

# **BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**



## **ENCOUNTERS IN/AMONG LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, AND ARTS**

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**SAPIENTIA HUNGARIAN UNIVERSITY OF TRANSYLVANIA  
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## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



### LIVIU LUTAS

Professor in French Literature at Linnaeus University, Växjö, Sweden. His research interests include classical narratology, transmedial narratology, intermedial theory and French literature from the Caribbean.

#### **EKPHRASIS AT THE CROSSROADS OF DICHOTOMIES – PROBLEMATIZING THROUGH EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE**

Ekphrasis has been a concept that has been at the core of theoretical controversies during centuries. This might seem expected, since it had a dichotomous nature already from the start, in ancient Roman rhetorics. Indeed, its definition as “a speech that brings the subject matter vividly before the eyes” (Webb 2009) points to the existence of two different fields that are brought together: the speech and a subject described through that speech. Scholars throughout the centuries have insisted on the complex relation between the two different fields, but even the theoretical discourse has been repleted with by different dichotomies. Thus, for instance, from the beginning, the dichotomy *absentia-presentia* was all important, since the object described was not supposed to be physically present for the listener. Later on, when ekphrasis became rather a literary figure, the dichotomy words-images became central, when Leo Spitzer (1955) defined it as “the poetic description of a pictorial or sculptural work of art”. Subsequent scholars used other dichotomies, such as “notional” vs. “actual” ekphrasis according to John Hollander (1995), real vs. fictitious text according to Claus Clüver (1998), “media representation” vs. “transmediation” as in intermediality theory (Lars Elleström 2014), human subject or nonhuman object (Bill Brown 2016), or even subject vs. object or mind vs. matter in general, as in new materialist approaches. This lecture will problematize some of these dichotomies, as well as some classifications, on the basis of an empirical experiment, being thus itself at the junction of a dichotomy: theory vs. empiricism. The aim is however not to resolve the existing dichotomies enumerated above, but rather to show how the friction between opposites can form such an innovative and time-enduring device as ekphrasis has proven to be.



## **CSANÁD BODÓ**

Hungarian sociolinguist and linguistic ethnographer. Associate Professor at the ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, and Head of the MTA – ELTE Collaborative Writing Research Group.

### **LINGUISTIC ENCOUNTERS IN PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH**

Empirical research on human communication has always been based on encounters: these take place between researchers and the participants involved in the research. When we place these encounters at the heart of our inquiry, i.e. when conducting participatory research, we often face difficulties in creating a language that is accessible to all participants. In my talk, I argue that the language of encounters cannot be separated from the realisation of involvement and engagement in research. I support this argument with an example from our own research with participants in a Moldavian multilingual village. The research focused on the co-design of a language-centred board game that provided an opportunity for representation, analysis and reflection on the village's language practices. The game is the culmination of several years of participatory research and aims to explore interpretations of practices that are widely discussed as threatened, allowing for a critical approach to language endangerment rhetorics. In my analysis I draw on the ethnographic encounters of eight sessions in which players engaged both with each other and the board game's creators. The example demonstrates that while an innovative representation of marginalised language practices does not in itself guarantee the subversion of language endangerment rhetorics, it can make new knowledge more accessible to a wider audience.

## PANEL PRESENTERS

**AJTONY Zsuzsanna**, Associate Professor, Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania, Miercurea Ciuc, ajtonyzsuzsa@uni.sapientia.ro

### **Literature for Children in Translation: A Bear Called Paddington in Hungarian**

The present study continues the series of investigations into the Hungarian translation of children's literature in English, this time looking at a prose text. The first and last books of Michael Bond's popular Paddington Bear book series (1958–2018) started to be translated into Hungarian by Dezső Tandori in 2008, and the translation work has been taken over since 2018 by Miklós Gábor Kövesdi. The presentation explores the question how the world of such a stereotypically British character like Paddington is rendered in Hungarian. After a brief outline of children's literature in translation focusing on readability and naturalness, the thorough comparison of the source and target text is carried out, highlighting the preservation or change of the stereotypical cultural elements in the target text related to cuisine, history, currency and music. Besides, as the ST abounds in idioms, proverbs, wordplay and verbal humour, their rendering in the TL is also investigated. As a result, it can be concluded that through the translation of children's literature – the Paddington stories are no exception – youngsters can learn about cultural differences, and gain access to one of the finest examples of English children's prose in their mother tongue.

Keywords: children's literature, British stereotype, foreignization, wordplay, humour.

**ÁRMEÁN Otilia**, Associate Professor, Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania, Târgu Mureş, armeano@ms.sapientia.ro

### **Screens on Stage. Encounters between Theatre and Cinema**

Taking a more general screen theory approach (screenology, Huhtamo 2006), and some key concepts such as artificial flatness (Krämer 2022), liveness through mediation (Auslander 1999), window/communication (Flusser 1977), I will look at some exciting examples of screen use in contemporary theatre performances. The use of film in contemporary stage productions brings together different genres and media and can remind us of the debate about the value of different art forms (paragone). Which is better at reflecting reality or having an impact on the audience? Comparing different ways of reflecting reality can also lead to the conclusion that reality itself is no longer a reference point, and external validation is no longer necessary. In this presentation, I will focus on the work of Radu Afrim at the National Theatre Târgu-Mureş (*Herbarium*, *Emma's Meaning of Life*), which will provide insight into the significance of screens in contemporary theatre.

References:

Auslander, Ph. (1999): *Liveness. Performance in a Mediatized Culture*. Routledge, London – New York.

Flusser, Vilém (1977): Two Approaches to the Phenomenon, Television. In: *The New Television*. MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 234–247.

Huhtamo, Erkki (2006): Elements of Screenology: Toward an Archaeology of the Screen. *Navigationen – Zeitschrift für Medien- und Kulturwissenschaften*, 6, 2, 31–64.

Krämer, Sybille (2022): Reflections on ‘operative iconicity’ and ‘artificial flatness’. In Wengrow, David (Hrsg.): *Image, thought, and the making of social worlds*. Heidelberg: Propylaeum, 251–272.

Keywords: screenology, theatre, cinema, stage, mediation.

**AVRAM, Sabina**, Associate Lecturer, University of Bucharest, avramsabina7@yahoo.com

### **About Interpretation within the Interplay of Singularity and Duality in Psalm 62:12**

Psalm 62:12, a poetic expression in the Hebrew Bible, serves as an eloquent locus for deepening into the interplay of major concepts dealt with in Judaism, such as singularity and duality. Through a lens that integrates traditional exegesis (especially the mystical insights of Sefer Yetzirah upon these concepts), the verse unfolds as a tapestry of layers, although a vast majority of its translations might overshadow some particularities of the original text. The investigation begins with the singularity of God’s utterance, symbolized by the phrase “One – God has spoken.” This could be seen as a reference to the primordial utterance, to the idea that God’s speech is not confined to a specific moment in time, but encompasses the eternal and ongoing act of creation. The duality encapsulated in “Two – have I heard,” which embodies the perspective of the psalmist, invites reflection on the dynamic of revelation and interpretation – a binary dance of divine disclosure and human receptivity, as well as its edges. What role does the idea of interpretation play within the singularity vs. duality interplay? Additionally, what perspectives or lenses are implied by the translations predominantly chosen for this verse?

Keywords: singularity, duality, interpretation, translation.

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### **The Chariot and the Horses: Reappraising Psalm 20:8**

The presentation will focus on the different modes of translating and interpreting the Hebrew verse 20:8 from *The Book of Psalms*, highlighting the richness of textual and contextual significances, in order to convey its appropriate, attentively delineated content in Biblical Hebrew, while preserving (and defending in translation) its quality of hiding and deploying countless layers of interpretation. How then could its translation be at the same time precise and capable of recalling a similar horizon, meant to actuate and evoke unlimited significances? The translation needs to be, on the one hand, technical and accurate, and, on the other hand, suggestive, without allowing the emergence of a different inner landscape within the translated text. The new linguistic garments should be able to adapt, in order to convey, as much as possible, the same message in distinct situations. Correspondences will be traced between Psalm 20:8 and 2Kings 2 (Elijah’s Ascension to Heaven). For hermeneutical purposes, Moses

Maimonides' approach, in *The Guide of the Perplexed*, regarding the Account of the Divine Chariot (merkavah) will be brought into discussion.

Keywords: Psalms, Biblical Hebrew, translation, interpretation, Divine Chariot.

