

MESEA

**The Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies:
Europe and the Americas**

12th Biennial Conference

**“Communities of Engagement:
Breaking Down Borders and Other Barriers in
the Era of Climate Crisis”**

**University of Central Lancashire, Cyprus
Pyla, Larnaca**

May 26–28, 2022



MESEA – The Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas

was founded in 1998 in response to the challenge of ethnic studies in a time of increasing globalization to provide an international forum for interdisciplinary discussion on multiethnic studies. The Society promotes the study of the ethnic cultures of Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas in their circumatlantic relations from a transdisciplinary literary, historical and cultural studies perspective. The society acts as a forum for cooperation between universities, political institutions, and ethnic communities and supports the scholarly and cultural exchange among them in order to further intercultural understanding. MESEA currently has ca. 200 members from 30 countries.

MESEA holds its biennial conference in the spring, an event that brings together hundreds of international scholars to discuss issues related to these concerns. Conference topics have included: the place of ethnic communities in democratic societies, comparative perspectives on ethnic studies, ethnic lifewritings and histories, questions of migration, sites of ethnicity, and media. These meetings have been held in Heidelberg, Germany (1998); Orleans, France (2000); Padua, Italy (2002); Thessaloniki, Greece (2004); Pamplona, Spain (2006); Leiden, Netherlands (2008); Pécs, Hungary (2010); Barcelona, Spain (2012); Saarbrücken, Germany (2014); Warsaw, Poland (2016); and Graz, Austria (2018). The meeting is now held in Pyla, Larnaca, Cyprus, and it is organized in collaboration with the *Research Centre for Migration, Diaspora and Exile (MIDEX)* at the University of Central Lancashire.

The Association also promotes lively publishing activities. Apart from its journal, *Atlantic Studies/Global Currents*, and the official volume of essays that develop from the conferences, other volumes have been published based on MESEA activities or specific panel sessions at the biennial meetings.

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Dorothea Fischer-Hornung (2004-2012)

MESEA 2022 Conference Schedule

Wednesday, 25 May 2022

Meeting of MESEA Officers

Thursday, 26 May 2022

08:30 – 18:00 Registration/Information Desk
09:00 – 11:00 Parallel Panel Sessions 1
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee
11:30 – 13:30 Parallel Panel Sessions 2
13:30 – 14:30 Lunch Break
14:30 – 16:30 Parallel Panel Sessions 3
16:30 – 17:00 Coffee
17:00 – 18:15 Keynote Lecture by Johan Schimanski, University of Oslo
“Speculative Contestation: Imagining Sustainable Borders in Migration and Climate Change Literature.”

Room: AUD1

Chair: Jopi Nyman

18:30 – Opening Ceremony
Room: AUD1

Words of Welcome

Johanna Kardux, Vice President of MESEA

Alan Rice, MIDEX, University of Central Lancashire

Simos Mitides, Mayor of Pyla

Announcement of the 2022 Young Scholars Excellence Award
Johanna Kardux, Vice-President of MESEA

MESEA Book Launches

Conference Reception sponsored by MIDEX

Friday, 27 May 2022

08:30 – 16:00 Registration/Information Desk
09:00 – 11:00 Parallel Panel Sessions 4
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:45 Keynote Lecture by Karen McCarthy-Woolf
“Un/Safe and Under Pressure //On Enclosure, Gentrification and the
Body: A Hybrid Lyric”

Room: AUD1

Chair: Alan Rice

12:45 – 13:45 Lunch Break
13:45 – 15:45 Parallel Panel Sessions 5
15:45 – 16:15 Coffee Break
16:15 – 17:30 Parallel Sessions 6
17:30 – 19:00 MESEA General Meeting

20:00 Optional Conference Dinner, Mer Bleue Beach Restaurant

Saturday, 28 May 2022

09:00 – 12:00 Registration/Information Desk
09:00 – 11:00 Parallel Panel Sessions 7
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:45 *Atlantic Studies* Lecture by William Boelhower
“Cyprus at Large: Learning to Arrive Where We Have Gone.”

Room: AUD2

Chair: Dorothea Fischer-Hornung

13:15 – Optional Excursion to Nicosia: “Peace Walk”

Information on Keynotes

Keynote Lectures

Thursday, 26 May 2022

Opening Keynote by Johan Schimanski, University of Oslo
“Speculative Contestation: Imagining Sustainable Borders in Migration and Climate Change Literature”

Abstract:

In 2016 Amitav Ghosh published a book-length essay on our failure to act effectively on climate change, *The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable*. In it he argues that this failure comes not only from a lack of scientific and historical knowledge, but also a lack of imagination. He argues that one of our most established ways of thinking imaginatively about the world, ‘serious’ literature, is so focused on the realistic and typical that it avoids dealing with change and crisis on an environmental and societal level. He suggests science fiction, a form of literature concerned with environmental and societal change, as an antidote.

