



UAI - Union Académique Internationale  
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## Report of project 66: Comparative History of Literatures in European Languages

Dear Members of UAI.

As requested, I send you a report on Project 66: CHLEL, Coordinating Committee for Comparative History of Literatures in European Languages for the year of 2018.

CHLEL is in a very prolific period of development. Below you will find a text of presentation, including recent publications and new projects. At the end of the letter, you will find our URLs and an overview over members and projects.

At the end, we also kindly ask for continued economic support of the prestigious series of literary histories of CHLEL. This economic support is essential to support the translation of contributions. To secure geographical and national diversity, we include contributions from countries all over the world.

### Text of presentation

The main aim of the committee is to coordinate the publication of comparative, collaborative and experimental literary histories. We have four sub-series: a geographical, a period-oriented, a topic-oriented, and a problem-series. Books in the first three series typically include 2-4 volumes, books in the last one include one volume that focuses on one selected literary historiographical problem.

Criteria for acceptance of a project within any of our series is high level academic quality, that the book contains a genuine new approach to a specific area of literary history and that it builds on a comparative methodology. All volumes are published with John Benjamins. We are committed to publish at least one volume each year. As the title of the committee hints we focus on literatures in European languages, inside Europe and in the world.

**This year we will hand in two manuscripts:**

### Comparative Literature

**Karen-Margrethe Simonsen**  
Associate Prof., Director of  
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*Transculture: Contemporary Literature and Migration in Europe*. Vol. 1. Eds. Fridrun Rinner, Myriam Gieser, Jeanne E. Glesener, Franca Sinopoli, Sandra Vlasta and Helga Mitterbauer. This manuscript will be handed in within the next couple of months.

*Nordic Literature. A Comparative History, Vol. 2. Figural Modes*. Eds. Steven P. Sondrup, Mark B. Snabderg, Thoams A. DuBois and Dan Ringgaard.

**We have the following ongoing projects:**

- *Landscapes of Realism. Rethinking Literary Realism(s) in Global Comparative Perspective*. Principal editors, Dirk Göttsche, Margaret Higonnet, Svend Erik Larsen and Robert Weninger. Proposed publication dates: Vol. 1: 2020, Vol. 2: 2021.

- *Latin Literatures in Medieval and Early Modern Times inside and outside Europe*, Ed. Francesco Stella, that focuses on 1000 years of Latin 'cosmopolitan' culture in Europe. Proposed publication date: 2020 or 2021.

- *A Comparative Literary History of Modern Slavery*. Eds. Madeleine Dobie, Mads Anders Baggesgaard and Karen-Margrethe Simonsen. Vol. 1: *Slavery, Emotions and Literature* is expected to be published 2020. Two other volumes on Slavery and Memory and Slavery and Literary Culture are planned for later publication.

- *A literary history of Writing Processes*, ed. Dirk van Hulle.

- *A Comparative Intermedial History of the Baroque Age*. Eds. Massimo Fusillo and Helga Mitterbauer.

- *Nordic Literature. A Comparative History, Vol. 3. Temporal Modes*. Eds. Steven P. Sondrup, Mark B. Sandberg, Thomas A. DuBois and Dan Ringgaard.

We have an increased focus on literatures in European languages outside of Europe for instance in Africa and Latin America, an increased focus on the interactions between literature in Europe and literature outside of Europe and on the understanding of European literature seen in light of the consequences of globalization, migration and transcultural influences. We also have a strong focus on the literary object, its redefinition in a new digital era, its old and new media forms, and relations to other aesthetic art forms and literature's relation to literary culture.

In CHLEL we have members from 16 universities in Europe and America. We have one meeting every year in changing locations. This year we are having our meeting in connection with the XXII Congress of ICLA; Macau, China. We are hosting a session on *Time and Difference in Comparative World Literary History*. (Chairs Haun Saussy (Chicago University) and Karen-Margrethe Simonsen (Aarhus University))

**URLs**

**General website:**



<https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/projects/chlel/>

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**Website of Publications at John Benjamins:**

<https://benjamins.com/catalog/chlel>

**MEMBERS OF CHLEL (as of January 2019)**

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As mentioned, CHLEL is in a very productive period. We would like to thank U.A.I. most sincerely for your past support.

### **SUPPORT**

We kindly apply for support for the two upcoming years. We ask for 1500 EURO for year 2019 and 1500 EURO for year 2020. As mentioned at the beginning of this letter, the money is essential to secure translations or language revision of articles for the volumes.

Please let me know if you have questions or doubts. If you need a separate application, let me know.

Kind regards

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Associate Professor of Comparative Literature  
Director of the PhD Programme for Art, Literature and Cultural Studies  
Aarhus University  
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