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### **Third Places: How Netiquette Shapes Online Encounters**

Oldenburg's sociological theory of "third places" (1997) – the spaces of social encounters where informal interactions and community formation happen beyond home (first places) and formal organisations (second places) – is a popular topic among Gen Z students. Young people born between 1996 and 2009 are often complaining of the lack of affordable spaces for a "meet and greet", since coffee shops are expensive, and parks are less and less available. The rise of social media enables virtual spaces for community formation and online encounters. We propose a theoretical and methodological approach to the topic of virtual third places from the perspective of interaction rules or netiquette, based on literature review and three focus group discussions carried out in October – November 2023 among Sapientia students. Which are the opportunities and challenges of encounters in virtual third places, and how are norms of interaction shaping community formation online?

Keywords: Gen Z, virtual third places, netiquette.

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### **University Students' Perceptions of Excuses in Student Emails**

Emails written by university students to their instructors have been investigated from several aspects in the past two decades. One such recent study (Pinto, 2019) analyzed excuses in 200 student emails and found that students give excuses most frequently based on medical and personal issues. The same study also examined how 10 university instructors react to these excuses in terms of effectiveness and showed that instructors evaluate these excuses most negatively when students avoid taking responsibility for their own (in)actions and place it on the instructor instead. The present paper aims to analyze the excuses university students use in their emails written to one of their instructors, i.e., the researcher of the study, focusing on 1) the most frequent types of excuses university students give, and 2) the students' reactions to these excuses. Preliminary analyses of 75 student emails show that the most common excuses are related to their health (illnesses) and to technical problems (computer, internet, etc.). Furthermore, preliminary questionnaire data (N=30) indicate that students find health-, family- or technology-related excuses acceptable, whereas they believe that being forgetful is a rather inadequate excuse to make when missing a deadline. On the basis of further interview data, the

paper hopes to provide an insight into students' perceptions regarding excuses in student emails.

Reference:

Pinto, D. 2019. Shifting responsibilities: Student e-mail excuses and how faculty perceive them. *Lingua* 222: 53–73.

Keywords: excuses, student emails, perceptions.

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**SYLWANOWICZ, Marta**, Habilitated Assistant Professor, University of Warsaw, marta.sylwanowicz@uw.edu.pl

### **Lexical Fixedness in the 18th-Century Medical Texts**

The proposed paper aims to conduct a corpus-driven examination of the 18th-century English vocabulary used in various types of medical texts, such as treatises, recipes, regimens, surgical texts, etc. It is argued that formulaicity in medical jargon depended on the text type. We focus on binomials, defined as “words or phrases belonging to the same grammatical category having some semantic relationship and joined by some syntactic device such as ‘and’ or ‘or’” (Bhatia 1993: 108). Apart from the investigation into the correspondence between the use of binomials and the text type, the analysis involves exploring their frequency, origin, the type of relationship between their components, and the (ir)reversibility of these elements. The study delves into the purpose of using binomials in the examined texts and addresses such key questions as: to what extent was the medical language of the 18th-century formulaic; whether lexico-syntactic patterns of binomials were repeated across particular types of texts; and whether there was any stability in the structure of the phrases.

The material used for the analysis is the electronic corpus of Late Modern English Medical Texts (LMEEMT, Taavitsainen and Hiltunen 2019), containing a representative collection of texts (of over two million words) from a wide range of 18th-century medical writings. We adopt the typology and methodology used by Kopaczyk (2013), Mollin (2014), and Kopaczyk and Sauer (2017).

References:

Bhatia, V.K. 1993. *Analysing Genre: Language Use in Professional Settings*. London: Routledge.

Kopaczyk, J. 2013. “Formulaic Discourse Across Early Modern English Medical Genres”, in: Jucker, A. et al. (eds.) *Meaning in the History of English. Words and Texts in Context*. Amsterdam/Phil.: John Benjamins, 257-299.

Kopaczyk, J. and H. Sauer (eds.) 2017. *Binomials in the History of English*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Mollin, S. 2014. *The (Ir)reversibility of English Binomials. Corpus, Constraints, Development*. Amsterdam/Phil.: John Benjamins Publishing Company.

Taavitsainen, I. and T. Hiltunen (eds.) 2019. *Late Modern English Medical Texts. Writing Medicine in the Eighteenth Century (including CD-ROM)*. Amsterdam/Phil.: John Benjamins.

Keywords: binomials, formulaicity, medical jargon.

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### **Encounter with(in) Other Times**

Tokarczuk's novels take place in the mazes of time. This paper explores what disjunctions and connections such as *Primeval and Other Times* or *House of Day, House of Night* reveal, and how we can navigate between the events of an encounter in time, the resonances between times, and the attempts to encounter times. To what extent do the practices of reading and writing the Tokarczuk novels correspond to art theoretical thinking based on the historical regimes of aesthetics and the notion of historicity, and where do they raise questions that prompt a rethinking of these paradigms? The practice-oriented physics and eco-rhythmology proposed by me, should also be put to a similar test, in order to see what support they provide for research into the practical orientation of Tokarczuk's novels in times and where the art of writing under examination prompts new/further hypotheses.

Keywords: Tokarczuk, times, historicity, practice-oriented physics, eco-rhythmology.

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### **Intersections between Linguistic Landscape and Educational Spaces**

The present research starts from the notion that “the interpretation of signs is intrinsically linked to the preceding signs in the same environment and to related signs elsewhere and is thus diachronic in nature” (Pavlenko, 2015: 115). I analyse the dynamics of sociolinguistic changes in a higher education institution from diachronic and synchronic perspective, i.e. the linguistic landscape of the University of Medicine in Târgu Mureş, Romania, which has provided Hungarian-medium studies since 1945. I examine sociolinguistic events and language policy decisions that have continuously been reflected in the linguistic landscape of the University. This approach “enhances our understanding of interactions between space on one hand and action, social structure, policy and culture on the other (Krompák et al., 2022: 7). The method relies on qualitative diversity sampling of printed and photographic documents (ca. 60 photos, 15 documents, and over 150 online texts) and on narratives of alumni about the preceding signs of the LL. I conclude that the intersections between linguistic and semiotic signs and educational spaces transmit symbolic messages about power and relevance, together with the institutional discourse as means of legitimization.

References:

Pavlenko, A. & Mullen, A. (2015). Why diachronicity matters in the study of linguistic landscapes. *Linguistic Landscape*, 1(1/2), 114–132.

Krompák, Edina, Fernández-Mallat, Víctor and Meyer, Stephan. 2022. The Symbolic Value of Educationscapes – Expanding the Intersections Between Linguistic Landscape and Education. In *Linguistic Landscapes and Educational Spaces*, (Eds.) E. Krompák, V. Fernández-Mallat and S. Meyer, Bristol, Blue Ridge Summit: Multilingual Matters, 2022, pp. 1-28.

Keywords: minority, diachronic, synchronic, linguistic landscape.



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### **Flow and Anti-flow in Foreign Language Learning**

So far, in psychology, there have been various approaches used in learning foreign languages, such as behaviorism, humanism, and construction. In the new millennium researchers have become interested in the role of emotions in foreign language learning and teaching. Moreover, studies have been carried out on the interaction of flow and anti-flow in foreign language learning (Dewaele and MacIntyre, 2020). The present research focuses on the field of Positive Psychology and the Theory of Flow, as it aims to explore the role of flow and anti-flow in foreign language learning. The purpose of the research, which is based on Dewaele and MacIntyre's (2020) Flow Measure questionnaire, is to study the process of learning English as foreign language in three different settings: in two monolingual setting, namely Hungary and Poland; and in a bilingual setting, Transylvania, Romania. What factors influence the flow and anti-flow experiences in learning English as a foreign language? Is there a difference between monolingual and bilingual students learning English in terms of experiencing flow or anti-flow during their language learning process? The preliminary findings suggest that learning a foreign language and experiencing enhanced flow is not significantly linked to being a bilingual language learner.

Reference:

Dewaele, J.-M., and MacIntyre, P. D. 2020. Emotions in second language acquisition: a critical review and research agenda. *Foreign Lang. World* 196, 34–49.

Keywords: flow, foreign language learning, monolingual, bilingual.