This lecture is based on my work within a collaborative project on ‘sustainable borders’ in an age of climate change. I will be examining two works of climate science fiction, showing how they present different configurations of borders and migration in futures of rising sea levels and shifting land borders. John Lanchester dystopian novel *The Wall* (2019) images a Britain surrounded by a wall following its coastline, a wall that has the double function of keeping out both the sea and climate refugees. Kim Stanley Robinson’s critical utopia *New York 2040* (2017) describes how people have learned to live both with a city in which the streets have become canals and with climate refugees.

Ghosh frames the anthropocene as a product of a forgotten history of the intimate relationship between empire and the petrochemical extraction that has led to climate change. Extending his juxtaposition of history and poetics, I will ask whether postcolonial literatures of migration – with their border-crossing tropes and worrying of the banal nationalism of the typical and the everyday – can also imagine crisis differently from ‘serious’ literature. I suggest that the more contemporary settings of works such as Ali Smith’s *Seasonal Quartet* (2016–2020) and Ghosh’s own *Gun Island* (2019) can be read against science fictional imaginings as pointing forwards to the climate migration literature of the future.

Johan Schimanski is Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Oslo. His research interests include border poetics, migration literature, Arctic discourses, science fiction, and literary museums. In 2021 he was Guest Professor of Border Studies at the University of the Greater Region Centre for Border Studies (at the Universities of Saarland and Luxembourg). Recent publications include a volume co-edited with Jopi Nyman, *Border Images, Border Narratives* (2021) and a collection of writings on border poetics translated into German, *Grenzungen* (2020).

Friday, 27 May 2022

Keynote Lecture by Karen McCarthy Woolf, poet

“Un/Safe and Under Pressure //On Enclosure, Gentrification and the Body: A Hybrid Lyric”

Abstract:

Karen McCarthy Woolf’s poetic research focuses on exploring intersections between poetry and state sanctioned land grabs and their effect on black, brown, indigenous and working-class bodies. This keynote draws on the works of poets Kei Miller and US Laureate Joy Harjo as decolonised knowledge streams through which we can understand the impacts and causes of climate crisis. Through various acts of formal intervention, McCarthy Woolf also looks to the 19th Century nature poet John Clare, who protested gentrification and the UK enclosures acts in the early 1800s. In a hybrid photo lyric ‘Un/Safe’ she explores the ways in which we constitute and experience safe space. Historically, barbed wire was used to restrict and control the movement of animals and people and was instrumental in establishing the United States as a settler capitalist nation. Now that wire is often invisible and algorithmic, although its economic and carceral impacts are equally, if not more, intense. As Clare wrote poems of protest and elegy, McCarthy Woolf pushes at poetic form in an attempt to fuse intimate and universal narratives that resist the trauma these macropolitical pressures provoke.

Karen McCarthy Woolf

Born in London to English and Jamaican parents, Karen McCarthy Woolf is the author of two poetry collections and the editor of six literary anthologies. Shortlisted for the Forward Felix Dennis and Jerwood Prizes, her début *An Aviary of Small Birds* tells the story of losing a son in childbirth and was an *Observer* Book of the Year. Her latest, *Seasonal Disturbances*, explores gentrification, the city and the sacred, was a winner in the inaugural Laurel Prize for ecological poetry and excerpted in the *Financial Times* and *Guardian*.

In 2019 she moved to Los Angeles as a Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholar and Writer in Residence at the Promise Institute for Human Rights at UCLA, exploring the relationship between poetry, law and capitalism’s impacts on black, brown and indigenous bodies.

She has presented and performed her work at literature festivals worldwide; in Mexico, Trinidad, Jamaica, Italy, America and China at a variety of venues such as the Royal Festival Hall, Barbican and King’s Place for Poetica Electronica which showcased music collaborations with various dance and techno producers. Her poems have been translated into Turkish, Swedish, Spanish, Polish and Dutch, produced as animated and choreographed short film, exhibited by Poems on the Underground and dropped from a helicopter over the Houses of Parliament in a poetry ‘bombing.’

Karen also writes for radio and recent highlights include a multi-authored adaptation of Virginia Woolf’s *Orlando* which was nominated for a BBC Audio Award in 2020 and a reversioning of Homer’s *Book of the Dead* in which Odysseus is reimaged as a London cab driver for BBC Radio 4’s Book of the Week.

