INTERNATIONAL COMPARATIVE LITERATURE ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DE LITTÉRATURE COMPARÉE

Please find below the latest information on the AILC-ICLA and news from its community.

For any announcement you would like us to include in our next newsletter, please email us at administrator@ailc-icla.org.
Please note the word limit of 100-150 words for items that have a weblink to which readers can be referred and the word limit of 200-250 words if there is no link with further information.

A Message from our President

Dear readers, fellow members of the AILC-ICLA,

Please allow me to begin this message by expressing gratitude and appreciation, on behalf of us all, to the President and the Executive Council of 2022-2025, who have brought the AILC-ICLA to this maqam.

Many readers of these words will know the implications of the word "maqam" from its travel across the world – this reflects the current state of our association, thanks to the hard work undertaken by colleagues in the outgoing EC to connect comparatists; we hope to keep depending upon them, though they have threatened to walk off into the sunset. On your behalf, I would like to point out that they have themselves taken firm effective steps to making us a community that can effectively and ethically use the tools of virtuality. The newsletter is a result of this - it enables us to keep receiving messages from the sunset even in your absence - so thank you in anticipation !

… all of us readers will respond immediately to the familiarity or strangeness of the word "maqam", because as comparatists we are all connected by our ethical response to aesthetic plurality – a willing engagement with difference is the very basis of our discipline. So many many thanks again to our colleagues who are handing over their responsibilities, and to Anca Mihalache our administrator for making operational and initiating practices and processes to strengthen and facilitate such engagements with openness and flexibility. Our new website will be live within a month connecting distances and translating these qualities into virtual space.

We are grateful for this very valuable work which must be sustained in fresh directions.

This issue of the newsletter introduces the Executive Council, including the Chairs of Research Committees and Chairs of Administrative Committees, with whom it will be my privilege to serve the AILC-ICLA as President (2025-2028). A warm welcome also to Alice Duhan who has joined us as Editor of Recherche Littéraire/Literary Research; we welcome back Marc Maufort our outgoing Editor, in an advisory role : thank you Marc for turning our journal into a significant intellectual voice.

But this is our part of the story. For your part, dear readers, let us return to the word "maqam". Some of the meanings of the word are: a destination (to be) reached ; a specific musical mode originating in west Asia; a destination reached during performance. In Hindustani music,

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"maqam" denotes a combination of notes, verbal language, instrumental accompaniment and vocal ornamentation, i.e. *specific ways of rendition of particular notes. It is a commonly achieved destination towards which the singer and the accompanists travel. It is realised in willing, active participation.*

So may I invite you, dear readers, to participate in our collective reached-towards maqam by keeping us informed of your activities and your plans related to the practice and outreach of our discipline?

Looking forward to your help in enabling us to listen to the "international" conversations of comparative literature and sustaining them, organisationally and intellectually, across nations, associations and time-zones.

With warm wishes,

Ipshita Chanda
AILC-ICLA President 2025-2028

INTERNATIONAL COMPARATIVE LITERATURE ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DE LITTÉRATURE COMPARÉE

Veuillez trouver ci-dessous tous les renseignements sur l'AILC-ICLA et les actualités de sa communauté.

Pour toute annonce que vous souhaitez inclure dans notre prochaine newsletter, veuillez nous écrire à l'adresse administrator@ailc-icla.org. Veuillez prendre en considération une limite comprise entre 100 et 150 mots pour les soumissions comportant un lien Web vers lequel les lecteurs peuvent être dirigés et une limite comprise entre 200 et 250 mots lorsqu'il n'y a pas de lien vers des informations complémentaires disponibles en ligne.

Un message de notre présidente

Chères lectrices, chers lecteurs, chers membres de l'AILC-ICLA,

Permettez-moi de commencer ce message en exprimant, au nom de nous toutes et tous, notre gratitude et notre reconnaissance envers la Présidence et le Conseil exécutif 2022-2025, qui ont conduit l'AILC-ICLA jusqu'à ce maqâm.

…Beaucoup d'entre vous comprendront les implications du mot « maqâm », qui a voyagé à travers le monde et qui reflète l'état actuel de notre association, grâce au travail assidu des collègues du Conseil exécutif sortant qui ont œuvré à connecter les comparatistes. Nous espérons pouvoir continuer à compter sur eux, même s'ils menacent de s'éclipser vers d'autres horizons. Je tiens à souligner, en m'adressant à vous, qu'ils ont pris des mesures concrètes et efficaces pour faire de notre communauté une communauté capable d'utiliser, de manière éthique et efficace, les outils de la virtualité. La newsletter en est le fruit : elle nous permet de continuer à recevoir des messages du soleil couchant même en leur absence. Merci d'avance !

…Toutes et tous, nous réagirons immédiatement à la familiarité ou à l'étrangeté du mot « maqâm » car, en tant que comparatistes, nous sommes toutes et tous unis par notre réponse éthique à la pluralité esthétique — un engagement volontaire envers la différence est le fondement même de notre discipline.
Un immense merci encore à nos collègues qui transmettent leurs responsabilités, ainsi qu'à Anca Mihalache, notre administratrice, pour avoir mis en œuvre et initié des pratiques et des processus qui renforcent et facilitent ces formes d'engagement avec ouverture et flexibilité.

Notre nouveau site Web sera mis en ligne dans un mois, connectant les distances et traduisant ces qualités dans l'espace virtuel.

