



**FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> December**

**9.00-9.30 Registration**

**9.30-9.45 Welcome**

**9.45-11.00**

**Panel 1 (Sitting Room): *Alternative realities, narrative, and race in the story of America***

Sonia Weiner (Tel Aviv University)

"The Direction of the Bizarre": Reimagining History in Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad*

Keren Omry (University of Haifa)

Racing Alternativity: Nisi Shawl, Colson Whitehead, and Ben Winters

Karen Hellekson (Independent Scholar)

*Underground Airlines*, Entropy, and Dehumanization

**Panel 2 (Seminar Room): *Latinx***

Macarena García-Avello (Universidad de Cantabria)

Transnational Borderlands in US Latina Literature

Ben V. Olguín (University of California, Santa Barbara)

Right-Wing Raza: Borderlands Aesthetics and Variable Latinx Ideologies in Latinx Paramilitary Life Writing in the Era of Trump

Anna Marta Marini (Instituto Franklin, Universidad de Alcalá de Henares)

Reconstructing the Trump Era through a Latino Perspective in *El Machete Illustrated*

**11.00-11.20 Tea & coffee**

**11.20 – 12.30**

**Panel 3 (Sitting Room): *Muslim and Arab American Writing***

Bernadette Andrea (University of California, Santa Barbara)

Crossing Borders and Initiating Dialogue: Sufi Journeying (*Safar*) in Fatema Mernissi's *Scheherezade Goes West: Different Cultures, Different Harems*

Maria Mothes (Universität Koblenz-Landau)

Writing the Antidote: Representations of Resistance by Muslim Writers in *Don't Panic, I'm Islamic* and *Banthology*

**Panel 4 (Seminar Room): *Media narratives, critique and political correctness***

Alyn Euritt (Universität Leipzig)

"A mosquito trapped in amber": Podcasting's Time-Shifted Seriality in the Trump Era

Adam Duke (Universiteit Utrecht)

The Failure of Critique in the Novels of Don DeLillo

Sydney Forde (University at Buffalo and Brock University)

Compromised Freedom: US News Media's Fear of Anti-Semite Accusations

**12.30-13.15 Plenary 1 (Seminar Room): Aleksandar Hemon: Writing the Unimaginable**



**13.15-14.15 Lunch**

**14.15-15.30**

**Panel 5 (Sitting Room): Discourse**

Olga Thierbach-McLean (Independent Scholar)

"Build, Therefore, Your Own World" on "Alternative Facts": The American Tradition of Subjectivity from Emerson to Trump

Marcela Ganea (Artifex University of Bucharest)

American Exceptionalism in Donald Trump's *Crippled America*

Michelle Mihee Kim Gardner (University of California, Irvine)

*Fight Club* and the Appeal to the White, Male Imagination: A Sociopolitical Understanding of the Rise Above Movement (RAM)

**Panel 6 (Seminar Room): Race**

Mónica Fernández Jiménez (Universidad de Valladolid)

Alienation vs. Black Collective Consciousness in JM Holmes' *How Are You Going to Save Yourself* (2018)

Yesmina Khedhir (University of Debrecen)

"This is where my two stories come together": The Traumatic Memory of the Brother in Jesmyn Ward's *Men We Reaped* and *Sing, Unburied, Sing*

Iris HyunJin Hwang (Independent Scholar)

Effects of Negative Stereotypes about Black Women on Recent Representations of Black Motherhood in Young Adult Literature

**15.30-16.00 Tea & coffee**

**16.00-17.15**

**Panel 7 (Sitting Room): Narratives of resistance**

Sara Prieto (Universidad de Alicante)

Poetics of Resistance: Women Writers and the Intellectual Mobilization under the Trump Administration

Angela Mullis (Rutgers University)

Writing the Resistance: Claudia Rankine's Exploration of Whiteness in *The White Card*

Juanjo Bermúdez de Castro (Universitat de les Illes Balears)

Scriptwriters Confront Trump: Narrative Dissent in the Trump Era

**Panel 8 (Seminar Room): Revisiting History**

Elżbieta Horodyska (University of Warsaw)

A New Consciousness of Coexistence: Mobility and Settlement in Jim Harrison's Novels

Anna M. Brígido-Corachán (Universitat de València)

An American Sunrise: Land-Based Solidarity and Social Justice in 21st Century Native American Poetry

Méliné Kasparian (École Normale Supérieure de Lyon)

Autobiography as Resistance: Chicana Writers in the Era of Trump

**17.15-18.00 Plenary 2 (Seminar Room): Chris Beckett: Good Guys and Bad Guys: Thoughts from a Writer's Perspective**

**18.00-19.00 Wine Reception (Board Room)**



**SATURDAY 14<sup>th</sup> December**

**9.45-11.00**

**Panel 9 (Sitting Room): Dystopia and genre fiction**

Maria Eduarda Gil Vicente (Universidade de Coimbra)

