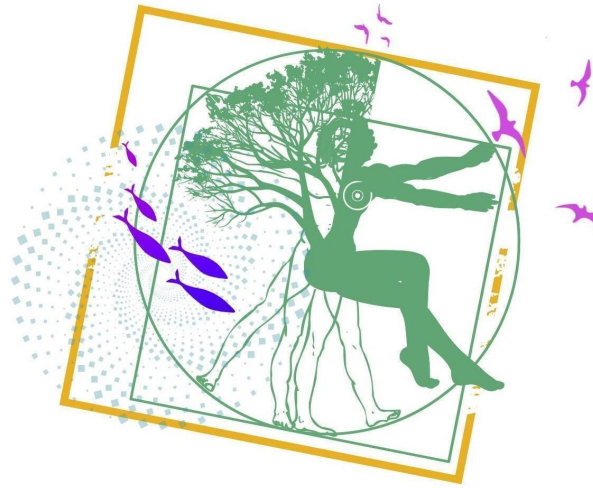


**19th International Conference on Contemporary Narratives in English
The Relational Turn in the Literary Anglosphere: Writing Connection and Interdependence**

FULL PROGRAMME



**The Relational Turn in
the Literary Anglosphere**

Conference venue: Faculty of Arts and Letters

Wednesday 21st

9:00 Registration (*Main Hall, Building A*)

9:30 Opening (*Aula Magna*)

10:00 Keynote 1 (*Aula Magna*): Joan Anim-Addo (Goldsmiths, University of London, UK). "Telling Tales about Situated Relationality: The Black Human's Absence in the Literature Classroom and Black British Novels Writing Interdependence". Chair: Irene Pérez Fernández.

11:30 Coffee Break (*Sala Filo*)

12:00 Panel Session 1

1.1 Room E.1.1. Chair: Eugenia Ossana

Adesanya M. Alabi (Cappadocia University). "Intersecting Humans and Nature in Literature of Nature: The Aesthetics of Literary Landscapes in Eco-Criticism".

Mònica Bru Cantero (Universitat de València). "Trespassing the Boundaries of Knowledge and Self in Caridad Svich's Climate Change Drama *Ushuaia Blue*".

Eugenia Ossana (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Narrative Disruption and Ontological Continuity: A Parallel Reading of *Not a River* by Selva Almada and *The Bee Sting* by Paul Murray".

1.2 Room E.1.2 Chair: Mónica Calvo Pascual

Soňa Šnircová (Pavol Jozef Šafárik University). "Ecology, the Romantic Sublime and Levinasian Ethics in Robbie Arnott's *The Rain Heron*".

Ana Chapman (Universidad de Málaga). "The Narrative of "Murmure" and "Memor": Relationality and Evolution in Marshall's *The Migration*".

Mónica Calvo Pascual (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Body Agency and Radical Kinship in Rivers Solomon's *An Unkindness of Ghosts*".

1.3 Room D3.1 Chair: Elena García Barca

Anne Pélabon (Toulouse Jean Jaurès University). "Joy Harjo's Biocentric Poetry: Sharing a Conversation with All-Our-Relations "Inside the Raw Cortex of Songs".

Isabel Fernandes Alves (University of Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro). "The Thread that Connects the Outer World with Our Own": Nature Writing and the Turn to a Time of Reparation".

Elena García Barca (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Relationality and Vulnerability: Collective Agency in *Surviving the City*".

1.4 Room D3.2 Chair: Silvia Pellicer-Ortín

Ana García-Soriano (University of Leeds). "Reading 'Fusion Feminism' in Bernardine Evaristo's *Girl, Woman, Other*".

Haneen Alkaraki (University of Portsmouth). "The Fragmented Self and Relational Interdependence in Gurnah's Fiction".

Silvia Pellicer-Ortín (Universidad de Zaragoza). "The Relational Turn in Contemporary Fiction: Vulnerability and Relationality in A. L. Kennedy's *Serious Sweet* (2016)".

1.5 Sala de Grados Chair: María Ferrández Sanmiguel

Francisco Fuentes Antrás (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid). "A Relational Approach to Emmanuel Iduma's *A Stranger's Pose*: The Familiar Stranger".

Alessandra Martín González (Universidad de Salamanca). "Posthuman Frontiers: Deconstruction of the Boundaries between Alien and Human in Octavia Butler's 'Amnesty'".

María Ferrández Sanmiguel (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Mourning the Human? Posthuman Death and Ontological Vulnerability in Jeff VanderMeer's *The Southern Reach Trilogy*".

