identitaire, Affects et Désillusions à Travers l'Exemple de Shumona Sinha dans L'Autre nom du bonheur était français
3. Francesca MONTANARO (Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour / Università di Torino)
Écrire entre Deux Horizons d'Attente : Dialogisme et Responsabilité de l'Acte d'Écriture chez Laura Alcoba

5.3 Authorship, Adaptation and Ethics: From Medieval Texts to Modern Translations #2

Cloth Hall DENIM

Chair: Rahilya GEYBULLAYEVA (Baku Slavic University and ADA University)

1. Rafiq NOVRUZOV
Challenges in Rendering the Notes of Pan Tadeusz into Azerbaijani: Textual Integrity and Translation Strategy
2. Meleyke ELYASOVA-RAJABOVA
Emotional Dichotomy as Moral Discourse: The Love–Fear Model in Azerbaijani Prose
3. Fidana MUSAYEVA (Moscow State University, Baku/ Baku Slavic University)
The Theme of "Travel to Iran" in the First Decades of the 20th Century

5.4 The Sphere of *Stimmung*: Between Textual Dimension and Hermeneutical Appropriation in Literary Criticism and the Didactics of Literature

Cloth Hall WOOL

Chair: Laura Lucia ROSSI (University of Leeds)

1. Stefania SINI (Università del Piemonte Orientale)
Towards a Responsible Participatory Reading: Emotional-Volitional Tones and Centres of Value
2. Antonio SOTGIU (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle)
Sympathy for the Devils? Stimmung and Moral Feelings in Inferno XXI
3. Franco PASSALACQUA (Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca)
Stimmung and the Embodied Aesthetic Experience: Rereading the Didactics of Literature

5.5 The Ethics of Translation #1

Cloth Hall COTTON

Chair: Terry BRADFORD (University of Leeds)

1. Erica LIMA (University of Campinas)
La Chute du Ciel in English and Brazilian Portuguese: Rethinking Translation with Kopenawa and Albert
2. Ming YIN (Tianjin University)
Translating Affective Resonance: Transduction in English and Chinese Versions of The Sorrows of Young Werther

5.6 Feminist and Queer Perspectives

Michael Sadler Building LG10

Chair: Sarah HUDSPITH (University of Leeds)

1. Helen FINCH (University of Leeds)
Queer Affect and Traumatic Memory in Contemporary German-Language Literature
2. Camille IULIANO (Birbeck, University of London)
Rethinking World Literature through Feminist Relationality: Bridging Text and World
3. Sushree ROUTRAY (Independent Scholar)
Affective Ambivalence: Ethics, Motherhood, and the Hermeneutics of Precarity in Contemporary South Asian Fiction
4. Giulia SCIALPI (Université Paris Nanterre)
Irony as a Site of Identity Negotiation and Intergenerational Dialogue: The Italian Case of Luisella Fiumi

5.7 Non-Human/More Than Human #3

Michael Sadler Building LG19

Chair: Hannah FOX and Nigel SAINT (University of Leeds)

1. Phoebe CHETWYND (CY Cergy Paris Université)
Consumption, Commodification, and Crisis: Bioengineered Animals and Multispecies Relations in Jean-Pierre Humbert's Sa Majesté des Clones and Fernando A. Flores' Tears of the Trufflepig
2. Tünde VARGA (The Hungarian University of Fine Arts)
"Ground Level" Narratives and Institutional Disobedience in Contemporary Art and Theory

3. Adya GAUR (Indian Institute of Technology Mandi)
Ethics and Affect in Contemporary Literary Autozoography: A Study of Yoko Tawada's Memoirs of a Polar Bear and David Zindell's The Idiot Gods

5.8 Textual and Digital Innovations

Michael Sadler Building LG15

Chairs: N. Kivilcim YAVUZ (University of Leeds)