Nous sommes reconnaissants pour ce travail si précieux, qu'il nous faudra poursuivre dans de nouvelles directions.
Ce numéro de la newsletter présente le nouveau Conseil exécutif, y compris les président.es des comités de recherche et les président.es des comités administratifs, avec lesquels j'aurai le privilège de servir l'AILC-ICLA en tant que présidente (2025-2028).
Nous souhaitons également chaleureusement la bienvenue à Alice Duhan, qui nous rejoint en tant que rédactrice en chef de Recherche Littéraire/Literary Research *; et nous souhaitons la bienvenue à nouveau à Marc Maufort, notre ancien rédacteur en chef, qui endosse désormais un rôle consultatif : merci Marc d'avoir fait de notre revue une voix intellectuelle de premier plan.*

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Ce numéro de la newsletter présente le nouveau conseil exécutif, les président·es des comités de recherche et des comités administratifs, avec lesquels j'aurai le privilège de servir l'AILC-ICLA en tant que présidente (2025-2028).

Mais cela, c'est notre part de l'histoire. Revenons maintenant au mot « maqâm » pour vous, chères lectrices, chers lecteurs.
Parmi ses significations : une destination à atteindre ; un mode musical spécifique originaire d'Asie de l'Ouest ; ou encore une destination atteinte lors d'une performance.

En musique hindoustani, le terme « maqâm » désigne une combinaison de notes, de langage verbal, d'accompagnement instrumental et d'ornementation vocale, c'est-à-dire des manières spécifiques d'interpréter certaines notes. Il s'agit d'une destination fréquemment atteinte, vers laquelle le chanteur et les accompagnateurs se dirigent. Cette pratique se réalise dans une participation volontaire et active.

Puis-je donc vous inviter, chères lectrices et chers lecteurs, à participer à notre maqâm collectif en nous tenant informés de vos activités et de vos projets liés à la pratique et à la diffusion de notre discipline ?

Dans l'attente de votre aide pour nous permettre d'écouter les conversations « internationales » de la littérature comparée et de les faire vivre, à la fois sur le plan organisationnel et intellectuel, à travers les nations, les associations et les fuseaux horaires.

Avec mes chaleureuses salutations,

Ipshita Chanda
Présidente de l'AILC-ICLA, 2025-2028

AILC-ICLA Announcements / Annonces de l'AILC-ICLA

ICLA General Assembly 2025 Minutes Now Published

The minutes of the AILC-ICLA General Assembly, held on 31 July 2025 during the XXIV AILC-ICLA Congress in Seoul, are now available online. The document provides a record of the meeting's discussions and decisions.

You can read the full minutes here: https://www.ailc-icla.org/general-assembly/

Please see the full document for detailed updates on ICLA activities, financial reports, elections, and future plans.

Le Procès-verbal de l'Assemblée générale 2025 de l'AILC-ICLA est désormais disponible

Le procès-verbal de l'assemblée générale de l'AILC-ICLA, qui s'est tenue le 31 juillet 2025 lors du XXIVe Congrès de l'AILC-ICLA qui a eu lieu à Séoul, est désormais disponible en ligne. Ce document rend compte des discussions et des décisions prises au cours de la réunion.

Vous trouverez le procès-verbal complet ici : https://www.ailc-icla.org/fr/assemblee-generale/

N'hésitez pas à le consulter pour obtenir des informations détaillées sur les activités de l'AILC-ICLA, les rapports financiers, les élections et les projets à venir.

Watch the 2025 ICLA Congress General Assembly Online!

We're pleased to announce that the **General Assembly held at the 2025 ICLA Congress** is available to watch online!

For those who could not attend the Congress in person, the full session was streamed, and is still available, **on the Congress's official YouTube channel**: https://www.youtube.com/@2025ICLACongress

Regardez l'assemblée générale du congrès de l'AILC 2025 disponible en ligne !

Nous avons le plaisir d'annoncer que l'assemblée générale du congrès de l'AILC de 2025 est désormais disponible en ligne !
Pour celles et ceux qui n'ont pas pu assister au congrès en personne, la séance complète qui a été diffusée en direct est toujours disponible sur la chaîne officielle YouTube du congrès : https://www.youtube.com/@2025ICLACongress

Results of the AILC-ICLA Elections 2025

All Chairs of AILC-ICLA Standing Research Committees have been ratified.

All proposed amendments to the AILC-ICLA Statutes have been approved.

The following officers and members of the Executive Council for the term 2025-2028 have been elected:

PRESIDENT

Ipshita Chanda (English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, India)

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Anne Duprat (Université de Picardie Jules Verne, France) [First Vice-President]

Noriko Hiraishi (University of Tsukuba, Japan)

Helga Mitterbauer (Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium)

Haun Saussy (University of Chicago, USA)

SECRETARIES

Oana Fotache (University of Bucharest, Romania)

Zoé Schweitzer (Université Jean-Monnet, St Étienne, France)

TREASURERS

Europe-Africa-Middle East: Alexandra Lopes (UCP, Portugal)

Asia-Pacific: Yuriko Yamanaka (National Museum of Ethnology, Japan)

Americas: Gundela Hachmann (Louisiana State University, USA)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Megumi Arai (University of Tokyo, Japan)

Alexander Beecroft (University of South Carolina, USA)

Raul Calzoni (Università degli Studi di Bergamo)

Laura Cernat (KU Leuven, Belgium)

Sung-Won Cho (Seoul Women's University)

Adriana Crolla (Universidad Nacional del Litoral, Argentina)

Lobna Ismail (Cairo University)

Maria Esther Maciel (U of Minas Gerais, Brazil)

Kitty Millet (San Francisco State University, USA)

Irma Ratiani (Tbilisi State University, Georgia)

Matthew Reynolds (University of Oxford, UK)

Godwin Siundu (University of Nairobi, Kenya)

Fatiha Taib (Mohammed V University, Morocco)

Clotilde Thouret (Paris-Nanterre University)

Makoto Tokumori (University of Tokyo)

Ying Xiong (Shanghai Normal University, China)

Rita Wilson (Monash University, Australia)

Hui Zhang (Peking University)

Former President Lucia Boldrini (2022-25) was conferred the title of Honorary President.

