

**Report of
the Coordinating Committee for
the Comparative History of Literatures in European Languages (CHLEL)
2021/22
For ICLA-meeting, Tbilisi, 23 July 2022
By President Helga Mitterbauer**

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

Information about publications, John Benjamins: <https://www.benjamins.com/#catalog/books/chlel/volumes>

About CHLEL

The main aim of the committee is to coordinate the publication of comparative, collaborative, and experimental literary histories. In the past year, we specified the profile of the series and have now divided it into four sub-series: a geographical, a period-oriented, a topic-oriented, and a problem-based sub-series. Projects in the first three series typically include 2-4 volumes, projects in the fourth sub-series have one volume focusing on a selected literary historiographical problem.

Criteria for acceptance of a project in one of our series is high level academic quality, a genuine new approach to a specific area of literary history, an international team of editors and contributors, and a comparative methodology. All volumes are published with John Benjamins.

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

At the moment, we have ten ongoing projects:

- *Latin Literatures in Medieval and Early Modern Times Inside and Outside Europe: A Millennium Heritage*, ed. by Francesco Stella
- *Nordic Literatures*, ed. by Steven Sondrup and Mark B. Sandberg
- *Trans-Culture: Literature and Migration in Europe since the 1950s*, ed. by Fridrun Rinner, Myriam Geiser, Jeanne Glesener, Helga Mitterbauer, Franca Sinopoli, Sandra Vlasta
- *Comparative Literary History of Modern Slavery*, ed. by Karen-Margrethe Simonsen, Mads Anders Baggesgaard, Madeleine Dobie
- *Toward a Comparative History of the Literary Draft in Europe*, ed. by Olga Beloborodova, Dirk van Hulle
- *A Comparative Intermedial History of Baroque*, ed. by Massimo Fusillo, Helga Mitterbauer

- *A Comparative History of Small and Minority Literatures in Europe*, ed. by Jeanne E. Glesener
- *Japonism and Post-Japonism in Literature: Nationally Coded Writing Beyond National Culture*, ed. by Ina Hein, Christine Ivanovic
- *Queer(ing) Literary Cultures? LGBTQ+ European Modern Literatures in Comparison*, ed. by Mateusz Chmurski, Clément Dessy
- *World Literature and the Anthropocene*, ed. by Florian Mussnug, Mads Rosendahl Thomsen, Jennifer Wenzel

Published volumes in 2022

- *Landscapes of Realism. Rethinking Literary Realism in Comparative Perspectives*, vol. 2: *Pathways through Realism*, ed. by Svend Erik Larsen, Steen Bille Jørgensen, Margaret R. Higonnet; John Benjamins, <https://benjamins.com/catalog/chlel.xxxiii>

Volumes in peer-review process by CHLEL

- *Latin Literatures in Medieval and Early Modern Times. Inside and Outside Europe. A Millennium Heritage*, ed. by Francesco Stella

We expect three manuscripts to be submitted for peer-review in 2022

- *Nordic Literatures: A Comparative History of Nordic Literary Cultures*, vol. 2, ed. by Steven P. Sondrup, Mark Sandberg
- *Trans-Culture: Literature and Migration in Europe since the 1950s*, ed. by Fridrun Rinner et al.
- *A Comparative Literary History of Modern Slavery*, vol. 1, ed. by Madeleine Dobie (main editor), Mads Anders Baggesgaard, Karen-Margrethe Simonsen

New Projects

At the business meeting 2021, three projects were proposed and accepted unanimously:

- *Japonism and Post-Japonism in Literature: Nationally Coded Writing Beyond National Culture*, ed. by Ina Hein, Christine Ivanovic, University of Vienna
- *Queer(ing) Literary Cultures? LGBTQ+ European Modern Literatures in Comparison*, ed. by Mateusz Chmurski, Clément Dessy
- *World Literature and the Anthropocene*, ed. by Florian Mussnug, Mads Rosendahl Thomsen, Jennifer Wenzel

Business meeting 2021 and Research seminar

Due to Covid, the CHLEL business meeting 2021 and the conference, which usually are connected, needed to be organized separately. The business meeting (originally planned for spring) was organized on 28 October 2021 via Zoom. A symposium dedicated to the memory of Patrizia Lombardo (1950-2019) on *Emotions, Memory and Media in Comparative Literature* needed to be postponed several times and was held on Friday 27 May 2022 at King's College London in collaboration with

the University of Nottingham's Department of Modern Languages and Cultures and the CHLEL committee. The main organizer was Dirk Götsche, Nottingham University, who was the project director of the CHLEL project *Landscapes of Realism*.