1. Carlo Emilio TORTAROLO (Conservatorio "F.A. Bonporti", Trento)
Reclaiming Attention: How Aristotelian Rhetoric Can Rebuild Ethical and Affective Digital Communities
2. Aleš VAUPOTIČ (Faculty of Design, Ljubljana) and Narvika BOVCON (University of Ljubljana)
Ethics and Epistemology of Artificial Intelligence in the New Media Art
3. Mao CHEN (Skidmore College)
Revisiting Bing Xin: Irony, Gender and Critical Practice

5.9 Les Littératures Francophones #1

Michael Sadler Building LG16

Chair: Andy STAFFORD (University of Leeds)

1. Maëva ARCHIMEDE (Université des Antilles)
Poésie et Transcendance Politique dans les Recueils Francophones de la Caraïbe
3. Marie RAULT (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris)
Cartographeur l'Intime Collectif : Hétérotopies Autochtones et Communautés Affectives chez Flora Devatine, Joy Harjo et Vera Duarte
4. Meltem AKIN POTOĞLU (Independent Researcher)
Devenir Femme: Une Analyse Comparée d'Une femme n'a pas de nom de Duygu Asena et La femme gelée d'Annie Ernaux

12:30 Lunch

Served at Cloth Hall Court for those speaking or attending panels there.

Served in the Parkinson Building for those speaking or attending panels in the Michael Sadler Building.

14:00 Session Six

6.1 National Pantheons of Europe #2

Cloth Hall HERRINGBONE

Chair: Marijan DOVIČ (Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts)

1. Sándor HITES (Department of European and Comparative Literature and Language Studies (EVSL), University of Vienna)
"The Ridiculous Neighbours the Sublime": The Satire of a Hungarian National Pantheon
2. Lucija MANDIČ (Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts)
Shared Figures, Separate Pantheons: Czech and Slovak National Commemorative Spaces
3. Petra SVOLJŠAK (Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts)
Navje Memorial Park as an Attempt to Create a Pantheon of Famous Slovenians

6.2 Interrogations Éthiques et Quête Identitaire dans la Littérature Plurilingue #3

Cloth Hall TWEED

Chair: Bernard FRANCO (Sorbonne Université)

1. Caroline FISCHER (Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour)
Plurilinguisme et Changements d'Identité Transgenres et Transculturelles
2. Fabiana FLORESCU (University of Bucharest)
Défis Identitaires et Esthétiques du Plurilinguisme dans les Créations de l'Auteure Franco-Roumaine Alexandra Badea
3. Eva-Tabea MEINEKE (University of Cologne)
Langues (Grand-) Maternelles – Historiographie Familiale Translinguale dans Cassandra à Mogadiscio d'Igiaba Scego (2023)

6.3 Ordinary Language Criticism: Perspectives on Literature and Moral Life #1

Cloth Hall DENIM

Chair: Christine HAMM (University of Bergen)

1. Hanna LAHDENPERÄ (Åbo Akademi University)
"Let Go, Hyenas". Intention and Authority in Katarina Frostenson's K and F
2. Christopher FENWICK (Independent Scholar)
Ordinary Language, Moral Perception and the Claim to Community
3. Felicia GREEN (University of Bergen)
"But where is Maj? I'm losing her ...": (Self-)reflexivity in/and Murdochian attention in Kristina Sandberg's Maj Trilogy

6.4 Affective Faultlines: Writing Disaffection from Europe's Edges

Cloth Hall WOOL

Chair: Neus ROTGER (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya)

1. Neus ROTGER (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya)
In the Wake of Others: Levinasian Ethics and the Affective Imaginaries of Loneliness
2. Eralda L. LAMEBORSHI (East Texas A&M University)
Disaffected Forms: Balkan Literature and the Emotional Economies of Post-Cold War Europe
3. Aina VIDAL-PÉREZ (University of the Balearic Islands)
Contested Melancholy: A Mediterranean Proposal
4. Àlex MORENO MULET (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya)
Confronting Disaffection: Rancière's and Jameson's Theoretical Resistances Through the Literary Form

