

The logo for the Federal Government of Austria (FWF) is displayed in a white box. It consists of the letters 'FWF' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

FWF

The logo for the University of Graz is displayed in a white box. It features the text 'UNI GRAZ' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with 'UNI' on the top line and 'GRAZ' on the bottom line.

UNI
GRAZ

The background of the poster is a complex, multi-layered artwork by Christopher Rivera. It features a collage of elements: a historical map of the Pacific Northwest (showing 'WASHINGTON' and 'OCEAN PROVINCE') in the upper left; a vibrant, abstract painting with splatters of red, orange, and purple, overlaid with dark, branching lines resembling veins or roots, covering the right side; and a dark, textured, and somewhat abstract composition in shades of green and blue on the lower left. The overall effect is one of layered history and organic growth.

The American Studies Department
University of Graz, Austria presents:

FORMS OF MIGRATION

May 2-3 2019

Literature. Performance. The World.

A grayscale version of the background artwork is shown at the bottom of the poster. It maintains the same collage elements as the top version: the historical map of the Pacific Northwest, the abstract painting with branching lines, and the dark, textured composition. The grayscale palette emphasizes the textures and structural elements of the artwork.

formsofmigration.uni-graz.at/en
original art by christopher rivera

**The American Studies Department
University of Graz, Austria**

in collaboration with

**the Wissenschaftsfond FWF
(Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen
Forschung)**

present

“Forms of Migration”

Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz, Austria

May 2-3, 2019

FWF 2019 Conference Schedule

Thursday 2 May

Rooms A and B in Palais Kottulinsky (Beethovenstrasse 9)*

09:00-09:30: Welcome (conference organizers), Room A

09:30-11:00: **Keynote 1 by Prof. Karen Tei Yamashita**, University of California, Santa Cruz, USA

“Invisible Planets”

Room A (SR 37.13), Palais Kottulinsky

Introduction by Prof. Silvia Schultermandl (Uni Graz)

11:00-11:30: Coffee Break

11:30-13:00: Panel Stream 1

13:00-14:00: Lunch Break

14:00-15:30: Panel Stream 2**

15:30-16:00: Coffee Break

16:00-17:30: **Keynote 2 by Prof. David Savran**, CUNY Graduate Center, USA

“The Globalization of the Broadway-Style Musical”

Room A (SR 37.13), Palais Kottulinsky

Introduction by Prof. Nassim Balestrini (Uni Graz)

Dinner on your own (see your registration packet for local suggestions)

* Room A: SR 37.13
Room B: SR 37.14

**please note that Panel 2b runs from 14:00-16:00

Friday 3 May

Rooms C and D in RESOWI-Center (Universitätsstraße 15)*

09:00-10:30: **Keynote 3 by Prof. J. Michael Martinez,**
“De/Visioning: Rendering a U.S. Latinx Futurity”

Room C (SZ 15.21), ReSoWi

Introduced by Dr. Jennifer A. Reimer (Uni Graz)

10:30-11:00: Coffee Break

11:00-12:30: Panel Stream 3

12:30-13:30: Lunch Break

13:00-15:00: Panel Stream 4

15:00-15:30: Coffee Break

15:30-17:00: Panel Stream 5

19:00: **Special Performance Event,**

featuring readings by J. Michael Martinez, Karen Tei Yamashita, and Gregory Carlock and Stefan Maneval.

Conference closing with conference organizers.

Location: Graz Kunstverein (Burggasse 4, 8010 Graz).

Free; open to the public; cash bar.

Saturday 4 May, 14:00-16:00, Hugo Wolf Gasse 10 / Apt. 45

Writing Workshop with J. Michael Martinez and Jennifer A. Reimer;

Bring: notebook, paper, something to write with and your creativity!

No experience necessary! **Sign up in advance required.**

For more info: jennifer.reimer@uni-graz.at

* Room C: SZ 15.21

Room D: SR 15.32

Information on Keynotes

Keynote Speakers

Karen Tei Yamashita: “Invisible Planets”

Italo Calvino, in 1972, published the luminous tale, *Invisible Cities*, a conversation between Marco Polo and Kublai Khan, in which Polo describes to the Khan some 55 cities in his great empire. Here Calvino ponders a moment of encounter of East and West at the intersections of the imagined place of Venice and the imagined time of the Renaissance. What transpires is a fable of our present/future, the cosmopolitan spaces of cities, trade, borders, culture, migration, alienation and exile. What I have contrived to do here is to extend this fable to imagine our invisible planets, and I've selected, for this talk, six travelers to interpret these planets. While four of the six travelers will likely be familiar to you, two may require some explanation.

Tupi or not Tupi, that is the question. In 1928, the Brazilian poet Oswald de Andrade made this declaration in his *Manifesto Antropófago*, heralding the Brazilian modernist movement, a pronouncement of Brazilian national literary, artistic, and intellectual identity as a break with the past, as anti-colonial -- as unapologetically cannibalistic. Andrade and the modernists of the time pronounced cannibalism or *antropofagia* as the metaphorical possibility of eating other cultures, including Shakespeare. The Tupi people, indigenous to Brazil, were made famous by the 16th century German sailor-explorer, Hans Staden, who wrote his captivity narrative, recounting how he was saved from being eaten.

In 1940 on the onset of WWII, Vilem Flusser, his Czech family lost to German concentration camps, left Europe for São Paulo to become a Brazilian citizen, where he wrote and taught philosophy until 1972. A thinker in many directions – phenomenology, photography, media, immigration, Flusser wrote, in 1987, among many projects, *Vampyroteuthus Infernalis*, a philosophical fable/spoof that investigates human ideas about reality and culture as might be critiqued by a vampire hell squid.