13:30 Lunch break

16:00 Panel Session 2

2.1 Room E.1.1 Chair: Susana Onega

María del Pino Montesdeoca Cubas (Universidad de La Laguna). "Redefinitions of Identity in Jonathan Coe's *Bournville* (2022)".

Maria Festa (University of Torino). "Refugee Tales V: Migrants' Fragmented (Auto)Biographies and Wasted Lives in the Contemporary British 'expulsive environment'".

Susana Onega (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Strangers at the door": Migration, (Counter-) Terrorism and the Politics of Fear in Kamila Shamsie's *Home Fire*".

2.2 Room E.1.2 Chair: Miriam Fernández Santiago

Julio San Román Cazorla (Universidad Complutense de Madrid). "The Fall of the Passionate Heroes: Myth, Relationality, and Identity in Jeanette Winterson's *The Passion*".

Irache Ossés (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Freeing the Silenced Voices of Homer's Iliad: Herstory, Vulnerability and Female Objectification in Pat Barker's *The Silence of the Girls* (2018)".

Miriam Fernández Santiago (Universidad de Granada). "The Posthuman Wound: Neo Apollonian Aesthetics for Transcendental(ist) Relations in the Literary Productions by Tao Lin and Francesca Ferrando".

2.3 Room D3.1 Chair: Amaia Ibarraran-Bigalondo

Ángel Chaparro Sainz (UPV/EHU). "West of the American Dream: Willy Vlautin and the Plural".

Amaia Soroa-Bacaicoa (UPV/EHU). "The Collective Power of Storytelling in Contemporary Latina Narratives of Migration to the American West".

Amaia Ibarraran-Bigalondo (UPV/EHU). "'I'm a Mexican in the Oeste,' or Who was here before? The Mexicano, Pistolero Oeste".

2.4 Room D3.2 Chair: Violeta Duce

Marcelo Fornari López (Universitat de Barcelona). "Afropessimism and the Limits of Relationality: Blackness and Narrative in Frank B. Wilderson III's *Afropessimism*".

Irene Pérez Fernández (Universidad de Oviedo). "'Reader, I must whisper you a truth': Underscoring Connections and Interdependence in Andrea Levy's *The Long Song*".

Violeta Duce (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Relationality across Borders: A Transmodern Reading of Women's Migratory Experiences in Chika Unigwe's *Better Never than Late* (2020)".

2.5 Sala de Grados Chair: Chiara Battisti

Teresa Casal (University of Lisbon). "'What Must It Be Like?': Approaching Advanced Dementia in Memoir and Fiction".

Magdalena Flores Quesada (Universidad de Málaga). "Mental Illness as a Relational Assemblage in Meg Mason's *Sorrow and Bliss* (2020)".

Chiara Battisti (University of Verona). "Drifting Memories: Navigating Dementia in Julie Otsuka's *The Swimmers*".

17:30 Coffee Break (Sala Filo)

18:00 Keynote 2 (Aula Magna): John McLeod (University of Leeds). "Bloody Relations".
Chair: M. Dolores Herrero Granado.

20:30 Welcome Reception (Restaurante Molino de San Lázaro. Paseo de la Ribera, 22).

Thursday 22nd

9:30 Panel Session 3

3.1 Room E.1.1 Chair: Juan Ignacio Oliva

Clara Hebel (Goethe University Frankfurt am Main). "Time as Relational: Aquatic Heterotemporalities and Planetary More-Than-Human Entanglements in Contemporary Anglophone Literatures".

Juan Ignacio Oliva (Universidad de La Laguna). "Tishani Doshi's Rhizomatic Relationality: An Ecofeminist Reading of Rivers and Woods".

3.2 Room E.1.2 Chair: Sonia Baelo Allué

Aurora Rodríguez-Bermejo Fraile (Universidad de Zaragoza). "The Embodied Other: New Materialism and Critical Posthumanism in *The Deep* (2019)".

Esther Muñoz-González (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Resurrected Identities: The Posthuman and Gothic Relationality in Kelly Link's *The Book of Love*".

Sonia Baelo Allué (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Narrating Relationality: Language, AI, and the Nonhuman in Louisa Hall's *Speak*".

3.3 Room D3.1 Chair: Merve Sarikaya-Sen

Marcelina Noworyta (Jagiellonian University). "Reimagining Feminist Subjectivity. Relationality in Roxane Gay's *Bad Feminist*".

Angeliki Tseti (Independent scholar). "Relationality in Trauma and the Connective Power of Storytelling in Margaret Atwood and Douglas Preston's *Fourteen Days*".

Merve Sarikaya-Sen (Başkent University). "Anne Michaels's *Held* (2023): A Networked Novel of Relationalities".