6.5 Transnational and Global Textual Flows

Cloth Hall COTTON

Chair: Laura Lucia ROSSI (University of Leeds)

1. Carlo CACCIA (University of Eastern Piedmont) and Gioele CRISTOFARI (University of Insubria)
Inside Mario Pomilio's Writing Laboratory: Ethics, Affects, and Philology in The Fifth Gospel
2. Shafag DADASHOVA (Ada University, Baku), Sagadat DADASHOVA (Azerbaijan University of Languages)

Reading Human Values: Literature as a Method of Comparative Cultural Understanding

3. Gen'ichirō ITAKURA (Kansai University)
Wearing an Illusion for Palestinian Gertrude: Reading, Acting and Writing in Isabella Hammad's Enter Ghost
4. Joanna ORSKA (University of Wrocław)
Language School Writers Travelling East. Post-Cold War Fascinations of Late Avant-Garde Poets and their Postmodern Outcomes

6.6 Physical Health and the Body

Michael Sadler Building LG10

Chair: Peter HAYSOM-RODRÍGUEZ (University of Leeds)

1. Eglė KAČKUTĖ (Vilnius University)
Phenomenology and Ethics of Pre-Mature Birth
2. Florian LÜTZELBERGER (University of Bamberg/ University of Oxford) and Hannie LAWLOR (University of Oxford)
"Darle Otro Cuerpo a lo que Ya Tenía Cuerpo": Relational Life Writing, the Polyphony of Voices and the Making of a Collective Archive of Abortion Narratives in Dahiana Belfiori's Código Rosa (2015)

6.7 Literary Engagements with Mad Studies and Lived Experiences

Michael Sadler Building LG19

Chair: Sarah HUDSPITH (University of Leeds)

1. David LOMBARD (Research Foundation Flanders/ KU Leuven)
Feeling Beyond the Symptom Chart: Affective Knowledge in Twenty-First-Century Schizophrenia Memoirs
2. Sara R GALLARDO (Universität Wien / ASH Berlin)
Mad Studies as Ethical-Affective Literary Critique: A Comparative (Re)Reading (1883–1993)
3. Joshua CLARK (University College London)
Depression and the Centrality of Work in Contemporary European Narratives

6.8 Ethical Imagination: Eco-fiction and Classical Heritage

Michael Sadler Building LG15

Chair: TBC

1. Lúcia BENTES (Independent Scholar)
Affective Landscapes and Ecological Ethics in Jessica J. Lee's Two Trees Make a Forest
2. Ylenia GAMBACCINI (Sorbonne Université)
Affective Ecologies: A Comparative Study on Emotional Rhetoric and Environmental Responsibility in Literature
3. Salomé PAUL (University College Dublin/Gaiety School of Acting)
(Un)Ethical Catharsis: Anti-Imperialist Adaptations of Greek Tragedies

6.9 Science Fiction and Supernatural Encounters

Michael Sadler Building LG16

Chair: Karolina BAGDONĖ (Tampere University; Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore)

1. Patricia GARCÍA (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)
The Unethical City: Lessons for Europe from Contemporary Latin American Supernatural Fiction

2. Anna MOCHAR (University of Vienna)
Materialised Ethics and Morality: The Woman in White in 19th-Century Literature
3. Nelli SHULMAN (Free University Riga)
Utopia/Dystopia: Ethics, Affect, and Community in the Noon World of the Strugatsky Brothers
4. Raquel VELÁZQUEZ (University of Barcelona)
Monstrosities of Dispossession: Narrating the Crisis through Spanish Supernatural Fiction

Break

16:00 Session Seven

7.1 The Poet(h)ics of Care

Cloth Hall HERRINGBONE

Chair: Anna Sophia TABOURATZIDIS (Georg August University Göttingen)

