

CLAM Comparing Literatures with Arts and Media

The aim of the Research Group *Comparing Literatures with Arts and Media* is to promote the comparative approach in the study of the relationship of literatures with the arts and media, both in the sense of comparing works of different arts or media belonging to the same or different eras; and in the sense of comparing literary texts on the basis of Visual Culture and Intermedial Studies' concepts such as image/picture, ekphrasis, materiality, gaze, device. The promotion of these aims is achieved by facilitating opportunities for debate, encouraging publications in journals and anthologies, and supporting young scholars in the field.

The Research Group is composed of scholars who differ in academic affiliation, language and gender:

- Elisabetta Abignente (Associate Professor, Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, Italy)
- Dominika Bugno-Narecka (Assistant Professor, Katolicki Uniwersytet Lubelski Jana Pawła II/John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Poland)
- Valeria Cammarata (Associate Professor, Università degli Studi di Palermo, Italy)
- Erik Erlanson (Associate Senior Lecturer, Linnaeus University, Kalmar/Växjö, Sweden)
- Marie Kondrat (Assistant Professor, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland)
- Asun López-Varela (Associate Professor, Complutense University Madrid, Spain)
- Marco Maggi (Associate Professor, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland)
- Vega Tescari (Lecturer, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland)



Coordinator: Marco Maggi is associate professor of Comparative Literature and Literary Theory at the Università della Svizzera italiana (Lugano, Switzerland) and co-director of the Master's program in Italian Language, Literature, and Culture. He is the principal investigator of the research project *20th Century Italian Studies of Literature and Arts. An Archival, Intermedial and Digital Approach* (SNSF Grant No. 10003859) and curator of Lea Ritter Santini's archive. He is a member of the scientific committee of the Swiss Association of General and Comparative Literature (ASLGC/SGAVL), of the PhD program in Visual Culture at the University of Palermo, of the journals "Arabeschi" and "Walter Benjamin Studies," and of several international editorial series. His studies fall within the field of intermedial comparative literature from a historical, theoretical, and methodological perspective. His publications include three monographs and numerous editions

of texts and monographic journal issues. He is currently publishing in the United States a two-volume multi-author work entitled *Captioned Landscapes. Intermedial Combinations Beyond the Human*.

Travel Writing

This ESCL research group intends to explore the manifold forms and functions of travel writing across time, languages and cultures. Travel writing has assumed during time a protean variety of literary forms, that include letters, diaries, lyrical descriptions, personal memoirs, guidebooks, narrative reportages, as well as oral forms, amongst others. Blurring the boundaries between fiction and nonfiction, a travelogue is always the result of a complex process that explores the relationships between landscape and inscape, identity and otherness, real and imaginary geographies. As a space of transnational and translational interactions, it configures new contact zones of cultural hybridization, renegotiating the role of mobility and the meaning of places in the social imagination. In recent decades, the practice of travel has been reshaped in heterogeneous forms of global mobility so that the same concept of travel and the polarities it traditionally entailed (home/abroad, near/far, slow/fast, familiar/exotic) have deeply changed as well. Intercepting so many social contradictions in the contemporary world, travel writing nowadays seems the ideal ground to verify many critical proposals from postcolonial studies, gender studies, translation studies, media studies, and life writing studies, opening up new and fruitful paths for research.

To participate in the activities of this research group please send an email to Luigi Marfè (luigi.marfe@unipd.it). All inquiries are welcome.



Coordinator: Luigi Marfè is Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and Literary Theory at the University of Padua. His research interests include travel writing, visual culture, and translation studies. He is the author of *Oltre la 'fine dei viaggi'* (2009), *Introduzione alle teorie narrative* (2011), *'In English clothes'. La novella italiana in Inghilterra* (2015), *'Un altro modo di raccontare'. Poetiche e percorsi della fotoletteratura* (2021) and *Effetto Faust. Metamorfosi e rifrazioni di un mito moderno* (2025). He has translated several volumes into Italian (Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus*, 2015; Stevenson's *Songs of Travel*, 2019; Morris's *Icelandic Journey*, 2025). He is on the editorial board of *Cosmo: Comparative Studies in Modernism*.

Moving Borders: European Identity and Emotions in Poetry

Coming from different European countries and institutions, the members of the research group Moving Borders: European Identity and Emotions in Poetry are interested in what being "European" means and seek to challenge binaries (such as institutional vs. individual or political vs. cultural) that are often associated with this notion. European identity, as revealed through literature, is neither a monolithic nor easily definable construct. It is shaped by a continuous process of becoming, civilizing, openness, and the acceptance of the Other. By looking at poetry written during the 20th and 21st centuries, the group seeks to explore how poets offer alternative perspectives to oversimplified representations that tend to be overwhelmingly present, especially in times of crisis. The

approach discusses identity within structures outside the Hegelian logic of difference and negativity, especially, the role of emotions in mapping personal-group-national identity. The research will underline the importance of poetry as an emotions' cluster in questioning and interrogating identity. Thus, European identity will be analyzed in its dynamic vulnerability from concept to emotions. Besides this textual approach, the group also aims to evaluate the impact of poetry beyond the text, especially in questioning the meaning behind this so-called "European identity." This label, often used for ideological purposes, indeed appears to sustain stereotypical representations, thus causing trauma and reinforcing a fragmented vision of this identity based on geographical divides. With that in mind, the group argues that being a poet and writing poetry can become a political gesture. Indeed, rather than contributing to discriminatory representations, poets have the power of (subtly) pointing the finger at the porosity of European cultural and geographical boundaries, and thus undermine the very foundations of canonical "European" literature. Coordinator: georgianatudor.art@yahoo.com

Group Members:

- Karolina Bagdonė (Tampere University, Finland; Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, Lithuania)
- Georgiana Bodeanu (Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj Napoca, Romania)
- Rosanne Gallenne (Université Toulouse Jean Jaurès, France)
- Eliisa Puudersell-Tolk (University of Tartu, Estonia)
- Valentina Sturli (University of Pisa, Italy)

Coordinator: Georgiana Bodeanu is a PhD Student in Comparative Literature, at the Faculty of Letters, Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj Napoca, Romania. The subject of her thesis addresses historical, political and social inflexions that merge around the concept of the figure of Christ in J.M. Coetzee's Jesus Trilogy from a comparative perspective. Fields of interest are based on the links between literature and religion, politics, ideologies, social studies. ORCID ID <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5237-0009>

Littérature plurilingue/ Plurilingual Literature

Literary plurilingualism has been a growing field of research for approximately two decades.

