



Departamento de
Filología Inglesa
y Alemana
Universidad Zaragoza



MEMORY FRICTIONS: CONFLICT-NEGOTIATION-POLITICS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CONTEMPORARY NARRATIVES IN ENGLISH

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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

All conference events are taking place in and around the venue: **Centro Joaquín Roncal**, San Braulio Street, 5-7. Wifi is available throughout the building. SSID: JOAQUINRONCAL Password: 12345678

Keynote lectures: Salón de Actos (second floor)

Panel sessions:

- Rooms 1 and 2 (ground floor)
- Room 6 (first floor)
- Salón de Actos (second floor)

Wine reception (Wednesday, 20.00): Hotel Alfonso, Coso Street 15-17-19.

Conference dinner (Thursday, 21.00): Restaurante El Principal, Coso Street 57 (The Principal is one of the best-known theatres in Zaragoza. The theatre proper is on the ground floor and the restaurant is on the first floor, so you have to enter the theatre building to access the restaurant. Just go up the main hall stairs and you will be there.)

WEDNESDAY, 6 MAY

9.00-10.00 Registration

10.00-10.30 Welcome address- Salón de Actos

10.30-12.00 Keynote lecture 1-Salón de Actos Chair: Susana Onega
“The Powers of Vulnerability: Memory and the Restorative Uses of Elegy”
Prof. Jean-Michel Ganteau (University Paul Valéry-Montpellier)

12.00-12.30 Tea/Coffee

12.30-14.00

Session 1- Room 1: *Playing with Memory: Manipulation and Deception*

Chair: Alan Gibbs

- “‘Life as a fake’: Trust, Memory and Paranoia in the Contemporary Impostor Novel” (Michael Greaney, University of Lancaster)
- “‘So this is a big preventive guilt trip’: Naturalism and Traumatic Memory in Lionel Shriver’s *Big Brother*” (Alan Gibbs, University College Cork)
- “Remembering as Rewriting: Deception and Artistic Power in *Atonement*” (Irena Książopolska, University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Warsaw)

Session 2- Room 2: *Traumatic Wounds in African-American Contexts*

Chair: Susana Onega

- “Race, Trauma and Natural Disaster in Richard Ford’s ‘Leaving for Kenosha’ and ‘Everything Could Be Worse’” (Rubén Peinado Abarrio, National University of Ireland, Galway)
- “Reimagining the Social Death: The Traumatic Outcome of Racist Stereotypes in Bernice L. McFadden’s *Gathering of Waters*” (Vicent Cucarella Ramon, University of Valencia)
- “Narrative Form, Memory Frictions and the Revelation of Traumatic Secrets in Toni Morrison’s *Home*” (Susana Onega, University of Zaragoza)

Session 3- Room 6: *Memories of the World Wars*

Chair: José M. Yebra

- “Pat Barker’s *Regeneration*: Revisiting First World War Memory and the Poetry of Owen and Sassoon” (José M. Yebra, University of Zaragoza)
- “Revisioning Cultural Memory: Alternative Narratives of 1940s Britain in Andrea Levy’s *Small Island*” (Sonya Andermahr, University of Northampton)
- “Contrary to Popular Belief: Memory and Mythmaking of Wartime Britain in Contemporary Fiction” (Rachel Chin, University of Exeter)

LUNCH BREAK

16.00-17.30

Session 4- Room 2: *Constructing Diasporic Identities*

Chair: Nieves Pascual

- “False Memories, False Foods: Eating, Cooking, Remembering in *Tastes Like Cuba* by Eduardo Machado” (Nieves Pascual, University of Jaén)
- “‘Salida Definitiva’: Ruth Behar’s Autoethnographic Memory and the Nostalgic Impossibility of Return” (Lisa Ortiz-Vilarelle, The College of New Jersey)
- “Negotiating Diaspora: Media Constructions of Cultural Difference and Mobility” (Chiara Battisti, University of Verona)