It's occurred to me to draw some planetary connections, including antropófagia and Flusser's vampire hell squid, and Calvino's nod to ideas of death, desire, and memory. So, if you will indulge me for a short fable of my own.

Karen Tei Yamashita is the author of *Through the Arc of the Rain Forest*, *Brazil-Maru*, *Tropic of Orange*, *Circle K Cycles*, *I Hotel*, *Anime Wong: Fictions of Performance*, and *Letters to Memory*, all published by Coffee House Press. *I Hotel* was selected as a finalist for the *National Book Award* and awarded the *California Book Award*, the *American Book Award*, the *Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association Award*, and the *Association for Asian American Studies Book Award*. She received a US Artists Ford Foundation Fellowship and is Professor of Literature and Creative Writing at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

David Savran: "The Globalization of the Broadway-Style Musical"

In the twenty-first century, live performance enjoys unprecedented mobility. Music and theatre circulate across six continents and are disseminated across countless platforms. Among theatre forms, the Broadway-style musical has become exceptionally nomadic and pervasive, not only as a discrete body of works (such as *The Lion King*) that travels globally but also, and more importantly, as a set of musical theatrical conventions and vernaculars uniquely adaptable to local traditions.

I argue that the Broadway-style musical has become a kind of global currency, a transnational template for popular music theatre around the world. Despite the unmistakable associations of the musical with the United States (and specifically with New York City), it has become indigenized in many locales and especially popular as a vehicle that can dramatize cultural nationalist myths and incorporate (and help preserve) heritage performance. To illustrate my thesis, I study the migration of Broadway-style music theatre to South Korea and Austria and survey its contradictory affective and social power as both a cosmopolitan vernacular and a nationalist memory machine.

David Savran is a specialist in twentieth and twenty-first century U.S. theatre, transnational music theatre, performance theory, and social theory. He is the author of eight books, whose wide-ranging subjects include the Wooster Group, Tennessee Williams, George Gershwin, white masculinity, musical theatre, and middlebrow cultural production. His most recent book is *Highbrow/Lowdown: Theater, Jazz, and the Making of the New Middle Class*, winner of the Joe A. Callaway Prize and the Kurt Weill Award. He has served as a judge for the Obie Awards and the Lucille Lortel Awards and twice was a juror for the Pulitzer Prize in Drama. He is the former editor of the *Journal of American Drama and Theatre* and is the Vera Mowry Roberts Distinguished Professor of Theatre and Performance at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

J. Michael Martinez: De/Visioning: Rendering a U.S. Latinx Futurity

4. Throwback and reversion to any earlier type of phase. Recurrence in an organism or in any of its parts of a form typical of (its) ancestors more remote than parents. To invent the archetype of our forebears, daily mirror that is our *mise en abîme*. Ages ago my circumcision in Sepharad or down the ancestral corridors of stars exploding eons lo! The light above extinguished.

--Roberto Tejada, "Mirrors for Gold"¹

Bruce Dean Willis notes in his *Corporeality in Early Twentieth-Century Latin American Literature*, „[t]he body itself can serve as an allegory, as not only microcosm and cosmos, but also region or nation, body politic, body of knowledge, history or chronicle, conflict, pain, love, gender, sex, ethnicity, class, and even spirituality.”² For Dean, and many other theorists, which my study will address, the corporeal serves as a repository of the human situation, a nexus of culture.

1 Tejada, Roberto. *Mirrors for God*, Krupskaya, San Francisco, 2006, Pp. 36

2 Willis, Bruce Dean, *Corporeality in Early Twentieth-Century Latin American Literature*, Palgrave Macmillan, NY, 2013, Pp. 8.

I argue the visual methods by which a body is rendered intelligible activates the principal concerns of 21st century U.S. Latinx poetics: heredity (literary and biological) and its relationship to corporeality, racialization, history, politics, and poetics. In my assessing of current poetries published by U.S. Latinx poets—visuality, the racialized body, and aesthetics assists in posing this study's inquiry: (1) the distinction of „knowledge“ as obtained through the visuality of the body and (2) this visualized/racialized U.S. Latinx *body as it is employed as an allegorical vehicle*.

Language and flesh play a fluctuating game of causal consequences. An exemplar of 21st century U.S. Latin@ vanguard poetics, the work of art historian and poet Dr. Roberto Tejada, discloses how the aesthetic, the ideological, and the corporeal intertwine in both present and past, informing the way we see bodies and in the way we write of them. In the theoretically dense verse, Tejada captures the baroque excess displayed in U.S. Latinx poetics. Reconfiguring perception of the U.S. ethnic body, this poetics disfigures and folds the historical, rehabilitating ontology to confront the very real political challenges of contemporary racism, and U.S. nationalism.

J. Michael Martinez received the *Walt Whitman Award* from the Academy of American Poets for his first book, *Heredities*. His latest book, *Museum of the Americas*, was longlisted for the 2018 *National Book Award in Poetry* and Winner of the 2017 *National Poetry Series Competition*. The book is an exploration in verse of imperial appropriation and Mexican American cultural identity. Martinez is the editor of *Noemi Press* and currently teaches poetry at St. Lawrence University in New York.

