

**HORÁRIO: 10:30 – 12:15 (Brasília)**

ACLA Vice Presidential Panel - Geopolitics of Comparison around the World

**Shu-mei Shih**

Organizer

**Wail S. Hassan**

Co-Organizer

## **Comparing the Literatures of/in Europe in a Global Age**

### **Presenter**

Theo D'haen - theo.dhaen@kuleuven.be

*University of Leuven*

### **Abstract Info**

Generally speaking, comparative literature scholars in Europe put to good use the same theories, methods and approaches also used in US academe. Rather than cataloguing or discussing these, I instead want to concentrate on how the (relatively) recent re-emergence of world literature as critical/theoretical paradigm impacts the study of European literature. Some of the earlier of such recent world literature studies (Casanova, Moretti), on different theoretical grounds echoing traditional views current throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, posited the foundational pre-eminence of (some) European literature(s). Others (Bhattacharya, Mufti, Cheah, Ganguly), sometimes finding support in calls for reaching beyond Europe, or more broadly “the West,” by an earlier generation of comparatists (Friederich, Etiemble, Aldridge), but more often in postcolonialism, argued for sub-altern-style “provincializing” (Chakrabarty) Europe. Unlike Casanova and Moretti, and unlike the very earliest commentators on world literature (Goethe to Curtius, Auerbach and others, whether strictly comparative literature scholars or not), this most recent generation of world literature scholars grounds its exemplary corpus almost exclusively in Anglophone literature, particularly the novel. Venkat Mani has pointed out how strong a draw this view of contemporary world literature has also beyond the Anglosphere, in case in question in German academe. If most of these more recent approaches to world literature, then, have pointed away from Europe, I want to look at how these developments invite another “geopolitical” look at – invoking David Damrosch’s most recent volume - “comparing the literatures of/in Europe” in the context of “literary studies in a global age.”

### **Speaker Bio**

Theo D'haen is a Professor of English literature at KU Leuven/University of Leuven

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## Can Comparative Literature and Translation Studies be Best Friends?

### Presenter

Susan Bassnett - susan.bassnett@glasgow.ac.uk  
*University of Glasgow*

### Abstract Info

This presentation will look at the relationship between comp. lit and translation studies to see whether these fields are compatible or whether there are major fault lines that could drive them further apart.

### Speaker Bio

Susan Bassnett is a Professor of Comparative Literature (part-time) at the University of Glasgow, Professor Emerita of the University of Warwick, and President of British Comparative Literature Association. She is also the author of the acclaimed *Comparative Literature: A Critical Introduction and Translation Studies*, among many others.

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## The Geopolitics of Comparing and Representing the Other

### Presenter

José Luis Jobim - jjobim@id.uff.br  
*Universidade Federal Fluminense*

### Abstract Info

Ferdinand Denis, Almeida Garret and Alexandre Herculano were European authors who, during the 19th century, formulated a meaning for local color below the Equator, and contributed to a comparativism that geopolitically originated from the Old World, which created comparisons based on the representation of the New World chiefly derived from the supposed characteristics of its "nature." We will identify traces of the demand made by Ferdinand Denis (1798-1890) that the intellectual production of the Americas must reflect the effect of the nature that inspires us, and formulate local ideas derived from this nature, although from the 19th century onwards this opinion was challenged. We will also highlight the importance, for South America, at this moment in history when authoritarianism is rearing its head again, of using comparative approaches to study narratives that represent the period of military

dictatorships in South America, as well as to critically analyze the issue of languages in postcolonial contexts in Latin America.

### **Speaker Bio**

Bio: José Luís Jobim is Professor of Literature in the Graduate Program in Literary Studies at the Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil. He was President of the Brazilian Comparative Literature Association and has authored several books and articles in Brazilian and international journals. His most recent publications in books include: “Voci del passato nella complessità della memoria” (2020, with Sonia N. Salomão & Simone Celani); “Literatura Comparada e Literatura Brasileira: circulações e representações” (2020); “Dialogues France-Brésil: circulations, représentations, imaginaires” (2018, with Eden Hazard & M. E. Chaves de Mello); Dialogue Europe-Bresil dans l’oeuvre de Machado de Assis” (2016, with Olinda Kleiman & M. E. Chaves de Mello); “Literary and Cultural Circulation” (2017). (See complete list of publications: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/2864489503546804> )

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## **Between Latin American Studies and Comparative literature**

### **Presenter**

Florencia Garramuño - [florg@udesa.edu.ar](mailto:florg@udesa.edu.ar)  
*Universidad de San Andrés*

### **Abstract Info**

Latin American Literary Studies have always been, in some ways – as has been already argued by many scholars – comparative (Catelli 2017, Gramuglio 2011). But from Antonio Candido’s remark that “a literatura brasileira é um galho secundário da literatura portuguesa” (“Brazilian literature is a secondary branch of Portuguese literature”) to recent work on Contemporary Latin American Literature, the meaning of “comparative” has undergone a radical transformation. This intervention seeks to track some of these changes and to theorize about the possibilities they open up for a redefined comparative literature by analyzing a few works of Latin American literary studies (Antonio Candido’s *Formação da Literatura Brasileira*, Ángel Rama, *La transculturación narrativa en América Latina*, Josefina Ludmer, *Aquí América Latina*, y Gabriel Giorgi, *Formas comunes*).

### **Speaker Bio**

Associate Professor Florencia Garramuño joined the faculty of the University of San Andrés in Buenos Aires in 1999 and became the founding director of its program in Brazilian Culture in 2004. Before coming to San Andrés, Ms. Garramuño taught at the University of Buenos Aires and Temple University in Philadelphia. She received her Ph.D. in romance languages and literatures from Princeton University in 1995. In 2006 she completed her postdoctoral work at

the Programa Avançado de Cultura Contemporânea at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.