Rereading Dystopias of the Twentieth Century in the Age of Trump: Frames of Reference to Understand the Present and Map Possible Futures

Martha Jane Nadel (Brooklyn College, CUNY)

Alternative Cities: Playing with Genre Fiction in the Age of Trump

Bettina Huber (Universität Passau)

A Story about Ruin: Female Terrorists, Environmental Damage, and Fake News Reports in Omar El Akkad's *American War*

**Panel 10 (Seminar Room): Representations of trauma and pain**

Martín Fernández Fernández (Universidade de Santiago de Compostela)

Traumatic Reverberations through the New American Realities: The Ghost of Emmet Till in Bernice L. McFadden's *Gathering of Waters*

Paula Barba Guerrero (Universidad de Salamanca)

Alternative Witnessing in the Post-Truth Era: Ethical Accountability in Colson Whitehead's *The Nickel Boys*

Anna Bendrat (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University)

Bodies without Organs: Metaphors of Pain in 21st-century American Literature

**11.00-11.25**    **Tea & coffee**

**11.25-12.15**

**Panel 11 (Sitting Room): Parody and satire**

Teresa Botelho (Universidade Nova de Lisboa)

How Do We Laugh about This? Literary Satire in "Trump Times"

Vanesa Roldán Romero (Universidad de Granada)

Parodying the Past to Subvert the Present in Jasper Fforde's Nextian Series

**Panel 12 (Seminar Room): Evangelical fictions**

S. Jonathon O'Donnell (University College Dublin)

"Their Diabolical Resolve": Demonology and Crisis in Contemporary America

Cat Ashton (Independent Scholar)

"One doesn't defer to process when dealing with the devil": Alternative Facts and Evangelical Fiction

**12.15-13.00**    **Plenary 3 (Seminar Room): Karen E. Bender: Fiction as Warning, Witness and Mirror: Reading from Stories in *The New Order***

**13.00-14.00**    **Lunch**



**14.00-15.15**

**Panel 13 (Sitting Room): Thinking about fiction**

Karen Armstrong (York University, Canada)

Intersections of Literature, Politics and Narrative in a Fake News World: *Huck Finn*, *Alice in Wonderland* and Hannah Arendt's Conception of the "New" Narrative

Dominik Steinhilber (Universität Mannheim)

Moral Fiction in a Post-Truth Age: Poststructuralism and the New Sincerity in American Literature and Right-Wing Politics

Robert Anthony Siegel (University of North Carolina Wilmington)

Empathy and Fiction in the Trump Era

**Panel 14 (Seminar Room): Readings on war and violence**

Mohammad Sadegh Najjarzadeha (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen)

The Theory of Mimetic Rivalry or the Way Girard Perceives Violence: An Essay on the Representation of Violence in the Genre of the American Southern Gothic

Justin Shaw (Université Sainte-Anne)

The Truth of Fiction and the Fiction of Truth: Novelizations and Memoirs of the War on Terror

Pascal Lemaire (Independent Scholar)

Techno-Thriller in the Age of Trump: A Reading in Radicalization

**15.15-15.45 Tea & coffee**

**15.45-17.15**

**Panel 15 (Sitting Room): Affect**

Katarzyna Paszkiewicz (Universitat de les Illes Balears)

"Tipped over, and still growing": Cinema, Affect and Alternative Realities in the Era of Trump

Spencer Morrison (Tel Aviv University)

The Affective Life of Anti-Globalization in Sunil Yapa's *Your Heart is a Muscle the Size of a Fist*

Tim Groenland (University College Cork)

"I'd get so constipated if I were you": Otessa Moshfegh's Intimate Disgust

**Panel 16 (Seminar Room): Ethnicity and Narrative Strategies**

Tom Meinderts (Universiteit Leiden)

Strategic Self-Orientalism

Vanesa Lado-Pazos (Universidade de Santiago de Compostela)

Sandra Cisneros's *Woman Hollering Creek*: Gender and Ethnicity in Contemporary America

Nasrin Babakhani (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen)

Magic from the Margins: Multiple Realisms in Leslie Marmon Silko's *Ceremony*

Laura Roldán-Sevillano (Universidad de Zaragoza)

From Postmodernism to Twenty-First Century Realism. Exploring the Response of Contemporary US Ethnic Women Writers to the New Paradigm Shift

17.15 Conference moves to the city centre

**18.30 Public Talk at the Museum of Literature (MoLi), 86 St. Stephen's Green (Newman House):**

***What to Read (and Write) in the Era of Trump?***

**Aleksandar Hemon, Chris Beckett, and Karen E. Bender in Conversation**

**19.45 Reception**