

2026 Narrative Conference

Aarhus, Denmark, 4-6 June



Welcome to Narrative 2026

Dear participants,

Wilcuman, velkominn, welcome, velkommen!

From Old English, via Old Norse, to English and Danish — the etymology moves slowly from a noun describing a wished-for guest to a verb describing an act of receiving.

It seems particularly apt here, where we are a society welcoming and welcomed by each other, all working together to create the special atmosphere of our conference.

From the Aarhus end, we are very excited to meet you all in person and hope for many happy moments together.

In that hope,
Anna, Clara, Henrik, Lasse, Linus, Pernille, and
Simona

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Photo: Your rainbow panorama, Olafur Eliasson, 2006 - 2011, ARoS Aarhus Art Museum.

Programme Overview

Wednesday, June 3

3:15-5:00 pm Public Lecture by Arthur Frank
 5:30-6:30 pm Dinner (bring-your-own)
 7:00 pm Welcome Reception and Registration

Thursday, June 4

8:00-8:30 am Breakfast and Registration
 8:30-8:45 am Welcome
 8:45-10:15 am Contemporary Narrative Theory Panel I
 10:30 am-12:00 pm Session A
 12:15-1:15 pm Pedagogy Lunch
 1:30-3:00 pm Session B
 3:15-4:45 pm Session C
 5:00-6:00 pm Keynote Speaker: Signe Uldbjerg, KØN
 6:15-7:45 pm Newcomers' Dinner
 8:00-11:00 pm Opening Reception

Friday, June 5

8:00-8:45 am Breakfast and Registration
 8:45-10:15 am Contemporary Narrative Theory Panel II
 10:30 am-12:00 pm Session D
 12:00-1:00 pm Lunch and GCC Meeting
 1:00-2:30 pm Session E
 2:45-4:15 pm Session F
 4:30-6:00 pm Session G
 6:15-7:15 pm Keynote Speaker: Sharon Marcus, Columbia University

Saturday, June 6

8:00-8:45 am Breakfast and Registration
 8:45-10:15 am Session H
 10:30 am -12:00 pm Session I
 12:00-1:00 pm Lunch
 1:00-2:30 pm Wayne C. Booth Lifetime Achievement Award Session
 2:45-4:15 pm Session J
 4:30-6:00 pm Session K
 6:15-7:45 pm Awards Dinner
 8:15 pm - 2:00 am Narrative Dance

Sponsors



Project Narrative (PN) at Ohio State University <https://projectnarrative.osu.edu/> is a cluster of faculty, graduate students, and visiting scholars dedicated to producing and disseminating state-of-the-art teaching and research in narrative studies.

Project Narrative offers a lecture series throughout each academic year, and each summer it offers the two-week Project Narrative Summer Institute. It also hosts Visiting Scholars, who contribute to the PN's activities even as they pursue their own projects. Graduate students from multiple departments add energy and insights to PN's work. Three members of the core faculty, Katra Byram, Faye Halpern, and James Phelan serve as co-editors of the Ohio State University Press's book series on the Theory and Interpretation of Narrative <https://ohiostatepress.org/books/series/tin.htm>.

For more information, write to James Phelan phelan.1@osu.edu.

Hey Narrative Society members, do you know about...

HUMANITIES FOR HUMANS



READING IMAGES IN THE AGE OF AI

June 11, 6:00-8:00 PM | De Gruyter Brill - Lützowstrasse 33, 1st Fl Studio, 10785 Berlin
with Greta Olson, longtime Narrative Society member and professor in Gießen, and Elisabeth Lechner, lecturer in Vienna and author of "Riot Don't Diet" and "Talking Bodies"

A CONVERSATION SERIES

for the general public foregrounding the contributions of humanities scholars to making legible the complexity of problems and solutions to today's biggest challenges like racism, inequalities, and climate change.

Humanities for Humans is curated and moderated by Irene Kacandes, former Narrative Society president and professor emerita of Dartmouth College, and sponsored by the De Gruyter Foundation (Berlin), 1014 (New York City), and 1014 Deutschland e.V. (Germany)

Learn more about the series, explore past topics and watch recordings:



The International Society for the Study of Narrative

Executive Council

President: Dorothee Birke, University of Innsbruck
First Vice President: Henrik Zetterberg-Nielsen, University of Aarhus
Second Vice President: Kelly Marsh, Mississippi State University
Past Presidents: Marco Caracciolo, Ghent University; Yoon Sun Lee, Wellesley College
Secretary-Treasurer: James Phelan, The Ohio State University
Editors of Narrative: Marta Figlerowicz, Yale University; Kent Puckett, University of California, Berkeley
Conference Liaison: Gretchen Busl, Texas Woman's University
Outreach and Communications Coordinator: Antonio J. Ferraro, The Ohio State University
GCC Representatives: Emma K. McNamara, Washington, DC; Ellen K. Stenstrom, Indiana University Bloomington

Members-at-Large

Gretchen Busl, Texas Woman's University
Sarah Copland, Mac Ewan University
Divya Dwivedi, Indian Institute of Technology
Brian McAllister, American University of Sharjah
Virginia Pignagnoli, Autonomous University of Barcelona
W. Michelle Wang, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Want to get involved in supporting and shaping the ISSN community? The committees listed in the following all welcome participation from members of the society! If you are interested in any of these initiatives, please get in touch with the contact person.

Graduate Student and Contingent Faculty Caucus

Chair: Emma K. McNamara, Washington, DC

Vice-Chair: Ellen K. Stenstrom, Indiana University Bloomington

The GCC is a community within the ISSN that supports and represents the interests of graduate students, early career scholars, and other scholars with unstable or precarious employment status. The caucus aims to provide a wide range of professional activities and resources for its membership and is led by elected representatives who work closely with (but are independent of) the ISSN executive council. The Caucus's initiatives include but are not limited to: identifying the diverse needs of members; providing a space for members to discuss professional interests, raise concerns, and seek advocacy; establishing mentorship relationships within the ISSN; providing professionalization opportunities; assisting new scholars in integrating into the field of narrative studies. All ISSN members who identify as graduate students or as "contingent-employment scholars" (scholars with little or no institutional support or who hold short-term or other unstable appointments at academic institutions) are de facto members of the Caucus. We welcome members of all backgrounds, nationalities, and beliefs. All members are invited to participate in our group's email listserv and in our meeting at the annual conference.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Co-Chairs: Gretchen Busl, Texas Woman's University; Helen Davis, Wilkes University

Committee Members: Michael Hannon, Erin James, Cody Mejeur, Aaron Oforlea, Rebekah Slodounik

Since its inception in the 1980s, the ISSN has expanded from being a primarily Anglo-American group of scholars interested in narrative literature to a far more international society dedicated to the study of narrative as a transmedial and transcultural phenomenon. The ISSN embraces this development and is dedicated to supporting diversity both in the spread of the topics it attends to and in its membership. Diversity for us is multifaceted and intersectional and includes race, ethnicity, sex/gender, sexual orientation, neurodiversity, nationality, language, economic status, age, career level, and other aspects of identity. It is important to us that the society, the listserv, and particularly the conference are inclusive spaces that are welcoming to all members. We also recognize the need to continue expanding the scope of narrative theory and that such growth can only happen if we welcome scholars with diverse experiences and theoretical approaches. The purpose of the committee is to promote this huge and ongoing task by identifying tangible areas for improvement and offering concrete suggestions. Contact: helen.davis@wilkes.edu.

Sustainability Committee

Chair: Brian McAllister

Committee Members: Eric Morel, Erin James, Carolin Gebauer, Aaron Oforlea, Joelle Moses, Fahimeh Berenji, Victoria Pöhls

The Sustainability Committee makes recommendations to the Executive Council regarding the environmental impact of the Society and its conference. This includes also examining how issues of sustainability intertwine with other initiatives of the Society, including diversity and inclusion. Questions that this committee considers include: How can the Society best balance serving its full membership and promoting a net-positive environmental impact? How do sustainability concerns offer up new models for the annual Narrative conference and the membership perks of the Society? How can foregrounding sustainability help us think creatively about the future health of the Society? Contact: bmcallister@aus.edu.

Mentorship Program

The Graduate Student and Contingent Faculty Caucus and the DEI Committee run a mentorship program that connects graduate students, early-career researchers and scholars who hold short-term appointments with senior researchers. The program runs for one year; it encourages forms of community, support, and professional opportunity and promotes the sharing and building of knowledge and skills, both for the mentee and the mentor. Want to know more? You can find our guidelines for mentors and mentees here: <https://www.thenarrativesociety.org/mentorship-program>

We are always looking for new mentors – should you be interested in joining us as a mentor in the next round or have questions about mentoring, please get in touch with Dan Newman at daniel.newman@utoronto.ca or Dorothee Birke at dorothee.birke@uibk.ac.at. If you have any questions about joining as a mentee, please contact Emma K. McNamara at mcnamara.emma.k@gmail.com or Victoria Pöhls at victoria.pohls@ucd.ie.

The next round of the program will be advertised in early 2027 through the listserv.

Narrative Pedagogy Project

The ISSN knows that teaching is vital to our community. Whether we instruct undergraduates, graduate students, or members of the larger public, we need to explain our concepts and methods, as well as the goals we pursue. The Narrative Pedagogy Project is designed to allow ISSN members to share teaching resources and create a vibrant pedagogical community focused on collaboration and exchange. Submissions are reviewed by members of the ISSN Executive Council, and access to the files is limited to active members of the ISSN. We welcome submissions of syllabi, assignments, teaching statements, and class projects. Contact: Ellen Stenstrom at ellen.stenstrom@gmail.com

Narrative Society Awards

THE WAYNE C. BOOTH AWARD

This is the society's most prestigious award. It recognizes outstanding scholar-teachers who have made sustained contributions to narrative studies over the course of their careers. The process is comprehensive: a list of nominees is prepared by the current presidential committee on the Executive Council, a short-list is voted on by the whole Executive Council of the ISSN, and the final vote is undertaken by previous Booth award recipients and past presidents of the ISSN.

This year's recipient of the award is Jonathan Culler.

You can read more about his contribution to narrative studies here:

<https://www.thenarrativesociety.org/wayne-c-booth-award>

The award session honoring Jonathan Culler's achievements will be held on Saturday after lunch – please join us!

THE BARBARA PERKINS AND GEORGE PERKINS PRIZE

Established in 1994, the Perkins Prize honors Barbara Perkins and George Perkins, the founders of The Journal of Narrative Technique and the Society itself. The prize, awarded to the book making the most significant contribution to the study of narrative in a given year, provides \$1,000 plus a contribution of \$500 toward the winning author's expenses for attending the Narrative Conference at which the award will be presented. This year's Perkins Prize committee consisted of Yoon Sun Lee.

This year's winner is Alexander Manshel, *Writing Backwards: Historical Fiction and the Reshaping of the American Canon*

Honorable Mention: **David Rodriguez, *The View from Above in American Literature: Aerial Description, the Imaginary and the Form of Environment***

You can read more about the two books here:

<https://www.thenarrativesociety.org/barbara-and-george-perkins-prize>

The Perkins prize committee for 2026 (for books with a 2025 copyright date) consists of Dorothee Birke, Marco Caracciolo and Tara MacDonald. Copies (digital or hard copy) can be sent to the judges until July 1st, 2026.

THE JAMES PHELAN PRIZE FOR BEST ESSAY IN *NARRATIVE*

The award designates the outstanding essay in each volume of the Society's journal, *Narrative*. The award is named in honor of James Phelan, who served as editor of the journal from 1992 to 2024.

This year, the judging committee, consisting of Wibke Schniedermaun and Henrik Zetterberg-Nielsen, selected the essay "**Beyond Self-Exploration: Elaborating a Rhetorical Approach to Autofiction through Meena Kandasamy's *When I Hit You***" by **Mengchen Lang**.

The citation honoring the essay will be presented at the Awards Dinner on Saturday evening and published on the website.

The committee additionally awards an Honorable Mention to **Ivan Delazari and Julia Vorobeva for "Tellability and/as Audibility: How 'Every Sound Is Possible' in Matthew Herbert's *The Music*."**

THE ALAN NADEL PRIZE FOR BEST ESSAY BY A GRADUATE STUDENT

All graduate students who present papers at the conference are invited to compete for the Alan Nadel Prize for best essay by a graduate student. The winner will receive a copy of a Perkins Prize-winning book of his, her, or their choice and will be encouraged to expand the winning paper for consideration by *Narrative*. In addition, the winner is eligible for \$500 toward expenses to attend the conference.

