

Fall/Winter 2017



The Newsletter  
of the  
Hellenic Association for American Studies  
(HELAAS)

**In this Issue:**

Members' Corner

HELAAS International Conference 2017

4<sup>th</sup> Summer School 2018

HELAAS Journal

*Visit the HELAAS website at*

**<http://helaas.enl.auth.gr/>**

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## **EDITORIAL**

Dear HELAAS members,

On behalf of the members of the board I'd like to wish you all an energizing spring!

These last few months have been particularly productive for our association. A number of projects have been accomplished, as is the successful organization of our international conference in Thessaloniki (15-17 December, 2017) and the launching of the first special issue of our association peer-refereed online *Ex-Centric Narratives: Journal of Anglophone Literature, Culture and Media*. You can read more about all these plus information about our journal forthcoming issues, call for abstract and book review in the pages of our Newsletter.

These initiatives have further strengthened our membership base with new members from Greece and abroad who we warmly welcome to our association.

As for the HELAAS Young Scholars, they have decided to move ahead with the coordination of a number of initiatives that will be taking place biannually in Athens and Thessaloniki. More information will be made available via the HELAAS Young Scholar representative, Despoina Feleki, in due course.

A tab on the HELAAS Young Scholars has been added to the new HELAAS website, which has been upgraded and redesigned on the occasion of our international conference. There are ideas for further additions to be made to our new website in due course. Our new URL address is: <http://helaas.enl.auth.gr/>.

As far as EAAS is concerned, its biannual conference is taking place in London between 4-7 April 2018 in collaboration with the British Association for American Studies. This is a joint effort between King's College London, University College London, and the British Library. A number of our members are participating in this event with individual papers as well as roundtable and panel submissions (please consult <https://blogs.kcl.ac.uk/ebaas2018/programme/>). Just before the conference, and particularly between 2-3 April 2018, the EAAS Board Meeting will be taking place. I am particularly glad to inform you that the 2019 EAAS Board Meeting will be held in Thessaloniki. This event will also be followed by the EAAS Women's Network Symposium. Information and a CFP will be made available shortly.

The next event of our association is our 4<sup>th</sup> Summer School to be organized between 27 June-3 July, 2018 under the theme of "Discussing Gender: Confrontation and Challenges." We would particularly like to thank the Fulbright Foundation in Greece for all the support with regard to the main speakers that participate in this very special week-long seminar/workshop series. For more information, please take a look at the Summer School section in our Newsletter.

We are particularly delighted that we had the opportunity to meet a few of you and exchange ideas about the development of our association during our General Assembly meeting that was held on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. We look forward to connecting with you again during the next GA meeting to be held in October/November 2018 before the elections in December 2018 for the new HELAAS Board.

This has been a year of new visions and accomplishments for our association but it is your enthusiastic support and contribution that has made all possible. We extend to all of you our warmest thanks and we look forward to working together for a fruitful HELAAS year.

\*\*\*Happy Spring\*\*\*

*Tatiani Rapatzikou, President of the HELAAS Board*



## **MEMBERS' CORNER**

In this section please find information about our member publications, projects, conference participations and awards:

**Sophia Emmanouilidou** chaired a panel on Tino Villanueva's poetic sojourns at the international conference "**The Politics of Space and the Humanities**" (15-17 Dec. 2017). An acclaimed Chicano poet and winner of the American Book Award in 1994 for the narrative poem *Scene from the Movie GIANT* (1993), Tino Villanueva commenced his contemplations in 1972 with the collection *Hay Otra Voz Poems* and has since enriched the world of poetry with a continuing exploration of the dynamics of selfhood. The panel "**Self-Identity Negotiations and the Hermeneutics of Space in Tino Villanueva's Poetry**" comprised two critical approaches to the poet's overall work and Villanueva's reading from *Scene from the Movie GIANT* (1993) and *So Spoke Penelope* (2013). Villanueva acknowledged the critical angles taken by Professor Lars Gustaf Andersson, Lund University, Sweden, and Dr. Sophia Emmanouilidou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, and offered participants the opportunity to reflect on the aesthetic and creative side of literature. In Tino Villanueva's own words: "One hopes that through these literary and aesthetic references the audience will better appreciate the verbal and sound patterns, the rhythmic particulars, and the living growth of thought and feeling in the poems."

**Despoina Feleki** published her monograph, with the title *Stephen King in the New Millennium: Gothic Mediations on New Writing Materialities*, under Cambridge Scholars Publishing in January-February 2018 (ISBN-13: 978-1527504073). Her review of Gundolf S. Freyermuth's *Games, Game Design, Game Studies: An Introduction* was out in November 2017 for the Online Academic Journal (EAAS). Dr. Feleki participated in the HELAAS International Conference "The Politics of Space and the Humanities" in Thessaloniki, Greece in December 2017. Her conference paper was titled "Space, Narrative, and Digital Media in Teju Cole's Twenty-First Century Narrative Fiction." She is also participating in the EAAS International Conference in London in April 2018 with a roundtable paper titled "On-/off-line in the High School Classroom: Fostering a Global Identity and Social Awareness through Interactive Digital Platforms." The title of the roundtable is "Place, Protest, Possibility, and Pedagogy: A Roundtable on Teaching," organized by Dr. Elizabeth Orsello-Duclose (Salem State University, U.S.).