Saturday, 28 May 2022

***Atlantic Studies* Lecture by William Boelhower, Louisiana State University**
“Cyprus at Large: Learning to Arrive Where We Have Gone”

Abstract:

In an effort to approach Larnaca and the site of the MESEA conference, I will start out from home, along the streets of Lido di Venezia, and then move on to a series of early modern maps of Cyprus from the Marciana Library, hoping through a study of cartographic practices to arrive in time to appreciate the island as a site of perennial MESEA and Atlantic world themes.

William Boelhower is the Robert Thomas and Rita Wetta Adams Professor of Atlantic and Ethnic Studies Emeritus, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Louisiana State University. He is a pioneering figure in ethnic and Atlantic Studies, a former editor of *Atlantic Studies*, and author of many books.

Detailed Program

Thursday, 26 May 2022

08:30 – 17.00 Registration/Information Desk
09:00 – 11:00 Parallel Panel Sessions 1

Panel 1.1

Borders and Poetry

Chair: Bahriye Kemal

Room: AUD1

Presenters:

Hend Nasser (University of Central Lancashire), Performing Across Borders: A Representation of Rafeef Ziadah's Political/Poetical Activism

Jennifer Reimer (Oregon State University-Cascades), Somewhere Across the Sea(m): Poetry, Crisis and Experimental Form

Malin Pereira (University of North Carolina, Charlotte), Ekphrasis Performing Protest: Crossing Genre Borders and Embodying Black Subjectivity in Claudia Rankine's *Citizen: An American Lyric*

Michele Rozga (Norfolk State University), Barriers and Creativity: Paradox and the Creative Wall in Writings of Pablo Neruda and Federico Garcia Lorca

Panel 1.2

Bordering Black Lives

Chair: Pekka Kilpeläinen

Room: CY006

Presenters:

Cathy Jackson (Norfolk State University), When False Stereotypes Become Fact, African American Females Develop Real Pain

Maria Lauret (University of Sussex), Jesmyn Ward: Salvaging Black Lives

Pekka Kilpeläinen (University of Eastern Finland), Bordering Sexualities: Queer Spatialities of Traumatic Cultural Memory in Randall Kenan's *A Visitation of Spirits*

Kudzayi Ngara (University of the Free State), Palimpsestic Mobilities: Overwriting Personal and National Identities in NoViolet Bulawayo's *We Need New Names*

Panel 1.3: **PARTIALLY ONLINE PANEL**

The Borders Between and Within: Writing America with No Bounds: Part One

Organizer: Pin-chia Feng (National Chiao Tung University and the Institute of European and American Studies, Academia Sinica)

Chair: Pin-chia Feng

Room: CY007

Presenters:

Marie-Agnès Gay (University Jean Moulin – Lyon 3), Undoing 'these lines that divide the paper into sections': Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's Vagabond Aesthetics in *Exilée – Temps Morts – Selected Works* and *The Dream of the Audience*

Eun-Gwi Chung (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Seoul, Korea), Words beyond Borders and the Politics of Hospitality in North Korean Refugee Narratives
Pin-chia Feng (National Chiao Tung University and the Institute of European and American Studies, Academia Sinica), Transnational Negotiations: Narratives of Return and Transracial Adoption in Lisa Ko's *The Leavers*
Nicoleta Aloxoae-Zagni (Paris 8 University), Shawna Yang Ryan's Green Island: Narrating History "Beyond the Limit of Borders"

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee
11:30 – 13:30 Parallel Panel Sessions 2

Panel 2.1

Cosmopolitanisms and Their Relationship to Nature

Organizer: Ewa Barbara Luczak (University of Warsaw)

Chair: Ewa Barbara Luczak

Room: AUD1

Presenters:

Samir Dayal (Bentley University), Logics of Worlds: Fiction, Nature, and Internal Borders

Andrea O'Reilly Herrera (University of Colorado), The Unchanging Landscape: Cuban Diasporic Art and the Recuperation of Identity

Ewa Barbara Luczak (University of Warsaw), Nature vs. Nurture Debate in Wallace Thurman's *The Infants of Spring*

Respondent:

Malin Pereira (University of North Carolina, Charlotte)

Panel 2.2

Cyprus: A Thematic Panel

Organizer: Nasia Hadjigeorgiou (University of Central Lancashire, Cyprus)

Chair: Nasia Hadjigeorgiou

Room: CY006

Presenters:

Nasia Hadjigeorgiou (University of Central Lancashire, Cyprus), Assessing the Effectiveness of the Committee on Missing Persons in bridging divided communities in Cyprus