The 2025 judges, Ellen McCallum and Katherine Weese, have decided to award the Alan Nadel Prize to **Shaye Easton for the paper "What Is the Metaleptic Object? Towards a New Theory of Metalepsis"**

An honorable mention goes to **Xanthe Muston for "Networked Thinking: Locating Fictional Narratives within the Matrix of Media Ecologies."**

To be considered for this year's Nadel Prize, submit your paper electronically as an attachment (Word or PDF) to Sarah Copland (coplands2@macewan.ca) and Virginia Pignagnoli (virginia.pignagnoli@uab.cat). Please title the subject of your email "2026 Nadel Prize". Papers must be received by July 1st, 2026. They must be unrevised conference presentations and no longer than 2500 words. While formatting changes, correction of typos, and the addition of a Works Cited page are expected, changes to the substance of the argument are not acceptable. The idea is to reward the work presented at the conference rather than the work done afterwards.

Keynote Thursday

Signe Uldbjerg

KØN – Gender Museum Denmark

“Stories of Damage and Repair: An Ecofeminist Perspective”



Signe Uldbjerg. Photo: Roar Paaske

Signe Uldbjerg is a feminist researcher, activist, and public voice whose lectures and appearances — including at International Women's Day (Kvindernes Kampdag) events — have helped shape a new generation of feminist thinking in Denmark. She serves as research and collection manager at KØN – Gender Museum Denmark, an institution founded on feminist principles when it opened in Aarhus in 1982 as one of the world's first museums dedicated to the cultural history of women, gender, and sexuality. She holds a PhD in gender studies. Across her museum and research work, Uldbjerg engages with sex education and with experiences of sex, sexual morality, and sexual violence in both contemporary and historical contexts. She recently published the article “Who is the Victim?” on constructions of victimhood in cases of sexual violence and how these have developed in Danish history, and she is currently writing a monograph titled KØN (Sex/Gender) for Aarhus University Press. Previously, she developed creative writing methods for participatory research with victim-survivors of digital sexual violence in the project *Rewriting Victimhood: Stories of Digital Sexual Assault*, and she co-edited the Danish anthology *Skrivning og Sundhed* (Writing and Health) with Lasse Gammelgaard and Marianne Jespersen. Her work also extends to activist museum practices and activist participation within academic systems.

Keynote Friday

Sharon Marcus

Columbia University

“Character Parts: Towards a Structural Account of Literary Character”

Sharon Marcus is the Orlando Harriman Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University. Her scholarship analyzes the cultural assignment of value in domains as diverse as architecture, social relationships, literary criticism, performance culture, and novelistic character systems. Marcus is the author of three monographs: *Apartment Stories: City and Home in Nineteenth-Century Paris and London* (University of California Press, 1999); *Between Women: Marriage, Desire, and Friendship in Victorian England* (Princeton University Press, 2007), and winner of several prizes, including the Perkins Prize; and *The Drama of Celebrity* (Princeton University Press, 2019). Her book on *How to Give a Good Academic Talk* for the Princeton University Press “Skills for Scholars” series is forthcoming in December 2026. An award-winning teacher and scholar, Marcus’s work has been supported by fellowships from the Fulbright Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, the Guggenheim Foundation, and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. In 2012, Marcus co-founded Public Books, an online magazine dedicated to bringing cuttingedge scholarly ideas to a curious public, and served as co-editor in chief until 2020.



Professor Sharon Marcus. Photo: Eileen Barroso

About Aarhus

Aarhus - also called The City of Smiles! Located on the eastern coast of the Jutland peninsula, Aarhus is Denmark's second largest city with a population of approximately 340,000 inhabitants. Aarhus is a university town, with the youngest urban population in Denmark. But it is also one of the oldest cities in the nation, founded in the Viking age. The vibrant mix of youthful energy and a rich history is what makes Aarhus special. (<https://conferences.au.dk/about-aarhus>)

For more information about Aarhus' tourist attractions, [see here](#).

On how to get around Aarhus (by walking, taxi, bus, 'Letbanen' or biking), [see here](#).

On how to get to Aarhus University from the airport, [see here](#).

About Aarhus University Campus

Founded in 1928, Aarhus University has long been an integral part of the city's identity. Its distinctive yellow brick buildings, designed by renowned architect C.F. Møller, provide an inspiring framework for the university's academic and social life, set in the hills and tranquil lakes of the University Park, which is enjoyed by employees, students and the people of the city alike. The buildings of Aarhus University and the University Park are registered in the Ministry of Culture's cultural canon (published 2007), which includes a list of the twelve most significant architectural icons in Denmark. (<https://conferences.au.dk/about-aarhus-university>)

If you would like to know more about Aarhus University and the university campus, [see here](#).



Practicalities

Computers

Only the rooms for hybrid sessions are set up with a computer, so you should bring your own computers to your session. We recommend that you collect all PowerPoint slides on one computer in advance to ensure a smooth transition from one speaker to the next. For hybrid panels, we provide computers pre-connected to zoom. Please make sure to bring a USB stick to make it possible to put all presentations on the computer provided by us in good time before the panel. A student assistant will be present in each session to help with setup if needed.

We ask chairs for hybrid sessions (contemporary panels, keynotes, award session, and the "regular" hybrid panels) to look out for comments and questions from online listeners and to read them out to the audience if chosen.

Time for presentations

Each panel is allotted a total of 90 minutes. Regardless of the number of presenters, 30 minutes are reserved for discussion, leaving 60 minutes for presentations:

- for three-person-panels each presenter has a maximum of 20 minutes
- for four-person-panels each presenter has a maximum of 15 minutes

Food

During the conference, we provide breakfast, lunch, coffee and snacks. For the pre-reception Wednesday, there will be drinks and a few snacks. For the Thursday reception, there will be a drink. All the food served at the conference is vegetarian.

The Newcomers' Dinner on Thursday from 6:15–7:45 pm is a great opportunity to meet with colleagues and friends. Aarhus has many nice places to eat. Near Musikhuset Aarhus, where the opening reception will take place from 8:00–11:00 pm, you might consider Aarhus Street Food (with a wide range of cuisines and no reservation needed), Lupo (Italian) or Bar' Habla (Spanish). Or simply head to Jægergårdsgade or The Latin Quarter, both places with several good restaurants.

Brief statement about the conference and social media

While the conference infrastructure and communication run through Aarhus University's IT systems, we have chosen not to associate the conference or the ISSN society with social media platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, or X. The conference therefore has no official presence, profiles, or hashtags on these platforms.

Wifi

Aarhus University has three wireless networks which can be used all over AU. Guides for Eduroam, AU-Guest and AU-Gadget are available [here](#).

Pharmacy and Grocery

"Aarhus Løve Apotek" is open daily from 6:00 am to midnight.

Outside these hours (midnight to 6:00 am.), you can reach the emergency medical service at +45 7011 3131. Pharmacies in Denmark can be recognized by a green "A", which stands for *apotek* (the Danish word for pharmacy).

You can find other pharmacies [here](#). (see also visitaarhus.com)

Shops in Aarhus are usually open from Monday to Friday, from 10.00 am –17.30 pm (Saturdays 10.00 am – 14.00 pm).

Most supermarkets and department stores are open till 22.00 pm on weekdays. Some are closed on Sundays. Most shops accept all major credit cards.

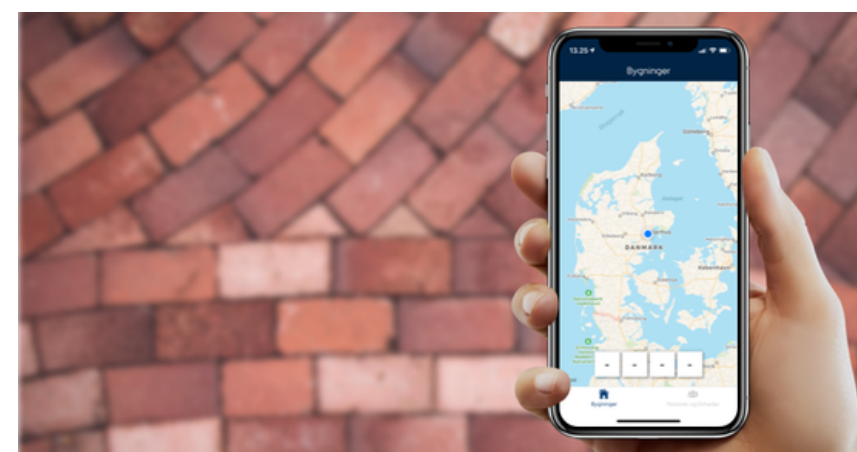
Emergency phone numbers

(+45 only when calling from outside Denmark)

Police, fire, ambulance (+45) 112

Falck rescue services (+45) 70 10 20 30

Police (+45) 87 31 14 48



For easy campus navigation, participants may download [AU Find](#), Aarhus University's official app for finding buildings on campus (available for iOS and Android). You are also very welcome to ask one of our conference staff for directions.

Rooms and Venues

The room for each panel is listed directly under the panel title.
Full room information is provided below. In the list, “1422-122” means “Building 1422, Room 122”.

Vandrehallen, 1410
Nordre Ringgade 4, 8000 Aarhus C

Stakladen, 1423 - 111
Fredrik Nielsens Vej 2-4, 8000 Aarhus C

Room 1: Aulaen, 1412
Nordre Ringgade 4, 8000 Aarhus C

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122
Conference Centre / Student House, Fredrik Nielsens Vej 2-4, 8000 Aarhus C

Room 3: Preben Hornung Stuen, 1422-132
Conference Centre / Student House, Fredrik Nielsens Vej 2-4, 8000 Aarhus C

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125
Conference Centre / Student House, Fredrik Nielsens Vej 2-4, 8000 Aarhus C

Room 5: M2, 1427-246
Conference Centre / Student House, Fredrik Nielsens Vej 2-4, 8000 Aarhus C

Room 6: M1, 1427-149
Conference Centre / Student House, Fredrik Nielsens Vej 2-4, 8000 Aarhus C

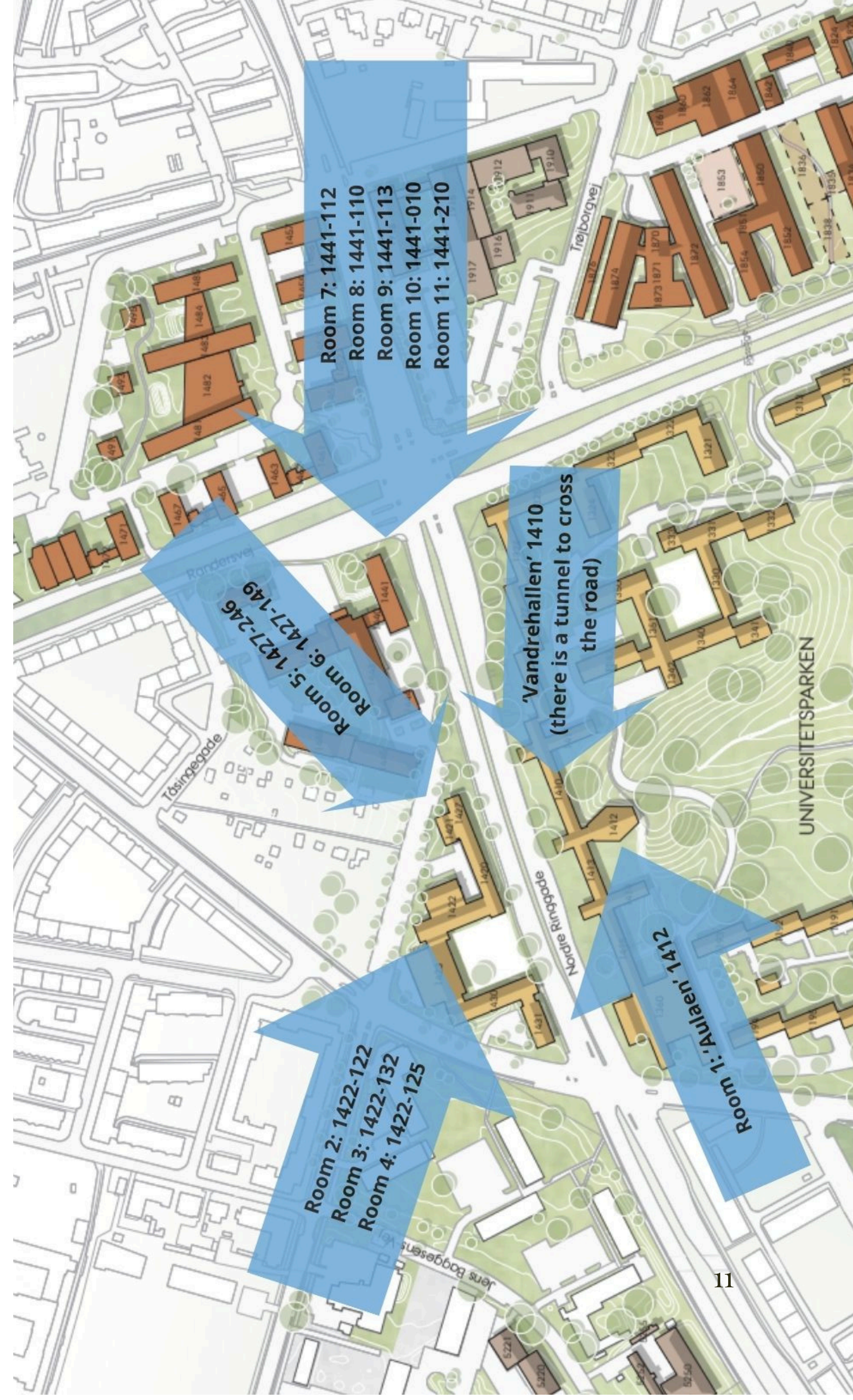
Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112
Tåsingegade 3, 8000 Aarhus C

