



THE LITERARY ENCYCLOPEDIA  
Exploring literature, history and culture

# The Literary Encyclopedia Newsletter

Autumn 2022



# Announcements from *The Literary Encyclopedia*

## LE Book Prizes

We are delighted to award the 2022 Literary Encyclopedia Book Prizes to the following scholars:

**‘Literature originally written in English’:** Patrick Chura, *Michael Gold, The People’s Writer* (Johns Hopkins, 2020), an outstanding work of literary biography that re-evaluates Gold’s writing in relation to literary, political, sociocultural and economic conversations about Jewish American literature, the Literary Left, and the purpose and value of art. The book provides a deeply researched and fascinating understanding of Gold’s life and writings, and brings to light his publications in newspaper and magazines which evidence his belief that engaged literary activism has a crucial role to play in social change. Chura also reveals how Gold’s confrontations with key literary and academic figures who disavowed Communism in the 1950s led to the erasure of his work from scholarly literary history and from the public attention it deserves. Chura’s meticulous and balanced analyses draw on a wealth of archival records, oral histories and FBI records and allow the reader not only to appreciate why his life and work merit greater prominence in the history of American literature, but also how that history has been shaped by political pressures which often go unacknowledged.

**‘Literature in languages other than English’:** Adam Horley, *Libertines and the Law: Subversive Authors and Criminal Justice in Early Seventeenth-Century France* (OUP 2021), a monograph endorsed by major scholars as an outstanding work of scholarship within the fields of literary studies, criminology, and political and religious history. Horley’s original approach to the question of libertinage is to explore its history in political trials in early seventeenth-century France, through which he reveals how the word was used to prosecute subversive authors such as the poet Théophile de Viau or the Italian philosopher Vanini. Horsley’s meticulous archival study and expert analysis of legal arguments and practices reveals with extraordinary acuity how this society sought to define freedom of thought and action, whether in political and religious matters or in social conduct, and how to repress it. The study is set to become “a point of reference in the field for anyone interested in the intersection of the law with literary and intellectual history” (Hugh Roberts).

We congratulate our colleagues for their achievement and thank all authors and referees for their participation to the second edition of the Literary Encyclopedia’s Book Prize.

[For more information about the prize, please visit our website.](#)

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## Research Travel Awards

After a gap of two years during which we were forced to suspend the Research Travel Award competition due to the Covid19-related travel restrictions, we are pleased to announce the results of this year’s renewed contest. The projects we have chosen are original, historically informed and potentially conducive to scholarship of significant impact; we are pleased to be able to extend our support to such valuable and inspiring work. The awarded projects are the following:

### First place - £750

David Lombard, PhD candidate / Contributor, University of Liège, Belgium – *The Rhetorics and Narratologies of the Sublime in the Contemporary American Environmental Memoir and Novel*

This research project sets out to explore the affordances and limits of the sublime for figuring modes of materiality and non/human agency in contemporary American memoirs and novels which question the nature/culture divide. Situated at the intersection of the fields of American literary studies, environmental humanities, narratology, and rhetorical theory, the project is an extended, excellently articulated comparative textual analysis that alerts readers to an ethics of care for non/human others. The research stay in the USA will result in an already contracted monograph, several journal articles and book reviews, and is strongly supported by distinguished scholars in the field.

## **Second place - £500 each**

### **Amy Blaney, PhD candidate, Keele University - Forming the Arthurian Idyll, 1688-1820**

The project investigates literary engagements with Arthurian legend in the long 18th century, demonstrating that Arthur and his knights were conscripted in various ways across poetry, fiction, drama, and visual works to intervene in debates about historiography, gender, class, and national identity. By examining both canonical and neglected works, the project situates the 18th century as a crucial period for the formation of the Arthurian idyll, anticipating and shaping later Victorian reworkings, and interpreting ways in which 18th century medievalism was politically engaged. The visits proposed at The Centre for Arthurian Studies and Bangor University Library and the National Library of Scotland are essential to the successful completion of the project.

### **Krista Kapphahn, Independent Researcher/ Contributor – Amatory and Romantic Language in Welsh Panegyric Poetry**

This is a post-doctoral project that looks at the use of amatory language and a pseudo-romantic relationship posited between the poet and patron in medieval Welsh praise poetry. Drawing on new models of Celtic masculinity, particularly the liminal and transgressive figure of the bard, the project aims to determine the origins and development of this trope throughout the Middle Ages. It considers the participation of the professional bardic class and the role of gender in cultural myth-making and collective nostalgia for an idealized past 'golden age', as well as the influence of greater Classical and European trends. We are proud to be able to offer our assistance to a project that is interesting and well-articulated, but the progression of which struggles for lack of proper institutional support.