1. Anna Sophia TABOURATZIDIS (Georg August University Göttingen)
Materialist Queer Feminist Perspectives on Care under Capitalism
2. Kirsten VON HAGEN (Justus Liebig University, Giessen)
Re-Writing and Re-Imagining our Future Selves: George Sand's Rural Novels and Gabrielle Filteau-Chiba's Ecofeminist Trilogy
3. Barbara STRAUMANN (University of Zurich)
Envisioning Alternative (Care) Economies in Victorian Fiction: Elizabeth Gaskell's Cranford (1853)

7.2 Interrogations Éthiques et Quête Identitaire dans la Littérature Plurilingue #4

Cloth Hall TWEED

Chair: Antonella IPPOLITO (Universität Potsdam)

1. Metka ZUPANČIČ (University of Alabama)
Plurilinguisme particulier au sein d'un univers romanesque multilingue : Indemne. Où va Moby Dick? (2025) de Myriam Watthee-Delmotte
2. Judith MÜLLER (Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg / Goethe-University Frankfurt)
The "Untranslatability" of Tomer Gardis German, or: How to break a language?
3. Hélène RUFAT (University of Barcelona)
Du Plurilinguisme Franco-Espagnol de Jorge Semprun à l'Hétérolinguisme du Fragnol chez Lydie Salvayre

7.3 Ordinary Language Criticism: Perspectives on literature and moral life #2

Cloth Hall DENIM

Chair: Hanna LAHDENPERÄ (Åbo Akademi University)

1. Christine HAMM (University of Bergen)
Tracing the Grammar of Welfare in Contemporary Norwegian Literature: Understanding Precarity with Wittgenstein, Austin, and Cavell
2. Salla ALDRIN SALSOKOV (Åbo Akademi University)
On the Ethics of Injury and Repair in Alison Bechdel's Graphic Novel Are You My Mother?

3. Joel SAMUELSSON (Uppsala University) and Ingeborg LÖFGREN (Mälardalen University)
Claims to a Shared World and a Shared Sense of Words – Climate Activism, Justice, and Literary Imagination

7.4 Developments in Literary Form, Characterisation and Narrative

Cloth Hall WOOL

Chair: Jernej HABJAN (Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana)

1. Greeshma MOHAN (Azim Premji University, Bhopal)
Inscrutable Characters: The Strange Compulsions of Emma Cline's The Guest and Raven Leilani's Luster
2. Themistoklis PAGOUDIS (University of the Arts London)
The Ethics of Storytelling in Vincenzo Latronico's Novel Perfection: a Perfectionist Narrative Ethic?
3. Krzysztof ROWIŃSKI (Trinity College Dublin)
Affective Responses to Failure in Twentieth-Century Literature and Film: Beyond Redemption

7.5 Memory, Postmemory and Memorialisation

Cloth Hall COTTON

Chair: Helen FINCH (University of Leeds)

1. Alaa ALGHAMDI (Taibah University)
Ethical Afterlives: Postmemory, Narrative Distance, and Global Responsibility in Pamuk and Gurnah
2. Hadrien MARCY (Independent Scholar)
The representation of memory in Philippe Lançon's Disturbance: Surviving Charlie Hebdo
3. Bincy SEBASTIAN (NIT Calicut)
Affective Archives of Kashmiri Women: Commemoration and Memorialisation of the Disappeared

7.6 Life Writing and Writing the Self

Michael Sadler Building LG10

Chair: Emilia DI ROCCO (Sapienza University of Rome)

1. Antonella DE BLASIO (Università eCampus)
Affective Distance and Ethical Dissonance in Contemporary Autofiction
2. Kseniya FIADUTA (Autonomous University of Barcelona)
The Joy of World-Disclosure: Reading with Simone de Beauvoir

7.7 Black Narratives

Michael Sadler Building LG19

Chair: Sarah HUDSPITH (University of Leeds)