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110 (hybrid)
Tåsingegade 3, 8000 Aarhus C

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113 (hybrid)
Tåsingegade 3, 8000 Aarhus C

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)
Tåsingegade 3, 8000 Aarhus C

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)
Tåsingegade 3, 8000 Aarhus C





Zoom Links

Public Lecture by Arthur Frank, Wednesday

<https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/66413954674>

Welcome Speech and Contemporary Narrative Theory Panel I, Thursday

<https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/69038148964>

Keynote, Signe Uldbjerg, Thursday

<https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/69437110799>

Contemporary Narrative Theory Panel II, Friday

<https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/66924946769>

Keynote, Sharon Marcus, Friday

<https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/63408643479>

Wayne C. Booth Lifetime Achievement Award Session, Saturday

<https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/68149787567>

Zoom Links For Hybrid Panels

Thursday

Room 8: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/66901330563>

Room 9: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/62807105212>

Room 10: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/64458172357>

Room 11: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/61627541026>

Friday

Room 8: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/61178237385>

Room 9: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/64810143746>

Room 10: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/67399804730>

Room 11: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/64259241002>

Saturday

Room 8: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/64106381257>

Room 9: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/67603195565>

Room 10: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/67012848430>

Room 11: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/69348605776>

Wednesday, June 3

Wednesday Overview (Pre-Conference Day)

3:15-5:00 pm

Public Lecture (hybrid): Arthur Frank, University of Calgary and VID

Specialized University

“How to Do Selves with Stories”

(Lecture Theatre, 1343-275, Bartholins Allé 11, 8000 Aarhus C)

[Zoom Link](#)

Abstract

A northern Canadian master storyteller told an anthropologist: “I want to live my life right, just like a story.” We all live our lives like stories, but few of us have this woman’s self-consciousness about which stories are right as ways to live. This lecture looks at types of illness stories, asking how they both express and create imaginations of self in those who lives their lives as these stories imply life can, maybe should, and sometimes must be lived.

About the speaker

Arthur Frank is a Canadian professor emeritus of sociology who studies narrative in the context of illness experience and issues of compassionate care. His books include *At the Will of the Body* and *The Wounded Storyteller*. He has been visiting professor in multiple countries, most recently the University of Ghent. He is recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Bioethics Society and an elected fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. His next book, *A Quieter Illness*, will be published by University of Chicago Press in Fall 2027.

Wednesday, June 3

5:30-6:30 pm

Dinner (bring-your-own)

After the public lecture, we invite you to bring food and eat in groups, either inside or outside if the weather permits, before joining us for the reception.

Good nearby food options include the canteen at the Royal Library (Det Kongelige Biblioteks kantine), which is just around the corner, as well as various small restaurants and take-away places on Nørre Allé. You will also find several restaurants on Tordenskjoldsgade in Trøjborg.

7:00 pm

Welcome Reception and Registration at Vandrehallen (1410)

We’ll be serving drinks and light refreshments at the reception and look forward to welcoming you and saying hello to everyone ahead of the conference.

Thursday, June 4

Thursday Overview

8:00–8:30 am

Coffee, Tea, Croissants/Buns, and Registration
(Vandrehallen 1410)

8:30–8:45 am

Welcome Speech (hybrid)
(Room 1, Aulaen, 1412)
[Zoom Link](#)

8:45–10:15 am

Contemporary Narrative Theory Panel I (hybrid)
(Room 1, Aulaen, 1412)
[Zoom Link](#)
Chair: Dan Punday, Mississippi State University

“Story, Discourse, System”

Yonina Hoffman, United States Merchant Marine Academy

“Trans/Narrative/Queer/Play”

Cody Mejeur, University at Buffalo

“LLMs are metaphor machines that tell stories by analogy”

Jill Walker Rettberg, University of Bergen

10:30 am–12:00 pm

Session A

12:15–1:15 pm

Pedagogy Lunch
(Room 5, 1427–246)

Regular Lunch

(Stakladen, 1423)

1:30–3:00 pm

Session B

Thursday, June 4

3:15–4:45 pm

Session C

5:00–6:00 pm

Keynote Speaker (hybrid): Signe Uldbjerg, KØN – Gender Museum Denmark
“Stories of Damage and Repair: An Ecofeminist Perspective”
(Room 1, Aulaen, 1412)
[Zoom Link](#)

Abstract

Over the past years, I have—sometimes without fully realising it—been studying stories of damage and repair. My work has examined the narratives of victim-survivors of sexual violence, traced the figure of the victim in historical sources dating back to the eighteenth century, and analysed sex-education materials and sexual scandals from the past two centuries. Across these diverse materials, stories of sex and stories of violence—whether articulated in empowering, stigmatizing, or juridical discourses—consistently hinge on an understanding of something broken. What is perceived as damaged may vary: a person’s psyche, reputation, or social worth; or, alternatively, the legal system, moral order, or ideals of justice. Yet despite the persistent entanglement of sexuality and harm, none of these narratives entirely escapes the promise—or demand—of repair. In this keynote, I explore how practices of repair and reproduction become intertwined with sexuality in a range of modern and historical sources. Drawing on eco-feminist theory, I investigate the specifically gendered qualities of reproductive labour—both in the sense of creating new life and in sustaining an economy of care, maintenance, and mending. In particular, I focus on the making, repairing, and decorating of textiles as a site where feminine virtue is linked to slow, demanding, and often invisible labour. These practices illuminate how physical and moral repair have been woven together in cultural narratives of sexuality.

6:15–7:45 pm

Newcomers’ Dinner

8:00–11:00 pm

Opening Reception at Musikhuset Aarhus
(Thomas Jensens Allé 2, 8000 Aarhus C)

Session A, Thursday 10:30 am-12:00 pm

A1 Feminist Narratology and Women's Writing

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122

Chair: Cristina de Lucas, University of Valladolid

“The Aesthetics of Immanence in *Russian Doll* and *I May Destroy You*”

Aparna Thomas, Independent Researcher

“‘Brain Attics’ and ‘Tangled Webs’: Associations and Narrating the Path of the Mind in British Women’s Writing”

Lauren Pinkerton, California State University Fullerton

“Kenneth MacMillan’s ballet adaptation from Colette and Guido: A View from Feminist Narratology”

Cristina de Lucas, University of Valladolid

A2 Cognitive Narrative Studies: A New Decade for Second-Generation Approaches

Room 1: Aulaen, building 1412

Chair: Marco Caracciolo, Ghent University

“Embodying Narrative Humor in Grotesque Microfiction”

Lars Bernaerts, Ghent University

“What game are we playing? Practices, texts and the conceptual role of literary games for second-generation approaches to literature”

Karin Kukkonen, University of Oslo

“AI as Character: Real Patterns, Logs, Illusions”

Marco Bernini, Durham University

“Close Reading as Enactive Practice”

Merja Polvinen, University of Helsinki

A3 Big and Small Stories I

Room 5: M2, 1427-246

Chair: Mari Hatavara, Tampere University

“Big Stories for Better Futures: Grand-scale Narratives in Solutions-oriented Climate Fiction”

Elise Kraatila, Tampere University

“The Process of Up-Scaling and Cosmic Perspectives in Big Stories: The Case of Alexis Wright’s *The Swan Book*”

Jan Alber, University of Giessen

“Quoting the ‘Voice of the Nation’ with Canonized Fiction: Väinö Linna in the Finnish Political Debate”

Anna Kuutsa, Tampere University

A4 What Can Narrative Fiction (Not) Do for Democracy?

Room 3: Preben Hornung Stuen, 1422-132

Chair: Laura Piippo, Tampere University

“The democratic potential of narrative fiction”

Hanna-Riika Roine, University of Bergen

“The democratic uses of narrative fiction”

Ville-Pekka Sorsa, University of Helsinki

“The democratic affordances of narrative fiction”

Esko Suoranta, University of Helsinki

“The antidemocratic uses of narrative fiction”

Matias Nurminen, Tampere University

A5 Revelatory Illness Narratives and Genetic Risk

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125

Chair: Carsten Stage, Aarhus University

“Epigenetic storytelling. Rethinking illness narrative in the context of direct-to-consumer genetic testing”

Carsten Stage, Aarhus University

“Everyone Is a Tomato: Metagnostic Narratives of Genetic Revelation”

Danielle Spencer, Columbia University

“Navigating webs of care. The distributed stories of genetic risk”

Ann-Katrine S. Nielsen, Aarhus University

“Narrating Schizophrenia in Contemporary U.S. Memoirs: Patient Subjectivity, Medical Objectification, and Psychiatric Authority”

David Lombard, Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) and KU Leuven

Session A, Thursday 10:30 am-12:00 pm

A6 Everything Your Advisor Never Told You About Academia (GCC panel)

Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112

Chairs: Emma K. McNamara, Independent Researcher, Ellen Stenstrom, Indiana University, Claudia Carroll, Washington University in St. Louis, and Shannon Quist, Texas Woman's University

Faye Halpern, The Ohio State University

Irene Kacandes, Dartmouth College

Kelly A. Marsh, Mississippi State University

Daniel Newman, University of Toronto

A7 Fictionality, Pseudofactuality, and Metafictional Narratives

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“White Testimony under Apartheid: Fictionality's Promises and the Narrative Space of Exception”

Li Yulin, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

“Towards a Historical Poetics of Pseudofactuality: Uses of Dissimulative Narration in Edgar Allan Poe's Magazine Stories of Insanity”

Li Wanlin, Peking University

“Reconfiguring the Rhetorical Model of Audience for Metafictional Narratives: The Cases of ‘The Continuity of Parks’, *If on a Winter's Night a Traveler*, and ‘Happy Endings’”

Koray Sackan, The Ohio State University

A8 Rethinking the Story-Discourse Distinction (hybrid)

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Yoon Sun Lee

“Suspense?”

Yoon Sun Lee, Wellesley

“Writing About Plot in Reading for the Plot”

Nathan Wainstein, University of Utah

“The Ethical Content of Complicit Form: George Eliot's *Romola*”

Ayelet Ben-Yishai, University of Haifa

“The potential of exotopy in narratology Illustrated by a H.C. Andersen tale”

Alexia Panagiotidis, University of Zürich

A9 Game Studies, Video Games, and Virtual Reality (hybrid)

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“What can board games teach us about transition narratives?”

Victoria Googasian, Georgetown University in Qatar

“Terrors of Infrastructure: Looking for Hope in the Gothic Oil Nightmares of *NORCO* and *Still Wakes the Deep*”

Reuben Martens and Chloé Wake, Manchester Metropolitan University

“Mediation by Meditation: The Hebrew Bible as a Virtual Hypertext”

Anat Shapiro, Aarhus University

“Authorial/Player Resources: Toward an Understanding of Progression During and After Gameplay Experiences”

Josh Mishaw, The Ohio State University

A10 Narrative Trust in a Postdigital Continuum I: From Analogue Fiction... (hybrid)

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Sander Bax, Leiden University

“Lyricality and the Quest for Authenticity in Vincent Van Meenen's *oxBlixa* (2023)”

Ruben Vanden Berghe, University of Cologne

“Trusting the transmedial Implied Authors of literary celebrity Ilja Leonard Pfeijffer” **16**

Eline Peeters, Tilburg University, and Sander Bax, Leiden University

Pedagogy Lunch
The Narrative Pedagogy Project
Session
12:15-1:15 pm

Alternative Assignments and Grading Schemes to Strengthen Student Engagement and Combat AI

Room 5: M2, 1427-246

Chairs: Emma K. McNamara, Independent Researcher, Ellen Stenstrom, Indiana University, Antonio J. Ferraro, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash, and Yoon Sun Lee, Wellesley

Cody Mejeur, University at Buffalo

Gretchen Busl, Texas Woman's University

Matthew Mewhinney, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Fahime Serhatti, Yuksek Ihtisas University

Only for registered participants.