Session 5- Salón de Actos: *Memory Fictions, Memory Frictions*

Chair: Laurent Mellet

- “From Conflict to Friction: The Negotiating Aesthetics of Grafting in *Model Home* (Eric Puchner)” (Laurent Mellet, University of Toulouse-Jean Jaurès)
- “‘And beyond these, there is unrest’: The Role of Shame in Reconstructing Memory in Julian Barnes’s *The Sense of an Ending*” (Selen Aktari-Sevgi, TC Istanbul Kultur University)
- “Memory F(r)ictions: Penelope Lively’s *The Photograph* (2003)” (Eileen Williams-Wanquet, University of La Réunion)

17.30-18.00 Tea/Coffee

18.00-19.30

Session 6- Salón de Actos: *Holocaust Memory and the Perpetrator’s Perspective*

Chair: Guido Vitiello

- “Martin Amis’s *The Zone of Interest*, or Writing from the Viewpoint of the Perpetrators as a Way of Negotiating the Collective Trauma of the Holocaust” (Anne-Laure Fortin-Tournès, University of Maine, Le Mans)
- “How Many Degrees of Separation? Reconfiguring the (Child) Witness in Recent Memory Work in Literature and Film” (Susanne Baackman, University of New Mexico)
- “Retrospective Voyeurism. The «Peephole Motif» in Contemporary Holocaust Cinema” (Guido Vitiello, University of Rome «La Sapienza»)

Session 7- Room 2: *Reconstructing Memory in Australian Fiction*

Chair: Heinz Antor

- “Gough who? Memory and Legend from Australia’s Coup” (Paul Sharrad, University of Wollongong)
- “Memory Frictions, Trauma and the Re-Construction of Female Immigrant Identity in Eva Sallis’s *Hiam*” (Heinz Antor, University of Cologne)

20.00 Wine Reception (Hotel Alfonso, Coso Street 15-17-19)

THURSDAY, 7 MAY

9.00-10.30

Session 8- Salón de Actos: *Memoir or Not Memoir, That is the Question*

Chair: Ana Belén Martínez García

- “Author Hoaxes and Collective Responsibility: The Case of Nasdijj” (Sheila Ghose, University of Södertörn)
- “*I Am Malala*: Issues on Ethics and Politics of Self-Representation” (Ana Belén Martínez García, University of Navarre)
- “‘What if?’: Counter-history and Pseudo-memoir in Philip Roth’s *The Plot against America*” (Ada Savin, Versailles University)

Session 9- Room 1: *Depathologising Trauma: Enabling Stories, Enabling Emotions*

Chair: Maite Escudero Alías

- “‘A Garden of Her Own’: Towards a Wilful Politics of Hope in Shani Mootoo’s *Out on Main Street*” (Maite Escudero Alías, University of Zaragoza)
- “Of Love and Silence: Memory F(r)ictions and Emotional Survival in Contemporary Black British Fiction” (Irene Pérez-Fernández, University of Oviedo)
- “Of Terrible Mothers and Wayward Sons: Resisting Diasporic Memory Trauma in Jeffrey Eugenides and Christos Tsiolkas” (Christina Dokou, The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)

Session 10- Room 6: *The Individual and History: Memories and/of Conflict in Short-Story Collections*

Chair: Nathalie Vincent-Arnaud

- “Settling the Score on the Victimisation Trope in the Works of Ronnie Govender” (Felicity Hand, Autonomous University of Barcelona)
- “A Korean ‘Apocryphal’ Island: *Once the Shore*, by Paul Yoon” (Marc Amfreville, Paris-Sorbonne University)
- “Journey into the (Un)Selves: Memories of Conflict, Conflicting Memories in Molly Antopol’s *The UnAmericans* (2014)” (Nathalie Vincent-Arnaud, University of Toulouse-Jean Jaurès)

10.30-12.00

Keynote lecture 2-Salón de Actos Chair: Silvia Pellicer-Ortín

“The Contemporary Novel, Reality Hunger and the Memory Boom”