1. Gabrielle ADJERAD (Université Versailles-Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines)
Black Affect and "Relation" Between Text and Readership: A Transatlantic Look at Autotheory
2. Sophie FENNELLY (University of Leeds)
Plotting a Path Out of Disorientation: Reading the Moral Economy of the Hostile Environment in Losing the Plot (2022)
3. Saffy MIRGHANI (University College London)
Divided Consciousness and the Dialogical Ethics of Literary Form: Dostoevsky and Twentieth-Century African American Literature

7.8 Visual and Multi-Modal Texts

Michael Sadler Building LG15

Chair: Aleš VAUPOTIČ (Faculty of Design, Ljubljana)

1. Rumeysa OĞUZ (İbn Haldun University)
Playing the Detective in Detroit: Become Human: Reimagining Detective Fiction in the Posthuman Age
2. Marcel WARBISCH (University of Silesia in Katowice)
The Affective Gesture of the Letter: Embroidered Writing in Contemporary Art

7.9 Questions of Morality and Responsibility

Michael Sadler Building LG16

Chair: Alessio BALDINI (University of Leeds)

1. Çiğdem BUĞDAYCI (Boğaziçi University, Istanbul)
Love between Affect and Ethics in Iris Murdoch's The Sea, The Sea
2. Anna SCHUBERTOVÁ (Charles University/Institute of Czech Literature)
"The Broad Sense": The Ethical and Aesthetic Autonomy of the Realist Novel
3. Michal TAL (Technion-Israeli Institute of Technology)
Caring Two Hoots: Responsibility for the Other in Amelie Nothomb's Novel

18:15 General Assembly of the European Society of Comparative Literature and election of the new Executive Committee. All members welcome.
Room 1.08, Parkinson Building, University of Leeds campus (on the first-floor gallery in Parkinson Court)

THU Cloth Hall Court 27.8.

09:00 Parallel Sessions Session Eight

8.1 Expanded Ecologies. Literary Intermediality and/in Multispecies Relationships #1

Cloth Hall DENIM

Chair: Marco MAGGI (Università della Svizzera Italiana)

1. Erik ERLANSON (Linnaeus University)
The Ecological Import of Unicorns: Yves Bonnefoy and the Environmental Mediality of Verbal Language
2. Silvia LAVANCO LIVRERI (University of Palermo)
Expanding Topographic Narratives. Where Stories Walk the Landscape
3. Dominika BUGNO-NARECKA (John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin)
Folding the Archive: Baroque Memory and Ecological Emotion in Teju Cole's Blind Spot

8.2 Moving Borders: European Identity and Emotions in Poetry

Cloth Hall HERRINGBONE

Chair: Rosanne GALLENNE (Université Toulouse Jean Jaurès)

1. Karolina BAGDONĖ (Tampere University; Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore)
"To Be from Nowhere": Imagining Europe after 1990 in the Works of Tomas Venclova
2. Rosanne GALLENNE (Université Toulouse Jean Jaurès)

Blanaid Salkeld's Activism: A Poetic Argument for a European Identity in Times of Nationalisms

3. Eliisa PUUDERSELL-TOLK (University of Tartu)
Shame as a Guiding Emotion in Post-1989 Transition-Period Literature

8.3 Developments in Reading and Reception

Cloth Hall TWEED

Chair: Caroline FISCHER (Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour)

1. Hajar MAHFODH (University of Surrey)
Reading the Literary Text and Narrative beyond Colonialisms and Periodisation
2. Agis SIDERAS (Independent Scholar)
Philosophical Reception as Affect: The Case of Martin Heidegger
3. Jan VÁŇA (Institute of Czech Literature, Czech Academy of Sciences)
What Novels Know and Do: Literature as an Epistemic and Transformative Agent

8.4 Representations of Conflict #1

Cloth Hall WOOL

Chair: Alessio BALDINI (University of Leeds)