Session B, Thursday 1:30-3:00 pm

B1 (...)
Please note: The panel originally listed as B1 has been moved to B11 to accommodate hybrid participation.

B2 Sexphrasis! Intermedial and multimodal presentations of sexuality

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122
Chair: Riikka Pirinen, Tampere University

“Possessed by movies: the queerly im/personal narrative voice in *The Letters of Mina Harker*”
Joonas Sääntti, University of Jyväskylä

“‘Boyfriend says’: Multimodal controversy, and a collapse of interests in Christina Hagen’s *Boyfriend*”
Ville Hämäläinen, Tampere University

B3 Big and Small Stories II

Room 3: Preben Hornung Stuen, 1422-132
Chair: Elise Kraatila, Tampere University

“Constructing a geopolitical media narrative on news websites: Distributed grand-scale future narrative of war and turmoil”
Markus Laukkanen, Tampere University

“Recognizing the format: Small stories and the platforming of engagement”
Alex Georgakopoulou, King’s College London

“Big and small refugee stories”
Aura Lounasmaa, Tampere University

B4 Form, Narrative, Nature: Refiguring Queer Ecologies

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125
Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Against Sincerity: Queering the Role of Fiction in Climate Change”
Erin James, University of Idaho

“Queer Ecological Forms and the Post-Marriage Plot”
Gabriele D’Amato, Ghent University and University of L’Aquila

“Transecological Temporalities in Postapocalyptic Caribbean Fiction”
Chiara Xausa, University of Bologna

B5 Told to Act? Rethinking Agency Through Narrative Rhetoric

Room 5: M2, 1427-246
Chair: Solveig Kolstad, Aarhus University

“Narrative Rhetoric and Generative AI: The Case of Anthropic’s Claude”
Stefan Iversen, Aarhus University

“The Agential Capacity of Narratives: The Heroic Innovator in Innovation Fund Denmark”
Solveig Kolstad, Aarhus University

“Manifesting agency: Exploring the Impact of the Manifesto Narrative”
Kira S. Moser, Aarhus University

B6 The Unreliable Narrator: Ambivalence, Identity, and the Limits of Knowing

Room 6: M1, 1427-149
Chair: Sushree Routray, Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee

“Unreliable Narrator and Maternal Ambivalence: Resisting Daughter Centricity, Reclaiming Matrilocality in Avni Doshi’s *Burnt Sugar*”
Sushree Routray, Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee

“The Unreliable Narratee – A Proposal for a New Narratological Category to Investigate Ignorance and Epistemic Injustice in Narratives”
Martin Lindner, University of Oxford

“Allegedly Unreliable: Identity and Narration in Tiffany D. Jackson’s *Allegedly* and *Grown*”
Katharine Wilson, University of Bamberg

“‘Looking over what I have written, I see I have unintentionally misled you’: On narrators who refuse to know”
Niamh Gordon, University of Glasgow

B7 Perspectives on Genre and Readers: Romance, Fantasy, and Education

Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112
Chair: Alexander Manshel, McGill University

“Who’s Afraid of the Romance Novel? Reading for Escape and the Cultivation of Self”
Vesta Pitts, Stanford University

“The High School Canon and Its Genres”
Alexander Manshel, McGill University

“Reader Attachment in *The Lord of the Rings*: A Mixed-Methods Study”
Dennis Friedrichsen, Aarhus University

Session B, Thursday 1:30-3:00 pm

B8 Narrative Objects (hybrid)

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Yonina Hoffman, United States Merchant Marine Academy

“Phenomenological Objects across the levels of *House of Leaves*”

Shaye Easton, University of New South Wales

“Yamashita’s Orange”

Daniel Punday, Mississippi State University

“Let’s Play a Game of *Clue*: The “Mute Facticity” of the Corpse as Object in Hardboiled Detective Fiction”

J. Muriel Moore, Trent University

B9 Illness Narratives and Medical Humanities (hybrid)

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Signifying Silence: Visual Rhetorical Absence in Health Narratives”

Lauren E. Chivington, The Ohio State University

“YouTube Reset Videos as Unwellness Narratives from the Perspective of Cognitive Metaphor Theory”

Veera Valta, Tampere University

“The Pit of Sleep: Circadian Rhythms, Influenza, and Embodiment in Katherine Ann Porter’s ‘Pale Horse, Pale Rider’”

Jennifer Riddle Harding, Washington & Jefferson College

“When the Body Tells a Different Story”

Njoki Mwangi, The Ohio State University

B10 Narratives and Metalepsis (hybrid)

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Narrative Restlessness and Negative Authority in Ishmael Reed and John Edgar Wideman”

Antonio J. Ferraro, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash

“Metalepsis as Self-Escape: The Body as a Narrative World in Contemporary Body Horror”

Fatemeh Ahmadi, University of Szeged

“Weird Realism, “The Unnamable” and the Unnatural”

Evan Thomas, SD Mines

B11 Narrative Trust in a Postdigital Continuum II: ... To Digital Platforms (hybrid)

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“‘In Chat We Trust’: Large Language Models as Unreliable Narrators”

Siebe Bluijs & Inge van de Ven, Tilburg University

“Gendered Epistemologies of Trust: Female Unreliability Across Legal, Literary, and Digital Spheres”

Rachid Benharrouse, Tilburg University

“Developing the perfect story: examining how narrative trust is built in story generation research”

Tuuli Hongisto, University of Helsinki

Session C, Thursday 3:15-4:45 pm

C1 Non/Fictionality Across Media

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122

Chair: Jan-Nöel Thon, Osnabrück University

“Framings of (Non)Fiction in and around Jaakko Pallasvuo’s *Avocado Ibu profen* Webcomics”

Kieron Brown, Osnabrück University

“Virtual Influencers as (Non)Fictional Characters”

Theresa Krampe, Osnabrück University

“Autofictional Videogames? On Authorship and (Non)Fictionality in Interactive Narrative”

Jan-Noël Thon, Osnabrück University

C2: Narrating the Impossible: Utopia and Futural Imagination in Peripheral Fiction

Room 3: Preben Hornung Stuen, 1422-132

Chair: Natalya Bekhta, Tampere University

“Utopia and Narrative”

Natalya Bekhta, Tampere University

“Reconsidering Peripheral Postmodernism: Time and Form After Communism”

Artis Ostups, University of Latvia

“The Utopia of European Identity in Post-1990 Lithuanian Literature”

Karolina Bagdonė, Tampere University

“Contemporary Bulgarian Dystopian Fiction and Genre Blending”

Svetozara Bozhilova, Tampere University

C3 Big and Small Stories III

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125

Chair: Aura Lounasmaa, Tampere University

“Narrative Contestation in Parliamentary Talk. Small Stories, Big Meanings in Argumentation”

Mari Hatavara, Tampere University

“Small Stories about Big Geopolitics. Looking at the Russian Border in Contemporary Finnish Journalism”

Riikka Pirinen, Tampere University

“Small Stories and the Limits of Sense-Making in Narratives about Sexual Abuse”

Jarmila Mildorf, Paderborn University

C4 Narrating Human Impact: Stories of the Anthropocene

Room 5: M2, 1427-246

Chair: Brian J. McAllister, University of Sharjah

“Rogue Epoch: Material Rhetoric and the Afterlife of the Anthropocene”

Brian J. McAllister, University of Sharjah

“Timing in Ryusuke Hamaguchi’s *Evil Does Not Exist*”

Matthew Mewhinney, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

“A Plurality of Eyes: Mosaic Vision as a Trans-Ecological Mode in the Works of Gry Stokkendahl Dalgas”

Clara Louise Søndergaard, Aarhus University

C5 Speculation as Narrative Navigation: 4E Cognitive Approaches to Unstable Storyworlds, Interactive Gameworlds, and Real-World Uncertainties

Room 6: M1, 1427-149

Chair: Essi Varis

“Shaping the Strange: Narrativization and Speculation as Cognitive Survival Skills”

Essi Varis, Independent Researcher

“Unstable Spaces as a Narrative Tool in Speculative Young Adult Fiction”

Sonja Tiitola, Tampere University

“Speculative Worldbuilding in Digital Fantasy Role-playing Games”

Nanna Numento, Tampere University

C6 Contemporary Formal Trends in Science Fiction Studies: Beyond Suvin’s Cognitive Estrangement

Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“The ‘Unreality’ Effect and the Cognitively Estranged Reader”

Ciarán Kavanagh, Ghent University

“Theory vs Practice: What Science Fiction’s Plots Don’t Know About the Scientific Method.”

Adele Guyton, UC Louvain – FNRS

“Is There an Artwork in This School Physics Lab? Science Fiction, Affordable Estrangement, and Literature”

Simona Bartolotta, Justus-Liebig University Giessen

Session C, Thursday 3:15-4:45 pm

C7 Illness Narratives and Medical Humanities II

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Calling out stigma and the hidden curriculum in medicine: How deep does HBO’s ‘The Pitt’ dig?”

Erin McConnell, Ohio State University

“Narrative Competencies and the invitation of Assisted Decision-Making”

David Gibson, Dublin City University

“Visualising Dissociative Identity Disorder: Multimodality and Ethics in LB Lee’s All in the Family and Madison Clell’s Cuckoo”

Athmika Tarun, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

C8 Narrative and AI Intimacy (hybrid)

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Zahra Rizvi, University of Bergen

“Memory maintenance for the AI boyfriend”

Zahra Rizvi, University of Bergen

“Eroticism without climax? Narration in erotic dialogues with chatbots”

Anne Sigrid Refsum, University of Bergen

“Remixing the Past. Encounters with AI-Generated Historical Portraits”

Lina Ruth Harder, University of Bergen

“What is narratable intimacy for an LLM?”

Elise Marie Strand Hagen and Jill Walker Rettberg, University of Bergen

“The eigenprompt as narration of a relationship with AI”

Marianne Gunderson, University of Bergen

C9 Truth and Trauma (hybrid)

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Catherine Belling, Northwestern University School of Medicine, Chicago

“What is my truth? How adoptee-authored literature seeks to question adoption tropes through the creation of multiple personal narratives, while examining trauma by breaking genre boundaries”

Emma Dandy, University of Birmingham

“Unplotting Trauma: Psychiatry Research and the Narratology Gap”

Catherine Belling, Northwestern University School of Medicine, Chicago

“Rape Culture in Star Trek’s Post-Violence Imaginary”

Ericka Hoagland, Stephen F. Austin State University

“De-centering the “master narrative” of domestic abuse: a new nexus between narrative criminology and applied narratology”

Rebecca Shaw, University of Leeds

C10 Weaving Trans Realities (hybrid)

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Cody Mejeur, University at Buffalo

“Nonbinary Narration”

Lena Mattheis, University of Surrey

“Mirror, Gaze, and the Co-Creation of Trans Realities in *Fierce Femmes and Notorious Liars* (2016)”

Ivo Zender, University of Bielefeld

“Fan Frictions: Fandom and Transition Narratives in *Dead Collections* and *I Saw the TV Glow*”

Madeline McNeely, University of Wisconsin – Madison

“Interpreting Mythology through Tabletop Roleplaying Games”

Michael Anthony DeAnda, DePaul University

Friday, June 5

Friday Overview

8:00–8:45 am

Coffee, Tea, and Croissants/Buns and Registration
(Vandrehallen 1410)

8:45–10:15 am

Contemporary Narrative Theory Panel II (hybrid)
(Room 1, Aulaen, 1412)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Maria Mäkelä, Tampere University

Alister Miskimmon, Queen's University Belfast

“Davos and Munich: Narrative Contestation and International Order”

Matti Hyvärinen, Tampere University

“The Sense of a Beginning: Positioning, Framing, and Lack of Closure”

Tanya Serisier, Birkbeck, University of London

“Narratives of Innocence and the Search for Narrative Justice: The Untelling of Alice Sebold's *Lucky*”

10:30 am –12:00 pm

Session D

12:00–1:00 pm

GCC Meeting
(“Multirum” below Stakladen)

Regular Lunch
(Stakladen)

The lunch is sponsored by Centre for the Rise of Science and Fiction

1:00–2:30 pm

Session E

Friday, June 5

2:45–4:15 pm

Session F

4:30–6:00 pm

Session G

6:15–7:15 pm

Keynote Speaker (hybrid): Sharon Marcus, Columbia University

“Character Parts: Towards a Structural Account of Literary Character”

(Room 1, Aulaen, 1412)

[Zoom Link](#)

Abstract

This talk will present a structural model of literary character that lends itself to computational representations of novels. Using *Pride and Prejudice* as a key example, the talk will focus on how the model can generate new insights about major and minor characters.

