



ASSOCIATION FOR LITERARY URBAN STUDIES

Newsletter – August 2016

• **Calls for Papers**

• **Conferences**

Shifting Grounds: Literature, Culture and Spatial Phenomenologies **Deadline August 31**

University of Zurich, Switzerland 25-27 November 2016

<http://www.es.uzh.ch/en/studies/PhD/phdlit/ShiftingGrounds.html>

This international conference responds to the recent return of phenomenological perspectives in literary and cultural criticism, and in the field of spatiality in particular. It aims to probe how a focus on sensory impressions and “the perspective of experience” (Yi-Fu Tuan) can enhance our understanding of literary and cultural spaces.

Submission of abstracts

Please send an abstract of 200-300 words and a short biographical note (no more than 100 words) to Johannes Riquet (johannes.riquet@es.uzh.ch) in a single file (please send both a PDF and a Word version).

Deadline for proposals: 31 August 2016

Mapping Urban Changes

Deadline September 5

Dubrovnik, Croatia, 20-22.9.2017

The aim of this scientific workshop is to compare and discuss methodologies of visualisation of the results achieved within the urban history research. The intention is to gather researchers from different disciplines, like art and architectural history, urban development studies, geographical history, economic, social and political history and archaeology, who would present their work. We are looking for papers dealing with the physical changes of urban tissue, its buildings or open spaces as well as those investigating the changes of the ways they were used, perceived or governed. The research could be based on archival data, **literary sources**, old maps and city views or examination of the physical realm. The visualisations of these results

realised through analytic maps, especially those made with the use of GIS programs or improved with 3D models are most welcomed, as well as any other methodology applied. The discussion will be focused on possibilities, obstacles, limits and achievements of these methodologies in the improvement of understanding and dissemination of the research results.

The scientific workshop is organized within the project Dubrovnik: Civitas et Acta Consiliorum. Visualizing Development of the Late Medieval Urban Fabric founded by Croatian Science Foundation; see more at ducac.ipu.hr/ . The papers will be published as e-book at the project web pages by the beginning of the workshop.

Organizers: Ana Plosnić Škarić and Danko Zelić, ducac project, Croatian Science Foundation

Scientific Committee: Donatella Calabi, Alessandra Ferrighi, Nada Grujić, Ana Marinković, Ana Plosnić Škarić, Danko Zelić

Abstracts Due to: 5 September 2016: in English, up to 300 words with title; with name, affiliation, address and a CV up to 150 words. Notification of paper acceptance: 25 September 2016. Full Texts Paper Submissions Due to: 31 March 2017: c. 5000 words, in English, Italian, French, German or Croatian.

Contact Info: Ana Plosnić Škarić, aplosnic@ipu.hr , Institut za povijest umjetnosti / Institute of Art History, Zagreb, Croatia.

Cities' Identity Through Architecture and Arts

Deadline September 15

May 11 - 13, 2017, Cairo, Egypt.

Every city has its unique and valuable identity that is revealed through its physical and visual form and seen through the eyes of its residents and users. The city develops over time, and its identity evolves with it. Reflecting the rapid and constant changes the city is subjected to, Architecture and Arts are the embodiment of the cultural, historical, and economical characteristics of the city. The conference Cities' Identity Through Architecture and Arts (CITAA) is dedicated to the investigation of the different new approaches developed in Architecture and Contemporary arts.

It will discuss the examples and tendencies in dealing with urban identities as well as the transformation of cities and urban cultures mentioned in terms of their form, identity, and their current art. Contemporary art, when subjected to experiments, continues to be produced in various directions, to be consumed and to put forward new ideas. Art continuously renews itself -from new materials to different means of communication, from interactive works to computer games, from new approaches to perceptual paradigms and problems of city and nature of the millennium.

The conference proceedings will be published by CRC Press / Balkema of Taylor & Francis Group.