1. Beata WALIGORSKA-OLEJNICZAK (Adam Mickiewicz University)
Ethics of a Gaze: 20 Days in Mariupol (2023) by Mstyslav Chernov
2. Hatice Esra MESCIOĞLU (Karabük University) and Şükran İlkay AKARÇAY (Başkent University)
Literary Afterlives of the Basque Conflict in Aixa de la Cruz's La Linea del Frente (2017) and Gabriela Ybarra's El Comensal (2015)
3. Mattia BONASIA (Sorbonne Université)
Ethics, World, Marginality and Subjectivity in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's Americanah (2013) and Igiaba Scego's Cassandra a Mogadiscio (2023)

8.5 Affects, Altérités et Environnements

Cloth Hall COTTON

Chair: Nigel SAINT (University of Leeds)

1. José Domingues de ALMEIDA (University of Porto / Margarida Losa Comparative Literature Institute)
De l'Affect Écologique à l'Éco-anxiété Mise en Fiction. Lecture Comparée de La Fonte des Glaces de Joël Baqué (2019) et Humus de Gaspard Koenig (2024)
2. Alioune WILLANE (Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis)
Exotisme ou Redécouverte de l'Autre : Analyse Sociocritique Comparée des Récits de Voyage dans La Morsure de Marc Gontard et Un Dieu et des Mœurs d'Elgas
3. Manolo ONNIS (Université Marie et Louis Pasteur)
La Juste Distance: le Paysage Comme Médiation de l'Affect (Pozzi, Jaccottet, Montanaru)

Break

11:00 Session Nine

9.1 Expanded Ecologies. Literary Intermediality and/in Multispecies Relationships #2

Cloth Hall DENIM

Chair: Dominika BUGNO-NARECKA (John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin)

1. Marco MAGGI (Università della Svizzera Italiana)
Affective Mimesis in/and Captioned Landscapes
2. Valeria CAMMARATA (University of Palermo)
The Land Sings Back: Ecofeminist Genealogies and Tentacular Landscapes in Literature and Visual Art
3. Iryna ODREKHIVSKA (University College London)
The Media Ecology of Witnessing: Poetry, Photography and the Wounded Landscapes of War in Ukraine

9.2 Poetry and Theatre

Cloth Hall COTTON

Chair: Emilia DI ROCCO (Sapienza University of Rome)

1. Benoît LOIRET (University of Edinburgh)
The Definition of Poetry as an Ethical Act in Yves Bonnefoy's Critical Writings
2. Juan Tomás MATARRANZ-ARAQUE (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)
Affective Communities and Ethical Spectatorship in D. H. Lawrence's The Merry-Go-Round

9.3 The Ethics of Translation #2

Cloth Hall TWEED

Chair: Helen FINCH (University of Leeds)

1. Krystyna WIESZCZEK (University of Verona)
Reading Orwell as an Ethical and Affective Practice
2. Francesca ZUCCARO (University of Bristol)
The Soviet Emily Dickinson. Lost and Found in Ivan Kashkin's Realist Translation
3. Zhongli YU and Qiyao ZHANG (University of Nottingham Ningbo China)
Cross-racial Affective Empathy for African Women in Reception of Translated African Feminist Literature in China, With Nervous Conditions as an Example
4. Hannah SCOTT DEUCHAR (Queen Mary University of London)
The Archive, the Novel, and the Problem of Justice

9.4 Representations of Conflict #2

Cloth Hall WOOL

Chair: Beata WALIGORSKA-OLEJNICZAK (Adam Mickiewicz University)

1. Nitzan TAL (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Complicity Literature: Contemporary Authors from South Africa and Israel/Palestine
2. Sameera ABBAS (Lahore University of Management Sciences)
Gendering Ethical Memory: Women, Resistance, and State Violence in Imagining Argentina and The Shadow of the Crescent Moon
3. Sabrina SAMPAIO MARTINS (Université de Genève)
"L'Autre Pays au Bout du Monde, c'est le Mien": Violence From a Distance in Michael Ondaatje and Boubacar Boris Diop's Novels

9.5 New Approaches to Theory and Criticism

Cloth Hall HERRINGBONE

Chair: N. Kivilcim YAVUZ (University of Leeds)