Topics the group intends to focus on include the following questions, without being restricted to them:

- To what extent is contemporary literature developing beyond the "monolingual paradigm"?
- How are plurilingual practices like translation, code-switching, language learning etc. fictionally represented in literary texts?
- What new perspectives on literary identity construction are revealed by an exploration of the practices of plurilingual writers?
- How do displacement, globalization, and postcolonial contexts inform the literary work of migrant writers?



Coordinator : Caroline Fischer, professeure de Littérature générale et comparée à l'Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour, est auteure de nombreuses publications sur la littérature excitante (Gärten der Lust, Metzler 1997 ; DTV, 2000) et de Der poetische Pakt. Rolle und Funktion des poetischen Ich in der Liebeslyrik (Ovid, Petrarca, Ronsard, Shakespeare, Baudelaire), Winter 2005 ; (co-)direction de nombreux ouvrages dont Konzepte der Rezeption, 3 vol. (Stauffenburg, 2015, 2018, 2021) ; Écrire à la croisée des langues : littérature plurilingue en langues romanes entre contrainte politique et liberté esthétique, Champion, 2026.

MEMBRES

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Weathering Together: Eco-myths of Atmospheric and Celestial Phenomena

This is an interdisciplinary research project that investigates how human cultures across time have interpreted weather and celestial phenomena through myths and stories. Bringing together the Environmental Humanities and Natural Sciences, it explores the intriguing dialogue between atmospheric experience, cosmological imagination, and ecological consciousness. The project examines how myths of storms, winds, stars, and skies encode environmental knowledge and ethical relationships with the more-than-human world. By tracing these narratives from ancient cosmologies to modern climate discourses, Weathering Together reveals how eco-myths transform scientific and meteorological concepts into emotionally resonant stories that shape our perception of climate and place. It emphasizes the atmosphere not merely as a physical system but as a lived, sensory, and affective space—an interface where global climate forces become local, intimate and symbiotic experiences. Through collaboration among scholars in literature, philosophy, the arts, education, and natural sciences, the project rethinks the boundaries between myth and science, imagination and data. Ultimately, Weathering Together seeks to cultivate new cultural and ethical understandings of our “weather bodies” (Neimanis & Walker, 2013) and our worlding, inspiring creative and critical responses to contemporary environmental challenges.



Coordinator: Dr. Peggy Karpouzou is Associate Professor of Theory of Literature at the Faculty of Philology of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. She holds DEA and PhD in Theory of Literature from Sorbonne Nouvelle-Paris III. She has earned grants and research fellowships from the State Scholarships Foundation, “Alexander S. Onassis” Public Benefit Foundation and the New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) of the Government of Canada. She has also participated in many international conferences and research programs of the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS-France), Gallica (BNF-National Library of France), NKUA, and the Canada Research Coordination Committee. Her research interests focus on Literary Theory, Metacriticism and Cultural Criticism (Environmental Humanities, Posthumanities, Identity Politics, Travel Writing, the relationship between literature, scientific discourse and philosophical thought) in Greek, French, and Anglophone Literature. She has published monographs, edited volumes and articles in international scientific journals and she is the author and editor of several book projects and Editor in Chief in the scientific journal *Ecokritike* and Series Editor of the book series “Brill Research Perspectives in Critical Theory” at De Gruyter

Brill, “Posthumanities and Citizenship Futures” at Bloomsbury and “Exeter Studies in Environmental Humanities. Past, Present and Future Econarratives” at University of Exeter Press.

Working Group 1 Eco-myths of Atmospheric and Celestial Phenomena in Literary and Cultural Studies

Peggy Karpouzou, Associate Professor of Theory of Literature, Faculty of Philology, School of Philosophy, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece [PI]

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Working Group 2 Eco-myths of Atmospheric and Celestial Phenomena in Intermedial Studies

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Tihomir Topuzovski, Associate Professor at the Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities & Director of the Museum of Contemporary Art Skopje, North Macedonia

Working Group 3 Eco-myths of Atmospheric and Celestial Phenomena in Philosophy, Religious and History Studies

Vincent Blok, Professor in Philosophy of Technology and Responsible Innovation, Wageningen University & Professor in Philosophy of Data Science and AI, Erasmus University Rotterdam & Scientific director of the 4TU Centre for Ethics of Technology, The Netherlands [PI]

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Working Group 4 Eco-myths of Atmospheric and Celestial Phenomena in Education Studies

Jason J. Wallin, Professor of Media and Youth Culture in Curriculum, Faculty of Education, University of Alberta, Canada [PI]

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•David Rousell, Associate Professor, School of Education, College of Design and Social Context, RMIT University, Australia

Cosetta Veronese, Independent Researcher & President of the International Society of Zooanthropology, Switzerland

Working Group 5 Eco-myths of Atmospheric and Celestial Phenomena in History of Science and Natural Sciences

Aristotle Tympas, Professor of the History of Technology, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece [PI]

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