Résultats des élections de l'AILC-ICLA 2025

Tou.te.s les président.e.s des comités de recherche permanents de l'AILC-ICLA ont été ratifié.e.s.

Toutes les modifications proposées aux Statuts de l'AILC-ICLA ont été approuvées.

Les membres suivants ont été élus comme membres du bureau et du Conseil exécutif pour le mandat 2025-2028 :

PRÉSIDENTE
Ipshita Chanda (English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, Inde)

VICE-PRÉSIDENT·E·S

Anne Duprat (Université de Picardie Jules Verne, France) [Première Vice-Présidente]

Noriko Hiraishi (Université de Tsukuba, Japon)

Helga Mitterbauer (Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgique)

Haun Saussy (University of Chicago, États-Unis)

SECRÉTAIRES

Oana Fotache (Université de Bucarest, Roumanie)

Zoé Schweitzer (Université Jean-Monnet, Saint-Étienne, France)

TRÉSORIÈR·E·S
Europe-Afrique-Moyen-Orient : Alexandra Lopes (UCP, Portugal)

Asie-Pacifique : Yuriko Yamanaka (Musée national d'ethnologie, Japon)

Amériques : Gundela Hachmann (Louisiana State University, États-Unis)

MEMBRES DU COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF

Megumi Arai (Université de Tokyo, Japon)

Alexander Beecroft (University of South Carolina, États-Unis)

Raul Calzoni (Università degli Studi di Bergamo, Italie)

Laura Cernat (KU Leuven, Belgique)

Sung-Won Cho (Seoul Women's University, Corée du Sud)

Adriana Crolla (Universidad Nacional del Litoral, Argentine)

Lobna Ismail (Université du Caire, Égypte)

Maria Esther Maciel (Université fédérale du Minas Gerais, Brésil)

Kitty Millet (San Francisco State University, États-Unis)

Irma Ratiani (Université d'État de Tbilissi, Géorgie)

Matthew Reynolds (University of Oxford, Royaume-Uni)

Godwin Siundu (Université de Nairobi, Kenya)

Fatiha Taib (Université Mohammed V, Maroc)

Clotilde Thouret (Université Paris-Nanterre, France)

Makoto Tokumori (Université de Tokyo, Japon)

Ying Xiong (Shanghai Normal University, Chine)

Rita Wilson (Université Monash, Australie)

Hui Zhang (Université de Pékin, Chine)

Lucia Boldrini, la présidente sortante (2022-2025), a été nommée présidente d'honneur.

Announcing the 25th Congress of the AILC-ICLA 2028 in Glasgow

The Executive Council (EC) that took place in July 2025 in Seoul analyzed three strong proposals for hosting the 2028 Congress: from the Universities of Rome, Glasgow, and Birmingham. The EC selected the University of Glasgow's bid.

The 25th Congress of the AILC-ICLA will take place in 2028, hosted by the University of Glasgow.

The congress will revolve around the theme: “Comparative Literature, Space and Place / L’espace et le lieu dans la littérature comparée ”

We look forward to welcoming you to Glasgow in 2028!

Annonce du 25e congrès de l’AILC-ICLA 2028 qui aura lieu à Glasgow

Réuni en juillet 2025 à Séoul, en Corée du Sud, le Comité Exécutif a examiné trois propositions solides pour l’organisation du congrès 2028, émanant des universités de Rome, de Glasgow et de Birmingham. C’est la candidature de l’Université de Glasgow qui a été retenue.

Le 25e congrès de l’AILC-ICLA se tiendra donc en 2028, accueilli par l’Université de Glasgow.

Le congrès portera sur le thème : « L’espace et le lieu dans la littérature comparée / Space and Place in Comparative Literature »

Nous nous réjouissons de vous accueillir à Glasgow en 2028 !

Collaboration between ICLA and UNESCO Memory of the World Programme

A formal cooperation agreement between the AILC-ICLA and the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme (MoW) was signed on 29 July 2025 within a Special Session of the XXIV International Seoul Congress.

The collaboration will focus on the international study of the intersections of documentary heritage (including the International Memory of the World Register) and literature, and on sharing knowledge to enhance international dialogue and mutual understanding. In particular, we have agreed to cooperate in the fields of:

Translations, to develop jointly a “Manifesto for Safeguarding the Memory of Translators and Translations”, and to reflect on various aspects in the field of the history of literature, documentary heritage, translations, and translators, including diasporic translators;

Lost Memory, through the participation in the Working Group of the MoW Sub-Committee on Education and Research (SCEaR), “Lost Memory: Research on the Reconstruction of Lost and Dispersed Libraries” (working title);

Metaphors of Memory, through events that will help develop understanding of the cultural contexts of Memory of the World;

International Memory of the World Register, with the ICLA providing or helping identify, when required, expertise in the evaluation of nominations for the International MoW Register that concern literature. The inscriptions of literary documents and collections into the Register can be objects of research.

Joint publications, including joint volumes or articles on comparative literature and documentary heritage in the SCEaR Newsletter;

Further fields of cooperation will continue to be explored.

More news will follow as the work starts. In the meantime, ICLA members interested in participating in any of these areas are invited to contact Lucia Boldrini (lucia.boldrini@outlook.com).

Watch the video of the Special Session "Memory of the World: A Cooperation between the ICLA and the UNESCO Documentary Heritage Programme" at the Seoul Congress.

Collaboration entre l'AILC-ICLA et le Programme Mémoire du monde de l'UNESCO

Un accord de coopération formel entre l'AILC-ICLA et le Programme Mémoire du monde de l'UNESCO a été signé le 29 juillet 2025, lors d'une session spéciale du XXIVe Congrès international de l'AILC-ICLA qui a eu lieu à Séoul.