Session D, Friday 10:30 am-12:00 pm

D1 Fictionality Theory: Past, Present, and Future I

Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112

Chair: Jeppe Barnwell, University of Copenhagen

“Tacit Knowledge and the Communication of Un/Reliable Narration in Fiction and Nonfiction”

James Phelan, Ohio State University

“Analyzing Fictionality in Representations of Sexual Violence and Sexual Behaviour”

Henrik Zetterberg-Nielsen, Aarhus University

“The (Ir)relevance of Fictionality”

Sarah Copland, MacEwan University

“Fictionality theory beyond fictionality? Current and Possible directions”

Samuli Björninen, University of Turku

“The Two Histories of Fictionality and Fiction”

Simona Zetterberg-Nielsen, Aarhus University

“Fictionality as Potentiality: Autofiction and the Ethics of Sharing the Indivisible”

Stefan Kjerkegaard, Aarhus University

“Fictionality Literacy as an Analytical Approach”

Mengchen Lang, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

D2 Paramemoir and the Self I

Room 1: Aulaen, building 1412

Chair: Irene Kacandes, Dartmouth College

“Paramemoirs as Hybrid Genres: The Cognitive Science”

Ellen Spolsky, Bar-Ilan University

“‘I do not know who I would be without this book’: Bibliomemoirs of Reflexivity, Trauma, and Narrative Self-Fashioning”

Ellen Stenstrom, Indiana University

“The Ability to Distance Oneself from Oneself in Cusk’s (Para)Memoirs”

Arnaud Schmitt, University of Pau

D3 Narratives in Autofiction, Biofiction and Memoir

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Narrating Slow Violences in Contemporary US Autofictional Novels: Recursive Temporality, Loss, and Formal Experimentalism”

Francesca Balestro, University College London

“Between Fragmentation and Representation: Narrative Strategies in Christina Hesselholdt’s Biofiction *Vivian*”

Kamila Malinowska, Adam Mickiewicz University

“Narrative Identities in Nordic Crime Memoirs”

Lena Englund, University of Eastern Finland

D4 Dialectics of Sincerity and Irony in Twenty-First Century Narrative

Room 3: Preben Hornung Stuen, 1422-132

Chair: Torsa Ghosal, California State University

“Voice-over Narration as Rhetorical Resource: The Case of *Memories of the Alhambra*”

W. Michelle Wang, Nanyang Technological University

“The Role of Dramatic Irony in Twenty-First Century Dystopian Fiction”

Carolin Gebauer, Bergische Universität Wuppertal

“Ocean Vuong’s *The Emperor of Gladness* and the Post-Postmodernist Earnest Paradigm”

Virginia Pignagnoli, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

“Sincerely Fragmented: Sincerity as Self-Discordance in Neomodernist Fiction”

Rachel Lebovic, University of Toronto

“Surveillance and Sincerity”

Katherine D. Johnston, Stony Brook University

D5 Paratextual Practices in Digital Literary Environments

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125

Chair: Wibke Schniedermann, University of Ghent

“Paratextual Practices on BookTok: Navigation, Interpretation, Community”

Dorothee Birke, University of Innsbruck

“Insta vs. Book: Diverging Paratextual Narratives in Instapoetry’s Use of Greek Myth Online and in Codex Formats”

Birte Christ, University of Freiburg

“Jump to Recipe: Digital Food Writing and Its Paratexts”

Wibke Schniedermann, University of Ghent

Session D, Friday 10:30 am-12:00 pm

D6 Approaching Films

Room 5: M2, 1427-246

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Situational Hitchcock”

John Bruns, College of Charleston

“Narrative Triggers: Mapping Emotional Modulation Across Narrative Arcs”

Radhika Koul, Claremont McKenna College

“The Body as a Space of Entrapment in 21st-century Gothic Fiction on Screen”

Erin Temple, Ohio State University

D7 Reading Anglophone Fiction

Room 6: M1, 1427-149

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Novel in the Age of Visual Narrative: Ali Smith’s *How to be Both* and Mike McCormack’s *Solar Bones*”

Yifan Kong, Ohio State University

“Seán O’Casey’s *The Plough and the Stars* and Audience Protest: Theatre and Cultural Storytelling”

Mikelyn Rochford, University of York

“Nostalgic omniscience in the domestic space. The backward gaze of neorealist fiction in Jonathan Franzen’s *Crossroads* (2021) and Jonathan Safran Foer’s *Here I Am* (2016)”

Aleksandra Leniarska, University of Warsaw

“Human Rights, Post-Secularism, and Colson Whitehead’s *Zone One*”

Spencer Morrison, University of Groningen

D8 Environmental Writing, Econarratology, and Nonhuman Narratology (hybrid)

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Speakers Matter in 'Narrative Ecologies': Redressing Colonial Harm in Apess's Advocacy Writing”

Eric Morel, Washington State University

“Ecocultural Storying: Narrating Children’s Everyday Entanglements in More-Than-Human Worlds”

Shannon Audley, Smith College

“Rewriting Scamander: Water, Memory, and Renewal in David Markson’s Wittgenstein’s Mistress”

Gemma Curto, University of Sheffield

“‘Like blood in a dragonfly wing’: Molecular Poetics of Morphogenesis in Mei-mei Berssenbrugge’s Poetry,”

Ada Smailbegovic, Brown University

D9 Theorizations of Time in Narrative I: Case Studies and Corpora (hybrid)

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Neoliberal Financial Fiction and Narratological Time: A Cognitive Analysis Venture”

Mihai Mindra, University of Bucharest

“Mapping the Temporalities of Grief: Rethinking Mourning in Max Porter’s *Grief Is the Thing with Feathers*”

Fahime Serhatti, Yuksek Ihtisas University

“Formation of time as a literary intervention. The narration of 1989 in contemporary German literature”

Tim Senkbeil, Universität Greifswald

“A Taxonomy of Time Travel Multiverses”

Ted Royston, Pfeiffer University

Session D, Friday 10:30 am-12:00 pm

D10 Revisiting Character in Narrative I (hybrid)

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Scott Selisker, University of Arizona

“Figurally colored narration, character-character dialogue, and fictionality”

Shan Ruan, Wuhan University

“Knowledge Differentials and Character-Character Dialogue: A Rhetorical Narrative

Analysis of *The Wire*”

Nathan Richards, The Ohio State University

“On Character Networks: Passing in the Social Circuit”

Scott Selisker, University of Arizona

“Hybrid Characters in Mashup Culture”

Vanessa Ossa, Cologne Game Lab, Applied University, Cologne

D11 Fictionality, Narrative Time, and Cultural Value (online)

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Ayelet Ben Yishai, University of Haifa

“‘Grappling’ with Affect: Developing a Framework for Reading Narrative Time and History in Meena

Kandasamy’s *The Gypsy Goddess*”

Nidhi Singh, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

“Death, Cultural Narratives, and Fictionality”

Florence Laldinpuii, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

“The Chinese Nobel Complex: Narrative Construction of Cultural Prestige in Chinese-Language Media”

Michael Ka-chi Cheuk, Hong Kong Metropolitan University

Session E, Friday 1:00-2:30 pm

E1 Fictionality Theory: Past, Present, and Future II

Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112

Chair: Sarah Copland, MacEwan University

“Can fictionality solve my (media studies related) problems?”

Louise Brix Jacobsen, Aalborg University

“Fictionality Beyond Rhetorical Identification”

Jeppe Barnwell, University of Copenhagen

“Goldilocks in Outer Space”

Rhona Trauvitch, Florida International University

“Fictionality and Science Communication”

Valdemar Nielsen Pold, Aarhus University

“Can Fictionality Theory Remedy Ecocriticism’s Fictiophobia?”

Tobias Skiveren, University of Copenhagen

“Trapped in a Prison Made of Words: Fairy Tales and Fictionality in Contemporary Survivor Narratives”

Anna Ramsing Lindhardtzen, Aarhus University

E2 Paramemoir and the Archive II

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122

Chair: Irene Kacandes, Dartmouth College

“Archival Gaps, Queer Forms, and Lesbian Autobiographies Once Removed”

Devon Anderson, University of Innsbruck

“Representing Archival Silence in Paramemoir”

Anne Rügemeier, Universität Freiburg

“Reflecting and Projecting about *Daddy’s War*”

Irene Kacandes, Dartmouth College

E3 Aftermaths: On Ir/Reversibilities and Dis/Continuities

Room 3: Preben Hornung Stuen, 1422-132

Chair: Melissa Schuh, University of Kiel

“‘And a cowboy’s gotta ride’: Aftermaths in contemporary Western films by the example of Kevin Wilmott’s *The Only Good Indian* (2009) and Chloé Zhao’s *The Rider* (2017)”

Anneke Schewe, Kiel University

“‘the placid mien of settled widowhood’: Aftermath(s) in Nathaniel Hawthorne’s ‘Wakefield’”

André Schwarek, Kiel University

“Aftermaths of Diaspora: Race, (Dis)Affection, and Illness in Asian-Anglophone Writing”

Melissa Schuh, Kiel University

E4 New Perspectives on (Story)world

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“How to Live After the World Ends: Attenuated Storyworlds and Betweenness in Yoko Tawada’s *The Emissary*”

Stacey Dowswell, York University

“‘A Town Should Have Twenty-Five People’: New York City as an Ordinary Storyworld”

Emma K. McNamara, Independent Researcher

“‘Breaking the Symmetry’: Dirt, Narrative Space, and the Racialized Queer Body in Neel Mukherjee’s *A Life Apart*”

Mahima Verma, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi

“Narratives and Trust: Identifying Linkages for the Green Transition”

Antoinette Fage-Butler, Aarhus University

E5 Reading, Playing, Wandering: Spontaneous Thinking and Narrative Experiences

Room 5: M2, 1427-246

Chair: Karin Kukkonen, University of Oslo

“Getting Lost in a Book: Mind Wandering, Attention, and Fantasy from the Perspective of Literary Studies”

Francesca Arnavas, University of Tartu, Estonia

“Exploring the Attentional Pendulum: Flow and Mind Wandering in Interactive Narratives and Video Games”

Mattia Bellini, University of Technology of Compiègne

“Mind Wandering as a Window into Discovering New Structures and Patterns”

Dezső Németh, Lyon Neuroscience Research Center

Session E, Friday 1:00-2:30 pm

E6 Theorizations of Time in Narrative II: After Genette

Room 6: M1, 1427-149

Chair: Sean Yeager, Kenyon College

“Scenic Construction and Two Kinds of Narrative Order”

Eyal Segal, Independent Scholar

“Mapping the Telling Time”

Rowan Watts, University of Toronto (Co-author: Corinne Bancroft, Université Laval)

“Postclassical Time Maps”

Sean Yeager, Kenyon College

E7 A Century of the Prague School: Czech Structuralist Legacy in Narrative Theory

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“From Formalism to Structuralism: The Study of Narrative in the Context of the Pre-war Prague Linguistic Circle”

Ondřej Sládek, Czech Academy of Sciences

“Narratives in the Multiplicity of Views: The Study of Narrative in the Context of Post-war Prague School”

Bohumil Fořt, Czech Academy of Sciences

“Narrative Functions and Functionalism”

Stefania Sini, University of Eastern Piedmont

“Mukařovský, Lotman and Narrative Theory”

John Pier, CRAL (CNRS/EHESS), Paris

E8 Revisiting Character in Narrative II (hybrid)

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Hyde(ing) Everywhere: Semes and Seams of the Queered Character”

Douglas Meeker, Pennsylvania State University

“Turning the Screw with the Vanishing Character”

Kayla Goldblatt, Ohio State University

“‘Alone in the Pirates’ Lair’ (1866): Toy Theatre, Transmedia Character, and Performance”

Erica Haugtvedt, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology

E9 Narrative Topoi of Suppression, Resistance, and Social Justice (hybrid)