1. Henrique BARBOSA-PRIMON (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München)
Narrating Space, Structuring Agency: A Methodological Framework for Ethics and Affect in Anthony Giddens and Stephan Günzel

2. Patrick JONES (Université de Genève)
Literary Criticism and the Feeling of Life
3. Josef ŠEBEK (Charles University, Prague)
The Pleasures of Representation: A Postcritical Reading of Auerbach's Mimesis
4. Lenka VOJTÍŠKOVÁ (Charles University, Prague)
Transformation, Transposition, Transubstantiation. Kristeva's Models of Affective Intertextuality for the 21st Century

12:30 Lunch

14:00 Session Ten

10.1 Expanded Ecologies. Literary Intermediality and/in Multispecies Relationships #3

Cloth Hall DENIM

Chair: Valeria CAMMARATA (University of Palermo)

1. Imma IACCARINO (Università della Svizzera Italiana)
Baroque Garden Therapy in Francesco Pona's Il Sileno (1620) and Il Paradiso de' Fiori (1622) (online)
2. Marta SILVERA ROIG (University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria)
San Borondón as Sign, Song and Childlike Body: Image Schemas, Conceptual Metaphor and Intermedial Myth in Canarian Island Imaginaries (online)
3. Pratit Kumar MALLICK (Independent Scholar)
Mnemonic Ecologies: Intermedial Memory Practices, Multispecies Relationality, and the Environmentalization of Literature in Contemporary Europe (online)

10.2 Spaces, Affects, and Geographies in Literature

Cloth Hall TWEED

Chair: Alina BAKO (Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu)

1. Alina BAKO (Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu)
Géoféminisme et Géographies Affectives dans le Roman Roumain Écrit par des Femmes
2. Iris RUSU (Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu and University of Bucharest)
Moral Geographies of the Grey Zone in Kazuo Ishiguro's The Unconsoled, When We Were Orphans, and The Buried Giant
3. Iulia PIETRARU (Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu)
The Geography of Affect in Contemporary Romanian Poetry

10.3 Poetry and the Affective and Ethical Energy of Words

Cloth Hall HERRINGBONE

Chair: Josef HRDLIČKA (Charles University, Prague)

1. Laura CASTILLO BEL (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)
Empathy Through Literary Minds: Emotional Engagement in Poetry of Dementia and Memory Loss
2. Francesco GIUSTI (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main)
Planetary Elegy and the Globalization of Grief
3. Josef HRDLIČKA (Charles University, Prague)
Affectivity and Energy of Poetic Speech

4. Eliška Dana HÄRTELOVÁ (Charles University, Prague)
Excess of Energy: to the Hyperbolic Nature of Poetic Language

10.4 Les Littératures Francophones #2

Cloth Hall WOOL

Chair: Hélène RUFAT (Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona)

1. Naïma MENNOR (Université Hassan II de Casablanca)
Éthique et Affect Devant l'Indicible: Aux Origines de la Haine Génocidaire des Tutsis au Rwanda
2. Abdelhadi ZIRARI (Université Hassan II de Casablanca)
Rhétorique de la Vulnérabilité et Pratiques Éthiques dans l'Écriture du « Je » au Féminin Extrême-Contemporaine. Une Lecture Comparative de Fille (2020) de Camille Laurens et Aime-Moi et Je Te Tue (2019) de Touria Oulehri

10.5 Spare session if needed

Cloth Hall COTTON

16:00 Plenary Lecture

Herringbone Room

Elleke Boehmer (University of Oxford)

Doing Comparison Across the Blue Hemisphere: Why and How

Chaired by John McLeod (University of Leeds)

Supported by the Centre for World Literatures at the University of Leeds

17:30 END OF CONGRESS

19:30 CONGRESS DINNER (UNIVERSITY HOUSE, UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS CAMPUS)

FRI
28.8.

08:30— EXCURSION TO THE BRONTË

15:00 PARSONAGE MUSEUM, HAWORTH

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