Schedule of Presentations

Thursday, 2 May 2019

Panel Stream 1

1a. Imagining Diasporic/Refugee Lifeworlds: The Speculative and Fantastic in Experimental Narratives

Chair: Spencer Hawkins, (University of Notre Dame/University of Vienna)

11:30-13:00, Room A (Palais Kottulinsky)

Presenters:

Talar Chahinian (UC Irvine, USA):

“Creation on the Fringes of Extinction: Performing Untranslatability in Western Armenian”

Keith Feldman (UC Berkeley, USA):

“Taking Refuge at the End of the World: On Omar El Akkad’s American War”

Yi Hunag (Hangzhou Normal University, China):

“Heterotopia, Genre, and Asian Diasporic Subjectivity: Larissa Lai’s *Salt Fish Girl*”

Rita Sakr (Maynooth University, Ireland):

“Hassan Blasim’s ‘nightmare realism’ and the Re-imagining of the ‘Refugee Crisis’”

Panel Stream 2

2a. Refugee Writings and Forms of Displacement

Chair: David Hucek (University of Graz)

14:00-15:30, Room A (Palais Kottulinsky)

Presenters:

Alexandra Ganser (University of Vienna, Austria):

“Maritime Flight in Contemporary Refugee Novels from the U.S. and Canada”

Helen Oberzaucher (University of Vienna, Austria):

“Forms of In-betweeness in Le Ly Hayslip’s *When Heaven and Earth Changed Places*”

Kevin Potter (University of Vienna, Austria):

“Regimes of Motility in Shaijla Patel’s *Migritude*”

Sigrid Thomsen (University of Vienna, Austria):

“Crises of Leaving and Staying in Edwidge Danticat’s Short Fiction”

2b. Contemporary North American Poetry Across Borders of Nation and Language

Chair: Jennifer A. Reimer (University of Graz)

14:00-16:00, Room B (Palais Kottulinsky)

Presenters:

Gregory Carlock, PhD (Belin, Germany):

“Squirring, Sovereignty, and That Old, Beautiful Idea of Poetry as a Container for Everything (Reflections on “To a Syrian Prisoner of Conscience”)”

Stefan Maneval, PhD (Berlin, Germany):
Reflections on “To a Syrian Prisoner of Conscience”

Anne Quéma (Acadia University, Canada):
“Oana Avasilichioaei’s *Liminal: Phonotopia of Migrations*”

Piotr Gwiazda (University of Pittsburgh, USA):
“Ghosts and Anchors: Translingualism in Contemporary
US Poetry”

Philipp Reisner (Heinrich-Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany): “Languages of Empathy: The Theopolitical Dimensions of Contemporary American Poetry”

Yomna Saber (Qatar University, Doha):
“Claudia Rankine’s *Citizen*, Black Transnational Identities”

Friday, 3 May 2019

Panel Stream 3

3a. The Aesthetics of Queer Migrant Subjects in Law and Media: Violence and Trauma, the Culture of Exile, and Linguistic Dissonance in Transnational Literature

Chair: Christopher Rivera (Pine Manor College)

11:00-12:30, Room C (RESOWI)

Presenters:

Christopher Rivera (Pine Manor College, USA):

“Perceived Progressiveness in Latinx Queer Subjectivity: Anti-discrimination Laws and Queer Violence in Jurisprudential Literature”

Renatta Fordyce (Rutgers University, USA):

“Literature as a Migrant Subject: Contesting the Movement and Reproduction of Coloniality in Guyanese Judicial Rhetoric/National Literature”

Destiny Boynton (Rutgers University, USA):

“The Aesthetics of Linked Fate Syndrome: Violence, Trauma and the Relationality between the African American Psyche and Fatal Police Brutality”

3b. Forming America: Transnational Immigrant Fictions

Chair: Juliann Knaus (University of Graz)

11:00-12:30, Room D (RESOWI)

Presenters:

Diana Filar (Brandeis University, USA):

“Naming (and) the form of the Contemporary U.S. Immigrant Novel”

Bassam Sidiki (University of Michigan, USA):

“‘Your Honor’: Migration and Legal Intertextuality in Two Contemporary South Asian-American Texts”

Miriam Wallraven (Julius-Maximilians University, Germany):

“Fragmentation and the Doppelgänger: Loss and Excess in Experimental Literary Aesthetics Engaging with Migration, Memory, and Trauma (Shards and Nowhere Man)”

Panel Stream 4

4a. Stories of Migration, Bordering and Memory-Making

Chair: Claudia Tazreiter (University of New South Wales)

13:30-15:00, Room C (RESOWI)

Presenters:

Claudia Tazreiter (University of New South Wales, Australia):

“Behrouz Boochani’s *No Friend but the Mountains* and Australia’s ‘border of disappearance’”

Helena Hattmannsdorfer (University of Vienna, Austria)

& Julien Segarra (Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna, Austria):

“Ordinary Heroes” – A two-voice poem on contested memories in the making

Stephi Hemelryk Donald (University of Lincoln, UK):

“The use of *l’intervalle* in cinematic treatments of migration. Space in film as an articulation of fragmentation, tension and catastrophe in the 21st century”

Stephanie Misa (University of the Arts, Helsinki, Finland):

“My Mother’s dancing on my tongue”

James Nguyen (University of New South Wales, Australia):

Video Art Presentation

4b. Forms of Transnational Life Writing

Chair: Silvia Schultermandl (University of Graz)

13:30-15:00, Room D (RESOWI)

Presenters:

Leila Pazargardi (Nevada State College, USA):

“The Mutability of Memoir: Fragmented Identity and Aesthetics in Rabih Alameddine’s *I, the Divine*”

Don E. Walicek (University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, USA):

“Two Prison Memoirs from Guantánemo Bay”

Panel Stream 5

5a. Memory and Migration Across Digital/Visual Cultures

Chair: Ewa Adamkiewicz (University of Graz)

15:30-17:00, Room C (RESOWI)