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### **Pound's *Cathay* into Romanian. Influence, Translation, Rewriting**

The present paper aims at reviewing the Romanian translations of Ezra Pound's *Cathay* cycle of poems; their origin, the manuscripts of Ernest Fenollosa, led to both the essay *The Chinese Ideogram* and the translation of poems belonging to the classical canon of Chinese poetry. His translations make proof of a certain Orientalism, which will be discussed, and mark as well the relationship with the poetics of Imagism and Vorticism (this being the reason for Fenollosa's widow to donate him the manuscripts), while establishing a milestone in rendering classical Chinese poetry into English, and acclimatizing it into modern poetry. As far as poetry translation of is concerned, the model proposed by Pound, here as in *Homage to Sextus Propertius* and to a good extent in his *Cantos*, is rewriting. Translation as rewriting, from Chinese into English, and going through a primary and a final stage, is also the model followed in the Romanian translations; we will examine the selection and the Romanian equivalents, with their pluses and minuses. Also, following the Polysystem theory of translation, we will

refer to the poetry of the generation of the eighties as the entry point of Pound's poetry into the Romanian literary canon.

Keywords: translation, rewriting, canon.

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### **Mother-in-law – Daughter-in-law Relationship in the Current Korean Society**

One of the prevailing themes in Korean novels and dramas is the fractured relationship between mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law, caused to a great extent by Confucianism, which preaches submissiveness of women to their parents, husbands, and in-laws. Given the tremendous economic, technological and cultural development of South Korea in the last 50 years, the question that arises is whether family ties have undergone an equal progress. This study aims at identifying whether the matriarch in the Korean household, i.e. the mother-in-law still holds the reins or whether there is a shift towards more freedom and independence of daughters-in-law. The data employed to this aim are Cho Nam-Ju's (2018) novel *Kim Ji-Young, Born 1982*, which follows the life of a married woman in her 30s who shows signs of mental issues, pretending at times to be her mother or her older sister, and a K-drama titled *Marriage Clinic: Love and War* that depicts the problems of married couples, among which the bad treatment daughters-in-law receive from their husbands' mothers. The analysis of the fragments extracted from the two data sources will be carried out within the framework of interpretive content analysis, defined by Osgood (1959) (quoted in Drisko and Machi, 2016: 3) as "a procedure by which one makes inferences about sources and receivers [of communication] from evidence in messages they exchange." The findings indicate various ways in which daughters-in-law in current South Korea try to counteract their mothers-in-law's dominance.

Keywords: South Korea, family relations, matriarch, interpretive content analysis.

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### **Ad bli yareakh [אִרְחָה בְּלִי עוֹלָם]: Cosmic Imagery in Psalm 72**

Psalm 72, usually identified as a "royal psalm", vividly portrays the profound connection between God and Creation. The psalm employs carefully crafted language to suggest a multi-faceted portrayal of the universe, encompassing both temporal and physical dimensions. The aim of the paper is to analyze this language, with a peculiar focus on the Hebrew text. When necessary, parallels with translations into modern languages (Romanian, English, French) will be employed. Special attention will be given to the semantic range of celestial or natural elements, which are used to evoke a sense of seemingly endless or boundless extent of time or space. This is especially evident in verses 72:5 ("... as long as the Sun, as long as the Moon"), 72:7 ("till the Moon is no more"), 72:8 ("from the River to the ends of the Earth"), 72:17 ("... as long as the Sun").

Keywords: biblical commentary, translation challenges, Psalms, Hebrew exegesis, hermeneutics.

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### **Narratives, Membership Categorization and Students' Identity**

The paper aims to define features of students' identity relying on two theoretical frameworks, namely narratives and Membership Categorization Analysis. Narrative is an epistemological and a dominant communication mode, being used to give meaning to our experiences (De Fina and Georgakopoulou 2012, 15); the Membership Categorization Analysis theory is defined by Hester and Eglin (1997) as being the study of social order, since speakers express the way in which they define and understand people, things, actions and events. The data are represented by the answers given during seven interviews with philology students who were asked ten questions about the way they perceive themselves as students. By resorting to the narrative and to the Membership Categorization Analysis theories the paper aims to analyse the features and activities the respondents associate with student's identity.

Keywords: narrative, Membership Categorization Analysis, identity.

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### **Defining Love according to the Teachings of Saint Porphyrios Kafsokalivitis: Terms, Concept, Content**

Our study aims to explore the multifaceted concept of "love" within Christian theology, tracing its lexical and thematic evolution from the New Testament scriptures, through the expositions of the main Holy Fathers of the Church, culminating in the contemporary perspective offered by Saint Porphyrios Kafsokalivitis. Recognized for a theological vision deeply rooted in love, Saint Porphyrios's interpretations provide a unique lens through which the eternal virtue of love is both understood and applied. By examining the term "love" as presented in the New Testament, this study identifies the foundational elements of Christian love, highlighting its sacrificial, unconditional nature and its pivotal role in the believer's life and relationship with God. The discourse extends to the patristic tradition, where the teachings of the Church Fathers further elucidate the dimensions and implications of love in Christian doctrine and praxis. The core of this paper focuses on Saint Porphyrios Kafsokalivitis's contributions to the theology of love. His teachings, characterized by a profound understanding and personal experience of divine love, offer insightful reflections on its transformative power. Saint Porphyrios articulates love not merely as an ethical imperative but as the essence of Christian life, embodying the

union with God and theosis. Through a comparative analysis, this study aims to delineate how Saint Porphyrios's theology of love aligns with, and expands upon, the traditional Christian understanding of love, offering both a continuity with and a deepening of this central theological concept.

Keywords: Saint Porphyrios Kafsokalivitis, New Testament, Holy Fathers, love, Christian tradition.

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### **Re-Mediated Encounters in Carlos Morton's *Johnny Tenorio* and *Pancho Diablo***

My research paper aims toward identifying those protagonists who occupy the position of dramatic arbitrators in Carlos Morton's *Johnny Tenorio* (1983) and *Pancho Diablo* (1987), examining subjective-semi-objective mediated encounters as well as the process of mediation from a (non)chronological, psychological, artistic point of view. The Bergsonian subjective temporal parameter behind the present scientific paper stems from Dr. Zsuzsanna Tapodi's study entitled *Decadență, nostalgia trecutului și lirismul prozei în evocarea figurii lui Don Juan la Ramón De Valle-Inclán, Gyula Krúdy și Mateiu Caragiale* [Decadence, Nostalgia of the Past and Lyrical Prose in Presenting the Figure of Don Juan la Ramón De Valle-Inclán, Gyula Krúdy and Mateiu Caragiale], where the author states that certain obsolete traumatized characters such as hedonists, intellectuals, medieval knights assisted by their alter-egos, attempt to mend the resulting broken discourse occurring at borderline situations determining the individual's (post)existence. Mediators in Carlos Morton's plays apply the notion of reversibility and subjective time as a means of sheltering protagonists from the socio-cultural-political conditions of the present. The dramatist enlists the help of designated characters to undertake the burden of becoming the ultimate tellers and deliverers of the "raw" (Otto K. Beatrice: 2001) truth by humorously softening the blow of any critical argument in a tolerant and understanding manner. By diffusing tense existential moments, satire prevents the dignified individual "from losing his face" (ibidem) in this process of self-discovery.

Keywords: hedonism, dramatic mediation, subjective-semi-objective mediators, identity.

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### **Foreign Language Anxiety during English Speaking Tests**

Previous research results have shown that language anxiety is a significant factor in learning and, especially, producing a foreign language. Moreover, studies focusing on classroom foreign language anxiety have revealed that students perceived language anxiety leads to "poorer language performance than a student would normally be capable of" (Hewitt and Stephenson, 2012: 170). Among the four language skills, oral production seems to be the most problematic for learners and the anxiety they experience might have a debilitating effect on their language production and performance. The present study aims to examine university students' foreign

language anxiety during English oral exams as perceived by the students themselves. The research applies the idiodynamic method (MacIntyre and Ducker, 2022) to account for the individual differences in perceived foreign language anxiety. Findings of such investigation could be useful for both teachers, language examiners and researchers alike adding valuable insights to our current knowledge regarding foreign language anxiety.

References:

Hewitt, Elaine and Jean Stephenson. 2012. Foreign Language Anxiety and Oral Exam Performance: A Replication of Philips's MLJ study. *The Modern Language Journal* 96(2):170-189.

MacIntyre, Peter and Nathan Ducker. 2022. The idiodynamic method: A practical guide for researchers. *Research Methods in Applied Linguistics*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rmal.2022.100007>.

Keywords: foreign language anxiety, English, oral exam, idiodynamic method.

