

## 27. Report

**The Coordinating Committee for  
the Comparative History of Literatures in European Languages  
(CHLEL) Summer 2018-Spring 2019  
For ICLA- meeting, Shenzhen, China,  
July 2019 By President Karen-  
Margrethe Simonsen**

**Information about CHLEL:** <https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/projects/chlel/>

**Information about publications, John Benjamins:** [https://](https://www.benjamins.com/#catalog/books/chlel/volumes)

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**Elections for a new committee** took place during the fall of 2018. A new committee was elected. According to procedure, the election was accepted and confirmed by the Executive Committee of ICLA and President Zhang Longxi in December 2018. The new committee began its term on January 1st 2019 and will end its term in December 2021. Next election will take place in the fall of 2020. At the end of this report, you will see an overview of the new committee with 16 members.

### **AboutCHLEL**

The main aim of the committee is to coordinate the publication of comparative, collaborative and experimental literary histories. In the past year, we specified the profile of the series and have now divided it into four sub-series: a geographical, a period-oriented, a topic-oriented, and a problem-series. Books in the first three series typically include 2-4 volumes, books in the last one include one volume that focuses on one selected literary historiographical problem.

Criteria for acceptance of a project within any of our series is high level academic quality, a genuine new approach to a specific area of literary history, an international team of editors and contributors and a comparative methodology. As always, all volumes are published with John Benjamins.

We have an increased focus on literatures in European languages outside of Europe for instance in Africa and Latin America, an increased focus on the interactions between literature in Europe and literature outside of Europe and on the understanding of European literature seen in light of the consequences of globalization, migration and transcultural influences. We also have a strong focus on the literary object, its materiality historically and its redefinition in a new digital era, its old and new media forms, and relations to other aesthetic art forms and literature's relation to literary culture.

### **We have the following ongoing projects:**

- *Landscapes of Realism. Rethinking Literary Realism( s) in Global Comparative Perspective.* Principal editors, Dirk Gottsche, Margaret Higonnet, Svend Erik Larsen and Robert Weninger. Proposed publication dates: Vol. 1: 2020, Vol. 2: 2021.

- *Latin Literatures in Medieval and Early Modern Times inside and outside Europe,* Ed. Francesco Stella, that focuses on 1000 years of Latin 'cosmopolitan' culture in Europe. Proposed publication date: 2020 or 2021.

- *A Comparative Literary History of Modern Slavery.* Eds. Madeleine Dobie, Mads Anders Baggesgaard and Karen-Margrethe Simonsen. Vol. 1: *Slavery, Emotions and Literature* is expected to be published 2020. Two other volumes on Slavery and Memory and Slavery and Literary Culture are planned for later publication.

*Toward a Comparative History of the Literary Draft in Europe,* Eds. Dirk van Hulle and Olga Beloborodova

- *A Comparative Intermedial History of the Baroque Age.* Eds. Massimo Fusillo and Helga Mitterbauer.

- *Nordic Literature. A Comparative History,* Vol. 3. *Temporal Modes.* Eds. Steven P.

Sondrup, Mark B. Sandberg, Thomas A. DuBois and Dan Ringgaard.

### **Volumes about to be published**

We expect two manuscripts to be handed in this year, They were announced for publication last year but have been slightly delayed.

*Nordic Literatures: A Comparative History of Nordic Literary Cultures, Vol. 2*

**Directors:** Steven P. Sondrup and Mark Sandberg

*Transculture and Migration.* Eds. Fridrun Rinner, Franca Sinopoli, Helga Mitterbauer.

### **Other Publications**

*Delocalizing European Literatures. Arcadia*, Vol. 53, Issue 2 (Nov. 2018) De Gruyter, Issue Editors: Birgit Neumann and Cesar Dominguez <https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/arcadia.2018.53.issue-2/issue-files/arcadia.2018.53.issue-2.xml> This issue is partly based on presentations at the **50th Anniversary of CHLEL** symposium: *Global Perspectives on the Past and Future in Comparative Histories on Literatures in European Languages*, at University of St. Andrews 2017.

### **New Projects**

At the business meeting this year, new ideas for projects will be presented, among which will be the following:

*Interpreting Communities: Minor, Minority and Small Literatures in Europe*

Editors: Dr Sarah Arens (University of Edinburgh), Christinna Hazzard (Liverpool John Moores University), Prof. Margaret Littler (University of Manchester), Dr Malachi McIntosh and Dr Godela Weiss-Sussex (Institute of Modern Languages Research, School of Advanced Study, University of London).

### **Business meeting and Session at ICLA, 2019**

Business meeting 2019 will be August 2nd in connection with XXII'nd Congress of ICLA in Macau. We are hosting a session on *Time and Difference in Comparative World Literary History*. (Chairs Haun Saussy (Chicago University) and Karen-Margrethe Simonsen (Aarhus University))

### **Grants**

We have applied for extra funding from The General Assembly of UAI (Union academique internationale) in May 2019 but have not yet received an answer.

### **Economic request to ICLA**

ICLA has previously supported all necessary language revisions of volumes published via CHLEL with an amount of 2000 Euro per volume.

This year we kindly ask for the support of 2000 Euro:

2000 Euro for the project of vol. 2 of *A Comparative Literary History of Modern Slavery*.

Eds. Madeleine Dobie, Mads Anders Baggesgaard, Karen-Margrethe Simonsen

**Meeting and Symposium in CHLEL, 2020**, We hope to have the next meeting at the University of Nottingham

**Below you find an overview over members and project directors.**

### **MEMBERS OF CHLEL (as of January 2019)**

#### **OFFICERS**

**President:** Ass. Professor **Karen-Margrethe Lindskov Simonsen**, Aarhus University, [litkms@dac.au.dk](mailto:litkms@dac.au.dk)

**Vice-President:** Professor **Mark Bennion Sandberg**, Department of Scandinavian and Department of Film and Media, University of California, Berkeley, [sandberg@berkeley.edu](mailto:sandberg@berkeley.edu) **Secretary:** Professor **Helga Mitterbauer**, Chaire de Littérature allemande, Département de Langues et Lettres, Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), [helga.mitterbauer@ulb.ac.be](mailto:helga.mitterbauer@ulb.ac.be) **Treasurer:** Professor **Dirk Van Bulle**, Department of Literature, University of Antwerp, Belgium, [dirk.vanhulle@uantwerpen.be](mailto:dirk.vanhulle@uantwerpen.be)

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