Antri Kanikli (University of Central Lancashire, Cyprus), Barriers to Multilingualism

Katerina Antoniou (University of Central Lancashire, Cyprus), Transformational Tourism in Divided Societies: The Peacebuilding Capacities of Peer-to-peer Accommodation through the Case of Cyprus

Panel 2.3: *ONLINE PANEL*

Barriers and Borders

Chair: MESEA

Room: CY007

Presenters

Chrysovalantis Kampragkos (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), Violence and Exploitation Along In-visible Borders in Naomi Wallace's *The War Boys* and Caridad Svich's *Thrush*

Panteleimon Tsiokos, Palimpsestuous Protest in Racial Borderlands: The Visual, the Aural, and the Intellectual in the Poesis of Yusef Komunyakaa's *I Apologize for the Eyes in My Head* (1986)
Lona Moutafidou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), Uncanny Specters: Border Crossing and the Collapse of Being in Yuri Herrera's *Signs Preceding the End of the World*
Pirjo Ahokas (University of Turku), "The Writing on the Wall: The Global Climate Crisis and Borders, Barriers and Walls in *Flight Behavior* and *The Carhullan Army*"

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch Break
14:30 – 16:30 Parallel Panel Sessions 3

Panel 3.1

Making Homespaces in Alien Landscapes

Organizer: Alan Rice (University of Central Lancashire)

Chair: Alan Rice

Room: AUD1

Presenters:

Alan Rice (University of Central Lancashire), Jade Montserrat's Fugitive Traces and Earth-Splattered Bodies: Making African Atlantic Homespace in Alien Environments Then and Now (1758-2018)
Martina Koegeler-Abdi (University of Copenhagen), Liminal Children's Rights? Figurations of Swedish ISIS Children's National Inclusion/Exclusion
Fred Gardaphe (City University of New York), Indigenuity and the Italian Diaspora

Panel 3.2

Gendered and Queered Borders

Chair: Elina Valovirta

Room: CY006

Presenters:

Elina Valovirta (University of Turku), Healing Water in Caribbean Women's Writing: Sustenance and Sustainability in Water
Justyna Kielkowicz (Jagiellonian University), The Borders of Invisibility: "Race", Gender, and Sexuality in the Writing of Female Authors of the Black Diaspora
Daniel Valella (University of Michigan), Fictions of Queer Attachment: Life-Sustaining Bonds Across Borders and Boundaries
Lowry Martin (University of Texas, El Paso), "My Home is Where I am Myself: Queer Citizenship After the Second Intifada and the Failure of Containment"

Panel 3.3

The Borders Between and Within: Writing America with No Bounds: Part Two

PARTIALLY ONLINE PANEL

Organizer: Nicoleta Alexoae-Zagni (Paris 8 University)

Chair: Nicoleta Alexoae-Zagni

Room: CY007

Presenters:

Ludmila Martanovschi (Ovidius University), Engaging Borders Within: The Performance of Ethnicity and Gender Struggles in Velina Hasu Houston's *Green Tea Girl in Orange Pekoe Country*
Monica Manolachi (University of Bucharest), Eco-poethic Strategies in Derek Walcott's Poetry
Cristina Stanciu (Virginia Commonwealth University), Climate Crisis and the Dispossession of Indigenous Nations: Claire Coleman's *Terra Nullius* (2017) and Cherie Dimaline's *The Marrow Thieves* (2017)

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee

17:00 – 18:15 Keynote Lecture by Johan Schimanski (University of Oslo)
“Speculative Contestation: Imagining Sustainable Borders in Migration and Climate Change Literature.”

Room: AUD1

Chair: Jopi Nyman

18:30 – 21:00 Opening Ceremony
Room: AUD1

Words of Welcome:

Johanna Kardux, Vice President of MESEA

Alan Rice, MIDEX, University of Central Lancashire

Simos Mitides, Mayor of Pyla

2022 Young Scholars Excellence Award

Johanna Kardux, Vice-President of MESEA

MESEA Book Launches

Conference Reception sponsored by MIDEX

Friday, 27 May 2022

08:30 – 16:00 Registration/Information Desk
09:00 – 11:00 Parallel Panel Sessions 4

Panel 4.1

More-than-human Borders

Chair: Dorothea Fischer-Hornung

Room: AUD1

Presenters:

Dorothea Fischer-Hornung (University of Heidelberg), The Understory and the Overstory: Locating Transspecies Agency in Amitav Ghosh's *The Hunger Tide* and Richard Powers's *Overstory*
 Angelos Evangelou (University of Kent), Dogs at Borders: In Defence of Literary Animals
 Touhid Chowdhury (University of Bamberg), From an Outsider to Become an Insider: Wallace Nolasco's Crossing Cultural and Ethnic Borders in Timothy Mo's *The Monkey King*

Panel 4.2 The Impermeability of Liquid Borders in Contemporary Film, Memoir, and Conceptual Art

Organizer: Silvia Schultermandl (University of Münster)

Chair: Silvia Schultermandl

Room: CY006

Presenters:

Silvia Schultermandl (University of Münster), Hospitality in Mediterranean Border Crossing Narratives
 Marion Christina Rohrleitner (University of Texas El Paso), The River and the Wall: Transfronteriza Writers, Filmmakers, and Artists on Migration and Climate Change
 Anna Maria Brígido-Corachán (University of Valencia), Immigrant Trespassers and Walkers of the Land: Narrating Removal and Dispossession in/from Indigenous America
 Ana Maria Ferreira (University of Indianapolis), Borders, Nostalgia, and Identity in *I'm No Longer Here*

Panel 4.3 *ONLINE PANEL*

No (Wo)man's Land and Indigenous Community: Contesting Walls and Uninhabitable Spaces

Organizer: Cathy Covell Waegner (University of Siegen)

Chair: Cathy Covell Waegner

Room: CY007

Presenters:

Hsinya Huang (National Sun Yat-sen University), Sisters of Ice and Ocean: Representing the Anthropocene in Indigenous Women's Poetry
 Anna Kemball (University of Edinburgh), Clinical Borders and Biocolonialism in Louise Erdrich's *Future Home of the Living God*
 Cathy Waegner (University of Siegen), "It's a revolutionary act to put Native women on stage sharing their own stories": Contesting (Male) Colonized Spaces in Mary Kathryn Nagle's Plays *Manabhatta* and *Sovereignty*

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee

11:30 – 12:45

Keynote Lecture by Karen McCarthy Woolf

"Un/Safe and Under Pressure //On Enclosure, Gentrification and the Body: A Hybrid Lyric"

Chair: Alan Rice

Room: AUD1

12:45 – 13:45

Lunch Break

Panel 5.1**Borders, Walls, Communities****Chair:** Sophia Emmanouilidou**Room:** AUD1**Presenters:**

Mark Frost (University of Portsmouth), Walled Cities in an Age of Ecocrisis and Totalitarianism:

Yevgeny Zamyatin's *We* and J.J. Connington's Nordenholt's *Million*

Patricja Kurjatto-Renard (University of Littoral): Black Empresses: Afrofuturist Border-crossing

Marquita Smith (The University of Mississippi): Village Voices: Radio Connects Residents in Central Ghana

Sophia Emmanouilidou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), Formidable Barriers, Chicana

Entrapment: Self-Reflections of Resistance in the Borderlands

Panel 5.2a (13:45–14:45)**Germany Displaced****Chair:** Jopi Nyman**Room:** CY006**Presenters:**

John Wharton Lowe (The University of Georgia), Here in Berlin: Transatlantic Convergence in the Work of Cristina Garcia and Werner Sollors

Amy Mohr (University of Munich), Cultural Memory and Displacement in post-WWII American Literature: A Study of The Temptation of Despair: Tales of the 1940s by Werner Sollors

Panel 5.2b (14:45-15:45)**Writing Cyprus****Organizer:** Jopi Nyman**Chair:** Jopi Nyman**Room:** CY006**Presenters:**

Bahriye Kemal (University of Kent), Postcolonial Mediterranean Rhythms from the Balcony of the Sea

Book launch of *Writing Cyprus: Postcolonial and Partitioned Literatures of Place and Space* (Routledge 2021) by Bahriye Kemal followed with a roundtable.**Panel 5.3: *ONLINE PANEL*****Humanitarianism at the Time of Bordering****Chair:** MESEA**Room:** CY007**Presenters:**

Michail-Chrysovalantis Markodimitrakis (Bowling Green State University), Performing “Reception” and “Integration”: The Greek Humanitarian Border Regime and Europe’s Wardens

Kenneth Marcus (LaVerne University), *Borderscapes, Human Rights, and Hanns Eisler's German Symphony*

Raphael Hoermann (University of Central Lancashire), "Borderless and Brazen": The Afro-German Poet and Activist May Ayim's Response to Racism After the Fall of the Wall and Reunification

Theodora Patrona (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), "Like A Good Greek Girl?": Greek Diaspora Women's Writings on Ethnic and Gender Barriers

Presenters:

15:45 – 16:15

Coffee

16:15 – 17:30

Parallel Panel Sessions 6

Panel 6.1

Contesting Borders across the Black Atlantic

Organizer: Astrid Haas

Chair: Astrid Haas

Room: AUD1

Presenters:

Astrid Haas (University of Central Lancashire), *Contesting Borders of Genre and Geography in Olaudah Equiano's Interesting Narrative*

Gabriele Piszcz-Ramirez (University of Leipzig), *Contesting and Negotiating Racial Borders at the Nation's Periphery*

Lisa Merrill (Hofstra University) and Theresa Saxon (University of Central Lancashire), *African American Performers in Russia: Transnational Borders and Race*

Panel 6.2

Walled and Partitioned Spaces

Chair: Christine Berberich

Room: CY006

Presenters:

Christine Berberich (University of Portsmouth), *The "Walls of Change": Brexit, Exclusion and Climate Change*

Elizabeth Boulot (Université Paris Est Marne-la-Vallée), *Protests and Resistance against Trump's Wall and Right-Wing Extremism*

Page Laws (Norfolk State University): *Parabolic Walls in the Work of Franz Kafka and Followers*

Panel 6.3: *ONLINE PANEL*

Voluntary Confinement: The Crisis of Contemporary White Americanness

Organizer: Anni Calcara (University of Eastern Finland)

Chair: Ari Räisänen

Room: CY007

Presenters:

Ari Räisänen (University of Eastern Finland), *Encirclement: Contemporary U.S. Veteran Literature and Challenging the Implicit Whiteness of the American Hegemonic Soldier*

Anni Calcara (University of Eastern Finland), *Some Will Be Left Behind: Evangelical Fiction and the Crumbling American White Evangelical Christian Facade*

17:30 – 19:00 MESEA General Meeting (AUD1)

20:00 – MESEA Conference Dinner (optional), Mer Bleue Beach Restaurant

Saturday, 28 May 2022

09:00 – 12:00 Registration/Information Desk

09:00 – 11:00 Parallel Panel Sessions 6

Panel 7.1

Borderlands and Representation

Chair: Olga Michael

Room: AUD2

Presenters:

Olga Michael (University of Cyprus): *Crossing, Conflict and Diaspora in Cyprus and beyond in Miranda Hoplaros' and Lara Alphas' The Sign-Maker*

Elena Ortells (University Jaume I): *Domestic Space and Memory in Recent Refugee and Migration Graphic Memoirs*

Claudia Hachenberger (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg), Sandra Cisneros' "Woman Hollering Creek" (1991) – A Magical Realist Short Story Promoting the Possibility of Reinventing Gender Roles in the US-Mexican Borderlands

Panel 7.2

Mapping Border Spaces

Chair: Monika Mueller

Room: CY006

Presenters:

Kamil Bembnista (TU Berlin): *Socio-Spatial Dimensions of Discursive Energy Borderlands - An Empirical Case Study of the Turów Coal Mine*

Geoffroy de Laforcade (Norfolk State University), *Exilic Spaces and the Global Border Regime: Breaching Walls of Space and History in Dénètem Touam Bona's Fugitif, où cours-tu?*

Jane Evans (University of Texas El Paso), *Les Amazoniques*, by Boris Dokmak, or Exploring Uncharted Territories

Panel 7.3 *ONLINE PANEL*

Perspectives on Border Imagination

Chair: MESEA

Room: CY007

Presenters:

English Brooks (Snow College), *They Tried to Bury Us: Death and Taxa in the Mexico–US Borderlands*

Cristina Cheveresan (West University of Timișoara), “History is not the Background, History Is the Stage”: Philip Roth between American “Insularity” and Central-European “Marginality”

Mónika Fodor (University of Pecs), Memory and Geographical Space in Ashley Shelby’s cli-fi *South Pole Station*

Hasnul Insani Djohar (Universitas Islam Negeri Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta), Gender and Migration in Laila Lalami’s *Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits*

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:45

Atlantic Studies Lecture (online) by William Boelhower, Louisiana State University

“Cyprus at Large: Learning to Arrive Where We Have Gone.”

Chair: Dorothea Fischer-Hornung, University of Heidelberg

Room: AUD1

13:15 – 19:00

Excursion to Nicosia for ‘Peace Walk’

Excursion by bus from Larnaca to Nicosia for ‘Peace Walk’ (max. 55 persons).

Ticket: 10 euros pp.