**Anna Fyta** delivered in April 2017 a lecture at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki under the title "Parallel Conversations with Greek Myth: H.D. and American Women Poets After" as part of the Modernist Poetry undergraduate course taught by Dr. Tatiani Rapatzikou (School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki). In September 2017, invited as Visiting Scholar by the Stavros Niarchos Center for Hellenic Studies at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada, Dr. Fyta also gave a series of lectures that covered a wide spectrum of her ongoing research into the Classics, Modernism and Travel Writing. The lectures were delivered to the Hellenic Studies department, the graduate department of English and the Gender Studies Department at SFU. In late October 2017, Dr. Fyta also delivered a lecture at Aristotle U with the title "The Egoist Press and the Poets' Translation Series (1915-1919): Modernist Poets Translate the *Greek Anthology*: a Misplaced Modernist Dream." As part of the Conference "Politics of Space and Humanities" organized by HELAAS and the Aristotle U in December 2017, Fyta chaired the panel "Cinematic Topographies of Conflict in the Modern Imagination." Apart from Fyta, the three-member panel included Dr. Marsha Bryant of the University of Florida, and Dr. Sara Dunton, University of New Brunswick, Canada.

**Konstantinos D. Karatzas** defended his Ph.D. in June 2017 and received his title as Doctor of History by the University of Zaragoza, Spain, with honors. His dissertation was the first one submitted in English to the History Department since its establishment in 1542. Konstantinos has been a guest lecturer at the University of Kent (U.K.), at the University of Kentucky (U.S.) and the University of Adam Mickiewicz (Poland). He has also presented his work and organized panels at conferences organized by the University of Ohio (U.S.), University of Newcastle (Australia), HOTCUS (Historians of the Twentieth Century United States) in Dublin, Ireland, BAAS (British Association of American Studies) in Canterbury, U.K., the Southern Studies Forum Conference in Lille, France and at SASA (Scottish Association of American Studies) in Edinburg, Scotland. He is currently collaborating in the American Spaces Project of the American Embassy in Greece. In 2017, Karatzas has been the guest editor of a special issue in violence entitled: “Violence interpreted: Connections between the Violent Past of the United States and Conflict Today” of the *Journal of American Culture* (EJAC), UK. The second special issue will be published in June, 2018. In December 2017, he signed his first contract for transforming his doctoral dissertation into a book. His book will be published by Routledge, New York, in October, 2018 with the title: *Violence and Memory in the United States: The Case of the 1921 Tulsa Race Riot*. Dr. Karatzas is currently a research fellow and member of the board at the Interdisciplinary Research Foundation (Warsaw & London) and associate research fellow at the Institute of International Economic Relations (Athens).

**Elisavet Ktenidou**, who received a scholarship from the Salzburg Global Seminar as well as the Fulbright Foundation in Greece, attended the international symposium entitled “Life and Justice in America: Implications of the New Administration” in Salzburg in 2017. Participating in this multidisciplinary symposium as a Fulbright Grantee, she had the opportunity to delve into the examination of military and criminal justice, security and the American Dream, the changing social and racial issues, the U.S. immigration and refugee policy. The symposium included eminent speakers/ Emeritus Professors on a variety of other areas of study including populism, the American political behavior, as well as the elections, and the electoral college. All subjects covered by the Symposium were examined under the scope of the current Trump administration. A play entitled “Dreamscape” was presented as part of the Symposium where racial and social issues were artistically examined through the lens of a group of performers from Los Angeles. Celebrating its 70 years, Salzburg Global Seminar has incessantly (since 1947) promoted the candid exchange of different perspectives in the field of American Studies.

**Chrysavgi Papagianni’s** paper, “The Salvation of Emirati Memory in Nujoom Alghanem’s Hamama” has been accepted for publication by the *Quarterly Review of Film and Video* (formerly *Quarterly Review of Film Studies*). Dr. Papagianni has also presented two papers in the last few months. The first, entitled “From our own lips: Writing b-l-ack in Sherley Williams’ *Dessa Rose*,” was presented in the IV International Conference on Literature and Literary Criticism (20-21 October 2017), while the second one entitled, “Political Correctness Exposed in Zak Penn’s and Adam Leff’s *PCU*,” was presented in the HELAAS International Conference on the “The Politics of Space and the Humanities” (15-17 December 2017). Dr. Papagianni is currently the principal investigator (with Christopher Thornton as a co-PI) of a project focusing on women and film in the UAE funded by a Research Incentive Grant (RIF).

**Lizzy Pournara** has been awarded a scholarship by the Greek State Scholarship Foundation for the completion of her doctoral dissertation. She has presented a paper with the title “Creative Writing and Creative Reading Practices in New Media: The Case of *Abra*” at the “3<sup>rd</sup>

International Creative Writing Conference” in Corfu in October 2017. She has also participated in the international conference “The Politics of Space and the Humanities” that took place in Thessaloniki, presenting the paper “Typographical Representation of Space in Alison Clifford’s *The Sweet Old Etcetera*.”

