



Contemporary Womxn's Writing and the Medical Humanities International Online Conference 29-31 July 2021

Organised by **Rebecca Rosenberg** (KCL) and **Benjamin Dalton** (Paris Nanterre)

THURSDAY 29 JULY

9am-9:15am - **Welcome by Rebecca Rosenberg and Benjamin Dalton**

9:30am-11am - **Parallel sessions 1A, 1B, 1C:**

<p>1A - Feminism, Femininity, and Illness Chair: Lucía López Serrano</p> <p>Giorgia Garilli - 'It's a numbing aid': Pills, Politics, and Pop Culture in Ottessa Moshfegh's <i>My Year of Rest and Relaxation</i></p> <p>Stephanie Barnes - Poor Rich Girls: The Medicalisation of Femininity under Capitalism</p> <p>Jasmine Mortazavi - Rewriting Experiences with Anorexia: Contemporary French Women's Autobiographical Narratives</p> <p>Katie Goss - 'Don't try to think too much': the 'emotional brain' and feminine aesthetics of 'cerebrality'</p>	<p>1B - Clinical Spaces and Hospitals Chair: María Díaz</p> <p>Mona Baie – Heterotopias and Psychiatric Hospitals</p> <p>Benjamin Dalton – TBC</p> <p>Daria Kozhanova - Daughters, Monsters, and Machines: Valeria Parrella's Posthuman Maternity</p> <p>Marie Allitt - Topography of the Sick Bed</p>	<p>1C - Unexplained Illnesses Chair: Claire Jeantils</p> <p>Katherine Cheston - Contemporary womxn's life writing in the shadowlands of unexplained illness</p> <p>Sakshi Srivastava - Debating Inexplicability of Pain in Selected Women's Poetry</p> <p>Alex Henry - In a 'Time of Undiagnosis': 'Unexplained' Symptoms and Chronicity in Ali Smith's <i>Hotel World</i> (2001)</p>
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11:15am-12:45pm - Parallel sessions 2A, 2B, 2C:

<p>2A - Ageing Chair: Shirley Jordan</p> <p>Veronika Schuchter - Menopause Imaginaries in Twenty-First Century Women's Writing</p> <p>Teri Szucs - Writing about dementia home care and lesbianity: interweaving experiences and narratives</p> <p>Zuzanna Zarebska Sanches - "Forgetting the "A" Word: Éilís Ní Dhuibhne on female agency in her short story 'Little Red'."</p>	<p>2B - Reading Bodies: Gender and Illness Chair: Margarita Saona</p> <p>Shareen Z. Hamzah-Osbourne - Written <i>in</i> the body? Medical procedures and gender in Winterson's novels</p> <p>Anna Ovaska - How Bodies Are Read? Roxane Gay's <i>Hunger</i> and Forms of Pain</p> <p>Jane Hartshorn - Body as medical object: interrogating the subject/object relationship in contemporary women's poetry</p> <p>Hannah Kalverda - <i>Browsing the Grim Grass: Narrative Agency in Amelia Rosselli's Hospital Series</i></p>	<p>2C - Textual Narratives of Cancer Chair: Mona Baie</p> <p>Caroline Verdier - Overcoming Hodgkin's lymphoma: Anne François' Nu-tête</p> <p>Janet Mathieson - The "she-wings" of cancer and care: an autofictional Narrative</p> <p>Vera Kazartseva - Aesthetics of Testimony: Voices of the Pediatric Cancer and Hematology Ward of Sant'Orsola in <i>Wax tablet</i> by Franca Mancinelli</p> <p>Roxana Doncu - Sorana Gurian : The Admirable and The Abject in Recit d'un combat (<i>The Story of a Battle</i>)</p>
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2pm-3:30pm - Keynote lecture; Havi Carel moderator Elinor Cleghorn

3:45pm-5:15pm - Parallel sessions 3A, 3B, 3C:

<p>3A - Narratives of Labour Chair: Kathryn Bryan</p> <p>Adriana Páramo Pérez - Making visible the invisible: how to subvert the image of labour that films have helped to perpetuate</p> <p>Clare Archibald – Unwording Expected Perinatal Death</p> <p>Kaliane Ung - Marine Life, "Kinnovations," and Reproductive Futurities</p> <p>Héloïse Ducatteau – Pregnancy by Julien Blanc-Gras' <i>In Utero</i> and Andrea Grill's <i>Cherubino</i>.</p>	<p>3B - Decolonising Bodies Chair: Maria Tomlinson</p> <p>Noreen Kane - Narrating Pain: Female Genital Mutilation in Afro Italian literature</p> <p>Lucía López Serrano - Indigenous Health after the Colonial Epidemic: Reading Lee Maracle's <i>Ravensong</i> and <i>Celia's Song</i></p> <p>Anne Mutidjo - Performance and construction of the experience in Gerty Dambury's <i>The Restless</i></p>	<p>3C - Text-Image Depictions of Cancer Chair: Caroline Verdier</p> <p>Darian Goldin Stahl - The Enduring Lives of Artists' Books</p> <p>Beth Kearney - The Vitalities and Vulnerabilities of the Cancerous Body in Photoliterature by Lydia Flem</p> <p>Adina Stroia - Battling Cancer and Cinematic Genres in Valérie Donzelli's <i>La Guerre est déclarée</i> (2011)</p>
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FRIDAY 30 JULY

9:30am-11:00am - **Amaleena Damlé** keynote lecture moderated by **Jasmine Cooper**

11:15am-12:45pm - **Workshop and discussions for publication**

1:30pm-3:00pm - **Parallel sessions 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D:**

<p>4A - Biotech, Capitalism, and Biopolitics Chair: Victoria Oana Lupascu</p> <p>Jana Vanecek - ID9606/2a-c [Genealogien eines Virus]</p> <p>María Díaz - Juana y la cibernética: Insanity or Cybernetics?</p> <p>Margarita Saona - A(n)aesthetic Response: Mind and Senses in Literary Works by Women Patients.</p>	<p>4B - Narratives of Transition Chair: Kaliane Ung</p> <p>Blase Provitola - Narratives of Medical Transition in Contemporary French Literature</p> <p>Sabine Sharp - New Trans Genres: Reimagining Medical Transition through Trans Science Fiction Writing</p>	<p>4C - Analysing Women Chair: TBC</p> <p>Francesca Lewis - "I am a proponent of aporia": Johanna Hedva and Autø/gnøsis</p> <p>Elena Lopez - Clinical analysis of the character in Gioconda Belli's <i>The Inhabited Woman</i></p> <p>Cristina Robu - Care and the chronotope: reflecting on the space-time of care in <i>Soigner, aimer</i> by Ouanessa Younsi</p>	<p>4D - Psychosis and Psychiatry Chair: Antonia Wimbush</p> <p>Leah Sidi - Compulsory positivity and theatres of despair: 4.48 Psychosis in contemporary performance</p> <p>Ines Faro - « Sors-tu du gouffre noir ou descends-tu des astres ? » Voice-Hearing in <i>PsycoZe</i> by Marie-Christine Arbour</p>
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3:30pm-5:00pm - **Susan Stryker** keynote lecture moderated by **Elliot Evans**

5:30-6:30pm - **Friday Night Drinks Social and Sexual Health Writing Workshop** by **Dr Jenny Dhingra**

SATURDAY 31 JULY

9:30am-11:00am - **Parallel sessions 5A, 5B, 5C:**

<p>5A - Wording Chronic Illnesses Chair: Marie Allitt</p> <p>Alice Hill-Woods - “transmute our dark threads”: The Ecological Language of Invisible Illness in Polly Atkin’s <i>With Invisible Rain</i> (2018)</p> <p>Elinor Cleghorn and Dorothy Lehane: [performance] <i>with sequelae</i></p> <p>Charlotte Hallahan - Endometriosis and the Language of Pain in Hilary Mantel’s <i>Giving Up the Ghost</i></p> <p>Claire Jeantils - Contemporary women’s writing on epilepsy: a case study on metanarrativity</p>	<p>5B - Terminal Illnesses and Palliative Care Chair: Adina Stroia</p> <p>Brooke Kowalke - “The beautiful, vibrant, living world goes on”: Bearing Witness to One’s Own Dying in Nina Riggs’ <i>The Bright Hour</i></p> <p>Katja Herges - Intimate Palliative Spheres: Affect, Care and Gender in Contemporary Women’s Life Writing about ALS and Dying</p> <p>Yianna Latsos - Grief Memory and Relationality in Marlene van Niekerk’s <i>Agaat</i></p> <p>Diana-Andreea Noveceanu - Looking Eastwards: Postsoviet Womxn Illness Discourses in Contemporary Art</p>	<p>5C - The Undying: Anne Boyer’s Impact on Illness Narratives Chair: Clare Archibald</p> <p>Cat Chong - Pain and the creative-critical memoirs of Anne Boyer and Sinead Gleeson</p> <p>Gita Ralleigh - Joining With Gold: Fragmentation and Lyric Assembly in Anne Boyer’s <i>The Undying</i></p> <p>Anne Mulhall - Impotentiality and Vulnerability in Anne Boyer’s <i>The Undying</i></p>
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11:15am-12:45pm - **Parallel sessions 6A, 6B, 6C:**