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### **Multiculturalism and Ethnic Image in the Markets of Sălaj/Szilágy County**

On the basis of ethnographic research into the markets in Sălaj/Szilágy County and of the work conditions on rural farms, I managed to write an article on economic anthropology to be included in complex society studies. The market (agro-market, fair-market, farmers' market), far from being an essentially commercial area, governed by strictly utilitarian reasons, is a complex societal institution, which extends the Maussian relations (based on reciprocity and mutual assistance) in the village framework, in conjunction with the spirit of sociability and civic-deliberative freedom typical of the urban area; it connects individuals and aggregates networks of easy-going practices. This article aims to demonstrate how traditional markets in Sălaj/Szilágy County bring together different agrarian and commercial specializations of the Romanian, Hungarian and Roma communities, satisfying specific needs and achieving a sustainable inter-ethnic symbiosis.

Keywords: farmers' market, mutual aid, sociability, multiculturalism, multi-ethnicity.

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### **Aspects of Multilingualism in the Fiction of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie**

Nigeria presents itself as an intriguing subject when analyzing the phenomenon of multilingualism, owing to its widely recognized linguistic diversity. The utilization of the colonial language by authors with a bicultural heritage comprising African and European languages consistently demonstrated a form of hybridity. A distinctive European linguistic variation arose as a direct result of this. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie exhibits a notable propensity for surpassing the extensive linguistic discussions that have historically characterized African literature. Furthermore, she defends her use of the English language and her interjections in Igbo as normative rather than confrontational. Adichie's adept integration of

Igbo vocabulary, proverbs, and phrases into her predominantly English literary works showcases her profound awareness of the lasting impact of English colonialism. Conversely, Adichie adeptly employs English as a universal language, transcending its postcolonial connotations, which she also embraces. As a result, she has the capacity to engage with and gain access to a wider range of contemporary literary movements and global literary traditions. The primary focus of this research has been to elucidate how multilingualism manifests itself in the fiction of the Nigerian writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Considerable attention has been devoted to the motivational aspects associated with code-switching in the works of Adichie.  
Keywords: multilingualism, Adichie, Igbo, code-switching.

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### **The Role of Different Intonation Contours in Social Perception**

The purpose of this presentation is to demonstrate a method which may contribute to a better understanding of the role of intonation in social perception. It is well known that intonation has multiple functions. In linguistics, mostly prototypical f<sub>0</sub> contours are studied, but there is a growing interest in identifying extra-linguistic factors that may influence intonation, like emotions. Also, when listeners perceive speech, they do not only understand verbal information, but they form impressions and make inferences about the speaker, based on different factors, including prosody. While the role of mean fundamental frequency is well understood in this context, little is known about how different intonation contours influence the impressions formed about the speaker. The method we have developed is based on minimal modifications of prototypical contours, i.e. decreasing the f<sub>0</sub> peaks by several semitones. For our experiment, a middle-aged female speaker, a native of standard Hungarian, an amateur actress, read 10 sentences (statements and questions) in a natural and neutral way, representing prototypical versions. Using Praat (manipulation command), a modified version of each sentence is generated. Listeners in two groups listen to 5 unmanipulated and 5 manipulated sentences and after hearing each sentence, they make judgments about the speaker's momentary state, such as determined, worried, or uncertain, and differences are sought. At present, the method is in a testing phase, but we believe that it can shed light on some aspects of human communication that are not yet fully understood.

Keywords: intonation, social perception, Praat.

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### **In the Quest for the Face of YHWH/The Lord: About the Meanings of *biqqesh panim***

In the Psalm 27:8 from the Hebrew Bible, the syntagm *biqqesh panim* appears twice, with reference to the quest of the Face of YHWH/The Lord. Since the meaning spheres of both terms reach at some moment a point of convergence, the phrase acquires a strong significance. Is this

a simple construction or can it be considered an idiom, whose meaning surpasses the cumulation of the meanings of its terms, with connotations such as “striving for the divine Presence” or “intense desire to meet YHWH/The Lord face to face”? Our paper starts from the question above, and aims to analyze the syntagm and its meanings in different contexts, to identify and to offer possible arguments that would support its status as an idiom, and would open new research perspectives on it.

Keywords: *biqqesh panim*, quest, face to face.

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### **From Physical to Digital Communities: Virtual and Simulated Diasporas in Science Fiction**

The term diaspora has been extended to “an ever-broadening set of cases” and “its meaning has been stretched in various directions” (Brubaker 2005), while the latest developments of its application include virtual, electronic or e-diasporas. There have been many attempts to refine the definition and the explanation of diaspora in terms of its application to electronic platforms so that the original context of physical dissemination of groups could be recontextualized to fit virtual environments. However, cases of this transition have already been described in science fiction narratives and their results might offer an approach to the reassessment of existing scientific knowledge on diasporas. It seems inevitable that the physical (corporeal, human) concept of diaspora needs to be rephrased to match a virtual (incorporeal, posthuman) notion of the term taking account of such more recent technological developments as the metaverse. The paper will examine cases of physical relocation in science fiction texts and broaden the scope of study to non-physical or simulated diasporas. The specific characteristics of technologically advanced physical dispersion will be examined in two episodes of *Star Trek Voyager* and the filmic text of *Downsizing* (dir. Alexander Payne, 2017), while the characteristics of the digital diaspora will be described by Greg Egan’s hard science fiction novel *Diaspora* (1997) and Ernest Cline’s *Ready Player One* (2011).

Keywords: science fiction, virtuality, simulation, diaspora.

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### **The Theory of “Unwritten Doctrines”: Tradition and Encounter**

The history of philosophical thinking can be considered as a recurring series of crises. The paper will reflect upon a crisis (the very first one): the transition from orally transmitted knowledge to literateness in the ancient Hellas. The relation of Socrates and Plato (the noted master and pupil relation) and their understanding of the theory of “unwritten doctrines” will serve in this paper as examples of tradition and rupture. In my paper I will argue that this change of paradigm in case of “unwritten doctrines” resulted in a radical reflection on thinking and transfer of knowledge. By the term radical reflection I mean a religious perspective beyond technicality.

Keywords: philosophy, ancient Greece, literateness, tradition, transition.

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### **Multiple Encounters and Syncretic Symbolism in Some Personal New Mythologies from Transylvania**

The paper focuses on ideas elaborated in the author's previous investigations concerning the cosmic beliefs and apocalyptic elements in Hungarian ethnogenesis neomythology, highlighting the intersection spots where ethnic and global, local and personal, ancient and new, real and fantastic ideas meet and intertwine to create unique and yet analogous narratives, attitudes, phenomena. The central issue of this endeavour is to identify and interpret the common and specific symbolism at work in these forms of the contemporary mythic mind, presented through three cases from Transylvania.

Keywords: neomythology, apocalyptic, cosmic beliefs, ethnogenesis, syncretic symbolism.

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### **Music in János Térey's Verse Novel *The Shortest Ice Age* [A Legkisebb Jégkorszak]**

Mentioning composers, singers, bands, well known musical events, and citing lyrics have all been well established and common place practices in literature throughout the ages. The interpretation of these gestures usually resembles the process of understanding other kinds of allusions, references and intertextuality, because that is what the above listed ultimately are. When it comes to art forms that combine multiple forms of media, such as films, the use of music as background score, soundtrack etc. is usually perceived as a fundamental part of the work, its absence always noted. Whereas such frequent or constant appearance of music in literary works is not common place, and it typically means that the plot and theme of the text itself are music, or at least heavily music oriented. The 2015 verse novel of János Térey is quiet peculiar in this regard. On average a song, a piece, a composer and/or a band is mentioned on every seventh page of book. The music referenced includes numerous genres from metal to pop, classical, jazz and even psalms. The situations vary from background music on the radio, to a character listening to his/her favorite song, or someone reminiscing about an event. The variety of music and the situations it appears in throughout the novel indicate a conscious effort on the author's part. The paper aims to examine how the various lyrical citations and musical references found throughout János Térey's *The Shortest Ice Age* [A Legkisebb Jégkorszak] function as literary devices in the verse novel.

Keywords: music, verse novel, Hungarian literature.