**Tatiani Rapatzikou** (Associate Professor, School of English, AUTH) and **Demetres Tryphonopoulos** (Professor, Brandon University, Canada) collaborated for a three-week intensive seminar and workshop program with the title “Anglo-American Modernist Poetry and the Classics: Curriculum Co-Development, Collaborative Research and Graduate Student Mentoring in Editing, Annotating and Digitizing Archived Materials.” This project was part of the Greek Diaspora Fellowship Program funded by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and the Institute of International Education in collaboration with the Fulbright Foundation in Greece. A number of other speakers and researchers from Greece and Canada participated in these project: **Lisa Banks** (Ph.D. candidate, McGill University, Canada), **Sara Dunton** (Honorary Research Associate, University of New Brunswick, Canada), **Svetlana Ehtee's (nee Nedeljkov)** (PhD candidate, University of New Brunswick, Canada), **Anna Fyta** (Ph.D., University of Ioannina, Greece), **Nancy Kuhl** (Poetry curator, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University, U.S.), **Lizzy Pournara** (Ph.D. candidate, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece), **Matte Robinson** (Assistant Professor, St. Thomas University, Fredericton, Canada), **Trevor Sawler** (Associate Professor, St. Thomas University, Fredericton, Canada), **Declan Spring** (Vice President and Senior Editor, New Directions, U.S.), **George Varsos** (Assistant Professor University of Athens, Greece).



### **HELAAS New Members**

We would like to welcome Eleni Chrysikaki, Georgios Dimitriadis, Angelos Evangelou, Virginia Maria Tsikopoulou, and Panteleimon Tsiokos as our new HELAAS members:

**Marsha Bryant** is Professor of English and Distinguished Teaching Scholar in University of Florida, U.S. Her research interests focus on Post-1900 literature and culture (American & British), modernist studies, poetry and visual culture, women’s writing, and pedagogy.

**Eleni Chrysikaki** is an M.A. student at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens with a research focus on technology in teaching, distant learning, storytelling, e-learning.

**Georgios Dimitriadis** received his Ph.D. from the School of English, AUTH. His research interests revolve around the Visual Perception and Cognitive Theory of Cinema, Narrative Theory, Worldmaking and Computer Generated Imagery (CGI), history of Cinema and Imaging.

**Angelos Evangelou** is Associate Lecturer at the School of European Culture and Languages at the University of Kent. He researches in the fields of Madness Studies, Border Studies and Border Theory, Cypriot and Palestinian Literature and Film, Postcolonial Theory and Literature, Literary Theory and Criticism.

**Demetres Tryphonopoulos** is Dean in the Faculty of Arts & Professor in the Faculty of Graduate Studies in the Department of English and Creative Writing, Brandon University, Canada. He teaches and researches in twentieth-century American Literature with a focus on difficult

modernist texts(especially long poems), often approaching them through the lenses of poetics, translation theory and practice, prosody and rhetoric, and editorial theory and textual criticism.

**Virginia Maria Tsikopoulou** is an M.A. student at the School of English, AUTH. Her research interests focus on American Literature, American Drama, and Urban Studies

**Panteleimon Tsiokos** is an M.A. student at the School of English, AUTH. His research focuses on American Ethnic and Minority Literature, Modernist and Postmodernist American Poetry.



## **HELAAS ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES**

### **HELAAS International Conference 2017**

The international conference “The Politics of Space and the Humanities” was organized by the Department of American Literature of the School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, in collaboration with the HELAAS and the support of the Fulbright Foundation Greece as part of its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of American Studies in Greece. It was held between 15-17 December 2017.

The conference attracted overall 200 speakers from all around the world, Fulbright alumni/a, and a big number of attendees. The four main keynote speakers – Giorgos Kalogeras, Professor, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece; Michael Joyce, Professor, Vassar College, U.S.; Linda Peake, Professor, York University, Toronto, Canada; Savas Patsalidis, Professor, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece – offered their own unique insights into the exploration of space that constituted the main theme of the conference which they approached from the perspective of immigration, new media and poetry, geography, and theater.

All conference papers were presented in parallel sessions aiming at the interdisciplinary exploration of the conference main theme, that of space. The conference particularly emphasized the central role of the Humanities nowadays and its effective dialogue with a number of other disciplines for an in-depth understanding of various socio-cultural and political issues. All scholars presenting at the conference touched upon a series of themes such as the environment, spatial surveillance, walled spaces and borders, refugee and immigration narratives, digital mapping, war and trauma, healing spaces and medical humanities, ethnic identity, architecture, cinematic topographies and other.

The team of HELAAS members/Young Scholars participated actively in the social media promotion of the conference. The team, which consisted of Despoina Feleki (Ph.D.), Thomas Mantzaris (Ph.D. candidate), Lizzy Pournara (Ph.D. candidate), Elisavet Ktenidou (B.A., M.A.) and Vasilis Delioglani (Ph.D. candidate), uploaded photos as well as information from the panels/keynote speakers of the conference in the webpage created for this event by Tasos Paschalis (IT support, School of English, AUTH). Moreover, videos were posted along with live streaming/coverage of some of the talks from various panels. Due to the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Fulbright Foundation in Greece, the social media conference team created a special hashtag for the occasion. Part of the photographic material was provided by Thomas Mantzaris, a young HELAAS scholar and Ph.D. candidate.

The members of the conference organizing committee were the following: Tatiani Rapatzikou (HELAAS President, Associate Professor, School of English, AUTH), Zoe Detsi (HELAAS Secretary, Associate Professor, School of English, AUTH), Effie Yiannopoulou (HELAAS Member, Assistant Professor, School of English, AUTH), and Vassilis Delioglani (HELAAS Member, Ph.D. candidate, School of English, AUTH). The conference website and poster were designed by Tasos Paschalis (IT specialist, School of English, AUTH). He was also in charge of the IT support of the whole event in collaboration with the conference venue (Nikolaos Germanos Congress Center, HELEXPO) IT support team.