Presenters:

Jasleen Kohli (Johnson C. Smith University, USA):

“At the Altar of Hybrid Storytelling”

Stefan Maneval (Martin Luther Uniiv. Halle-Wittenberg, Germany): “Landscapes of the Mind: Attempting to Liberate the Oriental Subject through Contemporary Art”

Roxana Rogobete (West University of Timișoara, Romania):

“The Facebook-Novel: Litearture and New Digital Media”

Marta Roman (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland):

“Inhabiting the Unhomely: Canadian Multiculturalism Through Instant Images”

5b. Comparative Migrant Fictions

Chair: Marilyn Sook Yuen Lim (University of Graz)

15:30-17:00, Room D (RESOWI)

Ileana Dimitriu (University of Kwa-Zulu-Natal, South Africa):
“Mirroring Fractured Coherence: The Migrant’s ‘Home Visit’ in
Select South African Fiction”

Rares Piloiu (Otterbein University, USA):
“The Unraveling Self: Basque Identity in Modern Fiction”

Spencer Hawkins, (University of Notre Dame, USA/University of
Vienna, Austria): “An innocent young Pole travels to Austria: cont-
emporary German-language Bildungsromane that serve as antipo-
des to (anti)immigration discourse”

Conference Presenter Bios

Destiny Boynton studies Political Science and African-American Studies at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. She is a Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Scholar whose research interrogates the intersections of race, Black political theory, social media, and police brutality, aims to uncover the various ways African-Americans experience secondhand trauma through Linked Fate Syndrome. Through the analyzation of two hundred tweets, using the DSM IV's diagnostic measurement of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, her quantitative and qualitative research project highlights how African-Americans, through Linked Fate, experience rhetorically identifiable trauma after viewing social media including fatal police shootings. As a doctoral student, she intends to continue this research, crossing disciplinary boundaries such as LGBTQ studies, Latinx studies, social activism, and the realm of psychosocial trauma.

Gregory Carlock is a poet, critic, and scholar of Arabic literature. He earned his B.A. in Architecture and Urban Planning from Princeton University, his M.A. in Middle Eastern Studies from Columbia University, and his Ph.D. in Arabic Studies from the Free University of Berlin. He is the author (with Daniel Lergon) of the poetry collection *Fire Untouched by Smoke* (Ivorypress, Madrid: 2015), and of a polemic against the Syrian-Lebanese poet, Adunis. He lives in Berlin with his wife and daughter.

Talar Chahinian holds a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from UCLA and lectures in the Program for Armenian Studies at UC Irvine, where she is also a Research Associate in the Department of Comparative Literature. Her research interests include Western Armenian language and literature, transnational studies, politics and aesthetics, and translation. She served as assistant editor of *Armenian Review* (2012-2017). Currently, she is the co-editor of *Diaspora: A Journal of Transnational Studies*. She contributes regularly to the online journal, *Critics' Forum*, and the literary magazine *Pakine*.

Ileana Dimitriu is a professor of English and Intercultural Studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (Durban). She has published widely in the field of South African and postcolonial literature from a comparative perspective, as well as on intercultural studies. Her publications include chapters in books, novels in translation and the critical study, *Art of Conscience: Rereading Nadine Gordimer after Apartheid*.

Stephi Hemelryk Donald (University of Lincoln) is Distinguished Professor (Film) and Research Director for the Centre for Culture and Creativity, a new centre focusing on regional and diverse creative practice, and the home for the Hong Kong / Lincoln arts, justice and migration network. Her recent book, *There's No Place Like Home: The Migrant Child in World Cinema* has been awarded a 2018 Choice award for outstanding academic title. She is currently editing an issue of *Alphaville* on refugee cinema (2019).

Keith P. Feldman is Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, and is currently a visiting scholar at the JFK Institute for North American Studies at the Freie University. An interdisciplinary cultural studies scholar, Feldman's research and teaching examine the narrative interface between race, knowledge, and state power, with a focus on the U.S., the so-called "Middle East," and North Africa. He is the author of the book *A Shadow over Palestine: The Imperial Life of Race in America* (2015), as well as over 25 scholarly articles, chapters, and reviews.

Diana Filar is a doctoral student in the English Department at Brandeis University whose research focuses on the US-immigrant novel. Her dissertation analyzes the use of names and naming conventions across Slavic-, Latinx-, and African immigrant fictions, using literary onomastics to connect contemporary literary representations of immigrant subjectivities to the longer history of migration, ultimately aiming toward "naming the system" in which the political promise of the American dream has failed. She has been published in *Postmodern Culture* and has presented multiple papers at the national meetings of MELUS and ACLA. She received her Master's degree from the University of New Mexico.

Renatta Fordyce studies Comparative Literature: Colonial and Postcolonial Studies and Women's and Gender Studies at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. In her native country, Guyana, Renatta was a News Reporter for *The Stabroek Newspaper* and volunteered with The Guyana Human Rights Association's (GHRA) Rights of the Child Organization (ROC). While with ROC, Renatta was actively involved in campaigns that sought to mend the country's political divide during the electoral seasons. Renatta is the author of "The Anti-Man Aesthetic: The State of LGBTQ Political and Social Issues in Guyana Post Marriage Equality in the United States" in the 2018 Routledge Press publication, *The Unfinished Queer Agenda After Marriage Equality, The After Marriage Series, Volume 3*. Renatta has presented her research and scholarship internationally and across the United States in places such as New York City, Boston, Budapest, and North Carolina. In addition to issues pertaining to queer Guyana, Renatta conducts research on Black and Brown Domesticity; the ways migrant female bodies are defined by race, citizenship and workspace.