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Debra J. Phillips and Christopher Duncan, Australian Catholic University

“Imagining otherwise. Narrative imagination and civil disobedience for a world that resists”

Gioia Ceccarelli, University of Macerata

“Yarning Circle: Narrating another future”

Debra J. Phillips and Christopher Duncan, Australian Catholic University

“The Talking Dead: What narrating corpses in Holocaust literature tell us about unnatural narrative”

Rebekah Slodounik, Bucknell University

“The Downfall of Story: Eliezer Steinman and the Birth of the Modern Hebrew Essay-Story”

Dan Hecht, Tel Aviv University

E10 Disability and Crip Studies (hybrid)

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Illustrating Relationality in Graphic Narratives about Vision”

Sabrina Durso, Ohio State University

“Crip Close Reading and Narratives of Disability”

Anna Ovaska, Tampere University

“Romantasy Was Always Radical: Queer Golems in Maddie Martinez’s *The Maiden and Her Monster*”

Marissa Herzig, University of Toronto

Session F, Friday 2:45-4:15 pm

F1 Experimental Fiction and the Reader

Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112

Chair: Dorothee Birke, University of Innsbruck

“The STM Model: Expanding Rhetorical Narratology’s Account of Reading Experimental Fiction”

Katherine Weese, Hampden-Sydney College

“Reading Ambiguity: Ben Okri’s ‘A Wrinkle in the Realm’ and Jamil Jan Kochai’s ‘The Haunting of Hajji Hotak’”

Annjeanette Wiese, University of Colorado

“The Unnatural Reader”

Brian Richardson, University of Maryland

“Readers’ Emotional Responses to Speculative Experimental Storytelling in the Names by Florence Knapp”

Marina Lambrou, Kingston University

F2 Narrative Time and Wicked Problems I

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122

Chair: Marco Caracciolo, Ghent University

“Anticipation and Self-Fulfilling Prophecy: Narrative and Social Patterns”

Marina Grishakova, University of Tartu

“Narrative Literacy for Wicked Problems”

Steven Willemsen and Sjoerd-Jeroen Moenandar, University of Groningen

“The Drug Effect: Experiencing the Temporality of Addiction in (Interactive) Fiction”

Melanie Kreidler, Ghent University

F3 Panel moved to Pedagogy Lunch on Thursday

F4 The Uses and Abuses of First-Person Narrative

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125

Chair: Christina Lupton, University of Pennsylvania

Respondent: Heather Love, University of Pennsylvania

“Care Advocacy and the Limits of the First-Person”

David James, Birmingham University

“Anti-Confessional Narration in Contemporary Anglophone Fiction”

Christina Fogarasi, University of Copenhagen

“The Split and Doubled ‘I’ of the Reflective Critical Reader”

Ben Davies, University of Southern Denmark

F5 Games and Stories in the Early-Modern Period

Room 5: M2, 1427-246

Chair: Karin Kukkonen, University of Oslo

“Curiosity at Play: Literary Games and Narrative Tension in the *Age of Curiosity*”

Michela La Grotteria, University of Oslo

“Chance as Narrative Engine in the Game of *Tendre*”

Elisa Saggiaro, University of Oslo

“Material Narratives: Print, Play, and the Gendered Reconfiguration of Knowledge in Early Modern Europe”

Mylène Garin, University of Oslo

F6 Narrating War, Conflict, and Violence

Room 6: M1, 1427-149

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Narrating Conflict: Adventure, Generic Hybridity, and Violent Otherness in Early Modern English Travel Narratives”

Marcus Hartner, Bielefeld University

“Storying War and Occupation in the Kherson Letters of Viktoria Berezina”

Leena Käosaar, University of Tartu

“Unreliable Narration as Critique: Bugonia and the Discursive Apocalypse”

Dennin Ellis, Western Washington University

“Testimonial Listening and Response in Wartime”

Ilana M. Blumberg, Bar-Ilan University

Session F, Friday 2:45-4:15 pm

F7 Temporality and Narrative Time

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Phantom Worlds and Temporality in Julie Otsuka’s *When the Emperor Was Divine*”

Shannon Quist, Texas Woman’s University

“Orbiting or Eluding a Breaking Point: Temporal Strategies in Contemporary Disaster Fiction”

Jordi Serrano-Muñoz, Ghent University

“(In)To the Roots: Human-Vegetal Narrative Break(ing)s in George R. R. Martin’s *A Dance with Dragons*”

Jacqueline A. Heinzemann, University of Zurich

F8 Writing Processes and Narrative Craft (hybrid)

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Emma-Louise Silva, University of Namur

“Discover while typing: a nanogenetic exploration of material agency in digital literary writing processes”

Lamyk Bekius, University of Antwerp

“Toward an Interdisciplinary Poetics of Narrative Craft: A Case for Expanding Rhetorical Narratology”

Ziqi Jin, Beijing Normal University

“The Knack of Narrative: Towards a Neuroliterary Approach to Detail Recall across the Lifespan”

Emma-Louise Silva, University of Namur

“Restoring through Narratives?”

Silvia Pierosara, University of Macerata

F9 Affect and Scandals (hybrid)

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Anne Holm, Linnaeus University

“When Words Are Not Enough: Exploring Touch, Tears, and Affective Reflexivity in War-Related Storytelling”

Eva Mikuska, University of Portsmouth

“How does intermedial richness evoke narrative experiences?”

Anne Holm and Anna Ishchenko, Linnaeus University

“Auditory Narratology: A Research Paradigm of Narrative Environments”

Xiaoqing Qiu, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies

“Normalizing the Scandalous: Reading Klara and the Sun in the Age of LLMs”

Deborah de Muijnck, Justus-Liebig University Giessen

F10 Postcolonialism and Migration (hybrid)

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Can Narratives be Fair? Leveling the Telling Fields in Migration”

Roy Sommer, University of Wuppertal

“Narratives of Migration in Times of Crisis: Aspirations, Risks, and Decision-Making in Kenya, Nigeria and South-Africa”

Maarja Vollmer, University of Neuchâtel

“Constructing a Young-adult Male Readership: A Study of Bengali “Bhadralok” Identity in Satyajit Ray’s Select Crime Fiction”

Oishi Pattanayak, Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee

“From Hilly Landscapes to Hill Territories: Poly-Translational Narratives as a Decolonial Gesture”

Haidamteu Zeme, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

Session G, Friday 4:30-6:00 pm

G1 Autofictional (Over)Kill in Contemporary Narratives

Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112

Chair: Massimiliano Manni, University of Brescia

“Expanded Writers: Transmedia Authorships in Contemporary Italian Self-Narratives”

Lorenzo Marchese, University of Palermo

“Speaking to Lose: Self-Sabotage in (Auto)Fictional Essays”

Marine Aubry-Morci, Roma Tre University

“When Life Stories Are Used in Autofiction Without Permission”

Rikke Andersen Kraglund, Aarhus University

“A Place for Mr Hyde: If You’re a Monster Just in Fiction, Does It Count?”

Massimiliano Manni, University of Brescia

G2 Narrative Time and Wicked Problems II

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122

Chair: Sjoerd-Jeroen Moenandar, University of Groningen

“Climate Fiction and Layers of Time”

Marco Caracciolo, Ghent University

“It’s Fiction, but...’: Climate Denial and the Moral Imperative of Ecocriticism”

Xanthe Muston, University of South Wales

“On Intergenerational Collaboration in Sue Burke’s *Semiosis*”

Jaak Tomberg, University of Tartu

G3 AI-Generated Literature, Fiction, and Narratives

Room 3: Preben Hornung Stuen, 1422-132

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Teaching Narrative Studies in the Age of Thinking Machines”

Frederick Luis Aldama, University of Texas at Austin

“Narrative Competence and Cultural Specificity in AI-Generated Fiction: Early Findings from a Comparative Study of ChatGPT and PLLUM”

Bart Lutostanski, University of Warsaw

“Considering Generative AI Narrative as a Dialogic Genre: the Human Function in AI-driven Multimodal Storytelling”

Scott Rettberg, University of Bergen

“The ‘I’ in AI-Generated Literature: A Case Study of The Inner Life of an AI: A Memoir by ChatGPT”

Yili Tang, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

G4 Feminism, Sexuality, and Gender

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125

Chair: Elena Decesari

“Boxed In: Reading Space and Gender in Rita Bullwinkel’s Headshot”

Erika Gotfredson, Aquinas College (Grand Rapids, Michigan)

“‘You should be slim, smooth, preferably shorter, and a passive receiver’: A qualitative study of international LGBTQ+ adoptees’ embodied experiences of sexualised racialisation in Norway”

Lin Prøitz, Østfold University College

“‘Prejudices are there to be destroyed’: The Dark Side of Lolita. Connecting Intratextual Dimensions of Child Sexual Abuse Fiction to their Impact on Readers”

Victoria Pöhls and Giulia Scapin, University College Dublin

“A Character’s Afterlife: The Fate of Ibsen’s Nora in Italian Sequels of ‘A Doll’s House’”

Elena Decesari, Aarhus University

G5 Poetics and Narrative Strategies

Room 5: M2, 1427-246

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“The Aesthetics of Design Fiction—from Practice to Poetics in Terry Pratchett’s *Going Postal*”

Sunny Chen, National Taiwan Normal University

“Archive as an Embodied Practice: Grappling with the Multi-Modal Poetic Counternarrative in Justin Torres’s Blackouts”

Aden Morvice, University of Texas at Austin

“Show and Tell”

Richard Walsh, University of York

“It’s all too much: Intensity as narrative technique in Dickensian”

Rachel McCoy, The Ohio State University

G6 Narrative Identity Across Media

Room 6: M1, 1427-149

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Secrets Sequenced: Podcasting Family Genetics and the Narrative Turn in DNA Disclosure”

Helga Lenart-Cheng, Saint Mary’s College of California

“The Narrative Construction of Self and Others on the Dating-Market”

Michael Bamberg, Clark University

“‘My entire being was caught up in a blind spot’: The Gaps and Tensions of Cosmopolitan Narrative Identity in Teju Cole’s *Open City*”

Niclas Johansson, Mälardalen University

Session G, Friday 4:30-6:00 pm

G7 Space, Maps, and Expeditions

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113

Chair: Self-chaired (shared chair)

“A Bird’s-Eye View: The Cartographic Model of Spatial Narration and Power Discourse in Aeschylus’ Persians”

Anna Tsanova, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University

“The Narratology of the Scientific Expedition – Analytical Frameworks for the ‘Expedition Narrative’”

Anton Kirchhofer, University of Oldenburg

“From space to spatialization: rethinking Ryan’s model of narrative space”

Marzia Beltrami, IULM University

G8 Against Immersion: Alienation and Disorientation in Anthropocene Narrative (hybrid)

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Erin James

“Negative Ontology and Blocked Immersion in Anthropocene Historical Fiction”

Jon Hegg Lund, Washington State University

“How Children, Adults, and Generative Large Language Models Emplot Climate Breakdown”

Joshua Parker, University of Salzburg

“Disorientation and Disrupted Immersion in Anthropocene Novels”

Selina-Marie Leiendecker, University of Stuttgart

G9 Grammar, Discourse, and Narrative (hybrid)

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Emily Anderson, Knox College

“Stories, Discourse, and Intertextuality”

Emily Anderson, Knox College

“Proust and Grammar”

Gerald J. Prince, University of Pennsylvania

“More Than a Theme: The Russian Theory of Motif as a Tool for Analysing Narrative Composition”

Russo Attilio, University of Pisa

“Graphs, Maps, and Family Trees: Genealogy as Narrative in the American-Jewish Diaspora”

Carra Glatt, Bar-Ilan University

G10 Trickster Narratives, Enactive Cognition and Reader’s Perception (hybrid)

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Enacting Mind and World: Narrative Dynamics in Brion Gysin’s *The Process*”

Daria Baryshnikova, Independent Scholar

“The Engine of Alternation: Semiotic Roles and Liminality in Neil Gaiman’s Trickster Narratives”

Věra Koukalová, Charles University Prague

“Ghostly Guides: The Reader’s Engagement with Supernatural Narrators”

Valery Timofeev, Independent Scholar

“‘The band! The speckled band!’ – Towards a Computational Model for Attention (Management) in the Sherlock Holmes Short Stories”

Jan Angermeier, University of Stuttgart

Saturday, June 6

Saturday Overview

8:00-8:45 am

Coffee, Tea, and Croissants/Buns and Registration
(Stakladen)

8:45-10:15 am

Session H

10:30 am -12:00 pm

Session I

12:00-1:00 pm

Lunch
(Stakladen)

1:00-2:30 pm

Wayne C. Booth Lifetime Achievement Award Session (hybrid)
(Room 1, Aulaen, 1412)
[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Marco Caracciolo, Ghent University

Jan Alber, University of Giessen

Mieke Bal, University of Amsterdam

Sylvie Patron, Université Paris Cité

James Phelan, Ohio State University

Ellen Spolsky, Bar-Ilan University

Award winner: Jonathan Culler, Cornell University

Saturday, June 6

2:45-4:15 pm

Session J

4:30-6:00 pm

Session K

6:15-7:45 pm

Awards Dinner, *pre-registration required*
(Stakladen)

8:15 pm - 2:00 am

Narrative Dance
(Stakladen)

There will be an open bar with free drinks at the Narrative Dance! If you feel like donating all or some of what you might otherwise have spent on drinks, there will be options to donate to UNICEF.