A group of undergraduate and graduate students offered their voluntary assistance throughout the conference: Sophia Christofidou, Katerina Gianniotou, Iosif Gidiotis, Eleni Karakosta, Marianthi

Kyrou, Elena Liapopoulou Adamidou, Vangelis Papadimitriou, Panagiota Papavasileiou, Maria Schiza, Evangelia Toliou, Zoe Tsaousaki, Stavroula Vergopoulou.

A Music Ensemble participated in the opening of the conference: Manolis Aivazopoulos (clarinet) Aristotle University of Thessaloniki & Municipal Conservatory of Neapoli-Sykies; Stavroula Vergopoulou (clarinet) Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; Dimitris Chontas (guitar) Alexander Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki (ATEITH) & Municipal Conservatory of Neapoli-Sykies; Marina Chonta (piano) Municipal Conservatory of Neapoli-Sykies.

The opening of the conference was held at the Ceremony Hall of Old Faculty of Philosophy at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki with formal opening addresses delivered by U.S. Consulate General in Thessaloniki Rebecca A. Fong, Artemis Zenetou (Executive Director of Fulbright Foundation Greece), Tatiani Rapatzikou (HELAAS President and Conference Organizing Committee), Anastasios Tsangalidis (Associate Professor and Chair of School of English, AUTH), and Zoe Detsi (Associate Professor and Head of Department of American Literature, School of English, AUTH).

For more information please follow the Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/Politics-of-Space-and-the-Humanities-International-Conference-146077842824607/>



## **HELAAS JOURNAL**

### **Ex-Centric Narratives: Journal of Anglophone Literature, Culture and Media**

The Hellenic Association for American Studies (HELAAS) in cooperation with the Department of American Literature and Culture of the School of English of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH), Greece, has just launched an electronic multi/interdisciplinary open access, refereed journal with the title *Ex-centric Narratives: Journal of Anglophone Literature, Culture and Media (Ex-Na)*. For information about the journal Editorial and Advisory Board, please click on <https://ejournals.lib.auth.gr/ExCentric/about/editorialTeam>

The **first issue** of our journal on the theme “Ethics and Narrative” was published in December 2017 and was guest edited by Helena Maragou (Professor, American College of Greece-Deree) and Theodora Tsimpouki (Professor, University of Athens, Greece). You can gain access to the papers included in the first volume by clicking on the following link: <https://ejournals.lib.auth.gr/ExCentric/issue/view/908/showToc>

The contributors to the special issue are: Catherine Rogers, Adrianne Kalfopoulou, Greg Zacharias, Michele Ware, Yiorgos Kalogeras, Cheryl Chaffin, Melenia Arouh, and Donatella Izzo.

The *Ex-Centric Narratives* journal addresses academics, scholars and graduate students engaging in the interdisciplinary study of Anglophone literatures, cultures and media and will be published once a year.

The **second issue** on the theme of “War in Culture” will be guest-edited by Joseph Michael Gratale (Professor, The American College of Thessaloniki, Greece) and Serap Kayatekin (Professor, The American College of Thessaloniki, Greece). It is expected to be published in December 2018.

**For more information about the journal please click on the following link:**  
<https://ejournals.lib.auth.gr/ExCentric/index>

**For information about submitting a proposal for a special issue, please contact the Journal Chief Editors:**

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### **SUMMER SCHOOL 2018**

The topic of the upcoming Summer School, organized with the collaboration of the School of English (AUTH), HELAAS and the Fulbright Foundation in Greece, is “Discussing Gender: Confrontations and Challenges.” This is the 4<sup>th</sup> Summer School program to take place between June 27 - July 3, 2018 at the Faculty of Philosophy, AUTH.

The three thematic strands the six-day intensive summer school program will touch upon are:

- **From Gendered American Frontiers to Wild Gender Performances**  
Kristin Jacobson (Professor, Stockton University, U.S.; Fulbright Scholar Spring 2018) and Constantine Chatzipapatheodoridis (Ph.D. candidate, School of English, AUTH)
- **Romance Narratives and the New Sexual Revolution: Literature and Publishing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**  
Catherine Roach (Professor, University of Alabama, U.S.; Fulbright Specialist) and Vasilis Harisis (Ph.D. candidate, School of English, AUTH)
- **Men in Tights, Girls in Fights: Drawing the Line on Gender in Comics and Graphic Novels**  
Christina Dokou (Assistant Professor, University of Athens) and Cathy Marazi (Ph.D. candidate, School of English, AUTH)

For more information and inquiries about registration, please email:

Dr. Zoe Detsi ([detsi@enl.auth.gr](mailto:detsi@enl.auth.gr)) and Dr. Tatiani Rapatzikou ([trapatz@enl.auth.gr](mailto:trapatz@enl.auth.gr))



**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS/ BOOK REVIEWS/ PAPERS/ SEMINARS**

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

**Ex-Centric Narratives:  
Journal of Anglophone Literature, Culture and Media**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Special Issue – 2019**

*Special topic:  
Identity Broodings and Inter-Referential Pathways in Chicana/o Culture*

**Deadline for submissions: September 14, 2018**

Contact email: [semma@enl.auth.gr](mailto:semma@enl.auth.gr)