Important Dates:

Abstract Submission Deadline: September 15, 2016

Last Notification for Abstract Acceptance: September 25, 2016

Full Paper Submission Deadline: January 15, 2017

Last Notification for Full-Paper Acceptance: March 15, 2017

For conference topics and further information, see:

<http://www.ierek.com/events/cities-identity-through-architecture-and-arts/>

Space, Place and Image in Early Modern English Literature

Deadline September 19

Lausanne, Switzerland, 11–13 May 2017

Confirmed keynote speakers:

Dr. Mary Morrissey (University of Reading)

Professor Andrew McRae (University of Exeter)

In the wake of the recent visual and spatial turns in literary criticism, we would like to explore how revolutions in social, political and religious practice in the Renaissance have translated into new uses and understandings of space and images in the poetry and prose of the period. The Reformation implied a new geography of faith, a rearrangement of church space, as well as ambivalent attitudes towards visual arts and representations of the divine. Geographical exploration and colonial expansion redefined what had been until then relatively well-established frontiers, while a growing interest in land surveying increasingly focused on the layout and properties of the natural landscape. The political sphere of the court was clearly marked in contrast with other areas of urban and rural life in terms of place but also in terms personal and professional trajectories. Scientific discoveries distorted the shape and size of the known cosmos and, amidst these large-scale upheavals, questions of intimacy and selfhood became increasingly important as individuals distinguished public spaces from private spheres or more intimate communities. The expansion of print technology in the Renaissance revolutionized textual space, while new techniques in the visual arts, exemplified by the introduction of one-point perspective, similarly led to major developments in the way space was apprehended and pictured. Early modern authors were thus writing at a time in which spaces, places and images significantly evolved in the way they were scientifically and aesthetically recorded.

We welcome abstracts for 20 minute-papers addressing ways in which early modern English authors engage with the spatial and visual paradigms of their times. Potential subjects may include:

- Geography, topography, and travel narratives
- Cartography and astronomy
- Natural landscape and urban environment
- Sacred & profane spaces
- Linear perspective & optics
- Motion, dislocation and confinement
- Visual arts & literary ekphrasis
- Geocriticism and theories of space and place
- Textual space and spatial deixis
- Iconoclasm
- Metaphorical representations of the divine
- Preaching places and spaces

We warmly invite you to send your paper title along with a 300-word proposal (in Word format) and a short biography (100 words) containing your academic affiliation to both conference organisers, Sonia.Pernet@unil.ch and Kader.Hegedus@unil.ch, by Monday 19 September 2016. Papers presented at the conference will be considered for publication in a collection of essays edited by the organisers. For further information and updates, please visit the event's website: www.unil.ch/johndonne-space/2017-conference/

ACLA Seminar: Literary Space in Modernist Literature 1890-1960

Deadline September 23

Proposed Seminar for the 2017 Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) in Utrecht, The Netherlands (July 6-9, 2017)

Organizers: Kirk Wetters (kirk.wetters@yale.edu), Yvonne Wolf (ywolf@uni-mainz.de), Andreas Solbach (solbach@uni-mainz.de)

Starting in the 1980s, research into the role and function of space began to alter our conceptions of the order of things in society, landscape, science, and art. This “spatial turn” was primarily informed by theories of geographers, historians and sociologists, whereas the contribution of literary criticism to the ongoing discussion was relatively smaller, despite the fact that literary theory had developed analytical procedures to treat space in literary texts, in addition to the established modes of the rhetoric of description, phenomenological criticism, and narratology. As a consequence, literary theory has since imported a number of theoretical approaches that use and define the concept of spatiality developed in other disciplines, thereby producing new and fruitful modes of literary analysis (maps, graphs, literary geography etc.). These approaches, however, have not been systematically integrated and combined with earlier and also contemporary literary research into spatiality in literature (e.g. Dennerlein).

This panel invites proposals for papers that explore the idea of literary concepts of space which can be described and analyzed using theoretical approaches from such various fields as iconography, visual culture studies, picture theory, and the theory of photography. Cultural studies, rhetoric and narratology mark the broad contexts of possible research perspectives.

There are no restrictions on genre. Non-fiction is expressly included as well as popular literature. However, the primary goal of the seminar is to trace the specific modernist constellations of literary space in the works of authors such as Stoker, Joyce, Woolf, Beckett, Proust, Gide, Doderer, Döblin and Kafka.