13:15 Bus departure from UCLan Campus

14:15 Arrival at Nicosia (and opportunity to grab a snack for lunch); the walk will start at the Ledra Palace Hotel (Marcou Drakou Street)

Description: The tour, a ‘Peace Walk’, will give the participants a chance to explore Nicosia’s city centre, the area within and in proximity to the old city’s Venetian walls. The group will start the walk within the publicly accessible areas of the Buffer Zone and head to the city centre (alongside the Buffer Zone), experiencing the multiple physical antitheses the area offers. The Peace Walk will be guided by Dr Katerina Antoniou, who will discuss the city’s peacebuilding discourse and the identity threats it has faced, as well as illustrations of its multicultural and multiethnic character.

Information about Nicosia (old town and more):

<https://www.visitnicosia.com.cy/Old-Town>.

18:00 departure from Nicosia

c. 19:00 back in Larnaca (Ledra Palace checkpoint).

Special instructions: Please bring your **passport** and wear comfortable clothes and shoes. As participants will be invited to engage in some reflective writing at the beginning and end of the tour, as well as

complete a survey for the tour for future research purposes, please bring **pen and paper** as well! You are also advised to carry **water, sunglasses** and a **hat** for sun protection and self-care. The 'Peace Walk' is scheduled to take approximately 2-3 hours, with a coffee break included.

Practical Conference Information

1. Local Organizers/UCLan

Katerina Antoniou
Athanasia Hadjigeorgiou
Antri Kanikli
Alan Rice

2. University of Central Lancashire, Cyprus Campus, Pyla

UCLan Cyprus is located in Larnaka, and it is now in its ninth year of operation. It is the first Branch Campus of the University of Central Lancashire and at the same time a fully licensed University in Cyprus. A unique and innovative model of a Cypriot and British University Educational Experience, accredited by the UK Quality Assurance Agency and the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education (CYQAA) respectively.

Built on strong academic foundations, the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan UK), our mother University, counts more than 190 years of history and is considered among the top 6.5% of all worldwide Universities by the Centre for World University Rankings (CWUR) 2020/21.

For more information and campus maps, see
<https://www.uclancyprus.ac.cy/>

The conference is organized in collaboration with the UCLan Research Centre for Migration, Diaspora and Exile (MIDEX) that develops in-depth, state-of-the-art and impactful analysis of cultural, political, social, socio-legal and historical topics within migration, diaspora and exile. With more than 60 members across all faculties of the university, including established and young scholars, teaching staff and PhD students, MIDEX has emerged as an interdisciplinary centre of research and community engagement. Our projects include historical and contemporary, forced and voluntary migration in Britain and Europe and beyond including Transatlantic slavery and its consequences, the Windrush scandal, deportations and detentions and the racialisation of migrants as a result of the rise in xenophobia and far-right political parties, as well as migration as a consequence of climate change.

For inquiries, please contact MIDEX Director, Professor Alan Rice ARice@uclan.ac.uk

See:
<https://www.uclan.ac.uk/research/centres/migration-diaspora-and-exile>

3. Conference Venue

The Twelfth Biennial MESEA Conference will take place on the UCLan Cyprus Campus.

If you are visiting the University campus in Pyla by car you should travel on the A3 towards Ayia Napa/ Paralimni and exit at either the first (Exit 5) or second exit (Exit 6) which directs you to Pyla. Once you exit you will see signs every 500m directing you towards the University Campus.

4. Registration

Registration for the conference will take place in the conference office outside Auditorium 1 during the conference hours starting at 8:30 am.

5. Opening Reception

There will be a welcome reception sponsored by the MIDEK where participants are cordially invited. The reception will be held on the conference site on Thursday, 26 May 2022, 7.15 pm, following the opening ceremony.

6. Lunch and Coffee Breaks

The campus restaurants and café will be open during the conference. MESEA conference coffee will be served during the coffee breaks at a coffee station next to the registration desk outside AUD1 main entrance.

Participants can buy lunch (not included in the conference fee) at the UCLan Campus Cafeteria between 12:30-14:30.

7. Conference Dinner (Friday 27 May, 2022)

Those who have signed up and pre-paid will receive a voucher upon registration. Dinner will begin at 8 pm and will include a meze dinner. Local drinks are included in the price. The event will be an opportunity to meet and share experiences in a relaxed atmosphere.

Price per person: 40€.

Place: Mer Bleue Beach Restaurant, Mesopotamias 8, Oroklini, Larnaca.

Please note that the restaurant only has limited capacity, so pre-registration on the website is essential.

8. Young Scholars Excellence Award 2022

The winner of this year's Young Scholars Excellence Award will be announced and receive their award at the opening ceremony.