The Chicano Movement (El Movimiento) in the late 1960s signaled the flow of multiple Chicana/o cultural expressions notably associated with an intricate matrix of socio-political claims for self-empowerment. Pledging to enhance the inter-referential connection(s) between the community's subversive tactics and the vast cosmos of dispossessed groupings across the globe, Chicana/o writers, artists and thinkers have undertaken to decipher the enigmas of being-in-the-world by making visible numerous enveloping discourses of appropriation. For instance, the Mexican American literary canon unyieldingly resonates what Chela Sandoval schematic proposes a "differential consciousness" against the backdrop of supremacy, capitalism, internal colonialism and personal/communal encroachment. This special volume of Ex-centric Narratives: Journal of Literature, Culture and Media (Ex-Na) aims to explore the complex ways in which Chicanas/os untangle the conundrums of self-identity, illuminate the transnational viability of the borderlands metaphor and seek the dialogic potential in the rite to oppositional praxis. Papers are welcomed focusing on Chicano/o culture and the topics highlighted below:

- Interculturalism and transculturalism
- The poetics and politics of cultural identity
- Transnationalism and the inter-reference potential
- Differential and/or oppositional consciousness
- Borderlands, liminalities and transgressions
- Chicana/o self-consciousness (consciencia)
- The political unconscious in Mexican American culture
- Landscapes, cityscape and identity formation
- The spatio-temporal dialectic
- Hierarchies, confrontations and dispositions
- Individuation vis-à-vis collectivization
- The re-invention of Chicana/o literature

All abstracts must be received by the deadline of **Friday September 14, 2018**. The length of the abstract should be between 150-180 words. Your abstract submission should include:

Title

Author(s)

Author contact information  
Affiliated institution Keywords (4-5)

**Please send your emails to issue special editors:**

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**CALL FOR BOOK REVIEW**

**Ex-Centric Narratives:  
Journal of Anglophone Literature, Culture and Media**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Special Issue – 2019**

*Special topic:  
War in Culture*

Those HELAAS members interested in reviewing the book by Martin Van Kreveld, *More on War* (Oxford University Press, 2017) for the second issue of our HELAAS Journal, which will be published in December 2018, please send your short bio and research interests to the Journal Chief Editors by March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

The book to be reviewed is available in hard copy.



**CALL FOR PAPERS**

***Popular Romance in the Digital Age*  
9-11 July 2018  
University of the Balearic Islands (Spain)**

This conference is organized in the context of the research project “The politics, aesthetics and marketing of literary formulae in popular women’s fiction: History, Exoticism and Romance” (HER) and aims to discuss recent developments in the production, distribution and consumption of popular romance that account for its escalating popularity and its increasing complexity. How comes that the genre’s traditional formulae are thriving in the murky waters of cultural industries in the global marketplace, particularly in light of the new ways and challenges of the Digital Age?

Evidence has it that the scope, production and range of popular romance has continued to diversify throughout the late 20th and early 21st century, reaching an astonishing variety of imprints, categories and subgenre combinations. As an example, Ken Gelder lists the different “brand portfolios” (2004: 46) from the most popular romance publishing houses with series categories that identify subgenres of romance: Modern, Tender, Sensual, Medical, Historical and Blaze (Mills and Boon); or Desire, Sensation, and Intrigue (Silhouette). Beyond these, the list

goes on to include other developments or subgenre combinations from the more classical, gothic, thriller or fantasy romance to the more reader oriented Chick Lit, Black (or African-American) romance and the, arguably, more radically modern Lesbian or Gay romance, etc. High in our agenda is then to interrogate the roots and consequences of this diversification of generic traits and target readers within the more general framework of Global Postmillennial cultural developments. Likewise we also aim to examine the political reasons that inspire and transpire from the industry's imaginative and aggressive commercial and authorial strategies.

Departing from dismissive academic analyses and conventional understandings of popular romance as lowbrow, superficial and escapist, conference participants are asked to unpack the multiple practices and strategies behind the notion of "Romantic Escapes". A critical or political reengagement with the recreation of these temporal or spatial settings, whether idyllic and exotic locations, specific historical contexts or alternative futuristic scenarios, can help rethink popular romance beyond the mere act of evasive reading or the unreflective consumption of literary romantic experiences, resituating the genre as a useful tool for sociocultural discussion (Radway 1984; Illouz 1997). In this sense, contributions may engage with the multiple ways which the escapist romantic experience can be put to use in more "serious" formats (e.g. Neo-Victorian, historical fiction and historiographic metafiction) and thus with the implications of adapting well-known romantic patterns, formulae or conventions to more culturally "prestigious" genres.

Moving on from these contested acts of escapism, and expanding on Appadurai's well-known formulation of "scapes" as the multiple "dimensions of global cultural flow" (1996: 33), conference participants are also encouraged to explore the multivalent meanings of these "Romancescapes", that is "the multiple worlds which are constituted by the historically situated imaginations of persons and groups spread around the globe" (1996: 33) articulated in ever increasing complex and diverse literary formulations of the romantic experience. What are the effects of the global flows of symbolic and cultural capital on the genre? To what extent are romantic narratives determined by specific local conditions and "situated knowledges" (Haraway 1988)?

The impact of these glocal forces is evident in the writing, teaching, translation, production, reception and marketing of romance as mediated by the global "E-scapes" (Rayner 2002) of the digital age. The ever-changing demands of the glocal literary marketplace have also altered the conventional roles of writers, readers, and publishers, now blurred in practices such as self-publishing, specific subgenres like fan fiction, or increasingly influential spaces of literary discussion like virtual book clubs. Participants who may want to venture off the beaten tracks of the conventional romance industry are also welcome to explore and chart these new E-scapes of popular romance.

We invite scholarly submissions that address these and other related topics in relation to any of the multiple sub-genres of popular romance as well as the multifarious "romancescapes" in other popular narrative media. Contributors may address these topics from different critical perspectives and disciplines: cultural studies, gender studies, postcolonial studies, neo-Victorian studies, comparative literature, and digital humanities, among others.