Alexandra Ganser is professor of American literary and cultural studies and Executive Director of the Centre for Canadian Studies (ZKS) at the University of Vienna. She was Christoph-Daniel-Ebeling Fellow at the American Antiquarian Society and is a Fulbright alumna. Her current research interests include mobility studies (as Director of the interdisciplinary research platform Mobile Cultures and Societies) and transoceanic American studies. Book publications include *Roads of Her Own: Gendered Space and Mobility in American Women's Road Narratives, 1970-2000* (2009), *Pirates, Drifters, Fugitives: Figures of Mobility in American Culture and Beyond* (ed. with Heike Paul & Katharina Gerund, 2012) and *Transgressive Television: Politics, Crime, and Citizenship in 21st-Century American TV Series* (ed. with Birgit Daewes and Nicole Poppenhagen, 2015). *Crisis and Discourses of (Il)Legitimacy in Transatlantic Narratives of Piracy, 1678-1865* will be published with Palgrave Macmillan in early 2019. With Meg Samuelson and Charne Lavery, she co-edits the book series „Maritime Literatures and Cultures“ with Palgrave.

Piotr Gwiazda is Professor of English at the University of Pittsburgh. He is the author of two critical studies: *US Poetry in the Age of Empire, 1979-2012* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014) and *James Merrill and W.H. Auden* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2007). His books of poems include: *Aspects of Strangers* (Moria Books, selected for “Best Books of Poetry in 2015” by Scroll.in), *Messages: Poems & Interview* (Pond Road Press, 2012), and *Gagarin Street* (WWPH, 2005). He has also translated two volumes by the Polish writer Grzegorz Wróblewski: *Zero Visibility* (Phoneme Media, 2017) and *Kopenhagen* (Zephyr Press, 2013). His essays and reviews have appeared in *Asymptote*, *Chicago Review*, *Jacket2*, *Prelude*, the *TLS*, and other journals.

Helena Hattmannsdorfer studied Near Middle Eastern Studies and Philosophy in Vienna and Paris. She obtained her master in Sociology: Gender and Politics from the EHESS (École des hautes études en sciences sociales). From 2015 to 2017, she was the project coordinator for the curatorial platform *lepeuplequimanque*, where she worked on conferences and symposia at the intersection of art and politics. She has a Uni:docs fellowship at the Institute of Political Science at the University of Vienna. Her research areas are European Asylum Politics, Critical Migration Studies, Accommodation of Asylum Seekers in Europe, Ethnography in Political Science, Political Geography, and Gender.

Spencer Hawkins, PhD teaches German and Liberal Studies at the University of Notre Dame and is currently an Ernst Mach Fellow in Comparative Literature at the University of Vienna. His research focuses on translation, and he has translated Hans Blumenberg’s *Das Lachen der Thrakerin* into English.

Yi Huang holds a MA from Xiamen University (2004), a MA from the University of Maine (2006) and a Ph.D. in English (2011) from the University of Miami. She also taught at the English department in Grinnell College as a visiting assistant professor from 2011 to 2012. Her fields of research are Asian Diasporic Literature in the Americas, multiethnic literature in the US, and Caribbean literature. She is currently teaching at the English department of Hangzhou Normal University.

Jasleen Kohli is an Assistant Professor of Spanish in the Department of Department of Languages & Literature at Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, USA. She holds a Ph.D. in Twentieth Century Spanish and Mexican literature from the University of California, Riverside and a M.A. degree in Translation Studies from Complutense University, Madrid, Spain. Her current areas of research are Memory Studies, Digital Narratives and Literary Translation. Her most recent work explores the interplay of utopian spaces and dystopic realities and masculinity issues in Latino literature. She enjoys teaching courses on Life Writing, Latin American women writers, Translation Studies, Latin American literature. Jasleen Kohli has been involved in creating digital story-telling narratives with Latino students on the JCSU campus. She has published on contemporary Mexican and Chicano literature.

Stefan Maneval (Berlin/Halle, Saale) works as a scholar of the Middle East, illustrator, and curator. He earned his Ph.D. in Islamic Studies from FU Berlin. He is co-editor of *Muslim Matter* (with O. Kasmani, 2016, Berlin: Revolver Publishing), a photo book documenting the diversity of everyday Muslim life and material culture, and author of articles on contemporary Saudi politics and society, cultural heritage and the art scene in Saudi Arabia. His current research project, for which he received a grant of the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), focusses on contemporary Lebanese Theology of Religions. As an artist and curator, he has participated in exhibitions of art, photography, and material culture at the Museum for Islamic Art Berlin, the Wunderkammer Trento, Umam D&R Beirut / Goethe Institute Beirut, etc. He has been illustrating Carlock's poetry for five years.

Stephanie Misa was born in Cebu City, Philippines. She is an artist, curator and doctoral researcher at the University of the Arts Helsinki. She currently lives in Vienna, Austria where she graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna in 2012 in Performative Arts & Sculpture with Prof. Monica Bonvicini. She has her masters from the Interactive Telecommunications Program, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University. Her work consistently displays an interest in complex and diverse histories, relating to these topics through her video work, sculpture,