Cette collaboration portera sur l'étude internationale des croisements entre le patrimoine documentaire (y compris le Registre international Mémoire du monde) et la littérature, ainsi que sur le partage de connaissances visant à renforcer le dialogue international et la compréhension mutuelle. En particulier, il a été convenu de coopérer dans les domaines suivants :

Les traductions, afin de développer conjointement un « Manifeste pour la sauvegarde de la mémoire des traducteurs.trices et des traductions » et de réfléchir aux divers aspects liés à l'histoire littéraire, au patrimoine documentaire, aux traductions et aux traducteurs.trices, y compris les traducteurs.trices diasporiques ;

Mémoire perdue, par la participation au groupe de travail du Sous-comité sur l'Éducation et la Recherche technique (SCEaR) du programme Mémoire du monde (Memory of the World Programme – MoW) intitulé « Mémoire perdue : recherche sur la reconstruction des bibliothèques perdues et dispersées » (titre provisoire) ;

Métaphores de la mémoire, à travers des événements visant à favoriser la compréhension des contextes culturels de la Mémoire du monde ;

Registre international de la Mémoire du monde – l'AILC-ICLA fournira ou aidera à mobiliser, lorsque cela sera nécessaire, l'expertise pour l'évaluation des inscriptions au Registre international de la Mémoire du monde concernant la littérature. L'inscription

de documents et collections littéraires dans le Registre pourra faire l'objet de recherches ;

Publications conjointes, y compris des volumes ou articles communs sur la littérature comparée et le patrimoine documentaire, notamment dans le bulletin du *SCEaR*.

D'autres domaines de coopération seront également explorés.

Des informations supplémentaires suivront au fur et à mesure que le projet sera mis en œuvre. Les membres de l'AILC-ICLA souhaitant participer à l'un de ces axes sont invités à contacter Lucia Boldrini (lucia.boldrini@outlook.com).

Nous vous invitons à regarder la vidéo de la session spéciale "Mémoire du monde : une coopération entre l'AILC-ICLA et le programme du patrimoine documentaire de l'UNESCO" qui a eu lieu durant le Congrès de Séoul de l'AILC-ICLA.

Announcing the Best Graduate Paper Prize Winners at the 24th Congress of the AILC-ICLA 2025 Congress

Congratulations to **Felicia Cucuta** from Harvard University, who presented the paper titled: "Care and Kinship: Staging the more-than-human in Canadian and Greenlandic theatre" and to **Song Huang** from University of Virginia, who presented the paper titled "From Jinjiang to the Global Stage: Reimagining Chuānyuè (time travel) as a Bridge Between Cultures, Genres, and Times", joint winners of the Best Graduate Paper at the 24th Congress of the AILC-ICLA who took place in Seoul, 28 July – 1 August 2025.

The best graduate paper presented at the NEXT-GEN panels, organised by the AILC-ICLA Committee for Early Career Researchers (ECARE) on the occasion of every International Congress of the AILC-ICLA wins an opportunity to publish a written version of their oral presentation in *Recherche Littéraire/Literary Research* and a prize of 250 USD.

Annonce des lauréats de la meilleure communication donnée par un.e doctorant.e lors du 24e Congrès de l'AILC-ICLA 2025

Félicitations à **Felicia Cucuta** de l'Université Harvard, qui a présenté la communication intitulée : « Care and Kinship: Staging the more-than-Human in Canadian and Greenlandic Theatre », ainsi qu'à **Song Huang** de l'université de Virginie, qui a présenté la communication « From Jinjiang to the Global Stage: Reimagining Chuānyuè (Time Travel) as a Bridge Between Cultures, Genres, and Times ».
Ils sont les lauréats ex æquo du **Prix de la meilleure communication donnée par un.e doctorant.e** lors du **24e Congrès de l'AILC-ICLA**, qui s'est tenu à **Séoul**, du **28 juillet au 1er août 2025**.

Le prix la meilleure communication donnée par un.e doctorant.e est décerné à l'occasion des panels **NEXT-GEN**, organisés par le **Comité des jeunes chercheurs de l'AILC-ICLA (ECARE)** à l'occasion de chaque congrès international. Ce prix offre aux lauréats l'opportunité de publier une version écrite de leur communication dans *Recherche Littéraire / Literary Research* et est accompagné d'une récompense de **250 USD**.

Announcement of the ICLA-AILC Annual Lecture

On 20 November 2025, 13:00–14:30 UTC, we are delighted to welcome Prof. Dr. Karina van Dalen-Oskam (Huygens Institute KNAW and University of Amsterdam), who will open our new series of ICLA Annual Lectures with a talk entitled *Perceptions of Literariness Across Borders*.

In this talk, Prof. van Dalen-Oskam will present insights from two groundbreaking projects: *The Riddle of Literary Quality* (2012–2020, Netherlands) and its successor *Novel Perceptions: Towards an Inclusive Canon* (2020–2022, United Kingdom).

Prof. van Dalen-Oskam is head of the Computational Literary Studies research group at the Huygens Institute (KNAW) and holds a special chair in Computational Literary Studies at the University of Amsterdam. Her research bridges quantitative and qualitative approaches to explore the stylistic features of contemporary novels.

We warmly invite all interested to join this lecture for a fascinating exploration of how readers, cultures, and languages shape the boundaries of literature.

Details about registration and the connection link will be shared later.

Annonce de la conférence annuelle de l'AILC-ICLA

Le 20 novembre 2025 (de 13h00 à 14h30 UTC), nous aurons le plaisir d'accueillir la professeure Karina van Dalen-Oskam (Institut Huygens KNAW et université d'Amsterdam), qui ouvrira notre nouvelle série de conférences annuelles de l'AILC-ICLA avec une conférence intitulée « Perceptions de la littérarité au-delà des frontières ».