Session H, Saturday 8:45-10:15 am

H1 Fictionality and Narrativity: Conflict or Complementarity?

Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112

Chair: Françoise Lavocat, Sorbonne Nouvelle

“Narrative Complexity and Fictional Worlds”

Anne Besson, Artois University

“Narrative Without Fiction: Contemporary Factual Forms”

Alison James, University of Chicago

“Fiction Without Narrative? Characters and Media”

Akihiro Kubo, Kwansei Gakuin University

“Fictionality and Narrativity: The Ongoing Debate”

Françoise Lavocat, Sorbonne Nouvelle

H2 On Mood and Atmosphere in Narrative I

Room 3: Preben Hornung Stuen, 1422-132

Chair: Ella Mingazova, RWTH Aachen University

“Constellation Moods: The Dynamics of Interpersonal Relations and Mood in Narrative”

Ralf Schneider, RWTH Aachen University

“Affectivity and Authorial Ethos in Contemporary Feel-Good Romance”

Tero Eljas Vanhanen, University of Helsinki

“Notes on the Nostalgic Mood of Narrative”

Luca Diani, University of L'Aquila

H3 Narrative Construction, Co-Construction, and Readers

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125

Chair: Virginia Pignagnoli, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

“Wind turbines and public health: Co-constructing narrative truthiness, suspicion, and evidence”

Siim Sorokin and Maili Pilt, University of Tartu

“Analyzing True Initial Readings: A Co-construction Approach”

Malcah Effron, MIT

“Kinds of empty centre”

Kai Mikkonen, University of Helsinki

H4 Dimensions of Literary History

Room 5: M2, 1427-246

Chair: Yael Shapira, Bar-Ilan University

“‘Storytelling is an Intricate Business’: Frame Narratives and Embedded Tales in Irish-language Literature”

Nina Cnockaert-Guillou, University College Cork

“Authors as Characters in Literary History: The Case of the Eighteenth-Century Gothic Novel”

Yael Shapira, Bar-Ilan University

“Narrating in entries: On the evolution of a literary form”

Richard Müller, New York University in Prague

H5 Sci-fi and Speculative Fiction

Room 6: M1, 1427-149

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“The Narrativity of Lost Land and Civilization Tales in Aleksey Tolstoy’s *Aelita* (1922-1923) and H. P. Lovecraft & Hazel Heald’s ‘Out of the Aeons’ (1935)”

Carlo Caccia, University of Eastern Piedmont

“Crisis as Waiting: Narrating Speculative Emergency in The Unmapping”

Orin Posner, University of Haifa

“Impossible Metaphysics: The ontological conflict in Octavia E. Butler’s unfinished novel *Paraclete*”

James Cobb, United States Naval Academy

H6 Scaling Narrative, Narrativizing Scale: Econarratological Perspectives

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122

Chair: Daniel Newman, University of Toronto

“The Collective Unconscious of the Anthropocene: Form and Plurality in Chinese Climate Fiction”

Hongri Wang, Ghent University

“Historical Scales on a Butterfly’s Wing in Nabokov’s Entomological Papers”

Daniel Aureliano Newman, University of Toronto

“The Scales of Queer Climate Trauma: Narrative Strategies for Intimate and Planetary Crises”

Corpus Navalón-Guzmán, Ghent University

Session H, Saturday 8:45-10:15 am

H7 Listening to/in Narrative I

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113

Chair: Rahel Orgis, University Library Bern

“An Acoustemology of Migration: Sound and Ethics in Teju Cole’s *Open City*”

Simona Adinolfi, Ghent University

“To listen in Jeff Lemire’s *Sweet Tooth*”

Lou Braiban, Ghent University

“The Inheritors and neanderthal sensoriness”

Guy Reynolds, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

“The Narrator as Listener: Mediation and Narrative Ethics in Rachel Cusk and Katie Kitamura”

Anne Mette Overgaard, University of Copenhagen

H8 Attention, Immersion and Narrative Utility (hybrid)

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“On the Narrative Utility of Antigypsyist Tropes”

Radmila Mladenova, Heidelberg University

“Immersion in Non-Fiction?”

Joanna Jeziorska-Haladyj, University of Warsaw

“‘The guidance of his eyes’: Narrating the gaze in John Polidori’s ‘The Vampyre’”

Hannah Armour, University of Stuttgart

“False Chronicles of Real Lives: Biofiction and Literary Truth in Contemporary Italy”

Alessandro De Marchi, Independent Researcher

H9 Queer and Feminist Theories (hybrid)

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Corinna Assmann, Heidelberg University

“Of Lumberqueers and Phantom Genitalia: Enactively Approaching Queer Bodies in *Stag Dance* (2025)”

Cara Vorbeck, University of Heidelberg

“Building Queer Relationality through Queer Narrative”

Corinna Assmann, Heidelberg University

“From Medical Object to Narrative Subject: A Feminist-Affective Narratological Analysis of The Story of Blanche and Marie”

Sangeetha Balakrishnan, SRM Institute of Science and Technology

H10 Digitality and Hybridity (hybrid)

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Visual narratives, Photography, and Digital Remediation”

Gretchen Busl, Texas Woman's University

“Immersive self-reflexivity and emotional engagement in multimodal post-postmodernist fictions of the digital”

Nadia Georgiou, Sheffield Hallam University

(co-author: Alice Bell, Sheffield Hallam University)

“The Form is ‘Content’: Length, Literary Fiction, and the Contemporary Culture Industry”

A.J.E. Lovell, University of Cambridge

“Narratives in the Wild: A Narrative Annotation Infrastructure for the Modern Social Media Ecosystem”

Ioannis Siglidis, Pioneer Center for AI, University of Copenhagen

Session I, Saturday 10:30 am-12:00 pm

I1 Experimental Unreliability and Fictionality Strategies in the Autobiographical and Autofictional memoirs of Selma Lagerlöf, Knut Hamsun, and Mary McCarthy

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122

Chair: Lasse R. Gammelgaard, Aarhus University

“The Great Bees of Imagination and the Small Hive of Reality – Selma Lagerlöf’s Myth-Making Practice and Enchantment of Life in Her Autobiographical Works”

Clara Elisabeth Vestergaard-Thomsen, Aarhus University

“Deception, Unreliability or Fictionality? Knut Hamsun’s *On Overgrown Paths* as a Precarious Non-Fiction Book”

Ingri Løkholm Ramberg, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway, and Lasse R. Gammelgaard, Aarhus University

“The Persistence of Unreliability: Mary McCarthy and the American Origins of Autofiction”

Leigh Gilmore, The Ohio State University

I2 On Mood and Atmosphere in Narrative II

Room 3: Preben Hornung Stuen, 1422-132

Chair: Luca Diani, University of L’Aquila

“From Literary to Everyday Moods”

Ella Mingazova, RWTH Aachen University

“The Feedback Loop of Atmosphere(s) and Mood(s) in Cinematic Guilt Narratives”

Akash Shetye, Ohio State University

I3 Translating Narrative Theory

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125

Chair: Tim Senkbeil, Universität Greifswald

“Bond, Post-Eco”

Michal Nutenko, Yale University

“Ethnography and Narrative”

Kristian Svane, Yale University

“Clarity, Opacity, and Interpretation: Translating Literature and Theory”

Alice Yang, Yale University

I4 Myth and Religion

Room 5: M2, 1427-246

Chair: Alexander Van de Sijpe, Ghent University & FWO Vlaanderen

“Myth and Memory: A Mnemohistorical Account of Greek Mythic Narrative”

Alice Gaber, University of Wisconsin–Madison

“Integrating Rhetorical Narratology into Postsecular Studies: Ted Hughes and Sylvia Plath as Religious Figures in Connie Palmen’s *Your Story, My Story* (2021)”

Alexander Van de Sijpe, Ghent University & FWO Vlaanderen

“God? What God? Frankenstein as Rebel without a Clue”

Ellen Peel, San Francisco State University

“Knausgård’s Bible: The hidden narrative engine of Biblical metanarrative in Knausgård’s authorship”

Anders Haagerup, Aarhus University

I5 Econarratology, Sea and Ice

Room 6: M1, 1427-149

Chair: Tobias Skiveren, University of Copenhagen

“Narrating Speculative Space at Sea: Exploring Emerging Climate Imaginaries through Floating Cities”

Ann Imke, University of Bremen

“Tales from the Ice Age: Narrating Cold in Danish Early Modern Poetry”

Linus Fiil Skov, Aarhus University

Session I, Saturday 10:30 am-12:00 pm

I6 Narrative Modes

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“From depths I had not known within me, a voice rose, and the voice said I’: Psychological and Ethical Aspects of the Emergence of First-Person Narration”

Iris Milner, Tel Aviv University

“Omniscient Narration and Historical Trauma in Honorée Fanonne Jeffers’s The Love Songs of W.E.B. Du Bois”

Ally Barber, Southern Methodist University

“Free Direct Speech as a Narrative Device in Raija Siekkinen’s Work: Exploring Dialogic Scenes and Multimodality”

Linda Nurmi, University of Helsinki

“Improbable Lives. The Rhetoric of Contemporary Time Loop”

Mathias Overgaard, KU Leuven

I7 Storytelling with Large Language Models I

Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112

Chair: Stefan Iversen, Aarhus University

“What a Rhetorical Model of Fictionality Can Teach Us about Generative AI”

Joanne Lipson Freed, Oakland University

“Revising Positioning Analysis for Human–Machine Narration on r/MyBoyfriendIsAI”

Pernille Meyer, Aarhus University

“Translating Non-Citizenship: Rage Bait in LLM-generated Border Crossing Narratives Across Languages”

Torsa Ghosal, California State University

I8 Listening to/in Narrative II (hybrid)

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Simona Adinolfi, Ghent University

“Das Wort >Gehör< im Wort > Angehören<: Notes on Listening to Olivia Wenzel’s 1000 Serpentine Angst”

Esther Kondo Heller, Harvard University

“‘When you will speake, I will with devosion attend your words’: Listening to Early Modern Romance”

Rahel Orgis, University Library Bern

“Nostalgic Voices, Precarious Presents: Voiceovers and the Gendered Politics of Romanticization”

Lilli von Stengel, Justus-Liebig University Giessen

“Listening for the Author’s Voice and Not Hearing One: Narratorial Takeovers in Shostakovich’s and Brezhnev’s 1979 Book Memoirs”

Ivan Delazari, Nazarbayev University

I9 Narrative Approaches to Contemporary Latinx Media (hybrid)

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Paloma Aguirre, University of Texas

“Latinx Possible Worlds in *Wednesday*”

Paloma Aguirre, University of Texas

“Fractured Perception: Reading David Martinez with Herman’s Cognitive Consciousness”

Andrea M. Escalante, University of Texas

“Forms of Narrative Control in Alfonso Cuarón’s *Y tu mamá también*”

Samuel Marentes, University of Texas

“The Chronotope of Border: *Solito* & *Signs Preceding the End of the World*”

Camille M. Sammeth, University of Texas

Session I, Saturday 10:30 am-12:00 pm

110 Empathy, Sympathy, and Sadness (hybrid)

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Conceptualizations of empathy in the empirical study of reading: James Joyce’s ‘A Painful Case’ as an example”

Laura Karttunen, Tampere University

“Narrative Design and the Regulation of Sympathy in Narratives of Moral Deviance”

Márta Horváth, University of Szeged

“Losing the Plot: Narrative Sadness in Corecore”

J.C.E. Curran, University of Texas at Austin

“Predictive Processing as Formal Analogy: Characterization as a Recursive and Regulative Process”

Ryohei Hashimoto, University of York

Wayne C. Booth Lifetime Achievement Award Session (hybrid)

