

Conference organized by the Department of British and American Studies, Faculty of Arts,
Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia,
and the Slovak Association for the Study of English

The Postmillennial Sensibility in Anglophone Literatures, Cultures and Media III

20 – 22 June 2024, Košice, Slovakia

PLENARY SPEAKERS:

Prof. Dr. Susana Onega, University of Zaragoza, SPAIN

Web profile: <https://janovas.unizar.es/sideral/CV/susana-onega-jaen>

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Richard Stahel, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Institute of Philosophy

Web profile: <https://sav-sk.academia.edu/RichardStahel>

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:

Prof. Dr. Raoul Eshelman, Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, GERMANY

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CONFERENCE CALL FOR PAPERS

The rising pressure of environmental problems on the postmillennial globalised world has fuelled the rapid developments in transdisciplinary revisions and transformations of anthropocentric perspectives. Contemporary studies of environmental approaches to literary, cultural, and media texts are rooted primarily in the discipline of ecocriticism with its focus on the relations between social identities contexts and 'life's largest relevant context, the biosphere' (Garrard 2004). By casting a critical light on the excessive postmodernist concern with language and its claims about 'the end of nature' (Volkmann et al. 2010), ecocriticism opens up possibilities for examining representations of nature, environmental issues and post-Cartesian concepts of identity, such as the 'ecological self' (Naess 1985), the 'dialogical self' (Hermans, H.J.M, & Hermans-Konopka 2010) or 'posthuman subjectivity'(Braidotti 2013) through new, postmillennial theoretical frameworks of metamodernism, performatism, cosmopolitanism, transmodernism, or hypermodernism. Metamodernist revivals of romantic sensibilities (Vermeleun and Akker, 2010) create a basis for explorations of the ongoing influence of the Romantic imagination on the formation of ecological consciousness (Bate 1991; Buell 1996); cosmopolitanism relates the efforts to overcome environmental problems with the creation of 'an *ecology* of relations, that is, another way of thinking about being in the world' (Moraru 2011); transmodernism points to the emergence, since the 1980s, of a "planetary," "postpatriarchal" and "postsecular" cultural shift (Ateljevic 213, 203) aimed at "reenchanting" the world, whose perception and analysis require the establishment of horizontal dialogues among different traditions of thought, as opposed to universalism (Dussel 1994, 2008; Grosfoguel 2008) and hypermodernism (Lipovetsky 2005) creates the potential to explore the devastating ecological effects of excessive consumption patterns.

The conference aims to create a suitable forum for discussions about the fruitful intersections among new aesthetic trends, environmental sensibilities, and post-Cartesian identity representations in contemporary literary, cultural, and media texts.

Possible topics include but are not limited to

- environmental aspects of food representation in culture, literature, and media
- food practices, ecology, and identity in culture, literature, and media
- philosophy, consumerism, and human food behaviour in culture, literature, and media
- food, anthropology, and cultural ecology in culture, literature, and media
- culinary practices and communication in culture, literature, and media
- social ecology of food, consumer behaviour, and climate change in culture, literature, and media
- environment, ecology, and cultural heritage in culture, literature, and media
- ecological identity in local and global contexts in postmillennial culture, literature, and media
- environmental issues and the revival of the Romantic imagination in postmillennial nature writing
- the pastoral, anti-pastoral, and post-pastoral in contemporary environmental aesthetics
- environmental crisis in postmillennial dystopian narratives
- ethnic literature and environmental ethics
- ethnicity/indigeneity/transnationalism/eco-cosmopolitanism/globalisation and environmentalism intersections in contemporary literary and media narratives
- environmental problems and social justice
- 'empathizing imagination' (Malamud 2003) in literary and media representations of the non-human
- ecofeminism and environmental aesthetics in contemporary women's fiction

We invite proposals for twenty-minute papers relating to the Conference's main topic. Submissions will be reviewed on a double-blind review basis.

The conference also aims to provide a platform for PhD students to present their work in progress related to the conference's main topic.

PhD students are invited to submit proposals for ten-minute presentations of their doctoral thesis projects that should include the main topic and issues, defended hypothesis, and the main methodological framework of their doctoral research. Accepted projects will be presented during a special **Doctoral Seminar** that will provide an opportunity for students to exchange ideas with their fellow students and receive feedback from senior scholars.

SPECIAL PANEL PROPOSAL:

Representations of Participation and Withdrawal as Alternative Food Practices in Contemporary Culture

Petra Filipová, Martina Martausová, Silvia Rosivalová Baučeková

In reaction to the compounding crises facing contemporary eaters, which give rise to various concerns around food consumption and production (e.g., environmental, moral, religious/spiritual, social, cultural/ethnic, health-related, and others), there has been a surge of interest in alternative food practices. These fall into two groups. One group of eaters react by refraining from food practices deemed harmful or problematic. These eaters deliberately engage in eating behaviours characterised by withdrawal, such as veganism and vegetarianism, restrictive dieting, or intermittent fasting. The other group is opting for the opposite approach. They adopt various food practices, such as urban or guerrilla gardening, foraging, or homesteading, through which they aim to increase their participation in food production (and consumption). Fuelling these alternative food practices is either a dream of a utopian future or, alternatively, a perceived remembrance of a nostalgic past, in which food systems will be/were more sustainable, fairer, and healthier.

This panel aims to explore how these emerging practices are represented in contemporary cultural discourse. **We invite contributions** from a wide range of disciplines across the humanities, including literary studies, media studies, films studies, etc., which discuss this topic in a range of fictional and non-fictional texts.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION:

Abstracts of papers (500 words max.) clearly defining the topic and the objectives pursued in the paper should be submitted by e-mail as WORD attachments to:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Soňa Šnircová (postmil.sensibility.3@gmail.com) by **30 April 2024.**

Deadlines:

Submission of abstracts: extended deadline till **30 April 2024**

Notification of acceptance: extended deadline till **15 May 2024**

Registration begins on 16 April 2024

Registration fees:

Early bird registration fee to be paid before **31 May 2024**: 80 EUR

Early bird registration fee for PhD students and accompanying persons to be paid before **31 May 2024**: 40 EUR

Standard registration fee to be paid between **31 May 2024** – 20 June 2024: 100 EUR

Standard registration fee for PhD students and accompanying persons to be paid between **31 May 2024** – 20 June 2024: 50 EUR

Registration of MA and BA students: free of charge

Authors of presented papers will be invited to extend their papers for publication in electronic or print format with ISBN.