Dans cette conférence, van Dalen-Oskam présentera les résultats de deux projets innovants : « L'énigme de la qualité littéraire » (2012-2020, Pays-Bas) et « Perceptions du roman : vers un canon inclusif » (2020-2022, Royaume-Uni), projet qui en constitue la prolongation.

La professeure van Dalen-Oskam dirige le groupe de recherche « Études littéraires computationnelles » à l'Institut Huygens (KNAW) et est titulaire d'une chaire spécialisée en études littéraires computationnelles à l'Université d'Amsterdam. Ses recherches

associent approches quantitatives et qualitatives pour explorer les caractéristiques stylistiques du roman contemporain. Nous invitons chaleureusement toutes les personnes intéressées à se joindre à cette conférence pour explorer les manières dont les lecteurs.trices, les cultures et les langues façonnent les frontières de la littérature.

Les détails concernant l'inscription et le lien de connexion seront communiqués ultérieurement.

News from the Research Committee on Religion, Ethics, and Literature of the AILC-ICLA

The Research Committee on Religion, Ethics, and Literature has proposed the seminar "Legacies of Literary Heresies" for the ACLA 2026 conference in Montreal.

To encourage committee members' research publications, Professor Kitty Millet edits a special issue of *Humanities* on "Comparative Jewish Literatures". There are currently 18 papers on review, 75% of which are by committee members.

Des nouvelles du comité de recherche sur la religion, l'éthique et la littérature de l'AILC-ICLA

Le comité de recherche sur la religion, l'éthique et la littérature a proposé le séminaire intitulé « Héritages des hérésies littéraires »lors de la conférence de l'ACLA 2026 qui aura lieu à Montréal.

Pour encourager les publications des membres du comité, Kitty Millet (professeure des universités) édite un numéro spécial de *Humanities* consacré aux « Littératures juives comparées ». 18 articles sont actuellement en cours d'évaluation, dont 75 % sont rédigés par des membres du comité.

The ICLA is seeking a new Chair and Officers for the Comparative African Literatures Research Committee

The ICLA is seeking a new Chair and Officers for its research committee (i.e., research group) on Comparative African Literatures. If you are interested in potentially taking on any of these roles, or simply in getting involved in this initiative, please write to Matthew Reynolds (Chair of the ICLA's Research Development Committee) at matthew.reynolds@ell.ox.ac.uk by 30 September, giving a brief account of your research and your vision for the committee. All relevant focuses and approaches are welcome; and if you have questions about the committee please feel free to ask them.

ICLA Research Committees are lively collaborative groups that address a research area or question. They benefit from the ICLA's structures and communications network, and can receive €1000 every three years for research expenses, together with further funding to support open access publication. They last for three years in the first instance (renewable) and can become permanent Standing Research Committees in due course.

L'AILC recherche un nouveau président / une nouvelle présidente et un bureau pour le Comité de recherche sur les littératures africaines comparées

L'AILC recherche un.e nouveau.elle président.e, ainsi qu'un nouveau bureau, pour son comité de recherche (groupe de recherche) sur les littératures africaines comparées. Si vous souhaitez assumer l'un de ces rôles ou simplement vous impliquer dans cette initiative, veuillez écrire à Matthew Reynolds (président du Comité de développement de la recherche de l'AILC) à l'adresse matthew.reynolds@ell.ox.ac.uk avant le 30 septembre 2025, en décrivant brièvement vos recherches et votre vision pour le comité. Toutes les approches et tous les axes pertinents sont les bienvenus ; n'hésitez pas à nous poser vos questions sur le comité.

Les comités de recherche de l'AILC sont des groupes collaboratifs dynamiques qui abordent un domaine ou une question de recherche. Ils bénéficient des structures et du réseau de communication de l'AILC et peuvent recevoir 1 000 € tous les trois ans pour des frais de recherche, ainsi qu'un financement complémentaire visant à soutenir la publication en libre accès. Leur durée initiale est de trois ans (renouvelable) et ils peuvent devenir des comités de recherche permanents le cas échéant.

Announcing the ICLA New Website

The new ICLA website will launch soon (we expect it to be in mid-September). Shortly after, our Member Associations will have access to their own pages, and will be able to directly update details of their officers, as well as advertise their events, prizes and grants, publications, etc. via the ICLA website. We will invite some of you to try out this system before it goes live for all Associations.

In the meantime, if you have upcoming events organised by your Association, please send us details so that we can already have them on the new website when it goes live.

Le nouveau site Web de l'AILC

Le nouveau site web de l'AILC sera lancé prochainement (nous prévoyons une mise en ligne à la mi-septembre). Peu après, nos associations membres auront accès à leurs propres pages et pourront directement mettre à jour les informations concernant leurs membres du bureau, ainsi que promouvoir leurs événements, prix et bourses,

publications, etc. via le site de l'AILC. Nous inviterons certains d'entre vous à tester ce système avant son lancement officiel pour toutes les associations.

En attendant, si votre association organise des événements à venir, merci de nous envoyer les détails afin que nous puissions déjà les intégrer sur le nouveau site lors de sa mise en ligne.

The AILC-ICLA thanks its Newsletter editorial group

The AILC-ICLA EC thanks Lucia Boldrini, Sayantan Dasgupta, Marina Grishkova, Véronique Porra and Fatiha Taib, members of the editorial group that helped re-establish, prepare and revise the Newsletter from 2024 to 2025, and welcomes the new editorial group.