300-word proposals for twenty-minute papers may be submitted at (<http://acla.org/seminars>) during the period Sept. 1 – Sept. 23. ACLA meeting participants may submit proposals to only one seminar, thus interested individuals are encouraged to contact the seminar organizers directly with inquiries about the appropriateness of their proposal for the seminar before formally applying to the seminar. Seminar organizers will review submitted papers and propose final rosters by Sept. 30 (pending ACLA approval).

Proposed ACLA Seminar: Poetics and Politics of Place: Literature, Hegemony, and Resistance **Deadline September 23**

Proposed Seminar for the 2017 Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) in Utrecht, The Netherlands (July 6-9, 2017)

Organizers: J. Engel Szwaja Franken and Samuel Jaffee. Contact: jeszwaja@gmail.com

This seminar will begin by proposing that literature has been instrumental both in the construction and maintenance of national hegemonies, and in projects of resistance to them. As we consider literature's contributions to the poetics of place and places, we will remain close to this dialectic. That is, we will focus on the productive tension of this contradictory interdependence and its effects both in literature and in the wider politics of region and place. We will examine both how national hegemony marks the space of literature and how literature places a certain tension on the space of the nation.

These questions are situated within a long critical tradition of thinking the tension between a regional consciousness and modernity. For example, Ángel Rama proposed a regionalist map of Latin America "accrediting" the existence of cultures outside of hegemony. Yet while that map was derived from his reading of Latin America's literatures, Rama also theorized the role of literature in the construction and exercise of state power. Frederic Jameson argued that a region is not "a rural place that resists the nation and its power structures but rather a whole culturally coherent zone (which may also correspond to political autonomy) in tension with the standardizing world system as a whole"—a world system in which the nation remains a privileged, standardized form. More recently, Alberto Moreiras has argued for regional thinking that "takes the subaltern perspective, formally defined as the perspective from the constitutive outside of hegemony, as the starting point for a critique of contemporary consciousness."

These approaches share a commitment to critically examining the texts generated by this tension between national hegemony and its others. We invite submissions in this vein from a range of regions, national literatures, languages, and theoretical lenses. Possible topics may include:

- The construction of regional consciousness (e.g. Juan Rulfo's ekphrasis or J. M. Arguedas's Quechua poetry)
- Multiple logics in the construction of a contested place (e.g. William T. Vollmann's writings on the Imperial Valley)
- The relationship of nation as form, and the formal, generic dimension of literature (e.g. Alice Munro's representing the Canadian nation and its regions)
- Ecocritical approaches to setting and landscape as identitarian arguments (e.g. Dorothy Hewett's Australian pastoral)
- Genealogies of places and peoples at the margins of the national center (e.g. Edouard Glissant's novels on Martinique)

–Literary challenges to nationalist projects (e.g. Rosario Castellanos’s critique of shared belief in Mexico)

–The politics of nostalgia and reappropriation of pre-national social life (e.g. Joseph Roth on Habsburg Galicia)

We are also open to comparative work on the contributions of other arts to this problematic.

Working in the Medieval City in Europe

Deadline September 30

13th International Meetings of the Middle Ages, Nájera (Spain), November 10-11, 2016.
Organized by the Medieval Research Group on Atlantic Urban Societies of the University of Cantabria (<http://atlanticports.unican.es/>).

Scholars and Graduate students are encouraged to submit abstracts for research presentations or posters on topics related to "Working in the Medieval City in Europe", with a focus on:

- Organization, framing and representation of work
- Employment, labor market and mobility
- Entrepreneurship and industrial proletariat
- Labor wages and living standards
- Labor regulations and legislation
- Workers in the Atlantic port cities
- Working women
- Child labor
- Labor Unrest
- Labor and social identity
- Work organization and social relations

Abstracts should be no more than 500 characters and should clearly state the purpose, thesis, methodology, and principal findings of the paper to be presented. Successful proposals will be published in 2017. All abstracts and a short CV should be submitted electronically to Prof. Dr. Jesús Angel Sólórzano-Telechea, University of Cantabria Faculty of Arts and Humanities, at: solorzaja@unican.es

Boundaries and Jurisdictions: Defining the Urban

Deadline October 21

Urban History Group 2017, Royal Holloway, University of London, 30- 31 March 2017

Boundaries define towns and cities; jurisdictions legitimate those authorised to manage areas within them. While cities frequently annexed adjacent areas as a means of extending their authority, peripheral townships, regional jurisdictions and individual landowners have often resisted that process of absorption and the consequential loss of identity and autonomy. Do cities transmit ideas and ideologies to areas beyond their boundaries, urging compliance with administrative procedures and participating in infrastructural projects governing health, education, and transport? Were economies of scale in service provision a force for urban amalgamation? How have inhabitants

navigated and perceived these boundaries, and what effects have they had on movement or identities? The conference will explore this theme of the urban 'edge.'