[For more information about the prize, please visit our website.](#)

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## **Digital Publishing Training Programme**

*The Literary Encyclopedia* has invited research students at subscribing institutions to apply for our new training and mentoring programme in digital publishing. A final certification will be provided by The Literary Encyclopedia at the end of the programme.

**Intended applicants:** PhD students (year 2, or part-time equivalent, onwards) at subscribing institutions, working within literature, culture, and/or digital humanities.

### **The Training Programme includes:**

- Remote mentoring and supervision by a member of the LE editorial team

- Insight into a range of modern publishing practices (technical, editorial)
- Development of investigative and research skills related to literary and other persons and their works, specifically how they fit into current scholarly interests and university curricula
- The opportunity to produce accredited material for the LE in collaboration with a senior scholar and/ or a specialist editor.

This may include but is not limited to:

- Expanding recommended critical readings and weblinks within our Recommended Readings application
- Developing lists of primary bibliography (an author's list of works) based on a set template and use of relevant metadata
- Creating Author Timelines with the support of the LE editorial team
- Producing co-authored articles with an established scholar (their own PhD supervisor, for example)
- Identifying potential improvements to our interface and relationships with our readers and writers through, for example, social media engagement
- Evaluating the scholarly and pedagogic effectivity of digital publications by other teams of literary and historical scholars

**Duration/ Working hours:** 3 months; expected number of working hours per week: 4-5

**Starting times:** January 2023; May 2023

**Application procedure:**

- Applications for next academic year have now passed, but please keep an eye on our website and emails for the next round of applications.

# Announcements from our Editors and Contributors

The Editors of *The Midwest Quarterly* are pleased to announce that the winner of the 2022 Stephen Meats Poetry Prize is Amy Sage Webb-Baza for her poem, “When We Were Dogs.”

Webb-Baza is Roe R. Cross Distinguished Professor of English and Creative Writing at Emporia State University in Kansas, director of the Donald Reichardt Center for Publishing and Literary Arts, and managing editor of Bluestem Press and Flint Hills Review.

She publishes fiction, poetry, and nonfiction, and is author of *Your Own Life: Kansas Stories* (Woodley Press, 2012).

The Stephen Meats Poetry Prize was established by the Editorial Board of *The Midwest Quarterly* in 2016 on the occasion of Dr. Meats’s retirement after thirty-one years as the journal’s poetry editor.

Dr. Meats has been a *Literary Encyclopedia* contributor and editor since 2004.

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Muneeza Shamsie’s obituary of Zulfikar Ghose can be read [HERE](#). Ghose remains the only English-language writer of Pakistani origins to have published an extensive and accomplished oeuvre that includes 11 novels, six volumes of poetry, five books of critical essays, two short story collections, an autobiography and collected letters,

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Grace Moore’s special issue of *Occasion* - “Fire Stories” (vol. 13, August 2022) contains a variety of essays on fire, trauma, and the aesthetics of disaster, which span several literary periods. It also includes an introduction and article by Moore.

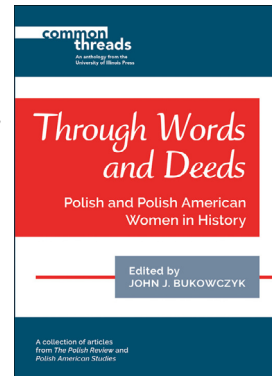
The journal is online and open access. [Weblink](#)

# Publications by our Editors and Contributors

## ***Through Words and Deeds: Polish and Polish American Women in History***

Ed. by John J. Bukowczyk

Though often overlooked in conventional accounts, women with myriad backgrounds and countless talents have made an impact on Polish and Polish American history. John J. Bukowczyk gathers articles from the journals *Polish Review* and *Polish American Studies* to offer a fascinating cross-section of readings about the lives and experiences of these women. The first section examines Polish noblewomen during the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, but also looks at the life of the first Polish female doctor. In the second section, women of the diaspora take center stage in articles illuminating stories that range from immigrant workers in Europe and the United States to women's part in Poland's nationalist struggle. The final section concentrates on image, identity, and consciousness as contributors examine the stereotyping and othering of Polish women and their portrayal in ethnic and émigré fiction.



