

## WISPS MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2005

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### FROM THE EXEC...

Membership - many thanks to the officers of the AHGBI, SLAS and ACIS, who have generously publicised WISPS through their newsletters and mailing lists. Plans are afoot to target new postgrads, but please also keep recruiting through word of mouth, always the most effective way. Remember also that membership and DD forms for WISPS are easily available from the WISPS website.

Writing retreat, Summer 2005. The Exec are currently investigating possible venues for this event, and will email members with further details in a few weeks. We are hoping to invite a number of dynamic facilitators to ensure that our writing projects see the light of day by the end of the retreat. Watch this space!

### PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES IN JOB

- **Maria Manuel Lisboa** has been promoted to Reader in Portuguese, University of Cambridge
- **Anja Louis** has taken up a lectureship in Hispanic Studies at Sheffield, with effect from January 2005.
- **Claire Taylor** has taken up a post as Lecturer in Hispanic Studies at Liverpool, with effect from September 2004.
- **Niamh Thornton** has taken up a lectureship in Hispanic Studies at U Ulster at Coleraine.

### MEMBERS' RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

#### Margaret Anne Clarke (Portsmouth)

- "Creative Writing across Languages", *Writing in Education* Issue 31 (Spring 2004), 24 - 27

#### Ann Davies (Newcastle)

- *Metamorphoses of Don Juan's Women: Early Parity to Late Modern Pathology* (Edwin Mellen: 2004). More info here: <http://www.mellenpress.com/emp/mellenpress.cfm?bookid=6006&pc=9>
- Phil Powrie, --, and Bruce Babington, eds., *The Trouble With Men: Masculinities in European and Hollywood Cinema* (London: Wallflower Press, 2005). More info here: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/cup/catalog/data/190476/1904764088.HTM>

#### Louise Haywood (Cambridge)

- 'Spring Song and Narrative Organization in the Medieval Alexander Legend', *Troianalexandrina*, 4: 87-105
- 'El cuerpo grotesco en el "Libro de Buen Amor" de Juan Ruiz', in *Juan Ruiz, Arcipreste de Hita y el "Libro de Buen Amor"* (Alcalá la Real: Ayuntamiento, Centro para la Edición de los Clásicos Españoles), pp. 441-50.
- Louise M. Haywood, & Louise O. Vasvári, *A Companion to the 'Libro de Buen Amor'*, Tamesis, A209 (Woodbridge: Boydell & Brewer, 2004). The Libro de Buen Amor is one of the most interesting and important literary accomplishments of the Middle Ages, and its uniqueness and diversity have thrilled and perplexed readers through the ages: Juan Goytisolo, amongst others, is a big fan. It's a must

read for anyone interested in the history of sexuality, and for those interested in postmodernism, or issues related to pluralistic or contested identities. The Companion is a series of essays that offer new scholarly insights into it, and contextualise it for a generation of fresh readers. It is the second collection of essays in English on the Libro, and its preface addresses the critical reception of the first volume, and assesses trends in Libro scholarship. The collection offers new insights on and surveys of the context, and socio-political milieu of the Juan Ruiz, the Libro's metrics, its use of tradition wisdom and truancy, its transmission, the central episodes (on Don Amor and Doña Endrina), and the application of modern critical approaches to the Libro, drawing on Bakhtin, folklore studies, chaos theory, and reader-reception theory. More info: <http://www.tamesisbooks.com>

### **Vanessa Knights (Newcastle)**

- 'Songs of Creole Identities: The Bolero in the Hispanic Caribbean', *Forum of Modern Language Studies*, 40.4 (2004), 389-400
- 'Transformative Identities in the Science Fiction of Elia Barceló: A Literature of Cognitive Estrangement', in *Reading the Popular in Contemporary Spanish Texts*, (eds) Shelley Godsland & Nickianne Moody (Newark: University of Delaware Press, 2004), 74-99. More info: <http://www2.lib.udel.edu/udpress/readpop.htm>
- 'Los boleros de Antonio Machín y las coplas de Conchita Piquer en "los años de hambre" de la posguerra española', *La Canción Popular: Revista de la Asociación Puertorriqueña de Coleccionistas de Música Popular*, 19.18 (2004), 102-06
- 'Repensar la nación: entre lo local y lo global en el siglo veintiuno', with Ian Biddle, proceedings of V Conference of IASPM-AL, (November 2004), <http://www.unirio.br/mpb/iaspmla2004/Anais2004/Vanessalan.pdf>

### **Par Kumaraswami (Heriot-Watt)**

- "'Pensamos que somos historia porque sabemos que somos historia': Context, self and self-construction in women's testimonial writing from revolutionary Cuba". Forthcoming in *Bulletin of Hispanic Studies*.