L'AILC-ICLA remercie son groupe éditorial en charge de la Newsletter

L'AILC-ICLA remercie Lucia Boldrini, Sayantan Dasgupta, Marina Grishkova, Véronique Porra et Fatiha Taib, membres du groupe éditorial qui ont contribué à la réorganisation, à la préparation et à la révision de notre Newsletter de 2024 à 2025 et souhaite la bienvenue au nouveau groupe éditorial.

News from our members. Calls for Papers for Publications

Bureaucratic Modernism (edited volume): Call for Papers

Both modernist literature and modern bureaucracy reshaped how societies imagined authority, individuality, and the written word. Modernist authors not only depicted bureaucracy—they absorbed and transformed its textual forms, procedural rhythms, and rationalized aesthetics. This volume takes that convergence as its starting point, asking how the rise of administrative culture in the early twentieth century influenced modernist style, and how modernist experimentation in turn reframed the experience of bureaucracy.

Recent scholarship has explored the interplay between literature and bureaucracy across disciplines, from public administration studies to the anthropology of

bureaucracy (Wild 2006; Corngold & Wagner 2011; Sullivan 2013; Robinson 2019). Modernism has emerged as a particularly fertile site for this inquiry: writers such as Constantine P. Cavafy, T. S. Eliot, Lygia Fagundes Telles, Franz Kafka, Robert Musil, Flann O'Brien, Graciliano Ramos, Wallace Stevens, and Paul Valéry worked within bureaucratic institutions, making office work both a lived reality and a creative resource. Studies have traced themes of impersonality, repetition, and delay; examined bureaucratic genres such as reports and registers; and considered the ways administrative rationality shaped modernist form (Bishop 2016; Hentea 2022; Telfer 2023). Yet the field of "bureaucratic modernism" remains underexplored, especially in its transnational and non-Western dimensions, its formal innovations, and its mutual shaping of administrative culture and aesthetic practice.

This edited collection will be the first sustained comparative investigation of bureaucratic modernism across national traditions, administrative regimes, and literary forms. We seek to understand:

- How bureaucratic textuality and organizational culture influenced modernist aesthetics.
- How modernist techniques (fragmentation, circularity, deferral) resonate with bureaucratic forms of knowledge and control.
- How colonial, postcolonial, and global bureaucracies shaped—and were shaped by—modernist writing.

Please send a 250–500 word abstract and a brief bio (150–300 words) to bureaucraticmodernism@gmail.com by November 15, 2025.

Accepted contributors will be invited to submit essays of 6,000–8,000 words by June 1, 2026. Upon successful completion of the revisions following blind peer review, the edited volume will likely be published by De Gruyter Brill, who has already expressed an interest in the project.

For more information, please see the link: https://networks.h-net.org/group/announcements/20122806/bureaucratic-modernism-edited-volume

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Call for Papers: Literature in Eras of Conflict: Ideology and Ethics

Acta Litteraria Comparativa, the peer-reviewed, open-access journal of the Lithuanian Comparative Literature Association, invites submissions for Volume 11, dedicated to the theme Literature in Eras of Conflict: Ideology and Ethics. This issue seeks to explore the multifaceted relationship between literature, ideological structures, and ethical dilemmas in times of social, political, and cultural conflict.

The deadline for submissions has been extended to 15 September 2025.

Articles (4,000–6,000 words) must be submitted in English and should include an abstract (up to 300 words) and 4–8 keywords. Submissions should be sent to info@llla.lt. Please note that the quality of English will be taken into account during the review process. Full submission guidelines are available here: https://www.llla.lt/en/reikalavimai-publikacijoms

This volume will be published ahead of the Association's next biennial congress in 2026, to be held at the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore.

For more information, please see: https://www.llla.lt/en/post/call-for-papers-literature-in-eras-of-conflict-ideology-and-ethics

News from our Members. Events Announcements

"Dancing the Pluriverse" redux: (Indigenous) Performance as ontological praxis or anticolonial poiesis? A talk by María Regina Firmino-Castillo (University of California Riverside, USA), part of the Goldsmiths Centre for Comparative Literature's 'Body-thoughts': The CCL Postcolonial Dance Series, 2025.

Tuesday 28 October 2025, 6pm BST (online)

Attendance is free but booking will be essential to receive a link to attend.

Critically revisiting my 2016 article "Dancing the Pluriverse: Indigenous Performance as Ontological Praxis," I engage with the article's afterlives and exercise epistemological responsibility for its unintended consequences. Two interrelated phenomena compel this auto-critique: the incomplete turn toward decoloniality in dance and performance studies, and a postcoloniality that remains deferred through the near-global normalization of colonial violence, extractivism, and genocide as status-quo.

Tracing praxis to its origins in ancient Greece, where it denoted the political activity of an elite citizenry and was distinguished from poiesis—the corpo-material labor of non-citizens and the enslaved—I examine how this praxis/poiesis dichotomy continues to haunt our fields. When praxis is applied to dance as a signifier of worldmaking, yet divorced from the corpo-material (i.e., poietic) processes that underlie ontology, dance

risks becoming a mode of ontological extraction and annihilation cloaked in decolonial discourse.

The talk will be chaired by María Estrada Fuentes (Royal Holloway University of London, UK), and Arabella Stanger will be respondent.