3.4 Room D3.2 Chair: Cristina de los Ríos

Eleonora Maio (University of Palermo). "Shakespeare, Absence and Identity: The Relational Self in Sally Bayley's *No Boys Play Here*".

Leah Butterfield (University of the Bahamas). "Representing Trans Communities through Narratives of Overcoming: Janet Mock's *Redefining Realness*".

Cristina de los Ríos (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Culinary Connections: Food as a Relational Element in *Beneath the Fig Leaves* by Olympia Panagiotopoulos".

3.5 Sala de Grados Chair: Burcu Gülüm Tekin

Angelo Monaco (University of Bari "Aldo Moro"). "Ordinary Affects, Community and Relationality in William Trevor's *Love and Summer*".

Catalina Wajs Tauscher (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Relationality at the Core of Irish Tradition".

Burcu Gülüm Tekin (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Distances that Transform in Lucy Caldwell's *Openings* (2024)".

11:00 Coffee Break (Sala Filo)

11:30 Keynote 3 (Aula Magna): Rosario Arias. University of Málaga, Spain. "Relationality, Assemblage Thinking and Communities of Care in Contemporary Fiction". Chair: Susana Onega.

13:00 Panel Session 4

4.1 Room E.1.1 Chair: Maite Escudero Alías

Pascale Tollance (Université Lyon 2). "'Only connect'?: Disruption at the service of connection in Ali Smith's *Summer*".

Marta Bagüés (Universidad de Zaragoza). "A portrait in words of my next door neighbour": Derridean and Levinasean Ethics in Ali Smith's *Autumn* (2016)".

Maite Escudero Alías (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Just Words? Linguistic Jouissance and Semantic Propinquity in Ali Smith's Fiction".

4.2 Room E.1.2 Chair: Rubén Peinado-Abarrio

Marek Paryż (University of Warsaw). "Aspects of Relationality in Recent US Western Fiction".

Zuzana Buráková (Pavol Jozef Safarik University in Kosice). "Cormac McCarthy and Ecocriticism: Relationality and the Deep Time".
Rubén Peinado-Abarrio (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Mise en abyme as a feminist strategy in recent US fiction".

4.3 Room D3.1 Chair: Paula Serrano Elena

Tibisay García Martín (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia). "Telling Is Not Enough: Reading Contemporary Rape Trauma Narratives".
María Ivars Giner (Universitat de València). "Bonds that hurt: an analysis of the mother-daughter relationship in Vivian Gornick's *Fierce Attachments* (1987)".
Paula Serrano Elena (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Interdependence Disrupted: Maternal Isolation, Postpartum Depression and Resistance in Szilvia Molnar's *The Nursery*".

4.4 Room D3.2 Chair: Silvia Martínez-Falquina

Sharon Holm (Independent Scholar). "'I become the canyon, its dreaming eye': Lyric subjecthood, Time, and Indigenous relationality in the ecopoiesis of Joan Naviyuk Kane's, *Dark Traffic*, and Jennifer Elise Foerster's, *The Maybe-Bird*".
Elena Cortés Farrujia (Universitat de Barcelona). "Cleansing Ceremonies: Re-Indigenizing (Queer) Bathrooms, Conflating with River-Streams".
Silvia Martínez-Falquina (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Of Beets, Bones, and Books: Radical Relationality and Indigenous Place-Thought in Louise Erdrich's *The Mighty Red*".

4.5 Sala de Grados Chair: Marta Fernández Morales

Cristina Arbués Caballé (Universitat de Barcelona). "Active Vulnerability in Masculinity in Susanna Clarke's *Piranesi* (2020): Overcoming Trauma through the Relational Turn".
Miriam Borham-Puyal (Universidad de Salamanca). "'Know You Are loved': Relationality and Assemblages in Si Spencer's *Bodies*".
Marta Fernández Morales (Universidad de Oviedo). "'It's OK for ghosts to exist through me': Relational Autobiographical Praxis in Myriam Gurba's *Mean*".

14:30 Lunch break

16:00 Panel Session 5

5.1 Room E.1.1 Chair: Laura Roldán Sevillano

José Igor Prieto Arranz (Universitat de les Illes Balears). "Challenging an Essentialist Definition of Scottishness. Evidence from Ali Smith's fiction".
Petr Chalupský (Charles University, Prague). "Portentous Visitations: The Ethics of Care and Vulnerability in Noel O'Regan's *Though the Bodies Fall*".
Laura Roldán Sevillano (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Surviving Broken Dreams in Transmodern America: The Empowering Role of Relational Ethics of Care for Haitian American Immigrants in Ibi Zoboi's *American Street*".