### **Anja Louis (Sheffield)**

- *Women and the Law: Carmen de Burgos, an early feminist*. Tamesis Books, in press
- 'Whose melodrama is it anyway? Women and the law in de Burgos's novellas', *Bulletin of Spanish Studies*, special issue: Alternative Discourses in Early Twentieth-century Spain (2004), edited by Alison Sinclair and Richard Cleminson, 79-97
- 'Inferior, superior or just different? A woman's sense of justice in Carmen de Burgos's El abogado', *Hispanic Research Journal* (2005), in press

### **Claire Taylor (Liverpool)**

- Claire Taylor, *Bodies and Texts: Configurations of Identity in the Works of Griselda Gambaro, Albalucía Ángel and Laura Esquivel*. 202pp. (Leeds: Maney for the MHRA, 2003). More info here: <http://www.maney.co.uk/search?fwaction=show&fwid=594>
- Claire Taylor, 'María Luisa Bemberg's Winks at the Audience: Performativity and Citation in Camila and Yo, la peor de todas', in Shaw and Dennison, eds., *Modernity, Gender and Nation in Latin American Cinema* (Jefferson: McFarland, 2005), pp. 134-152. More info: <http://www.mcfarlandpub.com/book-2.php?isbn=0-7864-2004-9>

### **Nuria Triana-Toribio (Manchester)**

- 'Santiago Segura: Just when you thought Spanish masculinities were getting better...' *Hispanic Research Journal*, 15, 2 (2004), pp.147-156, ISSN: 1468-2737.
- With P. Buse and A. Willis 'Esto no es un juego, es *Acción mutante*: The provocations of Álex de la Iglesia'. *Journal of Iberian and Latin American Studies*, 10, 1 (2004), pp. 9-22, ISSN: 1470-1847.

- With P. Buse and A. Willis 'The Spanish "Popular Auteur": Álex de la Iglesia as Polemical Tool'. *New Cinemas*, 2, 3 (2004), ISSN: tba , pp: tba.

#### **Lesley Twomey (Northumbria at Newcastle)**

- 'Victoria Kent: A Spanish Politician in Exile' in Angela Kimyongour and Angela Kershaw, *Women in Europe Between the Wars: Politics, Culture and Society* (Ashgate, forthcoming).

#### **Claire Williams (Liverpool)**

- 'Mozambique in Transition in the Works of Lília Momplé', *Portuguese Literary and Cultural Studies: Mozambique Issue*, 10 (2003), pp. 215-29
- 'Maidens, Matriarchs and Martyrs: Mozambican Women in the Works of Lília Momplé', in *Luso-African Sexualities*, ed. Hilary Owen and Phillip Rothwell (Bristol University Spanish and Portuguese Department Humanities Series, Oct. 2004; Lusophone Studies II), pp. 117-35
- 'Interview with Lília Momplé, Birmingham, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2003' (with Hilary Owen), *Luso-African Sexualities*, op.cit. pp. 177-87.

### **AWARDS AND FUNDING**

#### **Margaret Anne Clarke (Portsmouth).**

- Joint winner of European Award for Languages 2004 for project "Creative Writing in a Modern Foreign Language" (you haven't heard the last of this if I can get more funding).
- Awarded a grant of £2415 by the Learning and Teaching Council (administered by the Subject Centre, University of Southampton) for project "Developing web-based resources and educational materials for the on-line learning and teaching of Portuguese".

#### **Lesley Twomey (Northumbria at Newcastle).**

- Lesley has been appointed project manager of an EU funded project for £160000 to upskill tourism professionals in the North East, in Tyne and Wear, Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland, North and South Shields.

### **NEWS FROM MEMBERS**

#### **Margaret Anne Clarke (Portsmouth)**

Reviews Editor (Portugal) for International Journal of Iberian Studies

#### **Louise Haywood (Cambridge)**

I have been appointed as an Assessor for the Peer Review College, Arts & Humanities Research Board.

#### **Dorothy Sherman Severin (Liverpool)**

I was voted a 'vocal' of the Asociacion Internacional de Hispanistas last summer in Monterrey Mexico, and I was also chosen as a 'vocal' at the first conference of Convivio, an international organization for cancionero studies, at their Granada meeting in October.