Please submit a 200-word abstract and a short biographical note for a twenty-minute paper by **16 March 2018**. Submissions of thematic panels are also welcome.

Submissions should be sent to Dr. Paloma Fresno-Calleja (paloma.fresno@uib.es)

**Conference dates: 9-11 July 2018**



**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Tourism, cinema and TV series  
(Université de Lille 3, UFR LEA, France, 12 October 2018)**

Over the last thirty odd-years, a growing number of film and TV productions have left the confines of Hollywood studios, either to benefit from interesting tax incentives or to find new scenery that can visually surprise audiences.

The popular success of some of those ‘runaway’ films or TV series then prompted many fans to walk in the footsteps of Luke Skywalker in Tunisia (*Star Wars*), of Frodo in New Zealand (*Lord of the Rings*), of Harry Potter and his friends in Great Britain, of Katniss Everdeen in North Carolina (*Hunger Games*), of Daenerys or Jon Snow in Ireland or Malta (*Game of Thrones*), thus significantly increasing the number of visitors to those places and countries.

Some of those tourists strongly wish to re-live on site what they saw on screen while others are simply curious to visit the filming locations.

Film-tourism is therefore a multi-layered experience as demonstrated by the many visitors at Warner Bros. studios. Leavesden (home to the *Harry Potter* franchise), the tourists taking part in the *Da Vinci Code* tours in Paris, the *Game of Thrones* packages launched by travel agencies, or the guided tours organized in Dunkirk in the aftermath of the shooting and release of *Dunkirk* (C. Nolan, 2017).

This day symposium therefore intends to study the relationship between tourism and location shooting, whether it be as the mere result of that shooting or as part of a growing number of local or national policies designed to attract productions (American or European) so as to benefit from them.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to the following:

Tourism and films/film franchises

Tourism and television series

Tourism, soft power and local/national film location incentives

Tourism, films, series and remembrance (*Saving Private Ryan*, *Schindler’s List*, *War Horse*, *Band of Brothers*, etc.)

Please send an abstract (about 400 words), 3 key-words and a short bio before **April 30, 2018** to both following addresses:

[nathalie.dupont@univ-littoral.fr](mailto:nathalie.dupont@univ-littoral.fr) and [raphael.eppreh-butet@univ-lille3.fr](mailto:raphael.eppreh-butet@univ-lille3.fr).

Organizing committee: Nathalie Dupont, Raphael Eppreh-Butet and Laëtitia Garcia



### **CALL FOR PANELS**

**The 14th International Conference of the Spanish Association for American Studies (SAAS)**

***The Image and the Word:  
Interactions between American Literature, Media, Visual Arts and Film***  
**April 10-12, 2019**  
**University of Salamanca, Spain**

Word and image play an important role in perception. Under the landslide of innovation in the domain of communication and representation in the last half-century, the visual turn of culture enhanced by the postmodern digital turn has fundamentally changed traditional means of understanding culture and the expression of literature, image, film, and photography. Various philosophers and theoreticians, such as James Heffernan, Wendy Steiner, Barbara Stafford, W.J.T. Mitchell, have analyzed the “pictorial turn” of our present, claiming that the long dominance of the written book is giving way to the visual image—cinema, video, photography, and other forms of pictorial and digital representation.

The mutual exchange of literature and visual arts has a longstanding history that goes back to classical debates on *sister arts* or the *paragone*. Postmodern paradigmatic changes in media culture may well rival the modernist avant-garde revolution when Virginia Woolf announced that “on or about December 1910” human nature changed radically. Modernism brought about a moment of aesthetic and media transformation based on visuality and initiated a historical moment of media transition across the spectrum of the arts. If in the nineteenth century all arts strove towards a condition of music, in Walter Pater’s words, we could safely rephrase his dictum, saying that with the modernist avant-garde all arts strove towards the condition of the visual and the plastic arts. With modernism the exchange between literature and visual arts entered an unprecedented interaction, generating a new ekphrastic paradigm of creativity, in which boundaries between arts blurred. Postmodernism has only intensified the gravitation towards inter-disciplinarity, in which aspects of knowledge take on dynamic properties, creating social networks, webs, blogs, and fields whose inner boundaries widen in the amalgamation of different genres.

Our 21st century stands under the aegis of the image, a culture dominated by pictures, visual simulations, illusions, copies, and reproductions to the point that visual paradigms vie with and even threaten, as W.T. Mitchell contends, discursive practices. New technological achievements of the digital era have led to groundbreaking changes in the modes of communication and representation, especially in cinema, which opened new connections between literature and visual arts. Furthermore, a computerized media have penetrated all fields of aesthetics and material

culture raising philosophical and aesthetic concerns as to the distinction between art and nature, the status of the original and its imitation, as well as the artistic and the artifact.

SAAS conferences attempt to be wide-ranging interdisciplinary events and we are particularly keen to see this reflected in the variety of topics discussed in relation to US culture. For the 2019 meeting at the University of Salamanca, we welcome panels that address issues of inter-disciplinarity, inter-mediality and interrelationships that lie at the foundation of literary, cultural, digital and visual representations from multiple theoretical frameworks.