installations, prints, and through her writing. Her current artistic research looks at the persistence of languages relegated to its oral form, and the activation of this “orality” outside the usual educational modes of instruction— its evolution, cannibalism, appropriation of terms, and creative becomings. Her most recent projects include: “Archipelago Mountain” (Helsinki & Salzburg) with Ana de Almeida, “Behind the Terrain: sketches on imaginative landscape” (Tokyo, Hanoi, Jogyakarta) with Mika Maruyama, “Out of the Box” with the WeltMuseum Wien (Vienna Ethnographic Museum), and “Night School” as part of the Academy of Unlearning, Wiener Festwochen 2017. She has exhibited her work at the Yuka Tsuruno Gallery (JP), Koganei Art Point (JP), Nha San Collective (VT), Galerie 5020 (AT), Sewon Art Space (IDN), C4 Projects (DK), Kunstraum NeiderÖsterreich (AT), and Gymnasium Gallery (UK) to name a few. She is currently on the board of the Austrian Association of Women Artists (VBKÖ), and is part of the planning group for the Independent Space Index, an open association of all the independent and artist-run spaces in Vienna. She received the Artists’ Residency to Jogjakarta, Indonesia from the Austrian Federal Ministry of Arts & Culture in 2016 and was a recipient of the Kùltür Gemma Bursary 2014-15.

James Nguyen works with documentary, installation and performance. Often collaborating with family and friends, together they create work that examines the politic of art, self-representation and how these decolonising strategies can contribute to diasporic dialogues.

Helena Oberzaucher is a university assistant at the Department of English and American Studies at the University of Vienna, and she is pursuing her PhD in Literary and Cultural Studies at Illinois State University. She received her BA in English and Philosophy and her MA in Postcolonial Literary and Cultural Studies from the University of Leeds. Her dissertation examines circulations in and around contemporary migration literature. Other research interests include pedagogy and the foreign, multigenerational family narratives, and transnational American studies.

Leila M. Pazargadi received her PhD in Comparative Literature with a certification in Gender Studies from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2012. She is an Associate Professor of English at Nevada State College, currently teaching composition, postcolonial literature, life writing, ethnic American literature, and Middle Eastern literature courses. Her research focuses on Middle Eastern women writers producing autobiographical material in fiction and nonfiction after 9/11, but it also extends to include scholarship on the visual forms of comics and Persian photography of the Qajar era. In 2014, she had the honor of receiving NSC's *iTeach Heritage Award* and Occidental College's *Erica J. Murray Young Alumni of the Year* award for co-founding the Nepantla Summer Bridge Program, which is dedicated to first-generation college students. For her teaching strategies and endeavors at Nevada State College, she was awarded the *Teaching Excellence Award* in 2018.

Rares Piliou holds a BA in Letters and Philology from the University of Bucharest, an MA from the Central European University in Budapest, and a PhD in Comparative Literature from SUNY Buffalo. His research fellowships include the Karl Heinrich Scherer research fellowship at TU Darmstadt and the DAAD post-doc fellowship at Uni. Konstanz. He has written numerous articles of literary theory, philosophy and intellectual history. A particular interest has been the work of Joseph Roth, on which he has published several articles and one book. His PhD thesis was written on Central European Jewish utopianism and its relationship to history. His interests include European intellectual history, nationalism in literature, Jewish literature and philosophy, and the sociology of modernity. Currently, he works as an information literacy librarian at Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio.

Kevin Potter is a lecturer and doctoral student in the Department of English and American Studies at the University of Vienna. He is also an associated researcher with the "Mobile Cultures and Societies" Research Platform. He holds a Research Master's in Comparative Literary Studies from Utrecht University, and a Bachelor's degree in English from the University of South Florida. His research focuses on the interconnection between migrant poetics, politics of mobility, and critical theory.

Anne Quéma teaches in the Department of English and Theatre at Acadia University where she also coordinates the Women's and Gender Studies program. Her interdisciplinary research revolves around gender and sexuality, experimental poetry, theory and philosophy, modernism, law, writing and the visual arts. Her research crosses the boundaries of national literatures and includes analyses of texts produced in the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States. Her recent publications include *Power and Legitimacy: an interdisciplinary analysis of family law, jurisprudence, culture, and literature in England* (University of Toronto Press, 2015) as well as articles on *Dionne Brand's Ossuaries* (2014) and M. NourbeSe Philip's *Zong* (2016). Working in French and English, she is currently writing a book and articles on practices of experimental writing in Canada, with a focus on the writings of Nicole Brossard, Erín Moure, and Oana Avasilichioaei.

Philipp Reisner teaches as a lecturer at the American Studies Department of Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf. His approach to research is multidisciplinary. His dissertation on the theological role that the New English theologian Cotton Mather (1663–1728) played in the context of early modern society appeared in 2012. He is currently working on his habilitation project, a study of contemporary Anglo-American poetry.

Christopher Rivera's 2018 Routledge publication, "Queer Latinx in Transnational Contexts: Case Studies from Brazil, Chile, and Peru" in *The Unfinished Queer Agenda After Marriage Equality, The After Marriage Series, Volume 3* interrogates issues of life, literature and law for queer subjects in the Global South. Throughout his academic career, he has studied and / or worked in the Dominican Republic, Turkey, Mexico, Croatia, Argentina, and various parts of the U.S. (including the Midwest and the Northeast). He earned his doctoral degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Rutgers University in 2010 and speaks English, Spanish, Portuguese and elementary Turkish. His activism has always come in the form of radical pedagogies both in and outside of the classroom. As an assistant professor of English and faculty coordinator of the Queer Studies Minor at Pine Manor College in Massachusetts, Dr. Rivera is responsible for curriculum and the education of one of Boston's most diverse student bodies.

His teaching and research center on social justice through education. Dr. Rivera sees his role as a teacher-scholar as pivotal because he contributes to larger discourses surrounding LGBTQ rights and histories in the Americas.