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### **Intersecting Visions: The Symbiotic Relationship of Literature and the Arts in Romanticism, Decadence and Modernism**

This paper analyses some of the various levels of relationship literature has with other art forms of the time during Romanticism, the Decadence and Modernism, covering a large array of topics from ekphrasis to symbiotic confluences. The analysis focuses, in a first moment, over the influence of music, painting, sculpture and architecture over literature by illustrating how such disciplines brought their contribution to the increase in richness of the literary work. It emphasizes how musical trends, and in particular composers like Wagner and Debussy, shaped musical conceptions within literary narratives and structures, thereby disclosing the profound interplay between musical rhythm, thematic development, and literary expression. It extends to painting and sculpture, showing how the visual arts, under the sway of movements such as Impressionism or Symbolism, were directly influential on the imagery, themes, and narrative techniques in literature. An analysis of such a direction then takes consideration of how architectural innovation and ideology, especially though not limited to art moves like Art Nouveau and Bauhaus, found symbolic representation in literary works giving the same both setting and theme. In a reversed perspective, the analysis continues with examining the different ways that literature impacted other arts. The profound influence of literary themes and stories on music composition, on painting technique and on architectural design is detailed in this second part. Literature was for all the other arts a constant source of inspiration and innovation. Discussions and interdisciplinary collaborations led to the emergence of new forms of art, and literature was not an exception as this form has played a very important role in shaping new styles and movements like Surrealism and Futurism. In doing this, the analysis develops a reflection about dynamic and reciprocal relations among literature and other arts, out of the usual paragone, and as a consequence reflecting a period where an intense artistic confluence and symbiosis flourished.

Keywords: Literature, Art, Symbiosis.

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### **Living Classics in Transmediation**

My proposal to present transmediations of a classical work of Czech literature as an exemplification of living tradition, convergence culture and influence exercised by the social context of the media production complies with several areas suggested for discussion. The collection of ballads (Karel Jaromír Erben: *Kytice*, 1853, in English *The Posy*, 2014), an emblematic work of the Czech cultural self-reconstruction in the 19th century, embraces several stories related to Slavic myths. As such, it is related to transcultural representations of both timeless and period-specific aspects of human condition. In the course of its cultural afterlife, it

has been subject to a variety of transmediations (several modes of musicalization ranging from a cantata by Antonín Dvořák to high-school musical and pop, cinematic and theatrical adaptations, including animated film and puppet theatre, fine arts and book illustrations, comics) performed both by renowned artists and amateur fans. The first part of my paper will encompass a survey of these transmediations. The second one will present an outline of a diachronic project of enquiry into illustrations conceived of both as media specific transformations and individual artistic interpretations of the pretext in the historical context concerned.

Keywords: transmediation, myth, ballad, illustration, diachronic approach.

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### **The Language of Science in Humanities – the Question of Form and Substance in the Study of the Humanities**

One of the criteria for the accreditation of university courses is that the publication list of the lecturer of the subject in question must include at least one publication that can be linked to the subject. In small universities, this creates a situation where a university lecturer is forced to publish in several areas of his or her discipline, even if these areas are not strictly related to his or her field of research. From the academic year 2022-23, I have added research methodology to the subjects I teach, so this conference is a good opportunity to deliver a study in research methodology. In the course of teaching the subject, some questions have arisen that are worth exploring, and I will discuss them in my paper:

1. How is the methodological aspect of scientific research reflected in the texts of the scientific publications (*Acta Universitatis Sapientiae, Philologica*, volumes of studies, textbooks on independent research, etc.) published by our department in English, Hungarian and Romanian? To what extent are the research methodology elements of the texts explicit or implicit?
2. Is there a difference in this respect between the different types of publications in different fields of the humanities and in different languages?
3. Are there generalizable trends and can these be found in similar types of publications and texts from other institutions? In my research I analyze the publications of the Department of Humanities of Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania from 2021 to 2023, and for comparison I review some of the Hungarian, English and Romanian publications of two universities with which our department has close relations: the University of Novi Sad and the Transilvania University of Braşov.

Keywords: humanities, research methodology, scientific language.

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### **Solving Internal Communication Challenges in Tourism and Hospitality Enterprises in Three Northern European Countries**

Nowadays, time has become an asset valued more than ever before, consequently, effective organizational communication is significant. It especially refers to service industries where communication plays a significant role. Communication influences the company performance, which enables attaining or preventing the attainment of organizational goals. The current qualitative exploratory research was conducted in tourism and hospitality enterprises in three Northern European countries – Latvia, Lithuania, and Sweden in 2020-2023. This article focuses on internal organizational communication in twelve tourism and hospitality enterprises in the target countries. Twelve semi-structured expert interviews with top level management representatives were conducted. The data were coded using inductive coding and analyzed applying content analysis. The themes elicited were grouped into three categories: the main goals of internal communication in the organization, the internal communication channels used in the organization, and the strengths and weaknesses of internal communication in the organization. The findings indicate that the main goals of internal organizational communication depend on the type of the company. It was discovered that most companies of the three countries use similar communication channels for internal communication, however they differ according to the employees' generation and the type of the business sector – catering, accommodation or tour organization. In written internal communication the preference is given to e-mail and WhatsApp or FB group, whereas face-to-face communication is the preferred communication channel in all businesses, disregarding the company location and size. A broad range of challenges was discovered, consequently, the research provides teaching/learning methodologies for eliminating internal communication challenges discovered. Keywords: communication, organizational communication, communication in business, internal communication.

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### **Individual Differences in Anxiety during Interpretation**

This paper explores language anxiety in the context of interpreting, specifically focusing on its impact on oral speech production in a foreign language. Anxiety, including foreign language anxiety, has been identified as a significant factor affecting academic performance. While some studies suggest that even advanced-level language learners may experience anxiety, it has also been shown that in their case anxiety can be motivating rather than debilitating (Marcos-Llinas, Juan Garau 2009; Marton 2023). Motivated by previous research, a pilot study during the spring semester of 2022/23 academic year was conducted among Translation and Interpretation students. Both BA and MA students participated, completing a Cambridge Placement test to assess their language proficiency and the Foreign Language Anxiety Scale (Horwitz et al. 1986). Results indicate a negative correlation between language anxiety and communication apprehension, as well as fear of negative evaluation. However, a positive correlation was found between test anxiety and language anxiety during interpreting activities. The present study aims to complement previous statistical data with qualitative insights, utilizing the idiodynamic method (McIntyre and Ducker, 2022) to gain a deeper understanding of individual differences in language anxiety during interpreting.

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Keywords: language anxiety, foreign language anxiety, interpreting.

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#### **Mnemosyne’s Heritage**

The following paper aims at discussing remembrance and memory starting from the mythical figure of Mnemosyne and her daughters, the Muses. In what way can they be considered the guardians of eternal truth? How is this knowledge reflected in the fields they inspire, in our case, in literature? We shall look at and examine poems by Friedrich Hölderlin, Paul Celan and/or contemporary poets, such as Noémi László and Krisztina Tóth who showcase the manner in which memory can work by hiding and revealing Mnemosyne’s figure in their texts as well.

Keywords: remembrance, memory, myths.

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#### **Ekphrastic Poetry on the Venus de Milo**

Instead of merely capitalizing on visual culture, literary ekphrases tend to take an active role in the understanding or even canonization of various visual cultural phenomena by means of meaning production or the account of spectator practices, and typically offer a metapicture of the performance of the viewer’s gaze and the scopic regime that influences it. Thus, analyzing ekphrases would mean to pose intermedial and aesthetic questions about visual representations and their ekphrastic wordings, and to examine whether the respective ekphrasis reinforces existing dominant, conventional ways of seeing and aesthetic evaluations or calls them into question. The interaction of ekphrastic poetry and painting constitutes a frequently examined topic, however, the intermedia relationships between poetry and sculpture have been more rarely studied. Contributing to the scholarship on literary ekphrasis and on the interrelations between poetry and sculpture, my paper focuses on strategies of description and narrativization, paying homage and developing a rivalry, and the account of the viewer’s activity and his aesthetic evaluation. My paper examines these issues via the case study of the ekphrastic lyrical

tradition of the Venus de Milo. Firstly, it lays out a sketch of nineteenth-century art historical and lyrical approaches to the Venus de Milo. Secondly and predominantly, it analyses some examples of twentieth-century ekphrasis (such as the Hungarian Gyula Juhász's *Venus de Milo*, the Romanian Alfred Moşoiu's *Venus de Milo*, Alfred Noyes's *The Venus of Milo* and the Hungarian György Rónay's *Venus de Milo*) that all respond to the statue of Venus de Milo, and either continue or break the art historical and poetic traditions developed during the 1800s.

Keywords: literary ekphrasis, Venus de Milo, interart relations, paragone.

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### **The Psalmist and His Adversaries: An Overview of Psalm 73**

Metaphorical language is one of the central features of the Book of Psalms, providing a wide range of imagery and symbolism. The body and its various inside and outside parts represent elements employed by metaphorical language in order to underline experiences, emotions, moral traits and closeness to God. The purpose of this article is to examine the narrative of Psalm 73, in which the narrator employs a rich tapestry of bodily imagery to describe himself and his adversaries. The psalmist constructs a dichotomy of 'righteous' versus 'wicked', spotlighting specific body parts that epitomize the distinct moral traits defining each group. The 'wicked' are depicted as indulging in gluttony and speaking oppressively, their faces serving as the focal point of their characterization. On the other hand, the 'righteous', represented by the psalmist himself, strive to maintain the purity of their entire body. This vivid portrayal underscores the stark contrast between the two groups, offering a compelling exploration of morality and identity.