Topics and areas might include (but are not restricted to) the following:

- The Digital and Pictorial Turn in American Culture
- American Literature, Culture and Film Studies
- Genres and Gender
- Representations of Gender and Race in US Culture
- Narrative, Drama, Short Story and Film Studies
- Poetry and Visual Arts
- Repercussions of the visual in modernist aesthetics, film theory, and their legacy in postmodern theorizing
- The modernist legacy in the postmodern avant-garde in US Literature
- The way we see: Visual literacy, visual rhetoric.
- The image as deceptive sign of naturalness and transparency. The use of images as historical evidence.
- The “pictorial turn” vs. the “linguistic turn”
- Hybrid genres and techniques in US Culture
- Traditional and New media
- Historical inquiries into the visual.
- Modernist and postmodern aesthetics
- Sister Arts
- *Ekphrastic* tension between verbal and visual representations
- Photographic Aesthetics and Film Techniques
- Avant-garde Aesthetics and Hollywood Entertainment
- Pictorialism and Iconicity
- Anxieties about the Power of Visual Culture
- New directions in the study of visual art, film, mass media and photography
- Maps, mapping and other forms of spatial representation
- The new Media: networks, blogs and digital narratives.

**Panel Proposals:** Submissions should include:

- A Panel title
- A brief description of the panel focus
- A short bio of the panel coordinator, and contact information

**We also encourage Full Panel Proposals:** Panel coordinators should submit a 200-word rationale for the panel as whole. For each contributor, please submit a 250-word abstract, a short bio, and contact information. Panels should include three papers.

**Talkshop Proposals:** as was agreed during the General Assembly, "pedagogic Talkshops" will also be welcome ("How to teach .../ How to approach..."). Rather than formal papers, this format allows for a more conversational presentation (of 3-4 people) of various teaching experiences or critical approaches to a common theme. Talkshop proposals should likewise include:

- A Talkshop title
- A brief description of the theme
- A short bio of the talkshop coordinator and of the other 2/3 discussants
- Contact information

We will also consider panels unrelated to the Conference theme.

**Please send Panel proposals** to Eulalia Piñero ([eulalia.pinero@uam.es](mailto:eulalia.pinero@uam.es)) and/or Viorica Patea ([vioricap@usal.es](mailto:vioricap@usal.es)) before **April 1, 2018**, using one of these forms available at [www.saasweb.org](http://www.saasweb.org): Panel Proposal-PDF or Panel Proposal – MS Word

Panel coordinators will be notified in early May 2018 as to whether panels have been accepted or not.

**Please direct all questions about the conference and the submission process to:** Eulalia Piñero ([eulalia.pinero@uam.es](mailto:eulalia.pinero@uam.es)) and/or Viorica Patea ([vioricap@usal.es](mailto:vioricap@usal.es))

For up-to-date conference details, find us at the SAAS website (<http://www.saasweb.org>) and our Conference Website.



### **CALL FOR SEMINAR PARTICIPATION**

**Understanding America in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Culture and Politics**

**Convened by the Salzburg Seminar American Studies Association  
Salzburg Global Seminar, Schloss Leopoldskron, Salzburg, Austria**

**Friday, September 21 – Tuesday, September 25, 2018**

#### **Overview**

Ever since Salzburg Global Seminar was founded in 1947 as the Salzburg Seminar in American Studies, critical dialogue about American history, literature, cultural institutions, politics, economics and law has played a vital role in our organization's development and legacy.

The annual symposia convened by the Salzburg Seminar American Studies Association focus on topical questions and issues related to American culture and society, in order to foster understanding of how these issues are influenced by, and affect, the world as a whole.

The multi-disciplinary symposium in 2018 will explore the sensitive intersect of culture and politics in America's rapidly changing landscape, building on the conclusions of the 2017 symposium on *Life and Justice in America: Implications of the New Administration*.

Our ultimate purpose is to foster greater understanding of how the lives of individuals and communities in 21st century America are being reshaped as a result of current social, political and cultural forces as well as America's changing role in world affairs.

Participants will examine factors related to leadership, gender, race and ethnicity changes in America, transformations in media and digital communication, the decline of trust in political and cultural institutions, the direction and polarizing significance of popular culture and the arts in understanding America, and the implications of the above for the future of American Studies abroad.

### **Program Format**

The four-day session will be a highly participatory and outcome-oriented program, held at Schloss Leopoldskron, the historic home of Salzburg Global Seminar. Daily thematic presentations by distinguished speakers will be followed by moderated plenary discussions, as well as panels and café discussion groups on topical issues to maximize cross-sector interaction with participants. Afternoon sessions will include small thematic working groups, providing multiple opportunities for all participants to share their knowledge and expertise on equal terms and to build new alliances and research projects.

Participants will analyze the likely directions of changes in America over the next decade, drawing on their observation of developments since the 2016 election as well as political trends leading up to the mid-term elections of 2018.

### **Participant Profile**

Salzburg Seminar American Studies Association (SSASA) symposia are intended to connect scholars and professional leaders from around the world to build collaborative networks for research and critical debate. The 2018 meeting - the 16th SSASA symposium - will bring together approximately 40 participants from more than 25 countries. In addition to public and private sector professionals, participants will include academics teaching about the United States in universities across Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Central, Eastern and Western Europe, as well as the United States. We will actively encourage participation by Americanists, political scientists and cultural professionals interested in the future direction of American culture.