#### **Amanda Tozer (Barcelona)**

Publishing deal with the MHRA Texts and Dissertations Series to publish a monograph which I am working on entitled "The Art of Interiority in Celestina". Currently doing post-doc research, funded by the Generalitat

de Catalunya, and supervised by Professor Lola Badia i Pamies: critical edition of a short XV century Catalan allegory known as "Somni de Francesc Alegre recitant lo procés d'una qüestió enamorada".

### **Nuria Triana-Toribio (Manchester)**

I have been kept busy as an assisting member of the *Comité Científico* for the 50th Anniversary Conference of the Association of Hispanists of Great Britain and Ireland in Valencia next year (2005) and I have been appointed member of the executive Committee (in office since June 2004) of the Cultural Theory Institute (University of Manchester).

### **Lesley Twomey (Northumbria at Newcastle)**

Lesley Twomey has just completed an AHRB funded project entitled "The Immaculate Conception in Iberian Hymnody".

### **Claire Williams (Liverpool)**

Claire Williams is looking forward to her very first sabbatical leave during which she will be working on a project called 'The *Favela's* Revenge', looking at representations of Brazilian shanty towns in different disciplines (literature, film, music, etc.). In parallel with the *favela* project, she will continue to research contemporary Portuguese women's writing, especially chick-lit, presenting papers on both at conferences throughout the coming year.

## **POSTGRADUATE NEWS**

### **Kathy Bacon (Cambridge/Stirling)**

I will be teaching part-time at Stirling University next semester. I am currently writing up my PhD thesis, entitled "The Distinction of Holiness: Negotiating sainthood in Spanish novels, 1870-1915." This project examines sainthood, not as a theological concept, but as a socially constructed configuration of identity. I draw on Pierre Bourdieu's notion of symbolic capital and Noel Valis's recent work on *lo cursi* to show how four novels present their characters' identification with saints as a strategy for distinction, for self-definition, for self-justification, and for the acquisition of prestige. I argue that the texts reveal an ambivalent and complex attitude towards sainthood in Spain in this period. Discourses on sainthood constitute a locus for complex negotiations between tradition and modernity, and for both the expression and the questioning of received ideas about femininity and masculinity.

### **Jill Ingham (Wolverhampton)**

Jill continues to write up her thesis on 'The Cuban Novel of the 1950s', and anticipates completion at the end of this summer. She has sent off her first article for possible publication, in the WISPS Fifth Year Anniversary issue, and her first abstract for a paper on film at a conference on Latin American Film at Leeds University in June. She is currently preparing her paper for the AHGBI Conference in Valencia in March, at which she will be helping to run a networking session for postgraduates. She is also writing a book review for the BHS, and has two part-time jobs teaching Spanish at local colleges. She is a Study Skills Advisor at the University of Wolverhampton, where she also chairs postgraduate research seminars, and continues in her role as postgraduate representative on the WISPS Executive.

### **Lesley Wylie (Cambridge)**

Being almost exactly halfway through my PhD is not quite so terrifying as I had formerly thought. Despite the sudden redundancy of phrases such as "I'm really only starting my research" when being quizzed about the jungle (my PhD hopes to proffer a postcolonial reappraisal of the *novela de la selva*), I now find myself in the much more comfortable position of having a clear sense of where my research is taking me, whilst at the same time knowing that there is still time for a few wrong turns.

My second year has been very busy to date. In August I attended the three-week *Curso Superior de Filología para Jóvenes Hispanistas* at the Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo in Santander, which

proved a useful and rewarding experience. Then in October I was off again, this time to the *Romance Studies* Colloquium in New Jersey, where I presented a paper, "Heart of Darkness: The Celebration of Otherness in the Latin American *novela de la selva*". I have also been busy co-ordinating a series of talks in Cambridge at the popular Hispanic Research Seminar. Last term our speakers were Helder Macedo, Jonathan Thacker, Paul Preston, and Erica Segre, and our upcoming guests include Louise Haywood, Catherine Davies, Conrad James, and Edwin Williamson. It has been a wonderful opportunity to meet hispanists from many different disciplines; everyone is welcome to attend, so if you fancy coming along, please consult the departmental website for dates and times.

At the moment I am speculating about the possibility of carrying out some research in Colombia. Whilst retracing the route of Arturo Cova (the protagonist of *La vorágine* – a Colombian jungle novel central to my thesis) sounds enticing, I think that I may be limited to the dusty archives of the national library in Bogotá. At least that way I avoid the giant carnivorous ants, the lethal swamps and whirlpools, and a host of tropical diseases!