Keywords: Psalm 73, body, Biblical Hebrew, morality, interpretation.

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### **The Ethnic Slur "Csángó"**

In this study we approach the exonym csángó, considered an ethnic slur used to refer to the Hungarians living in Moldova. We highlight the most important aspects of Hungarian linguists' approach to the semantics of the name "csángó", we also take a look at the Romanian specialized literature in the field. We aim to offer some innovative semantic and etymological pathways, though we are aware that the etymology and the meaning of the name itself will still stay a disputed and open question of the researches. We do not intend to cover the history of the csángó community, nevertheless we attempt to recover some aspects of the semantics of their name, taking into account its pejorative potential.

Keywords: ethnic slur, csángó, Hungarian, Romanian, semantics.

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### **Text Choices in Romanian Language Textbooks for Hungarian Minority Students**

Teaching Romanian language to Hungarian ethnic minority students in Romania has been a matter of debate for a long time. Some teachers and experts suggest that Romanian textbooks are inadequate and fail to meet the needs of minority students, while others argue that they are sufficient and serve the purpose of teaching the Romanian language to non-native speakers. An appropriate choice of texts can support the development of language skills and cultural understanding, while inappropriate choices can hinder them. In this study we propose to investigate the texts in the Romanian language textbooks written and approved for 7th grade Hungarian minority students regarding the adequacy of topics and vocabulary. We scrutinize therefore relevancy of vocabulary, level of difficulty of the lexis taught in these texts (finely tuned input vs. roughly tuned input), adaptation for pedagogical purposes, teaching of cultural aspects and how these texts relate to the cultural context of language use and for meaningful communication.

Keywords: language learning, Romanian textbook, Hungarian student, (post)communicative method, pedagogical adaptation, lexis.

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### **Connected through Community Interpreters as Bridges between Home Culture and Host Culture: Korean Canadians' Intercultural Realities and Lived Experiences**

Having no proper linguistic and intercultural knowledge at their disposal, many Koreans emigrating to Canada – especially older generations – depend on language services provided by community interpreters. Community interpreters' activities have been vital in fostering the integration of Korean immigrants into Canadian society through negotiating intercultural situations at the intersection of the realities and lived experiences of the Canadian mainstream society and the Korean diaspora. Focusing on these non-professional helpers and the language services provided by them, the current presentation seeks to explore the ways community interpreters navigate the negotiation process between realities and lived experiences. After defining the term 'community translation' and discussing some pertaining community interpretation related theories regarding the different types of community interpretation, the roles of interpreters and the power differences involved in interpreting, the paper explores how Korean community interpreters form a bridge between members of the host culture and those members of the diaspora who do not speak the language of the host culture. The presentation will also discuss how the negotiation process exerts a community forming effect on diaspora Koreans.

Keywords: community interpreters, community forming effects, Canadian society, Korean diaspora.

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### **Translation and Adaptation into Hungarian of Karl May's Novel *Der Schatz im Silbersee***

The paper analyses the two existing Hungarian versions of Karl May's novel *Der Schatz im Silbersee*, one of them being a slightly abridged translation of the novel, whereas the other an adaptation, often involving the omission and partial alteration of the source text. Adopting the functional approach of Skopos theory, which views translation as a purpose-oriented process, the paper examines the way the original work has been reconstructed in the two novels. They have been written with different target groups in mind: young children and teenagers vs. a much larger audience that can comprise readers of various generations. Taking this into account the question arises: how does the world created in the novels differ from each other and the original work? Can the principles of Skopos theory provide an explanation with regard to what has been preserved versus left out or altered in the two novels? By giving an overview of the differences between them and providing additional examples from the first two chapters, the paper intends to shed light on the characteristics of the novels regarding the translation/adaptation methods applied to render Karl May's work for the Hungarian reader.

Keywords: translation, adaptation, Skopos theory, target audience.

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### **Narrative Clues to Implicatures in Classic Novels: Explorations in *Pride and Prejudice* and *The Age of Innocence***

Comprehending implicit meanings in interpersonal communication heavily relies on participants' background knowledge and nonverbal cues. Novel readers, however, are confined to the written text, prompting the narrator to skilfully fill in informational gaps and compensate for missing modalities to ensure proper understanding, including the particular social conventions present within the world of the novel. Utterances in conversational scenes must sound natural, inherently encapsulating presuppositions and implicatures. This presentation explores how the writers/narrators utilize narrative techniques to enhance the recognition of nonconventional implicatures. At one extreme, there is a detailed clarification of what is implicated, how and why, while at the other extreme, there is a complete absence of specific clues, leaving the derivation of implicatures entirely to the reader. Within this range, various narrative tools will be identified in two classic novels, Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* and Edith Wharton's *The Age of Innocence*. Both are intriguing for pragmatic research and occasionally appear in the scholarly literature as sources of linguistic examples. While irony markers have been extensively studied, general discussions on implicatures often omit a detailed analysis of indicative clues. Starting from Gricean maxim violations and the

interpretative mechanisms of relevance theory, the aim is to shed some light on the pragmatic peculiarities of the novel genre as opposed to face-to-face conversation.

Keywords: pragmatics, implicature, relevance theory, novel, *Pride and Prejudice*, *The Age of Innocence*.

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### **Walking a Tightrope between Languages: Challenges in Translating Atwood’s *Hag-Seed*. A Case Study on the Romanian and Hungarian Translations**

Literary translation, in general, has its own multiple difficulties; many of the challenges in translating Margaret Atwood’s *Hag-Seed* are due in particular to its transtextuality (juggling through a rhizomatic nexus of texts, eminently Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*, rewritten into a contemporary story) and its multilayered complexity (employing multiple voices and registers, mixing styles and genres, combining prose and verse) that make the novel an exquisite case of adaptation and recontextualization (Pál–Pieldner 2023). These peculiarities may be the source of several dilemmas of translators who have engaged in translating the novel. The aim of the present research is to compare two translations of the novel in order to shed light on the possible options the translators had, as well as on their possible motivations when resorting to particular solutions in different situations. The comparative study of the translators’ choices encompasses the translation of intertextual elements (title, chapter titles, direct quotes and covert references to Shakespeare and other authors), verse inserts that constitute a major originality of Atwood’s text as well as the stylistic chords it plays, in between the vernacular and the formal, the grave and the jocular. In doing so, we would focus on whether it is possible to delineate a certain “concept(ion)” of translation adopted by the Hungarian and Romanian translators, respectively; whether there are any common solutions / techniques that correspond to certain translation traditions: and whether or to what extent is each translator free in choosing his/her path, resulting in disparate reading experiences.

Keywords: translation, intertextuality, shifting registers, *Hag-Seed*, *The Tempest*.

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### **Encounters in Literary Traditions: Early Christian Echoes in Petru Maior’s References**

The intertwining of national identity formation with the development of religious identity suggests a symbiotic relationship between the two. Especially, key figures during the era of Romanian national awakening deemed it imperative to integrate their national identity within a religious context, underscoring the intrinsic connection between the two constructs. Thus, a nuanced examination of the supporting arguments favouring a specific continuity becomes nontrivial. Petru Maior, a prominent figure in the Școala Ardeleană movement, exemplifies this



intersection as he not only delved into the general history of Dacia but also authored its church history. It is noteworthy that a primary objective of the movement was to demonstrate the Christian continuity of the Romanian nation. Within the sources utilized by Petru Maior, a literary passage from early Christian literature is particularly noteworthy, as it establishes a convergence point between ancient and Enlightenment literary traditions.

Keywords: early Christian literature, Petru Maior, ecclesiastical history, national identity.

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### **How Teacher Trainees Formulate Aims**

Stating an aim is a vital skill for planning effective teaching. Nonetheless, it is a skill one has to develop consciously. Teacher trainees learn how to formulate aims during their English language teaching (ELT) methodology classes and validate their aim design in their teaching practice. However, they face several problems when stating “why”. The content analysis of aims written by bachelor and master English language trainee teachers is used to define clusters of aspects (variables for coding) and is followed by subsequent Spearman correlation coefficients’ statistics and Excel computations. The results of the study show that the thematic aspects the respondents struggle with most are the vagueness and teacher-orientedness of their aims. Another problem the teacher trainees face is terminology ambiguity, as proved by the literature review. The aim of the text is not only to describe those problematic aspects in designing “why” but to offer suggestions on what teacher trainers should do to help teacher trainees overcome them.