### **Key Questions**

Issues to be addressed during the symposium will include:

1. Why is America so hard to understand?
2. In what way are increased social, political and cultural tensions a product of demographic shifts, changes in leadership, or issues of gender, race relations, the politization of immigration, and crime and punishment and judicial fairness in the U.S.?
3. What explains the loss of trust that America is currently experiencing and what are the implications for the future?
4. What are the most dynamic factors, specifically including the distribution of wealth and educational opportunity, that are contributing to the polarizing of society and politics?
5. To what degree does an analysis of popular culture and cultural institutions, such as political, economic, educational, and the arts foster an understanding of America?
6. To what extent does American populism and nationalism differ from that presently being experienced elsewhere?
7. In what way and manner has the expectation and conduct of political leadership changed in the 21st century?

**Program Goals**

- The session’s primary goal is to foster intellectual analysis and discussion between professionals and academics about the factors shaping the future of personal life and communities in America.
- Participants will gain a better understanding of the complexity of domestic and international forces impacting and driving America in the 21st century, to enrich their teaching, research and practice.

**Session Chairs:**

Christopher Bigsby, Director, The Arthur Miller Institute, University of East Anglia, UK  
Ronald Clifton, Retired Counselor, Senior Foreign Service of the United States; Associate Vice President (ret.), Stetson University.

**Speakers will include:**

Christopher Bigsby, Director, The Arthur Miller Institute, University of East Anglia, UK  
Tricia Rose, Chancellor’s Professor of Africana Studies and Director of the Center for Study of Race and Ethnicity in America, Brown University.  
Charlie Savage (invited), Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and Washington correspondent to the New York Times  
Victoria Zhuravleva, Professor of American History and International Relations; Director of the Program on American Studies; Vice-Dean, Faculty of International Relations, Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow.

For more information about the program, contact Symposium Director Ms. Marty Gecek [mgecek@SalzburgGlobal.org](mailto:mgecek@SalzburgGlobal.org)  
The symposium website and a registration form can be accessed at [www.SalzburgGlobal.org/go/ssasa16](http://www.SalzburgGlobal.org/go/ssasa16)

Information on designated speakers will be posted there as soon as they are confirmed.

Limited financial aid is available towards the symposium fee of 740 Euro (which includes all expenses in Salzburg, but not travel). One full scholarship will be awarded through the Emory Elliott Scholarship fund, and one through the Clifton Scholarship Fund.



## **HELAAS List serv**

The HELAAS List-serv consists of an electronic mail discussion list and a related network site on the World Wide Web.

Please use this list for the discussion of virtually anything pertaining to the broad range of American Studies.

Messages to be circulating in this List-serv will concern news about: teaching and research projects, works in process, announcements of conferences, jobs, grants, fellowships, internet resources, book reviews, syllabi exchanges etc.

Also, you are invited to use this List-serv as an e-forum where you could post questions/queries or host debates over academic issues relating to American Studies.

An archive of all previously posted messages on the List-serv will be kept. All messages will be sorted by date or subject (eg. Women studies, cultural studies, teaching of American literature, etc).

Given that the HELAAS List-serv will be a semi-public e-forum, the list's editors, managers, advisory board and the association itself bear no responsibility for messages forwarded to people outside the list without the initial contributor's prior consent.

We hope that you find this List-serv service useful and constructive.

**For any comments or suggestions, please contact:**

**Tatiani Rapatzikou (<[trapatz@enl.auth.gr](mailto:trapatz@enl.auth.gr)>)**

**Despoina Feleki (<[dfeleki@enl.auth.gr](mailto:dfeleki@enl.auth.gr)>)**



## **HELAAS SUBSCRIPTIONS**

**\*\*Your 2018 Fee is now due\*\***

You are kindly requested to update your **HELAAS Membership Fee** for **2018**.

**Please do get in touch with the HELAAS Treasurer for any further inquiries:**

The fee amounts to **15 Euros** per annum for students or **20 Euros** per annum for regular members. If you are a student, please verify your status by sending us a photocopy of your Student ID (Fax: 2310-997432 or Email: [kblatanis@enl.uoa.gr](mailto:kblatanis@enl.uoa.gr)).

Your HELAAS membership fee entitles you to:

- renew your subscription to EAAS
- apply for the EAAS grants (as advertised at [www.eaas.eu](http://www.eaas.eu))
- participate in all EAAS conferences
- advertise your American Studies publications at the EAAS Book Reviews section

Your membership fee also:

- helps HELAAS cover its organizational expenses (Newsletter, webpage support)
- enables HELAAS to organize events (symposia and conferences)
- supports HELAAS publications
- enables you to participate in HELAAS elections
- enables you to participate in all HELAAS conferences with a reduced fee

Please note our new bank account details for the HELAAS 2017 and HELAAS 2018 subscription fee:

PIRAEUS BANK, Account Number: 5272-056406-113

BIC: PIRBGRAA

IBAN: GR28 0172 2720 0052 7205 6406 113

**PLEASE NOTE YOUR NAME WHEN YOU MAKE YOUR BANK DEPOSIT OR DO EMAIL/FAX YOUR DEPOSIT SLIP TO THE TREASURER.**

We would also like to inform you that it is possible to download the membership form posted on the HELAAS web site

<[http://www.enl.auth.gr/HELAAS/registration\\_form\\_HELAAS.doc](http://www.enl.auth.gr/HELAAS/registration_form_HELAAS.doc)>





*Edward Willis Redfield, "Early Spring" (1920)*  
(<https://gr.pinterest.com/pin/426786502174469651/>)

*"Dear March - Come in -  
How glad I am -  
I hoped for you before -  
Put down your Hat -  
You must have walked -  
How out of Breath you are - ..."*

*(Emily Dickinson, "Dear March – Come in –")*