Business meeting 2022

The business meeting will take place in hybrid format on 28 July.

Election 2021

In Fall of 2021, a new committee has been elected. In accordance with our bylaws, the *comité-de-tri* (Mark Sandberg, University of California Berkeley [chair], Margaret-Anne Hutton, University of St. Andrews, and Vivian Liska, University of Antwerp) held two rounds of voting. Ten members of the committee were re-elected, and six new members joined CHLEL:

- Mateusz Chmurski, Sorbonne Université
- Anne Fastrup, University of Copenhagen
- Ben Hutchinson, University of Kent
- Benedikts Kalnačs, University of Latvia
- Atinati Mamatsashvili, Ilia State University (Georgia)
- Gesine Müller, University of Cologne

With these new members, the CHLEL committee offers a wide range of expertise and can well support our projects.

Grants

In 2021, we applied for extra funding from The General Assembly of UAI (Union académique internationale) and received a grant totaling 1,500 euros for the period 2022-2023 to be spent on language reviewing and copy-editing.

Financial support by the ICLA

ICLA has previously supported all necessary language revisions of volumes published via CHLEL with 2000 euros per volume. We don't ask for this support from ICLA this year, but we hope to be able to turn to ICLA again in the future. Regarding the financial support that our projects received in the previous year, the question has arisen as to whether this money may be used towards securing open access for our publications. Benjamins offers open access for about 8,000 euros/volume, which is very difficult to obtain from the usual funding agencies. So far, the support by ICLA has been used for translations, proof-reading, copy-editing, and reviews.

MEMBERS OF CHLEL (2022-2024)

OFFICERS

President: Prof. **Helga Mitterbauer**, Chaire de Littérature allemande, Département de Langues et Lettres, Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Belgium, helga.mitterbauer@ulb.ac.be

Vice-President: Prof. **Dirk Van Hulle**, Department of Literature, University of Antwerp, Belgium, dirk.vanhulle@uantwerpen.be

Secretary: Prof. **Florian Mussnug**, Associate Professor in Italian and Comparative Literature, Director, UCL Comparative Literature Programme, School of European Languages, Culture and Society UCL, London, United Kingdom, f.mussnug@ucl.ac.uk

Treasurer: Prof. **Stefan Helgesson**, Professor of English Literary Studies, Department of English, Stockholm University, Sweden, stefan.helgesson@english.su.se

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Prof. **Susana Isabel Arsénio Nunes Costa Araújo**, FCT Senior Researcher with teaching and management responsibilities, CEC, Faculty of Letters, University of Lisbon, Portugal, s.i.a.araujo@gmail.com

Prof. **Mateusz Chmurski**, Associate Professor (MCF), Département de polonais, UFR d'Études slaves, Faculté des Lettres, Sorbonne Université, Paris, France, mateusz.chmurski@sorbonne-universite.fr

Prof. **Santanu Das**, Professor of Modern Literature and Culture and Senior Research Fellow at All Souls College, Oxford, United Kingdom, santanu.das@kcl.ac.uk

Prof. **Anne Fastrup**, Associate Professor, Department of Arts and Cultural Studies, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, fastrup@hum.ku.dk

Prof. **Massimo Fusillo**, Literary Criticism and Comparative Literature, Università de l'Aquila, Italy, massimo.fusillo@gmail.com

Prof. **Jeanne E. Glesener**, Associate Professor for Luxembourgish Literatures at the Institute of Luxembourgish Linguistics, Head of the Institute of Luxembourgish Language and Literature, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg, Jeanne.glesener@uni.lu

Prof. **Ben Hutchinson**, Professor of European Literature, Division of Arts & Humanities, University of Kent, United Kingdom, b.hutchinson@kent.ac.uk

Benedikts Kalnačs, Senior Researcher, Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art, University of Latvia, Riga, Latvia, benedikts.kalnacs@lulfmi.lv