For more information on this seminar: https://sites.gold.ac.uk/comparative-literature/dancing-the-pluriverse-redux-indigenous-performance-as-ontological-praxis-or-anticolonial-poiesis/

For more information on the series and to watch the video recordings of other seminars: https://sites.gold.ac.uk/comparative-literature/body-thoughts-the-ccl-postcolonial-dance-series-2025/

Expressionism and Colonialism. 25-26 September 2025 (in person)

Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU, UK

Institute of Languages, Cultures and Societies, School of Advanced Study, University of London, in association with the Centre for Comparative Literature at Goldsmiths, University of London

This conference is the first to focus on the historical and critical nexus between literary Expressionism and colonialism. Speakers from ten countries across three continents will re-examine the work of German-language writers and intellectuals including Kasimir Edschmid, Carl Einstein, Claire Goll, Franz Jung and Ernst Toller, offering thought-provoking new ideas about how we might re-contextualise the Expressionist movement and the transmission of Expressionist ideas across cultures. A hundred years after what many consider the end of the Expressionist period, the conference questions the ways in which colonialist ideas and practices have contributed to Expressionist constructs and visions of Exoticism, Primitivism, Africanism and Orientalism. What forms does the engagement with colonialism take in Expressionist literature – poems, fiction and drama; essays, manifestoes, travelogues, and translations? To what extent are the imagined societies, cultural geographies and figurative tropes we encounter in Expressionist literature shaped by or subverting colonial fantasies and discourses?

The conference includes a public lecture by Professor Anke Finger, supported by the Coffin Trust of the University of London.

Conference Organisers: Andreas Kramer (London) and Frank Krause (London)

Advance registration is required

For information, full programme and booking, see https://ilcs.sas.ac.uk/news-events/events/expressionism-colonialism

International Workshop. Greek Myths in Arabic Literature: Reception, Translation, Circulation, Re-Creation

Sapienza University of Rome – 6-8 November

- This workshop's first panel is held in collaboration with the Arabic Comparative Literature Standing Research Committee.

The workshop invites contributions that explore the phenomenon of the reception of Greek myths in Arabic literature, not only through the analysis of hitherto neglected works and writers, but above all through a reflection on the politics and aesthetics of their reception, translation, circulation, and re-creation. The workshop aims to stimulate debate on different types of texts, including poetry, staged or manuscript plays, fiction, translations, essays in the periodical press, encyclopaedic entries, school and university curricula, as well as in oral literature, music, cinema, and visual arts. The main focus is

modern and contemporary Arabic literary production (1800-today), but special sessions will be dedicated to the reception of Greek myths in premodern Arabic literature and in the literature in languages that have interacted with Arabic for a very long time.

Reports / Comptes rendus d'événements

July Events at Centre for Comparative Literature, Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati

The Centre for Comparative Literature, Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati organised the following events in July 2025:

- The Pre-PhD seminar of Smt. Mrittika Ghosh under the supervision of Dr. Soma Mukherjee, Centre for Comparative Literature, Visva-Bharati was held at CCL on July 14, 2025. Her thesis is titled “Contextualising the ‘Canon’ and ‘Periphery’: Historicising the Works of Select Nigerian Women Writers (1960–2020 C.E.)”.

- The open PhD Viva of Smt. Ishani Dutta under the supervision of Dr. Dheeman Bhattacharyya, Centre for Comparative Literature, Visva-Bharati and co-supervised by Prof. Kavita Lama, Sikkim University took place at CCL on July 21, 2025. Smt. Ishani Dutta's thesis is titled "Of Recitals and Performances: Reading New Modes of Representations in Contemporary Indian Nepali Poetry in the Darjeeling Hills and Sikkim (2000- 2022)".
- An Invited Lecture took place on July 22, 2025 where Dr. Samrat Sengupta, Associate Professor, Sidho-Kanho Birsha University delivered a talk on "Death and the Formation of the Marginalised Subject: Some Reflections of Necrohumanities".
- The July session of the ongoing monthly Carca lecture series was arranged on July 30, 2025. The speaker, Dr. Amartya Mukhopadhyay, Sangit Bhavana, Visva-Bharati delivered a lecture on"রবীন্দ্রনাটক অনুবাদ: পাঠশিল্প থেকে প্রয়োগশিল্প" [Rabindranatak Anubad: Pathshilpa theke Prayogshilpa].

Contributed by Ankana Bag, PhD student, Centre for Comparative Literature, Visva-Bharati

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Research Forum Series

The students of the Department of Comparative Literature and India Studies at the English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, have been organising Research Forums regularly. Since its inception in 2018, this student-led initiative has provided an academic space for dialogue, exchange, and critical reflection, bringing together scholars from diverse disciplines and research interests. In its most recent sessions, Dr. Sanjay Kumar from the Department of French and Francophone Studies, EFL University, spoke on "Cultural Nuances in Translation: Experience of Translating French Novels into Hindi" and Dr. Debaditya Bhattacharya from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, delivered a talk titled "Universities and the Public Humanities: A Contradiction in Terms?" The invited speakers for the forthcoming sessions include Dr. Hadeel Karkar from Scoula Normale Superiore di Pisa, who has already delivered a lecture titled "The Origins of the Palestine Genocide in the Settler Colonial Context" as part of her ongoing series on the Palestine Question, and Manoranjan Swain, Independent Scholar and Randall Sequeira, Solidarity Worker, who will discuss their work "Land Alienation in Tribal Kalahandi- A Participatory Applied Legal Approach". The Research Forum thus continues to strive in its efforts to offer a vital platform for fostering dialogue across borders, disciplines, and perspectives.