<p>6A - Abortion Narratives Chair: Adriana Páramo Pérez</p> <p>Kathryn Bryan - ‘Where was my party when I had an abortion?’: Caitlin Moran and Sara Pascoe <i>Finding the Funny in Abortion</i></p> <p>Tom Nys - Countering Abortion Stigma in Contemporary Art: Activist Storytelling in Word and Image</p> <p>Victoria Oanu Lupascu - Northern Girls Have Feelings: Women’s Bodies and Their Trials in China</p> <p>Carla Robison-Pinol - Untellable tales: Dacia Maraini and Annie Ernaux’s narratives of abortion</p>	<p>6B - Narratives of Disability Chair: Veronika Schuchter</p> <p>Gabrielle Hanley-Mott - Acquiring disability and incomplete ideological change: after amputation and in Ursula K Le Guin’s <i>The Day Before the Revolution</i></p> <p>Debashrita Dey and Priyanka Tripathi - Desire and Delirium: Contextualizing the Dis (Able) Women in Select Indian films</p> <p>Helena Duffy - Disability, Animality and the Holocaust: Hélène Cixous’s <i>Le Jour où je n’étais pas là</i> (2000)</p> <p>Elly Walters - Divinity and Disability in the Work of Akwaeke Emezi</p>	<p>6C - Narratives of Care Chair: Diana Andreea Noveceanu</p> <p>Eleri Fowler - Towards a poetics of care</p> <p>Cynthia Laborde - Like mothers, like daughters: representing the shift from care receiver to caregiver in graphic novels about sick mothers.</p> <p>Erin Soros - Holding <i>Birdie</i>: Trace Lindberg’s Vision of Care</p> <p>Sarah Marie Graye - When the Disease Doesn’t Matter: Sickness and the Self in Elizabeth Strout’s <i>My Name Is Lucy Barton</i></p>
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1pm-2:30pm - **Keynote lecture; Elliot Evans, Dr Gary Needham**

2:45pm-3:15pm - **Parallel Sessions 7A, 7B:**

<p>7A - Liminal Voices in Narratives of Healthcare Chair: Helena Duffy</p> <p>Avril Tynan - Collaboration and Continuity in Women's Dementia Fiction in French</p> <p>Marta Cenedese - Deconstructing Binary Epistemologies in Stories of Intersex Medical Care</p> <p>Clio Nicastro - Eating Time: On Cinematic Representations of Eating Disorders</p>	<p>7B - Queer Health and Women Chair: Habib Zanzana</p> <p>Rachel Lallouz - Queer Eros and Recreational Drug Use in Contemporary Queer Women's Writing: Laurie Weeks' Zipper Mouth and Michelle Tea's Valencia</p> <p>Kate Manlik - Listening for Disorientation: Lesbian and Queer Women's Narratives of HIV</p> <p>Lizzie Merrill – Candy Darling on Her Deathbed': Queer Representations of Illness</p> <p>Habib Zanzana - Contemporary womxn's Writing and the Medical Humanities in Addellah Taïa's <i>A Country for Dying</i></p>
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3:30pm-3:45pm - **Closing remarks by Benjamin Dalton and Rebecca Rosenberg**

If you have any questions, email co-organisers **Rebecca Rosenberg** and **Benjamin Dalton** at womxnmedhumsconference2021@gmail.com or get in touch on Twitter [@womxnmedhums](https://twitter.com/womxnmedhums).

All are welcome to attend this free 3 day conference, starting at 09.00 BST on Thursday 29 July. You will need to register in advance to receive the online event joining links. To register go to: <https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/events/event/24505>



**INSTITUTE OF
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Centre for the study of
**Contemporary
Women's Writing**