



SEE Aging Graz 2025

Transforming Representations of Aging
in Southeast European Literature and Film

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

September 25–27, 2025
University of Graz

WALL building, Merangasse 70, 8010 Graz
Lecture hall 33.0.010 (ground floor)

CONFERENCE PROGRAM



VolkswagenStiftung



Funded by the Vice-Rector for Research, Research Careers Campus, Office of International Relations and the Research Network Heterogeneity and Cohesion of the University of Graz.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

08:45 – 09:15 **Registration**

09:15 – 09:45 **Opening Remarks**

09:45 – 10:30 **INTRODUCTION**

Chair: Kathleen Beger (Regensburg)

Transforming Representations of Aging in Southeast European Literature and Film

Dagmar Gramshammer-Hohl, Ulla Krieberegg & Tatjana Petzer

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 – 13:00 **Panel 1: AGING AND EDUCATION**

Chair: Ulla Krieberegg (Graz)

Transitional Narratives: Representations of Older People in a Macedonian School Children's Magazine (1951–2024)

Ilina Jakimovska (Skopje)

Aging Teachers Losing Status: European and "Other European" Trajectories

Andrea Virginás (Cluj-Napoca)

Allegorizing Age and Gender by Displaying Power: Aging Male Teachers and Sexual Abuse in *Mo* (2019) and *On the Quiet* (2019)

Boglárka Angéla Farkas (Cluj-Napoca)

Intergenerational and Power Relations in Post-Yugoslav Female Directors' Cinema: A Close Reading of *The Staffroom* (2021) by Sonja Tarokić

Asja Makarević (Frankfurt/Main)

13:00 – 14:30 *Lunch buffet (Cafeteria, ground floor)*

14:30 – 16:00 **Panel 2: AGING AND SOCIAL CHANGE**

Chair: Andi Balla (Regensburg)

Fatherlessness, Grandfather, and Grandmother:

The Role of Grandparents in the Time of Catastrophe

Davor Beganović (Münster)

The Trials of Aging: History, Narration, and Identity in Borislav Pekić's *Houses*

Ethem Mandić (Cetinje)

Farewell, Village: Aging the New Man in the Yugoslav 1960s

Ivan Rajković (Vienna)

16:00 – 16:30 *Coffee break*

16:30 – 18:00 **Panel 3: GENDER PERSPECTIVES ON AGING**

Chair: Dagmar Gramshammer-Hohl (Graz)

Aging and Madness in the Novel *Avala Is Falling* by Biljana Jovanović

Tatjana Rosić (Belgrade)

Aging and Invisibility: A Gender Approach to the Aging Body

Brigita Miloš (Rijeka)

Post-Yugoslav Literature's Coming of Age: Baba Yaga's Critical Mimicry

Mirela Dakić (Zagreb)

18:00 – 18:30 *Coffee break*

18:30 – 19:30 **AUTHOR READING with Slavenka Drakulić**

19:30 – 21:00 *Dinner buffet (Cafeteria, ground floor)*

09:00 – 10:30 **Panel 4: FRAMING AGING IN FILM**

Chair: Ivana Spirovska (Graz)

From Reactionaries to Guardians of Wisdom: The Representation of Older People in Albanian Socialist Cinema (1960s–1970s)

Inxhi Brisku (Sofia)

Portrayal of Aging in Albania's 1980s Films

Andi Balla (Regensburg)

Representations of Aging in Contemporary Bulgarian and Japanese Cinema

Stefania Gabrovska (Sofia)

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30

Panel 5: AGING AND SPACES OF MEMORY

Chair: Urša Marinšek (Graz)

Old Age as a Refuge: Memory and Time in the Works of Georgi Gospodinov

Isidora Belić (Novi Sad)

Aging in the Works of Slovene Émigré Writers in Argentina after World War II

Urh Ferlež (Graz)

The Literary Representation of Memory Loss and Dementia in the Context of Traumatic Experiences

Lisa Haibl (Innsbruck)

12:30 – 13:45

Lunch buffet

13:45 – 15:15

Panel 6: AGING AND TRADITION

Chair: Anna-Christina Kainradl (Graz)

Aging and Age in Ivo Andrić's Late Literary Works and Their Film Adaptations

Natalia Stagl Škaro (Dubrovnik)

Deconstructing Family Dynamics and Aging in Contemporary Bosnian Theater

Gala Naseva (Graz)

Literary Representations of Aging as Insular Time

Dagmar Gramshammer-Hohl (Graz)

15:15 – 15:45

Coffee break

15:45 – 17:15

Panel 7: AGING AND CARE

Chair: Attila Melegh (Budapest)

Place for Making Visual Stories: Representing Gender, the Aging Body, and Everyday Life in the Documentary Film *Abidance*

Marija Geiger Zeman, Mirela Holy & Zdenko Zeman (Zagreb)

Contemporary Slovenian Care Home Narratives

Urša Marinšek (Graz)

"Old Man and Stork": Caring Masculinity, Aging, and Everyday Labor for the Bird Welfare

Zdenko Zeman, Marija Geiger Zeman & Mirela Holy (Zagreb)

19:30 – 22:00

Conference dinner (Welscher Stub'n, Schmiedgasse 5–7, 8010 Graz)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

09:00 – 10:30 Panel 8: LIMINALITY AND QUEERNESS

Chair: Tatjana Petzer (Graz)

Liminal Bodies, Voice, and Transformation: Old Age and Tales About Intersectionality in Contemporary Croatian Film

Ingeborg Jandl-Konrad (Vienna)

Time's Countercurrent: The Affective Politics of Old Age in Bojan Krivokapić's *Spring Is on the Road* and *Villa Fazanka*

Slaven Crnić (Rijeka)

Images and Imaginations of Aging in Brane Mozetič's Poetry

Andreas Leben (Graz)

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 – 12:00 Panel 9: GOING BEYOND

Chair: Anita Prša (Graz)

The Aging of Myths in the Digital Era: The Example of the Invisible Power of the South Slavic Vila in the Age of Technology

Emilija Mančić (Belgrade)

Trans- and Posthuman Aging

Tatjana Petzer (Graz)

12:00 – 13:00 FINAL DISCUSSION

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

Dagmar Gramshammer-Hohl & Tatjana Petzer

Department of Slavic Studies, University of Graz

Ulla Kriebnernegg

Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Aging and Care (CIRAC), University of Graz

This conference is organized within the framework of the research project "Transforming Anxieties of Ageing in Southeastern Europe: Political, Social, and Cultural Narratives of Demographic Change," Volkswagen Foundation (2023–2027).



*By attending this event, you consent to the possibility of being photographed.
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