

World Fictions of Friendship in Critical Times

Graduate Colloquium at York University

Beginning at 10AM EST

March 18, 2022

To attend the colloquium, click [HERE](#).

Schedule of Events

10:00 – 10:15 am | Welcoming remarks by Zaynab Ali and **Introduction** of Dr. Doris Hambuch, President of the Canadian Comparative Literature Association/ Association Canadienne de Littérature Comparée, Associate Professor of Literature and Film Studies at United Arab Emirates University, by Dr. Marie-Christine Leps.

10:15 – 11:15 am | Keynote: Prof. Doris Hambuch

“‘It's like no self. No I. Non-existence’: Friendship and Family in Contemporary Fiction”

11:15 – 12:15 pm | Panel 1: Theorizing Worldly Friendships

Chair: Dr. Angie Min Ah Park

Ali Aslan: “‘The readiness is all’: Deliberations on the Paradox of Friendship”

Lee Dylan Campbell: “‘Querido Cronopio’: Julio Cortázar and Paul Blackburn, a Literary Friendship in Translation”

Dr. Philippe Theophanidis: “An Uncommon Friendship: Interrupting Politics”

12:15 – 1:15 pm | Lunch

1:15 – 2:15 pm | Panel 2: Friendship’s Transcultural Fault Lines: Racialization, Gender, Nationalism, and Imperialism

Chair: Ayse Irem Karabag

Sadia Uddin: “Broken Borders and Broken Friendships in *A Tale of 1947*”

Jakob Lundquist: “Spoiled Friendships and Perverted Foods in East Asian Women’s Writing”

Dr. Angie Min Ah Park: A Solidarity of Stereotypes: Transcultural Friendships in *Angry Little Asian Girl*”

2:15 – 3:15 pm | Panel 3: Intergenerational Friendships in Peace and in War

Chair: Dr. Philippe Theophanidis

Zohreh Daeizadeh: “Bullying as a Form of Othering in Binary Modes of Friendship in Parinoush Saniee’s *The Father of The Other One* (2004) and Its Translation, *I Hid My Voice* by Sanam Kalantari.”

Zaynab Ali: “Friendships for a Cause: The Road to Acceptance”

Carolina De Souza: “From Collective Amnesia to Shared Responsibility: Bridging Trauma in Haruki Murakami's *Kafka on the Shore*.”

3:15 – 3:30 pm | Break

3:30 – 4:15 pm | Panel 4: Friendships Transgressing Binaries: Fantasy/Reality, Local/Global, East/West

Chair: Carolina De Souza

Bettina Juszak: “The proverbial elf and dwarf: friendships between races in speculative fiction”

Irem Ayse Karabag: “Ragged Men on the Move: Poverty, Inertia and Friendship in Latife Tekin’s *Swords of Ice*” (1989/tr.2007)

4:15 – 5:00 pm | Concluding Remarks by Dr. Susan Ingram, and Conversations

Should you encounter any difficulties with the Colloquium Zoom [link](#),
the information is below and can be entered manually into the Zoom Desktop Client.
Meeting ID: 961 3041 7289
Passcode: YUGradCol!

Short Bios of Speakers

Zaynab Ali is a doctoral candidate in English at York University. Her interests lie in the field of world literature and exilic writing. Her dissertation, “World Narratives of Internal Exile: Critical Remains,” explores figures of internal exile in three spaces and times of crisis since World War II: India/Pakistan under Partition, Palestine under occupation, and Afghanistan under Soviet invasion.

Ali Aslan’s academic concerns grow out of existential ones. As the Other – of history, of power – he begins with the ethics of any relationship, to imagine a space wherein dignity might prevail. In this personal endeavour, he has found allies in the likes of Kierkegaard, Dostoevsky, and Levinas; and the Humanities has been a shelter from the storm.

Lee Campbell is a 4th-year PhD student in the Humanities Graduate Program at York University. His research focuses on play, games, and playfulness in 20th-century literature and theory. Lee is also the Early Career Scholar Representative with the Canadian Comparative Literature Association, and the facilitator of the CCLA’s Working Group on Antiracism and Decolonization.

Zohreh Daeizadeh: I am a first-year PhD student in English at York University. I worked on Michel Foucault’s ideas of power, gender, language, sexuality, and resistance in my M.A. thesis and published a couple of articles in that area. I am also interested in cultural memory, text/image studies, diaspora literature, autobiographical novels by women, and women’s confessional writings.

Dr. Doris Hambuch is Associate Professor in the Department of Languages and Literature at United Arab Emirates University. Her publications include essays on Caribbean literature, ecocriticism, film analysis, and trans-cultural feminism. She edited special issue 6.2 of *Imaginations: Journal of Cross-Cultural Image Studies* on Caribbean cinema and issue 48.1 of the *Canadian Review of Comparative Literature* on bridging divides via comparative literature. She is President of the Canadian Comparative Literature Association, and her current research focuses on polyglot art practices. Her chapbook *All That Depends* (2019) combines poetry and photography, and her co-authored *Monsters – الوحوش* (2021) combines poetry, drawings and translations.

Bettina Juszak is a first-year PhD student in the Humanities Graduate Program at York University. She has degrees in Fantasy Literature from the University of Glasgow and Linguistics from the University of Cambridge. Her current research concerns depictions of music in mythology and contemporary speculative fiction, but she is also interested in translation, multilingualism and world literature.

Ayse Irem Karabag is in her first year of the PhD program in English Studies. Her research focuses on the dissident voices of women and LGBTQ+ in contemporary literature across the world and the connection between literature, protest, and identity politics. Prior to arriving at

York, Irem completed her Master's degree in English and Transcultural Studies from the University of Heidelberg, Germany. Her MA thesis focused on the "slacking" practices of white-collar workers in contemporary American literature. In 2017, she received her BA from Bogazici University, Istanbul. She can be contacted at airemka@yorku.ca

Jacob Lundquist is a master's student in English at York with current interests in North Korean literature, Marxist literary criticism, and G/gothic themes (particularly crows). Current writing centers on the evolving language and structure of North Korean memoirs, especially as compared to pre-division literature from the peninsula.

Dr. Angie Min Ah Park (she/her) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto, Department of Management. She completed her doctorate in English at York University, specializing in diasporic Korean literature and media studies, focussing on North America. Her research interests include Korean diaspora, World and Comparative Literature theory, and Critical Race and intersectionality studies.

Carolina De Souza is a PhD candidate in the English Department at York University. She holds a BA in Psychology from her home country of Brazil, and an MA in Literature from York University. Carolina specializes in contemporary world literature, focusing on the intersection between Latin American and global expressions of magical realism.

Dr. Philippe Theophanidis is Associate Professor with the Communications Program at York University's Glendon Campus. He holds a Ph.D. in Communication Studies from Université de Montréal. He works at the intersection of philosophies of communication, media studies and visual culture.

Sadia Uddin is a doctoral candidate in the Humanities program at York University. Sadia has an academic background in South Asian Studies, Political Science, Asian Studies and Public Administration and Law. Her research interests include South Asia, postcolonial literature, gender, translations, cultural politics, Pakistan and public policy.