Prof. Bryan Cheyette (University of Reading)

12.00-12.30

Tea/Coffee

12.30-14.00

Session 11- Salón de Actos: *Holocaust Representation and the Jewish Question in Contemporary British Fiction*

Chair: Sue Vice

- “Recollection in Anxiety: Howard Jacobson’s *The Finkler Question and J*” (Peter Lawson, The Open University, London)

- “‘Not Nothing’: Holocaust Representation and Memory in Contemporary British Jewish Literature” (Ruth Gilbert, University of Winchester)
- “Memory Frictions in British Holocaust Novels” (Sue Vice, University of Sheffield)

Session 12- Room 1: *Collective Memory and Public Commemoration: Politics, Remembrance, Manipulation*

Chair: Bárbara Arizti

- “Public Art and Communal Space: The Politics of Commemoration in Amy Waldman’s *The Submission*” (Paula Martín-Salván, University of Córdoba)
- “The Holocaust in the Eye of the Beholder: Memory in Carmel Bird’s *The Bluebird Café* (1990) (Bárbara Arizti, University of Zaragoza)
- Meddling with Memory: Simulacrum of Cultural Identity in Julian Barnes’ *England, England* (Andrzej Książkowski, Institute of English Studies, Warsaw University)

Session 13- Room 6: *Gendered Memories*

Chair: Lola Herrero

- “Memory Frictions and Reconciliation: Neo-Victorian Gothic and Gender Violence in Katy Darby’s *The Whores’ Asylum* (2012)” (María Isabel Romero Ruiz, University of Málaga)
- “‘Rasslin’ with ghosts’ in Phyllis Alesia Perry’s *A Sunday In June: The (Im)Possible Negotiation of Family and Historical Traumatic Memories* (Valérie Croisille, University of Limoges)
- “Wendy Law-Yone’s *The Road to Wanting: The (Im)Possibility and (Un)Willingness of Remembering the Way Back Home*” (Lola Herrero, University of Zaragoza)

LUNCH BREAK

16.30-18.00

Session 14- Room 2: *Memory Spaces: Culture, Criticism, and Perception*

Chair: Svend E. Larsen

- “Cultural Mobility and Diaspora: The Case of Philip Roth’s *Operation Shylock*” (Daniela Carpi, University of Verona)
- “Memory between Perception and Projection” (Svend E. Larsen, Aarhus University)
- “‘Memory Frictions’: Negotiating Cosmopolitanism and Postcolonialism in Three Post-Cold War Essays by Tomas Venclova” (Larissa Allwork, University of Northampton)

Session 15- Salón de Actos: *Information Flows: Visitable Pasts, Technologised Presents, Imagined Futures*

Chair: Francisco Collado Rodríguez

- “Traumatic Memory and Time Travel Science Fiction: John F. Kennedy’s Assassination in Stephen King’s Novel *11.22.63*” (Sonia Baelo Allué, University of Zaragoza)
- “Erasing Trauma as Information: Terrorism and the Web in Pynchon’s *Bleeding Edge*” (Francisco Collado Rodríguez, University of Zaragoza)
- “Organic vs. Digital Memory: Memory Representation in British TV Series *Black Mirror* (2011)” (Juanjo Bermúdez de Castro, Autonomous University of Madrid)

18.00-18.30 Tea/Coffee

21.00 Conference dinner (Restaurante El Principal, Coso Street 57)

FRIDAY, 8 MAY

9.00-10.30

Session 16- Room 1: *Trauma, Memory, and Justice*

Chair: Jessica Aliaga Lavrijsen

- “Aminatta Forna’s *The Memory of Love*: Trauma and the Impossibilities of Forgiveness in a Non-Western Context” (Merve Sarikaya, Baskent University, Ankara)
- “Holocaust Memory and Social Justice in Joseph Kanon’s *Alibi*” (Anthony Lake, Khalifa University, Abu Dhabi)
- “Pan Am Flight 103: Trauma and the Crave for Justice in James Robertson’s *The Professor of Truth*” (Jessica Aliaga Lavrijsen, University of Zaragoza)

