

Reading Bodies: Speaker Bios for ILCS workshop, 26 April

10.00 – 11.30 PANEL 1: Transnational and Decolonial Perspectives (Chair: Patricia Novillo-Corvalán)

Steven Wilson (Queen's University Belfast) - Incommunicable Disease: Colonial Biopolitics in Camus and Sartre

Steven Wilson is Senior Lecturer in French Studies at Queen's University Belfast. He is the author of *The Language of Disease: Writing Syphilis in Nineteenth-Century France* (Legenda, 2020) and co-editor of *The Languages of COVID-19: Translational and Multilingual Perspectives on Global Healthcare* (Routledge, 2022). He has also edited or co-edited seven special issues of modern languages journals on medical humanities-themed issues including autopathography, thanatology, care, and pain. In 2023, he published a 'Manifesto for a Multilingual Medical Humanities' as well as his first policy paper on the importance of languages in public health.

Rocío Rødtjer (Independent Scholar) - Aping Other Nations: Darwinism as British Colonial Degeneration in Nineteenth-Century Spanish Short Fiction

Rocío Rødtjer holds a PhD from King's College London, for which she was awarded an AHGBI-Spanish Embassy Doctoral Publication Prize. Recent publications include the monograph *Women and Nationhood in Restoration Spain 1874–1931: The State as Family* (2019), the co-authored survey 'The Gothic in Nineteenth-Century Spain' published in *The Cambridge History of the Gothic* (2020), and a chapter on liberal women and nationalism in the upcoming Palgrave *Nineteenth-Century Transnational Women Writers Handbook*. Her areas of research include gender and politics, as well as medical humanities for which she contributed to *Latin American and Iberian Perspectives on Literature and Medicine* (2015).

Natalia Santamaría Laorden (Ramapo College of New Jersey) - Indianos as the Healthy Alternative to Lead the Country in Spanish fin-de-siècle Literature

Natalia Santamaria Laorden is a Full Professor of Spanish at Ramapo College of New Jersey. Since she completed her doctoral dissertation at Harvard University, her articles have appeared in journals including *Decimonónica* and *Cuadernos Americanos*, as well as the volume *Decadence, Degeneration and the End* (Palgrave Mc Millan, 2014). She has also collaborated as a translator for *Asclepio*, the journal on the history of medicine and science of the Spanish National Research Council. She co-wrote the textbook *Spanish for Health Care and Human Services: An Interdisciplinary Approach for Intermediate and Advanced Speakers* (Cognella, 2022). Her latest publication combines the theoretical frameworks of narrative medicine and cultural agency to improve patients and doctors' interactions.

11.45-12.45 KEYNOTE (Chair: Katharine Murphy):

Patricia Novillo-Corvalán (University of Kent) - Feverish Cities: Modernity, Culture, and Yellow Fever in Barcelona and Buenos Aires

Patricia Novillo-Corvalán is Reader in Comparative Literature at the University of Kent. Her research is located at the intersections of modernist studies, comparative and world literature, and Latin American studies. She is the editor of the pioneering volume on *Latin American and Iberian Perspectives on Literature and Medicine* (Routledge, 2015). She has written monographs on Borges and Joyce and transnational modernism and is currently writing her third book, provisionally titled: *The View from the South: Latin American Modernism and the Southern Imagination*. Her special guest issue "The Magazine and World Literature" – co-edited with Francesca Orsini – came out in the *Journal of World Literature* in 2023.

14.00 – 15.30 PANEL 2: Gender and Ill-health in Literature and Film (Chair: Rocío Rødtjer):

Catherine Ramsey-Portolano (American University of Rome) - Nevrosi in Italian Cinema in the years of the Economic Boom

Catherine Ramsey-Portolano is Associate Professor and Director of the Italian Studies and Modern Languages Program at The American University of Rome. Her fields of research are gender studies, nineteenth- and twentieth-century Italian literature and Italian cinema. She has published extensively in these fields, including the volumes *Female Cultural Production in Modern Italy: Literature, Art and Intellectual History* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2023, co-edited with Sharon Hecker); *Nineteenth-Century Italian Women Writers and the Woman Question: The Case of Neera* (Routledge, 2020); *Performing Bodies: Female Illness in Italian Literature and Cinema 1860-1920* (Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2017).