Roxana Sînziana Rogobete is currently a Research Assistant at the West University of Timișoara, Faculty of Letters, History and Theology / Department of Romanian Studies. She has studied Romanian and German language and literature during her Bachelor and Master years. Furthermore, she has earned a PhD (2017) in Philology, as writing a thesis on *Migrant Literature in the German-Language Area in the Postwar Period*. During her MA and doctoral studies, she received several Erasmus or POSDRU scholarships at universities from Freiburg, München or Wien. Her main interests include migration and migrant literature, multilingual literature, German-language literature, Romanian literature, digital literature. She also explored aesthetic concepts such as the carnivalesque or the grotesque, having published several studies on all these topics. Since 2014, at West University of Timișoara, she taught or teaches: Literary Theory, Romanian Literature of the 19th Century, Romanian Writers in Exile and Romanian as a Foreign Language. She also collaborated with the Victor Babeș University of Medicine and Pharmacy from Timișoara, teaching German as a Foreign Language. In 2018, she earned a postdoctoral scholarship within ROGER project (*Academic genres at the crossroads of tradition and internationalization: Corpus-based interlanguage research on genre use in student writing at Romanian universities*), coordinated by Dr. Madalina Chitez (WUT).

Marta Roman is currently a first year PhD student at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland. She received a bachelor's degree in English Literature and a master's degree in Canadian Literature from Adam Mickiewicz University. Her current placement is at the Department of Canadian Literature at her home university. She is interested in contemporary diasporic writing in Canada in connection to the country's multicultural policies.

Yomna Saber, Associate Prof. of English Literature, Department of English Literature and Language, Qatar University, was awarded the PhD from the School of American and Canadian Studies, the University of Nottingham, UK. Her work has been widely published in journals such as, *a/b: Auto/Biography Studies*, *Folklore*, *Journal of Lesbian Studies*, *Journal of American Studies*, *Pacific Coast Philology*, and *Women's Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. She is the author of two books: *Gendered Masks of Liminality and Race: Black Female Trickster's Subversion of Hegemonic Discourse in African American Literature* (2017) and *Brave to Be Involved: Shifting Positions in the Poetry of Gwendolyn Brooks* (2010).

Rita Sakr is Lecturer in Postcolonial and Global Literatures at Maynooth University, Ireland. She is the author of *Monumental Space in the Post-Imperial Novel: An Interdisciplinary Study* (Continuum, 2012) and of 'Anticipating' the 2011 Arab Uprisings: *Revolutionary Literatures and Political Geographies* (Palgrave, 2013). With Caroline Rooney, she is co-editor of *The Ethics of Representation in Literature, Art and Journalism: Transnational Responses to the Siege of Beirut* (Routledge, 2013) and co-director and co-producer of the RCUK-funded documentary on Beirut, *White Flags* (2014). With Finn Fordham, she co-edited *James Joyce and the Nineteenth-Century French Novel* (2011). Her recent publications focus on migrant and refugee writings, human rights, and urban studies; her current monograph project is titled 'Global Arab Literary Geographies.'

Julien Segarra, born in Paris. Photographer and stage manager. Drawn to the documentation of social reality he has been working as a photographer for the social magazine *L'Itineraire* in Montreal. In 2015, he participated in the collective exhibition "Monde Vaste Monde" in the renowned research institute FMSH in Paris where he won 3rd prize in the PhotoIIAC - Photography on the Intersection of Art and Ethnography. His privileged media are image and sound. Since 2018, he studies post conceptual art at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna. Selected solo and group exhibition: Festival Perspektiven, Attersee, AT, Das andere Ufer - Höhenrausch, OK - Offenes Kulturhaus, Linz, AT, Flüchtige Blicke, Cultural association Kaeshmaesh, Vienna, AT, Leben im Altersheim, BAPH, Marchtrenk, AT.

Bassam Sidiki is a Pakistani-American poet and doctoral student in English Language and Literature at the University of Michigan, and the Nonfiction Editor at the *Michigan Quarterly Review*. He received his undergraduate degree in English at Georgetown University, and his M.A. in Medical Humanities and Bioethics from Northwestern University. He currently studies biopolitics and empire in literature from *Frankenstein* to the present-day, especially the politico-legal genealogies of the concepts of immunity and witnessing. His creative and critical work has previously appeared in *The Missing Slate*, *Papercuts*, *Jaggery*, *Synopsis*, *The Iowa Review*, and the 2018 *Hippocrates Prize Anthology*. He has presented at various international conferences on medicine, law, and literature.

Sigrid Thomsen is pursuing a PhD in Caribbean-American literature as part of the research platform “Mobile Cultures and Societies: Interdisciplinary Studies on Transnational Formations” at the University of Vienna. For her dissertation, she is looking at cultural and linguistic mobility in the fiction of Edwidge Danticat, Jamaica Kincaid, and Junot Díaz. She got her MA in Comparative Literature (Africa/Asia) from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London, where she wrote a master’s thesis on notions of landscape and whiteness in the contemporary South African poetry of Ingrid de Kok (who writes in English) and Antjie Krog (who writes in Afrikaans). Sigrid did bachelors degrees in Comparative Literature and in Philosophy at the University of Vienna, with semesters abroad at the University of Bergen, Norway, and at the University of Chicago. Her research interests include Caribbean and South African literature, mobility studies, comics, and popular culture. She has published on the depiction of OCD in comics and has given conference talks on topics including Jean Rhys’ *Wide Sargasso Sea*, the podcast *Harry Potter and the Sacred Text*, and *Frances Ha*.

