

## Annual Activity Report 2023-2024 Research Committee on Comparative Gender Studies International Comparative Literature Association (ICLA)

1. New by-laws: At our Annual Business Meeting at ACLA we continued to discuss the need for a new position of graduate student officer. We are in the process of revisiting our by-laws to implement this position for the 2025 ACLA. Membership to ICLA will be provided to the graduate student officer.

### 2. Elected Officers

An election for new officers for the term 2022-2025, organized following the procedure described in the by-laws, was held in July 2022.

Current Positions and Officers for 2024: President/Chair: Tegan Zimmerman, Saint Mary's University and Mount Saint Vincent University (Canada); Vice President: Jordana Greenblatt, University of Toronto and York University (Canada); Secretary: Elizabeth Richmond-Garza, University of Texas at Austin (United States); Elected Executive Board Members: Fatima Festić, University of Amsterdam (Netherlands), Pierre Zoberman, Sorbonne Paris Nord, (France); Melanie Heydari, Barnard College, Columbia University (United States).

### 3. Annual Business Meetings

The ICLA Comparative Gender Studies Committee held an annual business meeting in March 2024 in Montreal at the ACLA. In line with its open-door policy, our business meeting at ACLA was advertised in the ACLA programme booklet.

We also meet via Zoom typically two to three more times throughout the year. These meetings typically take place in October and June to wrap-up from ACLA and plan for future meetings such as ICLA 2025. We met in May 2024 and will do so again in October.

### 4. Committee-Sponsored Programmes

ACLA 2024:

ICLA Comparative Gender Studies Committee sponsored a two day seminar at ACLA 2024 titled Queer Contemporaneities: Anachronism and Gender. The Chairs were Jordana Greenblatt and Pierre Zoberman.

- Friday, March 15, 2024 Stream D (4:00-5:45pm) 523A
  - **Anachronism: A useful category for the study of historically distant cultural contexts?**

Pierre Zoberman, Sorbonne Paris Nord/ Sorbonne Nouvelle

- **Rethinking Gender and Sexuality in the Early Ottoman Empire as Historical Antecedents to Contemporary Queer Writing in the Maghreb**

William J Spurlin, Brunel University London

- **Revisiting the Past and Reinterpreting the Present: Anachronism and the Circulation of Meaning in Salman Rushdie's Victory City**

Melanie Heydari, Barnard College

- Saturday, March 16, 2024 Stream D (4:00-5:45pm) 523A
  - **"Cléo and Kim: Curating Celebrity from Photographic Punctum to Social Influencer"**

Elizabeth Richmond-Garza, The University of Texas at Austin

- **Barbette's Times: Unruly Overlaps with Contemporary Queer Circus**

Jordana Greenblatt, York University

Committee Sponsored Programme, Paris Seminar October 11-12, 2024: co-organized by P. Zoberman and M. Heydari

## **Contemporanéités Queer: Anachronisme, Genre et Sexualité**

Vendredi 11 octobre 2024

### **9h00. Accueil des participants. Petit-déjeuner**

#### **9h30 :**

Ouverture des journées.

Problématiques (P. Zoberman et M. Heydari)

#### **10h15-12h30.**

##### **Panel 1. Le paradigme antique**

Michel Briand (U. de Poitiers), « *Queer Classics* : temporalités tordues, littérature grecque ancienne et réactivations troubles »

Marie-Pierre Harder (U. Lyon 2-Lumière), « Against Straight Interpretation, ou comment (se)désorienter (dans) le passé. Entre "hétéro-temporalité" et "lignes de désir" : réviser les études comparatistes grâce aux temporalités queer »

Megan Wines (Loyola U., Chicago), « Men Out of Time: Pseudepigraphy, Masculinity, and Anachronism in Ancient Jewish and Christian Apocalypse »

**12h30-14h00 : Déjeuner**

**Après-midi**

**14h00-15h30**

**Panel 2 : Penser l'œuvre et la vie**

Zaccary Haney (Loyola U., Chicago), « Wrong Audiences, Irrelevant Questions: A Consideration of Queer Historiographical Silence »

Julie Oliveira da Silva (USN, CERC), « De la modernité à la contemporanéité : enjeux d'analyse de la poésie sapphique vingtiémiste luso-brésilienne »

**15h30-16h00 : Pause-café**

16h-17h30

**Panel 3 : Anachronisme et décentrement**

Noemi Linardi (USN, CERC), « De *ḥuntā* à Moe Khansa : anachronismes *queer* dans les productions littéraires et artistiques arabes modernes »

Tegan Zimmerman (Mount Saint Vincent University), « Histories of Lives (Un)lived: The Daughter's Tale in Contemporary Caribbean Women's Historical Fiction »

**20h: Dîner festif**

Samedi 12 octobre 2024

**Matin**

**9h00 : Petit-déjeuner**

**9h30-10h30 : Réunion du comité (ouvert aux participant.es intéressé.e.s)**

**10h30-12h45**

**Panel 4 : Transgenre et modernité**

Pamela Caughie (Loyola U., Chicago), « Man into Woman, the life narrative of Lili Elbe »

Flavia Criscione (U. of Milan, « La Statale ») et Graziana Marziliano (U. of Piemonte Orientale),  
« Orlando: queer temporality and practices in Virginia Woolf (1928) and Paul B. Preciado's  
(2023) work »

Stefania Lodi-Rizzini, « Anachronisme et queer : Le sujet transgenre à l'épreuve de l'histoire. »

**12h45-14h00 Déjeuner**

**Après-midi**

**14h00-16h00**

Table ronde et discussion générale – Synthèse et perspectives

**Future meeting suggestions for 2025:**

THEME: Disabilities, Accessibilities, Risk/Precarity

ACLA, May 29 to June 1, 2025, online: Chairs Jordana, Tegan, Hector, Melanie

ICLA, 2025 – Seoul, Korea, 28 July – 1 August 2025: Chairs, Elizabeth and Fatima

**5. Publications**

The members of the ICLA Comparative Gender Studies Committee contribute widely to journals and books and many of those publications are peer reviewed. Our committee is editing a special issue (based on our ACLA 2023 theme of (Re-en)gendering Intertextuality) of the journal *Intertexts*. Complete manuscripts were submitted to the Editor of *Intertexts* in March 2024.

We are finalizing a CFP for an edited volume with Brill based on our ACLA 2022 and ICLA 2022 theme of Remapping Gender and our 2024 ACLA theme of Anachronism and Gender, which will be revisited at our Paris seminar.

We are also envisioning leading a special issue of the journal *Atlantis: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture and Social Justice* that is based on our ACLA 2025 and ICLA 2025 themes of literature, disease and disabilities or (im)mobilities.

## 6. Website

The Committee's webpage on the ICLA website can be found here: <https://www.ailcicla.org/committee-on-gender>.

Respectfully submitted July 10, 2024 by Tegan Zimmerman, President