To watch the video recordings of the sessions: https://www.youtube.com/@NarratingDifference

News from our members. Recent publications

Le hasard: Littérature, arts, sciences, philosophie. CNRS Éditions, 2025

The volume exploring representations, images, and conceptualizations of chance in literature, art, philosophy, and science co-edited by Anne Duprat, Alison James, Anne-Gaëlle Weber and Fiona McIntosh-Varjabédian is now available online. The book brings together contributions by more than ninety researchers from different fields. It was prepared between 2020 and 2024 under the auspices of the Institut Universitaire de France and the Agence Nationale de la Recherche.

https://books.openedition.org/editionscnrs/89182

The Routledge Companion to Global Comparative Literature, ed. By Zhang Longxi and Omid Azadibougar. Routledge, 2025

The Routledge Companion to Global Comparative Literature is a collection of papers by influential scholars who are engaged in comparative literary studies and addresses a central and highly important question about the discipline: if Eurocentrism has been integral to comparative literature, and if the world we live in is undergoing radical changes, then how can, or should, the discipline change to overcome this problem, of the discipline as well as of literary history, to accommodate non-Western traditions? Addressing this significant matter and taking different approaches in response to the state of the discipline, the papers in this volume offer diverse ways of overcoming Eurocentrism: the role of institutions and the changes they need to undergo; possible ways of practicing a truly global comparative literature; the history of the discipline outside Europe; premodern histories of ideas and the non-European origins of modernity; translation, orientalism and area studies; publishing and literary circulation; and modern technologies and their impact on literary dissemination and the discipline. This collection assesses comparative literature at a timely historical moment and will broaden the field by addressing the students and scholars of comparative literary studies all over the world with significant hints for more inclusive histories of world literature.

https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/edit/10.4324/9781003276050/routledge-companion-global-comparative-literature-zhang-longxi-omid-azadibougar

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New Approaches to Transcodification: Literature, Arts and Media, co-ed. by M. Fusillo, D. Legge, M. Lino, M. Petricola, G. Rossini. De Gruyter, 2026 (Hardcover and OA e-Book)

This collection aims to renew our perspective on adaptation and intermedial processes by thinking of them in terms of codes rather than media. As a result, the notion of transcodification emerges as a crucial tool in order to study the circulation of semiotic and aesthetic resources across disciplines, knowledge systems, and cultures. Defined as the transfer of meaning-making potential from one semiotic domain to another, transcodification both includes and transcends intermediality, thus dramatically expanding the scope and research potential of adaptation and intermedial studies.
The essays collected here apply this framework to an incredibly wide variety of objects and issues, from the relationship between art and historiography to the visual culture of finance, from contemporary approaches to ekphrasis to the hidden labor of screenwriters, from modern surveillance to digital comics, from fansubbing to the reception of the classical world in the digital age, from medieval theater to the role of videogames in the "war on terror". By fostering dialogue between radically different disciplines, the book offers a unique approach to the study of semiotic interrelations across the most diverse aspects of human culture.

https://www.degruyterbrill.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783111636122/html

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Martin Premoli. *Global Fictions and Environmental Disaster: Imagining Survival on Our Changing Planet.* Bloomsbury Academic, 2025

Examining contemporary literary depictions of environmental disasters through a North–South axis, this book explores the resonances and dissonances between environmentalisms of marginalized communities in the U.S. and the global South.

Pairing anti-colonial texts from the United States with examples from the Global South, it interrogates the complexity of global precarity and particular forms of environmental violence. Each pairing is linked to a specific manifestation of environmental disaster, such as hurricane, drought, species extinction, and agricultural collapse.

Featuring texts from authors such as Jesmyn Ward, Monique Roffey, Paolo Bacigalupi, Alexis Wright, Linda Hogan, Henrietta Rose-Innes, Ruth Ozeki, and Sonora Jha, this book models how a comparative (global North-global South) approach to literary studies can help us untangle the complex power dynamics and differentials of the Anthropocene.

https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/global-fictions-and-environmental-disaster-9781350353152/

Christoph Strosetzki. *Literature in a Dialogue with the Natural Sciences*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2025

The thesis of the book is that in the early modern period, literature claimed precedence over the observation of nature. There were shifts through phases of temporary parity, the priority of natural sciences in the 19th century, and their critique by literature in the 20th century. These developments are presented in France and the Spanish-speaking world, while also considering Germany and England: While Montaigne, Pedro Mexía, Pérez de Oliva, Vives,

and Gracián prioritize literature, Pascal contrasts the "esprit de finesse" with the "esprit de géométrie," opening a controversy that Linnaeus and Buffon continue. Enlightenment thinkers like Voltaire orient themselves toward the English model, where Locke and Hume introduce empirical sciences whose advances Rousseau critiques. In the 19th century, Balzac and Pérez Galdós engage with the natural sciences, with Zola later looking to Darwin and Comte as role models. Finally, the aporias of scientific thinking are highlighted by Ortega y Gasset, Borges, and Sábato.

https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-662-71319-8

William Marx. *Libraries of the Mind.* Princeton UP, 2025

Erich Auerbach wrote his classic work *Mimesis*, a history of narrative from Homer to Proust, based largely on his memory of past reading. Having left his physical library behind when he fled to Istanbul to escape the Nazis, he was forced to rely on the invisible library of his mind. Each of us has such a library—if not as extensive as Auerbach's—even if we are unaware of it. In this erudite and provocative book, William Marx explores our invisible libraries—how we build them and how we should expand them.

Libraries, Marx tells us, are mental realities, and, conversely, our minds are libraries. We never read books apart from other texts. We take them from mental shelves filled with a variety of works that help us understand what we are reading. And yet the libraries in our mind are not always what they should be. The selection on our mental shelves—often referred to as canon, heritage, patrimony, or tradition—needs to be modified and expanded. Our intangible libraries should incorporate what Marx calls the dark matter of literature: the works that have been lost, that exist only in fragments, that have been repurposed by their authors, or were never written in the first place. Marx suggests methods for recovering this missing literature, but he also warns us that adding new titles to our libraries is not enough. We must also adopt a new attitude, one that honors the diversity and otherness of literary works. We must shed our preconceptions and build within ourselves a mental world library.

https://press.princeton.edu/books/hardcover/9780691267425/libraries-of-the-mind

Association Internationale de Littérature Comparée
International Comparative Literature Association

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Newsletter de l'AILC-ICLA, septembre 2025