1:00-2:30 pm

(Room 1, Aulaen, 1412)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Marco Caracciolo, Ghent University

Jan Alber, University of Giessen

Mieke Bal, University of Amsterdam

Sylvie Patron, Université Paris Cité

James Phelan, Ohio State University

Ellen Spolsky, Bar-Ilan University

Award winner: Jonathan Culler, Cornell University

Session J, Saturday 2:45-4:15 pm

J1 Authors and Narratives in Changing Environments I

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122

Chair: Maria Mäkelä, Tampere University

“Narrative and Authorship in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Ian McEwan’s *Machines Like Me* and the Future of the Novel”

Markku Lehtimäki, University of Turku

“Ill Bodies and Ill Environments: Embodied Space in Gabby Schultz’ *Sick*”

Nancy Pedri, Memorial University of Newfoundland

“Narrative and Digital Capital in Johannes Ekholm’s *Päähenkilö*”

Laura Piippo, Tampere University

J2 Narrative Forms in Social Context

Room 3: Preben Hornung Stuen, 1422-132

Chair: Eric Berlatsky, Florida Atlantic University

“‘He Was A Thief’: Further Thoughts on Plagiarism As Both Literary Mode and Climate Solution in Ian McEwan’s *What We Can Know*”

Eric Berlatsky, Florida Atlantic University

“Epistolary Environmental Writing: relational modes of address in the works of Emmy Laura Perez Fjalland”

Camilla Hougaard, Aarhus University

“‘Time Irreproachably Spent’: Narrative Displacement and the Leisure of Empire in *Mansfield Park* and *The History of Mary Prince*”

Mariana Akawi, University of Pennsylvania

J3 Narrative Ethics

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Agent-Regret in The Charterhouse of Parma”

Ido Keren-Shalit, Stanford University

“Friendship Nevermore: The Role of Hostility in Narrative Communication”

Faye Halpern, The Ohio State University

“Born This Way: Ethical Positionings and Sexual Sadism in Jacob Israël de Haan’s *Pathologieën* (1908)”

Lander Kesteloot, Ghent University

J4 Rhetorical Narrative Theory

Room 5: M2, 1427-246

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“The Narrative Gymnasium in Contemporary Fiction: Accommodation, Misinformation, and the Political Affordances of Percival Everett’s *James*”

Caleb Hays, Ohio State University

“The Dialectics of ‘Narrative as Rhetoric’”

Siddharth Srikanth, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

“Hardy’s Wessex and Narrative Progression: A Rhetorical Narratological Analysis”

Sinem Oruç-Kesici, Middle East Technical University

J5 Compassion and Narrative

Room 6: M1, 1427-149

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Feeling Arboreal: Radical Narrative Compassion in Roy’s *How I Became a Tree*”

Deepika Bahri, Emory University

“‘The Magic Circle’: Character, Conversation, and Community in Jewett’s *A Country Doctor*”

Carol Colatrella, Georgia Tech

“Neurodiversity and the double empathy problem: Testing compassion through Gowar’s ‘A Double Thread’”

Inger H. Dalsgaard, Aarhus University

J6 Resisting National and Ethnic Hegemony: Master Narratives and Counter-Narratives of Jewish and Palestinian Identity

Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112

Chair: Samuli Björninen, University of Turku

“Narrative Voice and the Ethics of Counter-Narrating the Israeli Occupation”

Howard Sklar, University of Helsinki

“Palestinian-American/Jewish-American and Narrative Resistance”

Benjamin Schreier, Pennsylvania State University

“Narrating Atrocity: Holocaust Memory and Institutional ‘Mission Creep’ After October 7”

Ben Ratskoff, Occidental College

Session J, Saturday 2:45-4:15 pm

J7 Explorations of Narrativity

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113

Chair: Jerry W. Carlson, The City College & Graduate Center CUNY

“From Parliamentary Debate to Social Media Video Posts: The Portability of Narrativity”

Nanny Jolma, Tampere University

“Moving Language: Describing Narrativity in Non-Narrative Texts Using Systemic Functional Linguistics”

Emily Udle, University of Toronto

“Detecting History by Plotting Palimpsests: Leonardo Padura’s *La Neblina de Ayer* (The Mist of Yesterday)”

Jerry W. Carlson, The City College & Graduate Center CUNY

J8 Storytelling with Large Language Models II (hybrid)

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Torsa Ghosal, California State University

“No Humans-in-the-Loop: The People-less Stories by GPT”

Claudia Carroll and Gabi Kirilloff, Washington University in St. Louis

“Why Can’t AI Write a Bestseller?”

Katherine Elkins, Kenyon College

“Asymmetries of Agency in Long-Form GenAI Video Sequencing: Machinic Montage and Narrativization”

Aigars Ceplitis, RISEBA University of Applied Sciences

J9 Myco-Narratology I (hybrid)

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Erin James, University of Idaho

“Infected Mind, Infected Narrative? Holobiont Consciousness in 21st Century Fungal Fictions”

Teun Joshua Brandt, University of Groningen

“Fathoming Teal”

Luke Rodewald, Florida International University

“We, Us, You, Them: Inter-species and Inter-Technological Networks of the Mind”

Premee Mohamed, author

“Undernarrated/Underwater: Marine Fungi and the Limits of Myco-Narratology”

Shannon Lambert, Ghent University

“‘Once You Eat One You Can’t Stop’: Hyphal and Mycelial Narrative in Ishirō Honda’s *Matango* (1963)”

Terry Harpold, University of Florida

J10 Postcolonialism, Narratives of Enslavement, and History (hybrid)

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Coetzee’s Enigmas: Paul Ricoeur in *Waiting for the Barbarians*”

Jap-Nanak Kaur Makkar, University of Kentucky

“The Not Fictionalised: The Rhetoric of Fictionality, the Bounds of the Text, and the Politics of Reading”

Divya Dwiwedi, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

“Accomplices to the Unmaking of Whiteness? Raced-white, Anti-Racist Narrativity”

Frankie Condon, University of Waterloo

“Old Form, New Tricks: Demon Copperhead’s Reinvention of the Neo-Slave Narrative”

Becca Hall, Fordham University

Session K, Saturday 4:30-6:00 pm

K1 Authors and Narratives in Changing Environments II

Room 7: Auditorium 2, 1441-112

Chair: Markku Lehtimäki, University of Turku

“How readers explore the author’s mind ‘in all of its deep dark crevices’”

Alison Gibbons, Sheffield Hallam University

“Postdigital Authorship and Rhetorical Narrative Theory”

Maria Mäkelä, Tampere University

“Direct, Transparent, and Readable -- Digital Values for the Literary Field?”

Matti Kangaskoski, University of Jyväskylä

K2 Contemporary Art, Literature, and Narrative

Room 2: Richard Mortensen Stuen, 1422-122

Chair: Laura Chiesa, University at Buffalo

“The Pantoum Problem: How Refrains Build Narrative”

Marimac McRae Carty, Southern Methodist University

“Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster and Grazia Toderi: Expanding otherwise with texts into contemporary art”

Laura Chiesa, University at Buffalo

“Memory gaps: Filial remembrance of paternal selves in *Fun Home* and *Aftersun*”

Sara Villamarin-Freire, University of Santiago de Compostela

K3 Second-Person Narration, Care and Agency

Room 3: Preben Hornung Stuen, 1422-132

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Talking to Everyone All at Once; The Deictic You in Kazuo Ishiguro’s *Never Let Me Go*”

Joshua McGarry, University of Tennessee Knoxville

“Nearness and Distance: Second Person Narrative in Norwegian Caregiver Literature”

Sondre Johan Chesney Kvamme, The University College of Volda

“Analysis of Digital Narratives: Implementing the Project ‘Looking at My Future with Optimism’ to Foster Psychological Resilience”

Olga Pantouli, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

“‘I don’t know If I ever lived’: Narrative Agency and Identity Reconfiguration in Post-Addiction Employment”

Ioanna Giannakopoulou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

K4 Personal Storytelling

Room 4: Mogens Zieler Stuen, 1422-125

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“And that’s why I decided to...”: Personal Stories as Scientific Models and Why It Matters”

Fiona Ramsey, Independent Scholar

“The Stories We Tell Ourselves and Others: Metic Intelligence & Service-Learning”

Melissa Guadrón, Western Washington University

“A Historical Analysis of Patient Voices in Psychiatry”

Klaus Nielsen, Aarhus University

K5 Fictionality in Motion

Room 5: M2, 1427-246

Chair: Mengchen Lang, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

“Fictional Histories and Historical Fiction”

Adam Manfredi, University of North Texas

“Dance/Dancer: In Search of Truth(s) in Autofiction”

Hailin Wang, University of Oldenburg

“A Holdable World: Expressing the World through Lists and Collections in Late Twentieth Century Fiction”

Cameron Sparling, University of Toronto

“The Sense of a Happy Ending: Fictional Closures in Life Narratives”

Dunja Dušanić, University of Belgrade

K6 Plotting Trauma: Narrative, History, and Cultural Legibility

Room 6: M1, 1427-149

Chair: Faye Halpern, The Ohio State University

“Post-#MeToo Media and the Politics of the Trauma Plot”

Elizabeth Alsop, CUNY School of Professional Studies and CUNY Graduate Center

“Unspeakable Crimes? How a Historical View Complicates the Trauma Plot”

Katra Byram, The Ohio State University

“Telling Jokes, Charging Violence: Narrative Interpretation and the Contemporary Trauma Plot”

Anne Langendorfer, University of Tennessee at Knoxville

Session K, Saturday 4:30-6:00 pm

K7 Politics, Ideology, and Anarchism

Room 9: Auditorium 3, 1441-113

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“Adaptation as Anarchist Intervention: Complex Systems and Narrative Emergence”

Kristopher Mecholsky, Savannah College of Art and Design

“The Politics of Versioning Twain: Signifying and Narrative Perspective in Percival Everett’s *James*”

Matthias Klestil, University of Innsbruck

“(Mis)Guiding the Reader: Narrative Form and the Cognitive Structure of Ideology”

Caroline Martin, University of Geneva

K8 Law, Criminology, and Crime Fiction (hybrid)

Room 10: Seminar Room, 1441-010 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Kelly A. Marsh, Mississippi State University

“Unseen Criminals, Guilty Witnesses, and the Narrative Dynamics of Ian McEwan’s *Atonement*”

Kelly A. Marsh, Mississippi State University

“Law, Narratology, and Legal Reform”

Greta Olson, University of Giessen

“Does the Law Need a Rhetorical Narrative Theory?”

Annie Kim, University of Virginia

“Get a Clue: Nathaniel Hawthorne’s *Blithedale* Romance as Early Crime Fiction”

Hannah Trammell, University of Tennessee

K9 Myco-Narratology II (hybrid)

Room 8: Seminar Room, 1441-110 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Chair: Rhona Trauvitch, Florida International University

“Mycorrhizal Networks and Animated Infrastructures in Ling Ma’s *Severance*”

Michael Boyden, University of Fribourg

“Contemporary Mycoaesthetics, Hope, and the Question of Fungibility”

Alison Sperling, Florida State University

“Mushroom Ontologies and Speculative Ecologies of New Weird fiction”

Gry Ulstein, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

“Sporelight: An Aesthetic of Reclamation in *The Last of Us*”

Nicholas R. Cabezas, Rice University

K10 Poetry, Rhetoric and Imagination (hybrid)

Room 11: Seminar Room, 1441-210 (hybrid)

[Zoom Link](#)

Unless stated otherwise, the first onsite panelist serves as chair.

“The Late-Romantic Narrative: Thomas de Quincey’s *Antistrophos*”

Elaine L. Wang, University of Chicago

“Synecdoche – Figure in Narrative, Narrative Figure, and Figure as Narrative”

Fanfan Chen, National Taipei University of Business

(Co-authors: Nicolas Szilas, University of Geneva; Cheng-En Tsai, National Taiwan University)

“Towards Lyronarratology: An Integrated Approach to Study Narrativity in Lyrics with Reference to Jayanta Mahapatra’s Select Lyrics”

B. Sai Vaishnavi, Sri Sathya Sai Institution of Higher Learning

(Co-author: Maitali Khanna, Sri Sathya Sai Institution of Higher Learning)

“Scale, Children’s Literature, and Text-Image Narration”

Jonas Vanhove, Ghent University

A big thank you to all our student assistants who have helped make this conference possible. Special thanks to Philip, Ida, and Sofie for their exceptional support in the preparations leading up to the conference.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE
2026 NARRATIVE CONFERENCE**

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