5.2 Room E.1.2 Chair: Ana María Crespo

Verónica Vizcaino Cabezas (Universidad de Lleida). "Negotiating Identity and Isolation: The Aging Female Migrant in Jackie Kay's 'Mrs. Vадnie Marlene Sevlon'".
Şermin Sezer-Toraman (Sinop University). "Nomadic Subjectivity in Zadie Smith's *On Beauty*".
Ana María Crespo Gómez (Universidad de Zaragoza). "'How to not be a coconut': Feminist Relational Agency in Indian American Magazines".

5.3 Room D3.1 Chair: M. Dolores Herrero

Bianca Cherechés (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Bridging the margins and reimagining power through *The Immortal King Rao* (2022)".

Paloma Fresno Calleja (Universitat de les Illes Balears). "Connected Histories, Implicated Subjects: Contesting Colonial Violence in Lydia Syson's *Mr Peacock's Possessions*".

M. Dolores Herrero Granado (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Janice Pariat's *Everything the Light Touches*: A Transmodern Pluriversal Palindrome".

5.4 Room D3.2 Chair: Aitana Monzón Blasco

Anna M. Brígido-Corachán (Universitat de València). "'Flooding Waters were a Cautious Gift': Indigenous Knowledge and Environmental Memory in Leslie Marmon Silko and Ofelia Zepeda's Poetic Narratives".

Martina Horáková (Masaryk University). "Relationality and Braiding Indigenous Women's Environmental Knowledge".

Aitana Monzón Blasco (Universidad de Zaragoza). "A Woman Waits for Nurturing and Blooming: Louise Erdrich's Ethics of Care and Ecological Knowledge in *The Blue Jay's Dance* (1995)".

5.5 Sala de Grados Chair: Elsa Adán Hernández

Natalia Jiménez Pérez (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Relationality and Trauma: Resisting Loss through Ethical Encounters in Sally Rooney's *Intermezzo* (2024)".

Iveta Aare (Tallinn University). "Vulnerability and Bodily Emotion Work in *Poor Things* by Alasdair Gray and its Cinematic Adaptation by Yorgos Lantimos".

Elsa Adán Hernández (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Fragmented Connections in Transmodern Times: Navigating Sally Rooney's Fictions".

17:30 Coffee Break (Sala Filo)

18:00 Panel Session 6

6.1 Room E.1.1 Chair: María Torres Romero

Muhsin Yanar (Birbeck, University of London). "Kinship, Memory and Eco-trauma: Elif Shafak's *There are Rivers in the Sky*".

Julia Kuznetski (Tallinn University). "Relationality, memory and the future in a single raindrop: Elif Shafak's *There Are Rivers in the Sky*".

María Torres Romero (Universidad de Málaga). "The Meetings of the Waters: Enmeshed Relationality and Storied Matter in Elif Shafak's *There are Rivers in the Sky* and Richard Powers's *Playground*".

6.2 Room E.1.2 Chair: Paula Romo Mayor

Julia Lange (University of Hamburg). "We were victims too!: German American Internment Narratives and the Memory of the Holocaust".

Eva María Pérez Rodríguez (Universitat de les Illes Balears). "'It Just Hits Too Close to Home': Greek Life-Writing as Family, Relations and War History in Eleni Gage's *North of Ithaka*".

Paula Romo Mayor (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Embodied Perception and Ethical Stagnation in Rachel Seiffert's 'Lore'".

6.3 Room D3.1 Chair: José María Yebra

Ester Suur (University of Tartu). "Interconnected Experiences in Ruth Ozeki's *A Tale for the Time Being*".

Sara Soler i Arjona (Universitat de Barcelona). "The Form of Kinship: Letters, Relationality, and Diasporic Poetics in Ocean Vuong's Writing".

José María Yebra (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Intersectionality and the liminal in Ocean Vuong's *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous* and Paul Mendez's *Rainbow Milk*".

6.4 Room D3.2 Chair: Alejandro Nadal-Ruiz

Maricel Oró-Piqueras (Universitat de Lleida). "Desire Over Performance in Ageing Masculinities in Julian Barnes's, John Updike's and William Trevor's Short Stories".

Joan Vázquez (Universitat de Barcelona). "Contemporary Dandies: Violence, Addiction and Vulnerable Masculinities in Steve McQueen's *Shame* and Steven Zaillian's *Ripley*".

Alejandro Nadal-Ruiz (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Translit and Relational Constructions of Identity in British Romani Memoir: An Analysis of Damian Le Bas's *The Stopping Places*".