Prof. **Atinati Mamatsashvili**, Professor in Comparative Literature, Institute of Comparative Literature, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Ilia State University, Tbilisi, Georgia, tina_mamatsashvili@iliauni.edu.ge

Prof. **Paulo de Medeiros**, Professor of Modern and Contemporary World Literature, Department of English and Comparative Literary Studies, University of Warwick, United Kingdom, P.de-Medeiros@warwick.ac.uk

Prof. **Gesine Müller**, Department of Romance Studies, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Cologne, Germany, gesine.mueller@uni-koeln.de

Prof. **Birgit Neumann**, Chair of Anglophone Literatures and Literary Translation, University of Düsseldorf, Germany, Birgit.Neumann@uni-duesseldorf.de

PROJECT DIRECTORS AND ASSOCIATED EDITORS

Latin Literatures in Medieval and Early Modern Times Inside and Outside Europe: A Millennium Heritage, Francesco Stella, Università degli Studi di Siena, Dipartimento di Filologia e Critica delle letterature antiche e modern, Siena, Italy, francesco.stella@unisi.it

Nordic Literatures, Steven Sondrup, Dept. of Comparative Literature, Brigham Young University, USA, sondrup@byu.edu, steven.sondrup@gmail.com; Mark Sandberg, Film Studies, University of California, Berkeley, USA, sandberg@berkeley.edu

Trans-Culture: Literature and Migration since the 1950s, Fridrun Rinner, Comparative Literature, Aix-Marseille Université, France, fridrun.rinner@gmail.com; Myriam Geiser, Département d'allemand, Université de Grenoble, France, myriam.geiser@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr; Jeanne E. Glesener, Université du Luxembourg, Luxembourg, jeanne.glesener@uni.lu; Helga Mitterbauer, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium, helga.mitterbauer@ulb.ac.be; Franca Sinopoli, Dipartimento di Italinistica e Spettacolo, « La Sapienza », University of Rome, Italy, franca.sinopoli@uniroma1.it; Sandra Vlasta, Gutenberg-Institut für Weltliteratur und schriftorientierte Medien, Allgemeine und Vergleichende Literaturwissenschaft, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Germany, savlasta@uni-mainz.de

A Comparative Literary History of Modern Slavery, Karen-Margrethe Simonsen, Aarhus University, Denmark, litkms@cc.au.dk, Madeleine Dobie, Columbia University, USA, mld2027@columbia.edu, Mads Anders Baggesgaard, Aarhus University, Denmark, litmab@cc.au.dk

Toward a Comparative History of the Literary Draft in Europe, Dirk van Hulle, University of Antwerp, Belgium dirk.vanhulle@uantwerpen.be, Olga Beloborodova, University of Antwerp, Belgium, olga.beloborodova@uantwerpen.be

A Comparative Intermedial History of Baroque, Massimo Fusillo, University of L'Aquila, Italy, massimo.fusillo@gmail.com, and Helga Mitterbauer, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium, helga.mitterbauer@ulb.ac.be

A Comparative History of Small and Minority Literatures in Europe, Jeanne E. Glesener, Université du Luxembourg, Luxembourg, jeanne.glesener@uni.lu

Japonism and Post-Japonism in Literature: Nationally Coded Writing Beyond National Culture, Ina Hein, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Vienna, Austria, ina.hein@univie.ac.at, Christine Ivanovic, Department of European and Comparative Literature and Linguistics, University of Vienna, Austria, christine.ivanovic@univie.ac.at

Queer(ing) Literary Cultures? LGBTQ+ European Modern Literatures in Comparison, Mateusz Chmurski, Département de polonais, UFR d'Études slaves, Faculté des Lettres, Sorbonne Université, France, mateusz.chmurski@sorbonne-universite.fr and Clément Dessy, Département de Langues et Lettres, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium, clement.dessy@ulb.be

World Literature and the Anthropocene, Florian Mussgnug, University College London, United Kingdom, f.mussgnug@ucl.ac.uk, Mads Rosendahl Thomsen, Comparative Literature, Aarhus University, Denmark, madrsrt@cc.au.dk, Jennifer Wenzel, Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University, USA, jw2497@columbia.edu

Report on CHLEL respectfully submitted by Helga Mitterbauer, 27 June 2022