Understanding where and what the edge is, though, is complex. Municipal authority is, of course, not bounded just by the city limits, but also by innumerable internal boundaries; boundaries that are not neutral in their management or their construction. We all live in multiple authorities – parishes, districts (school, medical, electoral), neighbourhoods, conservation areas, economic and regeneration zones. Myriad internal boundaries exist whose spatial extents rarely overlap and authority over them is vested in a mixture of legal bodies and informal authority. Informal authority reigns where the boundaries of mental maps are shaped by custom and practice – 'safe' areas, 'red light' districts, pedestrian precincts, ethnic and religious concentrations. The mosaic of overlapping boundaries and jurisdictions questions the use of the term city, since urban environments constitute so many different cities.

The conference committee invites individual papers and panel proposals of up to three papers. Papers might be in the form of thematic or case studies, cutting across time and space to draw out the larger-scale historical process at work in relation to boundaries and jurisdictions. Some of the themes, identified by bullet points below, are timeless so contributions ranging from c.1600 to the present are welcome and can be drawn from any geographical area. Contributions from doctoral candidates are an important feature of the Urban History Group and so these, too, are encouraged and financially supported with modest bursaries.

In framing your paper or making a proposal for a panel you may wish to consider some of the following:

- What is the difference between authority, regulation and jurisdiction, and does it matter?
- How have boundaries and jurisdictions shaped urban behaviour and vice versa?
- How durable are bounded limits like town charters, walls, and trading monopolies?
- How have rules and regulations involuntarily contributed to the creation of boundaries
- What informal mechanisms shape perceptions of boundaries, and how are these 'edges' enforced, transgressed or subverted?
- Is 'Edge City', rather than a recent phenomenon, a longstanding feature of urban development?
- How durable are mental maps and what are the consequences where they overlap?
- Can we write and talk about 'the city' if it is as fragmented as it may seem?

Abstracts of up to 300 words, including a paper or panel title, name, affiliation and contact details should be submitted to urbanhistorygroup2017@gmail.com and should indicate clearly how the content of the paper addresses the conference themes outlined above. Those wishing to propose sessions should provide a brief statement that

identifies the ways in which the session will address the conference theme, a list of speakers, and abstracts. The final deadline for proposals for sessions and papers is 21st October 2016.

The conference will again host its new researchers' forum, which is composed of two elements. The first section is aimed primarily at those who are at an early stage of a PhD or early career research project. New researchers' papers should be the same length and follow the same submission rules as the main sessions, but need not be related to the main conference theme. Additionally, there will be opportunities for first-year PhD students to present a 10 minute introduction to their topic, archival materials, and the specific urban historiography. This is an opportunity to obtain feedback from active researchers in the field of Urban History, but also to introduce your work to colleagues in the field. Please submit all proposals to urbanhistorygroup2017@gmail.com marking them clearly 'New Researchers' or 'First Year PhD' in the subject field and on the abstract.

Bursaries: Students registered for a PhD can obtain a modest bursary on a first come, first served basis to offset expenses associated with conference registration and attendance. Please send an e-mail application to Professor Richard Rodger at richard.rodger@ed.ac.uk and also ask your supervisor to confirm your status as a registered PhD student with an e-mail to the same address. Deadline 16th December 2016. The Urban History Group would like to acknowledge the Economic History Society for its support for these bursaries.