Session 17- Room 2 : *What the Dead Leave Behind*

Chair: Marita Nadal

- “Healing the Past in the Face of AIDS: Memories of Familial Suffering in Colm Tóibín’s *The Blackwater Lightship*” (Mayron Estefan Cantillo Lucuara, University of Valencia)
- “Childhood, Memory and the Gothic: Joyce C. Oates’s ‘Haunted’” (Marita Nadal, University of Zaragoza)

10.30-12.00 Keynote lecture 3-Salón de Actos Chair: María Jesús Martínez
“**Telos and Trauma**”
Prof. Robert Eaglestone (Royal Holloway London)

12.00-12.30 Tea/Coffee

12.30-14.00

Session 18- Room 1: *Multidirectionality and Memory: (Hi)stories that Clash and Blend*

Chair: Ana Beatriz Pérez Zapata

- “Multidirectional Memory, Multi-ethnicity, Globalization, and Surviving ‘The Troubles’ in Colum McCann’s *TransAtlantic*” (Sandra Singer, University of Guelph)
- “Foreign Histories, Home Traumas: Reading Empire in Zadie Smith’s ‘The Embassy of Cambodia’” (Ana Beatriz Pérez Zapata, University of Zaragoza)
- “‘Worlds in Collision’: The Representation of Multidirectional Memory in Gail Jones’s *Black Mirror* (2002)” (María Pilar Royo Grasa, University of Zaragoza)

Session 19- Room 2: *Negotiating Memory: Ethnic Discourses, Ethnic Identities*

Chair: Silvia Martínez Falquina

- “Alternative Ways of Negotiating Trauma: White Man’s Law and Native Justice in Louise Erdrich’s *The Round House*” (Aitor Ibarrola, University of Deusto, Bilbao)

- “Memory that Haunts and Memory that Saves –the Case of Louise Erdrich and Cristina García” (Agnieszka Gondor-Wiercioch, Jagiellonian University, Krakow)
- “Re-Mapping the Trauma Paradigm: Native American Strategic Representations of Grief” (Silvia Martínez Falquina, University of Zaragoza)

Session 20- Room 6: *The Detective Work of Memory: Selves, Histories, and Counter-Histories*

Chair: Beatriz Domínguez-García

- “Memory and Identity in Atkinson’s Jackson Brodie’s Series” (Beatriz Domínguez-García, University of Huelva)
- “‘A Cluster of Conflicting Images’: Investigating Counter-Narratives in Contemporary Irish Detective Fiction” (Brandi Byrd, University College Dublin)
- “When the Personal and the Historical Collide: Re-imagining Memory in Penelope Lively’s *Making It Up*” (Maricel Oró-Piqueras, University of Lleida)

LUNCH BREAK

16.30-18.00

Session 21- Room 1: *Re-creating the Holocaust: Words, Images, Commemoration*

Chair: María Ferrández San Miguel

- “Drawn from Postmemory: Graphic Ethics in Joe Kubert’s *Yossel: April 19, 1943*” (Mercedes Peñalba, University of Salamanca)
- “Re-membling the Politics of Holocaust Commemoration” (María Jesús Fernández-Gil, University of Alcalá)
- “‘No Redress but Memory’: Holocaust Representation and Memorialization in E.L. Doctorow’s *City of God*” (María Ferrández San Miguel, University of Zaragoza)

Session 22- Room 2: *Reconfiguring Memory, Resisting Trauma*

Chair: Isabel Fraile Murlanch

- “Boundaries of Memory in Janette Turner Hospital’s Fiction” (Isabel Fraile Murlanch, University of Zaragoza)
- “The End of Theory, The End of Trauma? Jeffrey Eugenides’s *The Marriage Plot* and the Resistance to Trauma Aesthetic” (Bilyana Kostova, University of Zaragoza)

18.15 Conference closing- Room 1