Keywords: ELT, aim, objective, trainee teacher, lesson planning.

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### **Briseis’ Web**

Pat Barker’s novels *Silence of the Girls* and *Women of Troy* are part of some female authors’ successful approach, which emerged after the 1980s, to rewrite Homer’s fundamental texts from the perspective of the female character. Without changing the fate of the Homeric heroes, the author proposes a reassessment of the relationships between the characters by adopting an internal point of view of Briseis, the queen who became Achilles’ slave. Constantly contrasted to the glorious androcentrism in Homer’s epic, Pat Barker’s texts aim at shifting women’s place from the margins to the centre, from the insignificant status of a slave to that of a generator of powerful conflicts in the dominant world of men. Exposed and humiliated, Briseis understands that the major danger is not death, but the loss of identity, the brutal reduction of a woman to a mere object. Thus, a different perspective on the events in Homer’s *Iliad* emerges, a different angle, able to question the central, seemingly indestructible status of the male collective. The present study aims at discovering how, after the protagonist’s encounter with the strong, powerful characters of the epic, their hidden aspects are brought to surface and a fine weave of

correspondences that the author creates between periphery and centre, the dominator and the dominated, the vanquished and the victor, meaning and nonsense is highlighted.

Keywords: female character, androcentrism, marginality, center, correspondences.

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### **Spectral Encounters of Intermediality in Grant Gee's *Patience (After Sebald)***

In the recent years, German/transnational author W. G. Sebald's densely intermedial prose poetics, balancing on the verge of documentary and fiction, text and image, has engaged in a live dialogue with cinema. Of its cinematic renditions, this lecture focuses on that of *The Rings of Saturn*, an unsettling account, in the form of autobiographic travelogue/essay novel, of a journey in East Anglia and, simultaneously, across the wide space and time of human history sensed as merely variations upon destruction and evanescence, in an affective mood open to perceive, behind every place and on every single spot, the dizzying void of the past that the limited visible signs in the present fail to speak about. Grant Gee's *Patience (After Sebald)* (2012) "goes after" Sebald also in the sense of dislocating genre and discourse, inventing a flowing essay form that is neither adaptation nor documentary but a third in-between that sets in motion Sebald's inherently "ambulatory" (Long 2007) prose in a series of photographic images accompanied by the (voice-over) text of interpreters. The film does not only restage the word-image relation of the source work by relying on the original photographs and/or coupling them with their real-life, moving-image correspondents, but performs much more. It reinvents the medium by inserting new photography in the spirit of Sebald as well as by recourse to a repository of intermedial figurations, including tableau compositions, framing, superimposition, collage, resulting in an overflowing, sensuous excess, transforming the geocultural melancholy meandering into an uncanny audio-visual pilgr-image, and the vast culture-historical reflection into a profound revelation, through its "ramified imagery," of "interlocking media cultures" (Rositzka 2023). The lecture proposes to examine the ways in which the figurations of intermediality contribute to a remediated sense of the uncanny, which, in its turn, is the key to the film's affective engagement.

Keywords: essay film, word and image, intermediality, remediation, uncanny.

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### **Autofiction and Therapy: Encounters of Generations and Cultures and the Journey to Self-Discovery and Forgiveness in Amy Tan's Fiction**

Amy Tan is one of the most significant contemporary Chinese American authors, whose personal life, full of family traumas, has been openly discussed by the author herself in various forums. Her first significant novel, *The Joy Luck Club* was her first fictional attempt in self-definition via exploring and investigating mother and daughter conflicts, ethnic heritage and the successes and failures in accepting otherness. Tan's novels, especially *The Kitchen God's Wife* and later *The Bonesetter's Daughter* are concrete examples of the author's continuing desire to

explore deeply rooted personal tragedies through storytelling by relocating them from the private sphere to the more public world of fiction. The paper focuses primarily, but not exclusively, on the sixteen interconnected stories included in *The Joy Luck Club*. It examines the encounters of literature and psychology and the link between autofiction and therapeutic writing. The daughters in the novel are constantly re-examining and redefining their American Chinese identities and trying to overcome traumas resulting from hidden or unprocessed family history, the gap between their cultural position and their mothers'. The paper investigates Tan's voice and self-representation in the narrative, notions of self-reflectiveness and the phenomenon of destabilized and fluid identities. The paper deals with the role of memory, personal healing, the conflicting worldviews of first generation Asian immigrants and their American-born daughters, experiences of cultural dislocation, childhood memories of abandonment and alienation and their roles in the formation of personal identity in the context of Tan's autofiction.

Keywords: autofiction, Chinese American, identity, therapeutic writing.

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### **Only By Knowing The Other Shalt Thou Know Thyself: Americanness as Defining Force for Canadianness in Selected Novels by Hugh MacLennan**

In the aftermath of World War II, Canada stood as one of the crossroads where diverse cultures and identities intersected. This dynamic situation presented a potential for various future clashes, especially as that decade was, unfortunately, marked by mutual incomprehension, and a lack of willingness to understand The Other, on the part of both Anglo- and Franco-Canadians. Hugh MacLennan was one of the few writers to try to understand the full depths and intricacies of the historical burden characterizing the difficult coexistence of the two "Founding Nations." In his specific, personal way, MacLennan tried to show and prove that these national, linguistic, social as well as religious barriers could (and should) be crossed, understood, and left in the past. Communicating his sympathies and understanding for the French-speaking "minority" within the whole of Canada through his novels may seem to be, yet is not his primary goal. Another, equally significant objective of his frequently didactic novels was to demonstrate that highlighting and exposing the disparities in mentality between Canadians and Americans played a more decisive and influential role in the process of "defining Canada's Canadianness" than attempting to convey those between the English and French Canadians. Not only were the striking differences between Canadians and Americans a way to help define Canadianness, but the encounter(s) with The Other on the outside presented a potential prospect of solidifying and

strengthening the “internal Canadian bond,” with MacLennan’s oeuvre contributing to the very definition of the modern Canadian nation’s identity.

Keywords: Canada, Hugh MacLennan, identity, Canadianness, Americanness.

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### **The Category of Aspect in Italian and Hungarian: A Typologically Based Comparative Analysis**

The purpose of the paper is twofold, one theoretical and another practical pertaining language acquisition. Firstly, it contributes to the widespread discussion in literature on ATAM (Actionality, Temporality, Aspectuality, Modality) structures of languages, focusing on the aspectual systems of Italian and Hungarian. Secondly, through the comparative analysis of the two languages, the specific nuances of their aspectual markers will be pointed out to highlight the areas where a targeted language teaching intervention may be necessary. In the first part of the paper, a brief overview of the grammatical categories of Aktionsart, Tense and Aspect expressing Actionality, Temporality and Aspectuality, three concepts strictly correlated, will be followed by the analysis of the morphosyntactic structures and distributional properties of aspectual forms of Italian and Hungarian. The notion of prototypicality and continua will be applied, hopefully contributing to the broader academic discussion on gradience. Bearing in mind that languages don’t encode the same information in the same way, the second part of the paper will be dedicated to illustrating and explaining the major divergences in the Italian and Hungarian aspectual domains with the aim of helping Italian students learning Hungarian and Hungarian students learning Italian deal with the challenges encountered in this area during their process of L2 acquisition.

Keywords: linguistic typology, aspect, Italian, Hungarian.

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### **Evolution of Toponyms in a Bilingual Context. Original and Actual Forms of Toponyms in Covasna County, Romania**

One of the major encounters of identity and otherness one could witness is coming across names of places in another country. Somewhat more interesting is the situation of places one knows or lives nearby, that have suffered several modifications throughout history, often wondering about how those places have got their names or what those names mean. However, a veritable gem among these names are the ones in bilingual zones or situations, where the actual, official oikonym has two forms, since it appears in both languages. This paper intends to analyze the original, first documented oikonym, the variation of it and the final, today existing forms of the oikonyms in Covasna County, Romania. In order to do so, we rely on papal registers, official documents that contain first appearances of oikonyms and actual, official names provided by administrative legal documents, trying to establish the etymon and its

modifications. Covasna County is located in Romania, where the official language is Romanian, but the area is inhabited by the Hungarian minority. However, Covasna County is situated on the border between former Romania and Hungary, so the objective of this study is to issue a diachronic analysis in order to establish the original etymon, its modifications and translations throughout centuries. As result of this study, we will have a more precise image of toponymic formation and evolution in a bilingual context, which may serve for further scientific approaches of similar situations.