For Further Details Contact Conference Organisers:

Dr James Greenhalgh, University of Lincoln: jgreenhalgh@lincoln.ac.uk

Dr Markian Prokopovych, University of Birmingham: m.prokopovych@bham.ac.uk

For New Researchers: Dr Tom Hulme, IHR, University of London:
Tom.Hulme@sas.ac.uk

Website: <http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/urbanhistory/uhg/conference-2017/conference-2017>

- **Call for Submissions**

City, Space and Literature

Deadline October 15

Embodying diverse range of epithets and appellation, the cities in history have come a long way. As fecund sites of yearning, desire and fantasy, the urban landscape thus opens up spaces that are crucial in bringing about significant political and creative transformations. This issue calls for the multifarious ways of representing the city space in literary and cultural narratives. Not necessarily limiting cities to a descriptive category but also studying the urban phenomenon as an analytical tool for social and political understanding of people and spaces. An indicative list of potential topics may include:

City and affects

City and migration

City and refugees

City and culture of dissent

City in subversive arts.

The flâneur and the city

City and spectrality

Cities of the Empire or cities as colonial/postcolonial spaces in literature

City in travel literature

The art of the marketplace and the streets

Cities of Global Modernism

City and Crime

City and the everyday

City and Spatiality

City and suburb

Contributors are welcome to consider the following topics without being limited to them. Prospective papers addressing the issue should be sent to editors@sanglap-journal.in by October 15, 2016. The papers should be between 5000 and 7000 words in length including notes and references, sent along with an abstract not exceeding 200 words and five or six keywords. For further information on style and guidelines, please log on to: <http://sanglap-journal.in/>

The City and Time Essay Collection

Deadline November 30

Dr Anne-Marie Evans and Dr Kaley Kramer, York St John University (York, UK):
k.kramer@yorks.ac.uk

We are soliciting proposals for a collection of essays investigating the ways in which the 'city' intersects with conceptions of 'time' in literary narratives.

As of the 21st century, over half of the world's population live in cities or 'mega-urban' environments. Historical and contemporary literature, as well as speculative future models, presume the dominance of the city as the space of human progress and development, extending to visions of the 'ecumenopolis' (Doxiades, 1967) such as Asimov's 'Trantor' (1942) to claustrophobic or liberating spaces of the 'global city'.

We are particularly interested in essays that interrogate the idea that the city is a homogenous space of progressive development. The Marxist framework of 'uneven and combined development' speaks to some aspects of our concern, but does not form a limit for possible contributions.

How does the city in literature change the experience of time? How does literature represent the layered or hidden 'time' of an urban space? Does the experience of time change in different cities or for different subjects?

We welcome proposals from scholars working in historical literatures, contemporary literature, and speculative and science fiction. We intend the collection to be global in scope, and welcome contributions focusing on cities from any part of the world.

We welcome work considering topic such as (but not limited to):

- Queer urban spaces
- Migration and transience
- Experiments with form and narrative
- Urban historiography (fictional and non-fictional)
- Literary geographies and cartography
- Genre, space, and narrating time
- The city as historical subject

Proposals of 500 words, plus a brief bio including recent publications and research, by 30 November 2016 can be sent to k.kramer@yorksj.ac.uk and/or a.evans@yorksj.ac.uk.

- **Research Opportunities**

Postdoc: "Impact of the Ancient City" Project, Cambridge

Deadline September 12

Cambridge, UK

Limit of Tenure: 4 years, from 01 January 2017

Salary Range: £28,982 - £37,768 per annum

Applications are sought for four postdoctoral researchers on the ERC-funded 'Impact of the Ancient City' project led by Principal Investigator Professor Andrew Wallace-Hadrill. The project will re-examine the impact of the ancient, Greco-Roman city on subsequent urban history in Europe and the Islamic world, investigating both the urban fabric and urban ideals. Bringing together researchers trained in historical, archaeological and **literary analysis**, the project spans the entire Mediterranean region from Greco-Roman antiquity to the present day. The research team will investigate case histories in the western and eastern Mediterranean, and pose a set of questions about how urban forms responded to the changing social needs.

For access to the further particulars for each role and for information on how to apply please click on the Jobs and Vacancies section of the Faculty of Classics website:

www.classics.cam.ac.uk/directory/vacancies

Association for Literary Urban Studies

<http://blogs.helsinki.fi/hlc-n/>

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