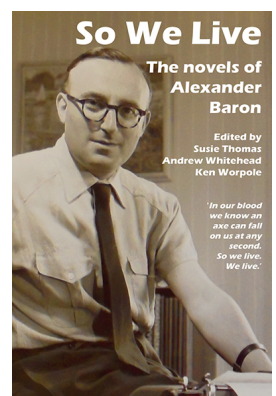
Includes a chapter by Halina Filipowicz entitled “‘Am I That Name?’ Feminism, Feminist Criticism, and Gender Studies”

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## ***So We Live: The Novels of Alexander Baron***

Ed. by Andrew Whitehead, Ken Worpole, and Susie Thomas

The novelist Alexander Baron (1917-1999) was born into a working class Jewish home in Hackney, joined the Communist Party as a young man, saw the thick of battle in Sicily and Normandy, and became one of the most admired writers of post-war Britain. His first novel, *From the City, From the Plough* (1948), was acclaimed as the definitive novel of the Second World War, the first of a trilogy including *There's No Home* (1950) and *The Human Kind* (1953). This was followed by a string of novels about working class life in post-war London, including *The Lowlife* (1963) a cult novel for many other writers ever since. In recent years his reputation has flourished with many of his fifteen novels back in print. This is the first detailed study of the man and his work.



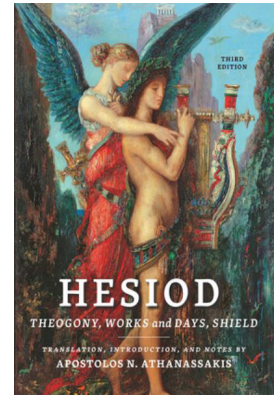
2019 | [Weblink](#)



## ***Hesiod's Theogony, Works and Days, and Shield***

Translated by Apostolos N. Athanassakis

This best-selling translation *Hesiod's the Theogony, the Works and Days, and the Shield*, now in its third edition, has been updated into the most indispensable edition yet for students of Greek mythology and literature. Now including a thoroughly updated bibliography reflecting the last two decades of scholarship. The introductions and notes have been enriched, clarifying contextual history and the meaning of Hesiod's own language and themes, and notes have been newly added to the *Shield*. Athanassakis has lightly improved his translation throughout the text, expertly balancing the natural flow of the verse while adhering closely to the literal Greek.



Next to the works of Homer, Hesiod's poems are foundational texts for students of the classics. His two major surviving works, the *Theogony* and the *Works and Days*, address the divine and the mundane, respectively. Though modern scholars dispute the authorship of the *Shield*, ancient texts treat this final poem about the shield of Herakles as unquestionably Hesiodic.

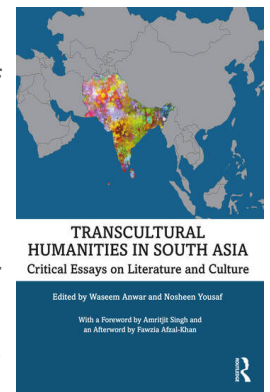
Apostolos N. Athanassakis is professor emeritus in the Department of Classical Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he held the Argyropoulos Chair in Hellenic Studies from 2001 to 2011. Among his many translations is *The Homeric Hymns*.

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## ***Transcultural Humanities in South Asia: Critical Essays on Literature and Culture***

Ed. by Waseem Anwar

This volume looks at the implications of transcultural humanities in South Asia, which is becoming a crucial area of research within literary and cultural studies. The volume also explores various complex critical dimensions of transculturation, its indeterminate periodisation, its temporal and spatial nonlinearity, its territoriality and intersectionality.



Drawing on contributors from around the globe, the entries look at literature and poetics, theory and praxis, borders and nations, politics, Partition, gender and sexuality, the environment, representations in art and pedagogy and the transcultural classroom. Using key examples and case studies, the contributors look at current developments in transcultural and transnational standpoints and their possible educational outcomes. A broad and comprehensive collection, as it also speaks about the value of the humanities and the significance of South Asian contexts, *Transcultural Humanities in South Asia* will be of particular interest to those working on postcolonial studies, literary studies, Asian studies and more.

Includes an chapter by Muneeza Shamsie entitled "Reconstructing Partition Memories in the New Millenium".

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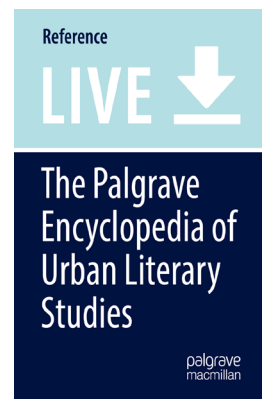
## ***The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Urban Literary Studies***

Ed. by Jeremy Tambling

This encyclopedia is an indispensable resource and recourse for all who are thinking about cities and the urban, and the relation of cities to literature, and to ways of writing about cities. Covering a vast terrain, this work includes entries on theorists, individual writers, individual cities, countries, cities in relation to the arts, film and music, urban space, pre/early and modern cities, concepts and movements and definitions amongst others. Written by an international team of contributors, this is the first resource of its kind to pull together such a comprehensive overview of the field.

Includes two chapters by Muneeza Shamsie - "Karachi" and "Peshawar: Past and Present".