Keywords: toponyms, bilingualism, translation, identity.

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### **Translation and Easy Language Proficiency in the Context of Foreign Language Acquisition in the Tourism Sector**

This article is a theoretical study exploring the importance of translation/interpreting/mediation, as the fifth skill in learning a foreign language (alongside the traditional four: speaking, listening, reading, writing) in the field of tourism studies coupled with knowledge of easy language text production. In today's globalized world and the context of European mobility, more attention is given to multilingual interaction and education, including teaching in multiple languages. Even though translation and interpreter training is usually pursued in separate study programs in Europe and worldwide, the tourism sector is one of the fields where both oral and written translation skills, as well as the presentation of information in simplified language, are highly necessary. The author's objective is to outline the place of these skills in the professional competence structure of the tourism sector through a theoretical analysis. For this purpose, in the context of translation studies, the necessary translation types in the tourism sector, as well as techniques for simplified language text production, are analyzed. Therefore, the author provides a brief overview of simple and easy language, its role in language use, and its importance in foreign language acquisition, with a focus on the tourism industry.

Keywords: classification and methods of translation, foreign language learning, professional competence, text production in plain/easy-to-read language.

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### **Social Classes in Communist and Postcommunist Romania through Literature**

Our research focuses on the literary representation of different social classes in communist and post-communist Romania, their metamorphoses as an intention of generating changes, responses and opinions from the societal environment, understood as family/ partners, workplace, social and cultural activities. We try to see if their status/role changes due to the type of the system in which they live, namely in the Communist and Post-communist Romania, as they are shown in Andrea Tompa's and Dan Lungu's novels.

Keywords: Andrea Tompa, Dan Lungu, Communism, Postcommunism, social classes.

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**J.M. Coetzee and W.G. Sebald. An Encounter in Time. (*The Jesus Trilogy and Austerlitz*)**

Coetzee’s reading of Sebald is significant for his writing of the *Jesus Trilogy*. The very thesis of the trilogy relates to the existence of a world where all references to the past are lost in oblivion, which according to Coetzee would have been a possible salvation for Austerlitz, Sebald’s protagonist. In this presentation, I would analyse to what extent Coetzee’s encounter with Sebald determined the problematic of time that is found in the three Jesus novels. Furthermore, the two authors share the same preoccupation with the issue of time regarding “the anxiety expressed by Reiner Maria Rilke in his letters about the duty of the artist as bearer of cultural memory” (Coetzee, *inner workings*, 2008), which I would filter through Jacques Rancière’s exploration of time and temporality (*The Politics of Aesthetics*, 2004; *Modern Times: Temporality in Art and Politics*, 2022). Finally, their conceptions of Chronos differ in relation with Topos: if Sebald’s prose is suffocated with the texture of a collage of historical materials, in Coetzee’s prose the materiality is diluted. However, in the two experimental narratives there are certain institutions that guard over a specific rendering of time which unfolds the complexity of the encounter. Another key point would be that Jacques Rancière is also a reader of Sebald’s prose (*The Edges of Fiction*, 2020), which, once again motivates the endeavour to explore this threefold relation. As a result, it will be of interest to understand how two readers of Sebald, a writer and a critique, build their experiences in terms of differences and common correlations.

Keywords: J. M. Coetzee, *Jesus Trilogy*, *Austerlitz*, Jacques Rancière, time.

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**Mother Tongue (L1) Prosodic Transfer in EFL Teaching**

The prosody of a language is known to carry a large amount of information concerning the central structure of the text, attitudinal characteristics, and several grammatical functions. Intonation (melody and pitch accents) plays an important communicative role by realising the utterance discourse function. Low sensitivity of the speaker towards sentence prominence complicates the perception of the message, increases reaction time and significantly obstructs turn-taking in dialogue communication. However, the perception of intonation in a foreign language is a separate language skill greatly affected by the intonation of the mother tongue. As a rule, it is not naturally acquired but needs targeted development to achieve a certain level of communicative proficiency. The situation is further complicated by the L1’s prosodic transfer, which means that L2 students are naturally sensitive only to the prosodic cues dominant in their mother tongue while ignoring other prosodic cues even if their role in L2 is significant. The report suggests looking at the results of a comparative study of two EFL groups with two different native languages (Czech and Russian), which evidences the differences in students’

perception of English (L2) prominence, explained by the L1 prosodic transfer. The study results also suggest ways to overcome the adverse effects of L1's intonation patterns by increasing students' language contact, prosodic awareness, and targeted intonation practice.

Keywords: intonation, prominence, EFL teaching, prosodic cues.

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### **“The Necessity of Gardening”: Humor and Satire in Koestler’s Political Fiction**

Raymond Mortimer’s (1946) claim, “I find Mr. Koestler’s writings dislikable because they neglect the necessity or even the existence of gardening” (133) is an especially poignant formulation of a stubborn misconception about Koestler’s fiction. Based on his novels’ topics, such as revolution, show trials, terrorism, or powerlessness in the face of major political and historical developments, it is frequently claimed that these texts focus only on the traumas, struggles and challenges faced by humankind, ignoring the lighter aspects of existence; painting the world exclusively in shades of grey. While such a claim might sound logical, it is nevertheless puzzling in the light of Koestler’s explicit fascination with humor. Encyclopedia Britannica’s article on humor is authored by him, he devotes a quarter of his *Insight and Outlook* (1949) to the comic, the first part of *The Act of Creation* (1964) to humor and laughter, while he likewise covers these phenomena briefly in *The Ghost in the Machine* (1967), and also discusses humor and wit in *Janus: A Summing Up* (1978). My presentation thus discusses Koestler’s fiction in terms of the comic elements of his novels, describing them from three interlocking perspectives: their relation to Koestler’s own theories of humor, the role they play in their respective stories, and their influence of the genre of these texts. Drawing primarily on discussions of satire, black comedy, and the comedy of manners, I argue that, contrary to the common view, humor plays an essential role in Koestler’s novels.

Keywords: Koestler, political fiction, humor, novel.

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### **Avoiding the Text: On the Icon-like Forms in Written Discourse**

The present paper aims at tracing the appearance and active implementation in written discourse of “invading” for text and textuality element – the icon-like forms such as emoji, sticker, and also the non-static GIF, meme, etc. Over the last decades, we have witnessed the emergence and the active implementation in every-day life of a digital channel of communication: computer-mediated communication (CMC). The textual intercourse in CMC is intertwined with iconized objects, images of all kinds (for instance, emoji, memes, or GIFs), gaining new meanings and functions as they appear. They are part of online culture and specifically, part of the communicative skills in digital environment. Despite the fact that the above-mentioned visual representations have a relatively short life span in human communication, it is noteworthy that they have developed rather rapidly and exhibit numerous

variations. Thus, digital discourse has been gaining new look – a hybrid form of text and icon-like forms.

Keywords: computer-mediated communication, graphicon, written discourse.

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### **Pessimistic Feminism in Katalin Baráth's Feminist Historical Crime Fiction**

In *Contemporary Feminist Historical Crime Fiction* (2006), Rosemary Erickson Johnsen argues that feminist historical crime novels “provide a powerful conjunction of women’s past, present, and future” (2), they are committed to shed light on the diverse expressions of women’s agency, as well as “to the reappropriation of women’s own history in the name of an emancipated future, and to the exercise of radical social criticism” (2). Katalin Baráth’s historical crime novels depict Hungary of the 1910s and apply the generic features of not only the British whodunit, but also those of the thriller and the adventure novel, to articulate criticism about women’s roles and opportunities through the figure of an amateur female sleuth, Veronika Dávid. Nevertheless, a close reading of the four books in the series reveals that Baráth’s female detective keeps failing in representing such values as individualism, women’s independence, or common sense, all of which are already apparent traits of Anglo-Saxon female detectives in the early 20th century. Baráth’s books, then, seem to be incapable of rehabilitating women’s history or calling for radical social criticism. Therefore, this paper aims to explore whether this failure stems from the limits of applying traditionally Western genres of crime fiction and archetypal characters, such as the female gentleman, to the Hungarian context, or rather from a lack of recognition of contemporary historical crime fiction’s potential to bring feminist concerns of the past into the fore to comment on the present and initiate a change in the future.

Keywords: feminism, historical crime fiction, middlebrow, female sleuth, Hungarian crime fiction.