### EDITORIAL NEWS

**Nuria Triana-Toribio** is co-editor of a series for Manchester University Press on 'Spanish and Latin American Filmmakers'. She says: "By the way, we are still seeking authors of manuscripts for that so please, WISPS send us your proposals!!!"

### WISPS 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Conference will take place at the University of Oxford in Oct 2005. In response to questionnaire comments, the conference will have a focused theme this year, to be announced shortly, along with dates of Calls for Papers. For more information, contact Conference organiser Sara Brandellero ([sara.brandellero@queens.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sara.brandellero@queens.ox.ac.uk)), or Exec liaisons Kirsty Hooper and Claire Williams.

### CONFERENCE REPORT

#### **Gender, Culture and Postcolonial Thought University of Liverpool, 13-14 November, 2004**

This international conference aimed to bring together specialists in postcolonial theory (with an emphasis on gender issues) working in different language departments (French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Catalan, English) in order to foster dialogue between them. The programme involved the following speakers:

- John McLeod (Leeds) 'So what's to know? New Directions in Postcolonial Thought'
- Peter Hawkins (Bristol) 'Changing Gender Relations in the postcolonial literatures of francophone Africa and the Indian Ocean'
- Phillip Rothwell (Rutgers) 'Lilia Momplé and Women's Time: Reflections on a Different Postcolonial Space'
- Cláudia Pazos Alonso (Oxford) 'Migration, gender and post-colonial identities in the short stories of Orlanda Amarílis'
- Claire Lindsay (Birkbeck) 'Postcolonial anxieties: Frances Calderón de la Barca's *Life in Mexico*'
- Niamh Thornton (Ulster, Coleraine) 'When Men were Men and Women...? Gendered Histories in Mexican Narratives'
- Nuala Finnegan (Cork) 'Postcolonial Problems? Literature, Feminism and Power in Mexico since 1980'
- Mary Gossy (Rutgers) "Back in your own Backyard": The Sweet Sounds of Imperial Panic'

- Claire Taylor (Liverpool) 'Displaced Readings of Hélène Cixous's *L'Indiade*'
- David Brookshaw (Bristol) 'On the Brink of Postcolonialism: Maria Ondina Braga Adrift in Salazar's Empire'
- Charles Forsdick (Liverpool) 'The Travelling Revolutionary: The Afterlives of Toussaint Louverture'
- Jon Beasley-Murray (British Columbia) 'Postcolonial Paradigms: Subalternity and/or the Multitude'
- Derek Duncan (Bristol) 'Globalizing Alterity' – Homosexual Practice in a Postcolonial Frame'
- Marta Vizcaya (York) 'Representations of Spain in the Cuban American Fiction of Cristina Garcia'
- Xavier Barceló (Liverpool) 'Here Comes the Sun: Orality, Mus and Majorca'

**Claire Williams  
(Liverpool)**

## CALL FOR PAPERS

**International Conference:  
Popular Musics of the Hispanic and Lusophone Worlds  
14th-16th July 2006**

**University of Newcastle upon Tyne**

Organised by Ian Biddle, Vanessa Knights and Mark Sabine

To be hosted by School of Modern Languages & International Centre for Music Studies, University of Newcastle in conjunction with the School of Modern Languages, University of Nottingham and The Sage Gateshead.

Confirmed plenary speakers:

- \* Salwa El-Shawan Castelo Branco (Instituto de Etnomusicologia, Lisbon)
- \* Timothy Mitchell (A&M University, Texas)
- \* David Treece (King's College, University of London)

Contributions are invited to the above conference which aims to bring together scholars from all over the world, in any discipline, working on popular musics from Hispanic and Lusophone communities worldwide (plus groups within those communities who are not Spanish/Portuguese speakers).

The official languages of the conference are English, Spanish and Portuguese.

We would be particularly interested in papers, panels and workshops on the following themes, although these should not be taken as exclusive:

- \* Diaspora, displacement, migration, transnationalism
- \* Identity (race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class etc.)
- \* Hybridity and transculturation
- \* Multi- and polyculturalism
- \* Mass media and modernity
- \* Indigenous and folk musics
- \* Tradition and authenticity
- \* Postmodern and Postcolonial approaches
- \* Global, national and local dynamics
- \* Genre and/or style studies
- \* History, memory and nostalgia
- \* Cultures of resistance

Please contact the organisers if you have suggestions for performance-based activities.