Claudia Tazreiter is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of New South Wales. Her research focuses on the social and affective impacts of forced and irregular and forced migration, on human rights culture, the role of civil society in social change and gender in migration. She is co-convenor of the Forced Migration Research Network at the University of New South Wales which brings together inter and trans-disciplinary

nary research collaborations across the social sciences, humanities, law, psychology, medicine, built environment and art practice. She is on the management committee of the Gilbert and Tobin Centre for Public Law and a Steering Committee member of the Andrew and Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law. Her recent book is *Fluid Security in the Asia Pacific: Transnational Lives and State Control*.

Don E. Walicek is Visiting Professor of Cultural Studies at the University of Graz with the Fulbright Program and Professor of English and Linguistics at the University of Puerto Rico's Río Piedras Campus. He holds a B.A. in Anthropology and an M.A. in Latin American Studies, both from the University of Texas at Austin, and a PhD in English from the University of Puerto Rico. He has acted as Editor of the Caribbean Studies journal *Sargasso* since 2009. The author of numerous articles and chapters, he is also co-editor of *Guantánamo and American Empire; The Humanities Respond* (2018).

Miriam Wallraven studied English and German Literature (M.A.) at the Eberhard Karls University Tübingen and at the University of Edinburgh. She received her PhD from Tübingen in 2006. In 2007 and 2008 she held a Postdoc scholarship at the International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture (GCSC), Justus-Liebig-University Gießen, where she began her Habilitation before working as an Assistant Professor (Wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin) at Eberhard Karls University Tübingen where she finished her Habilitation (2012). She is the author of *A Writing Halfway between Theory and Fiction: Mediating Feminism from the Seventeenth to the Twentieth Century* (Königshausen & Neumann 2007) and *Women Writers and the Occult in Literature and Culture: Female Lucifers, Priestesses, and Witches* (Routledge 2015). Since April 2017 she is Associate Professor (Akademische Rätin) of English Literature and Cultural Studies at the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg. Her current research focuses on literatures of migration and displacement in a globalised world (particularly with a focus on the Balkans), and her other research interests include narratology and genre theories, gender studies and feminism as well as religious cultures and spirituality in literature.

Practical Conference Information

Local Organizers

Contact details

American Studies Department Graz
Attemsgasse 25/2
8010 Graz, Austria

Main organizers:

Jennifer Reimer

E-mail: jennifer.reimer@uni-graz.at

Silvia Schultermandl

Email: silvia.schultermandl@uni-graz.at

Conference team:

Viola Moisesbichler

Markus Diepold

Conference Venue

See “Campus map” on the last page of the program.

The Forms of Migration Conference will take place in two different buildings of the University of Graz, in the Palais Kottulinsky (Beethovenstraße 9) on Thursday, 2 May 2019 and in the ReSoWi Center (Universitätsstraße 15) on Friday, 3 May 2019.

Additionally, there will be a special performance event held on Friday, 3 May 2019 at Graz Kunstverein (Burggasse 4) at 19:00.

Getting Around: Public Transportaion and Taxis

From the Airport

Public buses and commuter railway trains link the Graz airport to the main railway station and the city center. The bus stop is right outside the passenger arrival area, the commuter train station is a five-minute walk from the terminal. The price for a one-way trip is € 2.40.

A taxi from the airport to the university or the city center approximately costs from € 25 to € 30 (one way).

For further information please see:

www.flughafen-graz.at/en/terminal/anreise-parken/bus-bahn
www.busbahnbim.at

From the Main Railway Station (Graz Hauptbahnhof)

From the main railway station, you can take a taxi or bus to reach the university campus. A taxi from the station to campus costs around € 10.

The University of Graz campus is served by the following bus lines:

Bus line 58 in the direction of *Mariagrün*

Bus line 63 in the direction of *St. Peter Schulzentrum*

From the City Center (Jakominiplatz) – Main Transportation Hub

The following bus lines link the city center to the campus:

Bus line 30 in the direction of *Geidorf*

Bus line 39 in the direction of *Wirtschaftskammer*

Getting to Palais Kottulinsky

From main ailway station: take bus line 58 and get off at *Uni Mensa* – from here either change to bus line 39 and get off at *Uni/Beethovenstraße* or walk down Beethovenstraße to *Elisabethstraße* (approx. 3 min).

From city center (Jakominiplatz): take bus line 39 and off at *Uni/Beethovenstraße*.

For directions to ReSoWi please see the next page.

Getting to ReSoWi Center

From main railway station: take bus line 58 and get off at *Mozartgasse*, from here it is a 3-5 minute walk along Heinrichstraße, take the second right into Universitätsstraße to get to ReSoWi Center (note: the entrance is in the middle of building).

From city center (Jakominiplatz): take bus line 30 and get off at *Mozartgasse*, the follow the same direction as above or take bus line 39 and get off at *Geidorfplatz* (approx. 10 min. walk up Heinrichstraße to ReSoWi)

Ticket Information

For online tickets please see www.ticket.holding-graz.at

Further information:

www.verbundlinie.at/lang/en

www.graztourismus.at/en

Taxis

+43 316 878 or

+43 316 2801

WiFi/Internet on campus

eduroam:

Accessible for users whose home institution participates in the eduroam network. Login using the credentials provided by your own institution.

UniGrazTagung:

Open WiFi, can be used without login credentials. Webservices as well as VPN access to home organizations are possible through this network.

Copy and Print

Please consult the organizers.



formsofmigration.uni-graz.at/en

Literature. Performance. The World.



Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

Organisation: Jennifer Reimer, Silvia Schultermandl, Markus Diepold, Viola Moisesbichler

Editor: Markus Diepold

Artwork: *¿El camino taken!* by Christopher Rivera