6.5 Sala de Grados Chair: Adriana Lobato Villarreal

Anna Pasolini (University of Milan). "African Futures and Queer Kinship: Resisting Necropolitics in Tlotlo Tsamaase's *The Silence of the Wilting Skin*".

Teresa García Salcedo (Universidad de Córdoba). "Heeding the Margins and Appropriating the Canon: The Path Towards Planetary Salvation in Nnedi Okorafor's *Lagoon* (2014)".

Adriana Lobato Villarreal (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Towards a Relational Future: Vulnerability and Care in N. K. Jemisin's *Broken Earth*".

21:00 Conference Dinner (*Restaurante Paraninfo Flor. Plaza Basilio Paraíso 4*)

Friday 23rd

10:00 Panel Session 7

7.1 Room E.1.1 Chair: Bárbara Arizti

Joana Passos (University of Minho). "Delayed Interdependence: Postcolonial Literacy to Get Across Cultural Barriers".

Bárbara Arizti (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Attention, Art and Transcendent Relationality in Sofie Laguna's *Infinite Splendours*".

7.2 Room E.1.2 Chair: Marta Hernández González

Paweł Wojtas (University of Warsaw). "The Therapeutic Relations in Max Porter's Fiction: Formal Experimentalism and the Limits of (Book) Therapy in *Shy*".

Marta Hernández González (Universidad de Zaragoza). "The Subaltern Experience: Injustice and Suffering in Ceridwen Dovey's *Only the Animals*".

7.3 Room D3.1 Chair: Ana Fernández-Caparrós

Rose Arong (University of the Philippines Cebu). "'Excluded Presence': Narrating Domestic Care Work".

Ana Fernández-Caparrós (Universitat de València). "'When I look at you, I see nothing but becoming': Theatrical Poetics of Care in Post-Recession US Drama".

7.4 Room D3.2 Chair: Laura García Soria

Pierangelly Del Rio Martinez (Tallinna Ülikool). "The 'Two-Fold' Environmental Memoir: Rethinking Hegemonic Centrism and the Illusion of Disembeddedness".

Laura García Soria (Universidad de Zaragoza). "'A new structure of feeling': Social Media, Planetary and Relationality in *The Ministry for the Future*".

11:00 Coffee Break (*Sala Filo*)

11:30 Keynote 4 (*Aula Magna*): Gordon Henry. Michigan State University/ Northeastern University, USA. "Unsettling Pretendians: Restor(y)ing Relational Provenance and Tribal Belonging." Chair: Silvia Martínez-Falquina.

13:00 Panel Session 8

8.1 Room E.1.1 Chair: Fabian Eggers

Pi-hua Ni (National Chiayi University Taiwan). "Trauma, Placemaking and Identity Construction in Chia-Chia Lin's *The Unpassing*".

Ruby Si Qingerili (Chungbuk National University). "Drawing the Ghosts Away: Graphic Narrative as a Medium for Trauma, Postmemory, and Healing in *Feeding Ghosts*".

Fabian Eggers (Berlin International). "Poetics of Indifference and 'Relations of Relationlessness' in Tao Lin's *Taipei*".

8.2 Room E.1.2 Chair: Francesca Mussi

Katarína Danková (Pavol Jozef Šafárik University). "Interconnected Ecologies: Aboriginal Realism and Environmental Criticism in Wright's *The Swan Book* and Simpson's *Song of the Crocodile*".

Suja Kurup (University of Kerala). "Sentient Landscapes: Place and Identity in Alexis Wright's *The Swan Book*".

Francesca Mussi (Sapienza University of Rome). "Settler Colonialism, Extractivism, and Indigenous Relationality: Repairing and Re-Storying Relations with Country in Tara June Winch's *The Yield*".

8.3 Room D3.1 Chair: Jessica Aliaga-Lavrijsen

Mylène Gamache (University of Manitoba). "Ir/reverent Notes for the 'Human, after Man'".

Gian Maria Di Cristofaro (University of Siena). "Mapping Sumbiocentrism in Richard Powers' *Playground*".

Jessica Aliaga-Lavrijsen (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Relationality in Bloom: Human-Plant Encounters and the Ethics of Intelligence in Contemporary SF Literature".

8.4 Room D3.2 Chair: Sidia Fiorato

Sara Marín Lafuente (Universidad de Zaragoza). "Relationality in Post-Pandemic Fantasy Literature".

Elena Ogliari (State University of Milan). "Splintering Binaries: Magic Realism and Relationality in Jan Carson's *The Fire Starters*".

Sidia Fiorato (University of Verona). "'I've probably become a single child family': *Coraline* and the search for identity through family relationality".

14:30 Closing Remarks (*Aula Magna*)