Katharine Murphy (University of Exeter) – Mapping Neurasthenia in Spanish Fiction: Urban Exhaustion and the Literary Legacy of Baroja's Madrid Novels (1902-1911)

Katharine Murphy is an Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies and Comparative Literature in the Department of Languages, Cultures and Visual Studies, University of Exeter. She has published widely on interdisciplinary approaches to Spanish Modernism, and is the author of two books: *Bodies of Disorder: Gender and Degeneration in Baroja and Blasco Ibáñez* (Legenda, 2017) and *Re-reading Pío Baroja and English Literature* (Peter Lang, 2004). Katharine is an affiliate member of the Wellcome Centre for Cultures and Environments of Health, University of Exeter, and was awarded a UKRI Arts and Humanities Research Council Fellowship for 'Reading Bodies' (2023-2025).

Lorraine Ryan (University of Birmingham) - Mental Illness in Carmen Laforet's Nada

Lorraine Ryan is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Modern Languages at the University of Birmingham, UK. She has published extensively on cultural and collective memory in Spain, the representation of gender, and, most recently, immigration in cultural texts. She is the author of two monographs, *Memory and Spatiality in Postmillennial Spanish Narrative* and *Gender and Memory in the Postmillennial Novels of Almudena Grandes*, which were published by Routledge in 2014 and 2021 respectively.

15.45 – 17.15 PANEL 3: Narrating Illness (Chair: Ina Linge):

Annja Neumann (University of Cambridge) – The Afterlives of Dr Tulp: Illness Narrative Vs Medicine as Performance in German Cultures of the Long 20th Century and the Present Day

Annja Neumann is a Principal Artist-Researcher and Consultant at the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations in London. She also holds an Affiliated Lectureship in Digital Humanities at Cambridge University and a Senior Research Fellowship in German Studies and Medical Humanities at Magdalene College, Cambridge. Her books include *Durchkreuzte Zeit* (2013) and *Marionetten* (2018), a critical digital edition of Arthur Schnitzler's avant-garde puppet plays. She has also published widely on Viennese Modernism, particularly Arthur Schnitzler, medical spaces, digital medical storytelling and digital visual cultures. Her recent work explores the current re-staging of public and medical spaces and the afterlives of Rembrandt's *The Anatomy Lesson of Dr Nicolaes Tulp*.

Olivia Glaze (University of Exeter) – Lovesickness and Longing: The Unwell Female Body and Mind in Fernando Pessoa's Carta da Corcunda para o Serralheiro

Olivia Glaze is a gender and postimperial studies scholar with extensive experience teaching and researching Lusophone literatures, film, and photography. She was awarded her DPhil from the University of Oxford, where she has also worked as a Lecturer and Tutor. Her research interests span representations of illness, trauma, and disability; coloniality and the legacies of imperialism; and contemporary women's life-writing. Her scholarship is grounded in the gendered experiences of key periods of 21st-century history in the Portuguese-speaking world, namely: the *Estado Novo* dictatorship; the Portuguese Empire and Colonial War; and the decolonisation era in Lusophone Africa.

Kit Yee Wong (Independent Scholar) - Reading Illness as Myth in Émile Zola's Rougon-Macquart (1871–93)

Kit Yee Wong is a French Studies postdoctoral researcher, who received her PhD in 2018 on illness as myth in the novels of the nineteenth-century writer Émile Zola. During her Associate Research Fellowship at Birkbeck, University of London (2018–23), she organised the international symposium 'The Pathological Body from the Mid-Nineteenth Century to the Present: European Literary and Cultural Perspectives' (2019, London), and is editor of the accompanying open-access journal special issue at the *Open Library of Humanities*. She has published three articles on Zola, and was Associate Lecturer and Associate Tutor in both the French and English departments at Birkbeck, teaching on the novel, poetry, and critical theory.