There will be an extensive programme of cultural events around the city of Newcastle and Gateshead, organised in conjunction with Name and involving leading local arts organisations such as Northern Stage and The Sage Gateshead.

Papers should be designed to last no more than 20 minutes. Please send an abstract of no more than 200 words and any panel proposals to the conference administrator Sarah Barber at:

s.g.m.barber@ncl.ac.uk

with the subject heading 'Popular Musics Conference' by June 30, 2005.

Other enquiries should be directed to the conference organisers, Ian Biddle, Vanessa Knights or Mark Sabine:

i.d.biddle@ncl.ac.uk

v.n.m.knights@ncl.ac.uk

mark.sabine@nottingham.ac.uk

Conference website: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/niassh/popularmusics>

Festival website: <http://www.vamosfestival.com>

Supported by Newcastle Institute for Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities.

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS: FILM AND FILM CULTURE, Issue 4.**

##### *Transformations and Transference in Film*

Cinema is a dynamic field which has creatively borrowed from other art forms and developed through able transformations of its own back-catalogue. This can be seen in the continuing popularity of literary adaptations and a current rash of re-makes. But, it also takes other forms outside of the purely narrative.

There are transformations and transferences at a multiplicity of levels from style to production, from reception to creativity and so on. We are looking for articles on film and film culture which engage with this theme. Articles should be between 4000 and 8000 words in length and should use the MLA referencing style. In the first instance, however, an expression of interest and/or an abstract (c200 words) should be submitted to the editors at the addresses given below. The journal is a peer-reviewed publication.

Contact: Richard Hayes, [ffc@wit.ie](mailto:ffc@wit.ie); Harvey O'Brien, [Harvey.obrien@ucd.ie](mailto:Harvey.obrien@ucd.ie); Niamh Thornton, [n.thornton@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:n.thornton@ulster.ac.uk)

There are limited numbers of the first three issues available. Copies may be ordered from Richard Hayes at [ffc@wit.ie](mailto:ffc@wit.ie):

##### *FILM AND FILM CULTURE, Issue 3, Joyce on Film*

Luke McKernan, James Joyce's Cinema; Kevin Rockett, James Joyce, Beatrice Cenci and the Volta; Interview with Seán Walsh; Jean Antoine-Dunne, Bloom; Joseph Bierman, Araby; Anthony Finn, Josef Strick's 1967 Ulysses; Suzanne Henke, James Joyce and Erotic Cinema; Gerardine Meaney, ~Nora. Essays on film: Des O'Rawe, The Golden Coach; Chris Morash, H.G. Wells; Harvey O'Brien, The Night of the Hunter, Cape Fear (1962) and Cape Fear (1991); Liz Greene, Walter Murch; Diog O'Connell, Accelerator and Disco Pigs; Debbie Ging, Masculinity in Irish film; Barrie Wharton, Bigas Luna's Iberian Trilogy, Des O'Rawe, La Jetée; Book Reviews

##### *FILM AND FILM CULTURE, Issue 2, Place in Cinema*

Denis Condon, the Kalem Company in Killarney; Robert Shail, place and masculinity in 1960s British Cinema; Joyce Woolridge, British films of the 1990s; Eric Egan, Youssef Chahine's Alexandria; Niamh Thornton, Mexico City in Amores Perros; Debbie Ging, Sound in Cinema; Des O'Rawe, Venice and the Cinema; Jenny Murphy, Homosexuality in Irish Cinema; Fiona McGarry, The English Patient; Pat Brereton, Ecology and Nature: a study of Cast Away; "Film Study in the Undergraduate Curriculum: a discussion", Rick Altman, Gene Walz, Des O'Rawe, Richard Hayes, Pat Brereton, Paula Quigley; Book reviews

*FILM AND FILM CULTURE, Issue 1, Identity in Cinema*

Gwenda Young, Victor Seastrom; Padraig Whyte, Fassbinder; John Devitt, *Odd Man Out*; Eric Egan, Cinema in the Islamic Republic of Iran; Catherine Leen, Chicano film practice; Niamh Thornton, Spanish cinema; Harvey O'Brien, Science Fiction films; Interviews with Pat Murphy (Nora, Anne Devlin) and Enda Walsh (*Disco Pigs*); Dialogue on Stanley Kubrick, by Gene Phillips, James Howard, Richard Hayes, Chris Morash; Book reviews

**THAT'S ALL FOR NOW, FOLKS!  
NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE OUT IN THE SUMMER**