9. Pyla and Larnaka

Larnaka

Situated on the southern coast of Cyprus, Larnaka is known for its beautiful clean beaches, great food and vibrant nightlife. It is the perfect location for a University.

With the fantastic Mediterranean weather, outdoor leisure activities are very popular. Students can take part in water sports, diving, snorkelling, fishing, hiking, cycling and many more. Interestingly, the crystal clear bays are unusually rich in underwater wreckages for you to explore. There are many qualified and licensed diving instructors and businesses along the beach areas.

Inland, there are many historic churches, mosques, archaeological sites, museums, galleries, gardens and other tourist attractions. The most notable are probably the Larnaka Fort, built in 1625 on the seafront and the 9th century St. Lazarus Church, again close to the Fort. Natural sites for wildlife and beauty include the Salt Lake on the outskirts of Larnaka, a haven for migratory birds, including flamingos and other waders. Also, one of the most infamous Mosques in Cyprus, Hala Sultan Tekke or the Mosque of Umm Haram is a Muslim shrine on the west bank of Larnaca Salt Lake.

Horse riding, nature walks, camel rides and organised excursions are just a few of the many activities that Larnaka has to offer. Alternatively, bikes and quad bikes can also be hired for day trips.

Pyla, Larnaka

Pyla is a quiet village in the Larnaka district situated just a 5-minute drive away from the blue flag awarded CTO beach. When going south towards the sea, you reach the Larnaka-Dhekelia road, which hosts many restaurants, cafes, pubs, shops and hotels. Being situated in Pyla gives you easy access to Larnaka and Ayia Napa, as the highway is very near, providing access to any town you wish to visit in Cyprus.

Ayia Napa lies east from Pyla and is very famous for its white-sanded beaches, clear blue waters and of course, its vibrant night life in the summer season. Ayia Napa also hosts many restaurants, featuring local and international cuisines.

Much information about the area can be obtained online:

<https://larnakaregion.com/>

<http://cyprusfortravellers.net/en/review/pyla-where-cultures-meet>

10. Getting Around: Public Transportation and Taxis

<https://www.uclancyprus.ac.cy/life/university-life/how-to-find-us/>

Information: Transportation from Larnaka International Airport (LCA) to hotels

By taxi

Information regarding the taxi company, Karatzias, for conference participants who want a pickup from the airport: <https://karatzias.com/>

Prices for airport pickups (to be driven to Lordos, for instance, and the area near there) have been given to us as follows:

- 1-4 people 18€
- 5-7 people 25€
- 7-10 people 35€

For bookings delegates should send an email to info@karatzias.com and explain that they are participants at the MESEA conference which is hosted by UCLAN.

By public bus

From Larnaca International Airport to the main hotels (e.g. Tsialis/Lordos/Lebay), you can take the 425 public bus to Akrolopeos Ave-Lordos (Pyla). Reverse, from hotels to Larnaca airport, also take 425 but in opposite direction. See Cyprus By Bus Route Planner – Find your bus journey in Cyprus: <https://www.cyprusbybus.com/search.aspx>

Information: Transportation from hotels to UCLan campus Pyla (conference venue)

Bus 424 connects the main conference hotels with UCLAN campus. For 424 bus timetable, <http://www.zinonasbuses.com/admin/uploads/pdfs/pdf171.pdf>

or check

<https://www.cyprusbybus.com/search.aspx>

<http://www.zinonasbuses.com>

For those staying at TSIALIS and Lordos hotels, there is a bus stop nearby (KOT on the bus timetable) where you can get public bus 424 to UCLan Pyla and back (2 stops).

For those staying at Lebay hotel there is a bus stop nearby (HENIPA on the bus timetable), where you can get public bus 424 to UCLan Pyla and back (3 stops).

For bus ticket info, see New Ticketing Policy. From 29th of January – Cyprus Public Transport. You can buy a one-way ticket from the driver; the Paper Smart Card valid for up to 4 trips a day within Zone 1-3 (6 Euros) can only be issued at local Points of Sale. For more information on each card/option, you may visit the Cyprus Public Transportation website <https://www.publictransport.com.cy/>

Note: There are also apps similar to Uber which can be used: Taxify and Bold Cyprus.

Taxis:

- Taxi 878 +43 316 878
- Taxi 2801 +43 316 2801

11. WiFi/Internet

Participants can use UCLan Cyprus's Open Guest WiFi or Eduroam. Eduroam is accessible for users whose home institution participates in the eduroam network. Login using the credentials provided by your own institution.

12. Conference Abstracts

The Book of Conference Abstracts is available at the MESEA website www.mesea.org

13. Copy and Print

Please consult the front desk in the registration office.