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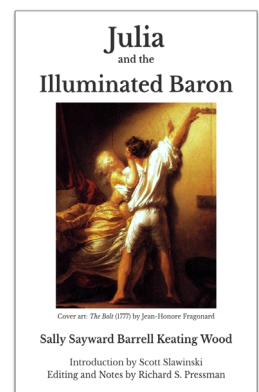


### ***Julia and the Illuminated Baron (1800)***

Sally Sayward Barrell Keating Wood, with an introduction by Scott Slawinski

*Julia and the Illuminated Baron* (1800) opposes the European Illuminati in the belief that it was behind the French Revolution, which, from a Federalist point of view, Wood opposed. But in the process, she reveals much about the situation of women at the turn of the 19th century, while, in setting a part in the U.S. Northeast, she compliments the culture of prominent American women writers. At the same time, *Julia* offers a rollicking narrative adventure in search for identity and the struggle to maintain female virtue.

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## **Journal Articles**

**Lynn Forest-Hill**, 'History and the Name of the Hero in Boeve De Haumtone', *Notes and Queries*, 68.3 (2021), 251-53. [Weblink](#)

**Jennifer Marston William**, 'Embedded Mental States, Literariness, and the Mutual Cross-Disciplinary Benefits of Cognitive-Literary Analysis', *Seminar: A Journal of Germanic Studies* 58.1 (Feb. 2022). [Weblink](#)



# Calls for Papers

## The productivity of the so-called ‘negative emotions’ in postcolonial literatures Special issue of *Fauble*

Emotions, affect, and moods do not happen to us. Rather, we are our emotions: they configure our manner of relating to, and existing within the world. Ontologies of emotion—in their embodied and symbolic dimensions—alter our perceptions, experiences, and predictions of ourselves and our environment in ways which problematize inside/outside and mind/body dualities. This is also true of the so-called ‘negative emotions’. Studies of negative affect abound in the humanities, from Aristotle’s fear and pity, Heidegger’s angst, and Robert Burton’s melancholy, to Sartre’s nausea, Germaine Greer’s rage, Kristeva’s disgust, and, more recently, Sianne Ngai’s “ugly feelings.”

Postcolonial poetics and aesthetics have just started to explore the instrumentalisation of emotions with a view to “creating new heuristic constellations” (Elleke Boehmer). Literary theorists are sharpening their focus on “negative” emotions in seminal studies such as Sue Kim’s work on anger, Bede Scott’s on affective disorders and Jinah Kim’s on grief, all of which have tapped into the productivity of negative affect. The latter can create new phenomenological and existential possibilities—new modes of being in and experiencing the world. In both lived and literary narratives, it can also have ethical and epistemic functions, creating new forms of knowledge and understanding.

Though an age-old topic, new paradigms within cognitive science—the enactive and embodied turn—have reinvigorated the investigation into negative emotions, and as we presently rethink the relationship between mind, body, and world, studies of affect offer a crucial link between phenomenal experience and the surrounding environment: a connection between our physical, psychological, and social selves. For this volume, we are seeking submissions which explore the possibilities and potentialities of “negative” affect in literature and literary theory. We are interested in negative affect in all its types and dimensions: analyses of the structures of feeling created by socio-political forces; assemblages and alliances produced by negative emotion; enactive interrelationships of emotion and environment; or the ethical implications of emotional response, to name a few.

We encourage multi-work or corpus studies submissions and comparative perspectives in the following areas: postcolonial studies, First Nations studies, cognitive cultural studies, health and medical humanities, cognitive historicism, reader response theory, postcolonial feminist studies, ecological studies, trauma studies, and philosophy of moral emotions.

### Editors:

**Jean-François Vernay**’s latest contribution to the field of cognitive literary studies is *Neurocognitive Interpretations of Australian Literature: Criticism in the Age of Neuroawareness* (Routledge, 2021).

**Donald R. Wehrs**, Hargis Professor of English Literature, is co-editor of *Cultural Memory: From the Sciences to the Humanities* (Routledge) and *The Palgrave Handbook of Affect Studies and Textual Criticism* (2017).

**Isabelle Wentworth** teaches at the University of NSW. Her recent work in cognitive literary criticism has been published in *Poetics Today*, *Textual Practice*, and *Cognitive Systems Research*.

Detailed proposals (up to 1,000 words) for full essays (6,000 words), as well as a short biography (max. 100 words) should be sent to the editors by 01 November 2022.

Essays should be completed by 31 March 2023.

Contact address: [emotionsvolume2023@yahoo.com](mailto:emotionsvolume2023@yahoo.com)

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Thank you for reading *The Literary Encyclopedia* Newsletter.

Please send any submissions for the next newsletter to  
Jessica Gossling: [jessicagossling@litencyc.com](mailto:jessicagossling@litencyc.com)



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