



# THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR CONTEMPORARY LITERARY STUDIES

## Welcome to the BACLS May newsletter

The BACLS newsletter shares calls for papers, job listings, recent publications and events (including conferences, talks, and exhibitions) relating to Contemporary Literary Studies in Britain and around the world.

Items for upcoming newsletters should be sent to the BACLS Publicity Officer, Zoe Hope Bulaitis at [zoebulaitis@gmail.com](mailto:zoebulaitis@gmail.com) or via messaging [@BACLS\\_official](#) Twitter account.

**Please send items by 16th June 2021 for inclusion in the next mailing.**

BACLS is also on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) – please feel free to follow for updates and to share formal and informal announcements with BACLS members and the wider contemporary studies community.

## Call for papers / articles / contributions

[BACLS What Happens Now? Virtual Conference 2021](#). Online, 2-3 September 2021. We are delighted to invite abstract submissions for BACLS-WHN 2021, including proposals for individual papers and for three- or four-person panels. Call for papers [here](#), the deadline for abstracts is 18 June 2021. Poster attached, feel free to circulate.

[“And above all to make you see”: Ian McEwan and the Visual](#). Call for papers for publication in *Polysèmes* 27, Spring 2022. Abstracts due 30 June 2021.

## Events

[Martin Doyle in Conversation with Lucy Caldwell and Joseph O'Connor](#). Online. 2 June 2021, 6.30 – 8.30 pm. Thanks to the generous support of the British Academy/Leverhulme Trust, attendance is free but please register in advance [here](#).

[BACLS Writing Retreat](#). Online. 3 June 2021, 10.30 am – 4.15 pm. Hosted on our new discord server, hopefully, the launch of many further member writing events. Everyone is

welcome to join. The session will be facilitated by Melissa Schuh, who can be contacted at [schuh@anglistik.uni-kiel.de](mailto:schuh@anglistik.uni-kiel.de) for any questions about the event.

[Jackie Kay: An International Conference](#). Online. 3 June 2021, 9:00am -18:30pm. This international conference, the first on Kay's work, brings together scholars from a wide range of literary and cultural studies. The British Council describe Kay as having, over the past two decades, 'moved from marginal voice to national treasure.' This conference will examine the work that has marked Kay's shift from the margins to the centre, addressing a writer whose work has expanded the scope of British literature. The conference is followed by a reading and Q&A from Jackie Kay. Both events are free to attend and you are welcome to register for both or either. You can [register for the conference here](#) and [register for the Reading and Q&A here](#).

[Celebrating the Work of Colin Davis: A Symposium](#). Online. Hosted by the School of Humanities at [Royal Holloway](#), the University of London. 6 July 2021, 2 - 6 pm. Please register on [Eventbrite](#) and note that this event will be run online as a meeting through MS Teams. Speakers will include: Hanna Meretoja; Jakob Lothe; Max Silverman; Andreea Ritivoi; Eneken Laanes; Anna Reading; Avril Tynan; Nikolaj Lübecker; Christina Howells; Helena Duffy; Akane Kawakami; Claire Gorrara; Oliver Davis; Martin Crowley; Emma Wilson; Gary Mole.

[BACLS Online Seminar: Neoliberalism and Contemporary World Literature](#). Online. 11 June 2021, 2 – 3.30 p.m. In the fourth in our series of online seminars, we are very pleased to welcome Sharae Deckard and Stephen Shapiro, editors of [World Literature, Neoliberalism, and the Culture of Discontent](#), which won the BACLS Essay Collection Prize in 2020. Sharae and Stephen will be talking about their book and reflecting on the ways in which the contemporary situation has developed since its publication in the light of, among other factors, the Covid-19 pandemic, the Brexit deal, the defeat of Donald Trump and the first few months of the Biden-Harris administration. We are also pleased to welcome Jenny Bavidge, Senior Lecturer in English Literature at Cambridge University, who will be providing initial responses to Sharae and Stephen's talk and leading the follow-up discussion with participants.

BACLS members can sign up for the seminar [here](#).

Save the Date: [The biennial BACLS What Happens Now Conference](#). Online 2-3 September 2021, with keynote presentations, sessions to support teaching and research, Contemporary Conversations panel, discussions with writers, and opportunities to meet and socialise with members. BACLS WHN2021 will be held online and free for members.

## New Publications

Book: Monika Kaup. [New Ecological Realisms: Post-Apocalyptic Fiction and Contemporary Theory](#). (Edinburgh University Press, 2021).

[New Journal Launch: Tolka](#). Tolka is a new biannual literary journal of non-fiction: publishing essays, reportage, travel writing, auto-fiction, individual stories and the writing that flows in

between. It is co-edited by BACLS grad rep Liam Harrison. You can pre-order the first issue of Tolka [here](#).

## Job / Funded PhD Listings

[Lecturer in World Literatures & Publishing \(Education and Research\)](#). The University of Exeter - College of Humanities. Full Time, permanent. Deadline 14 June 2021.

[Lecturer in Creative Writing \(Poetry\)](#). University of East Anglia - Faculty of Arts and Humanities - School of Literature, Drama and Creative Writing. 0.75, permanent. Deadline 15 June 2021.

[Research Associate \(Black British Children's Literature\)](#) Newcastle University - School of English Literature, Language and Linguistics. 0.5, 12-month contract. Deadline 15 June.

[Lecturer in Creative Writing: Prose](#). University of St Andrews - School of English. Full Time, permanent. Deadline 18 June 2021.

[Lecturer in Creative Writing: Poetry](#). University of St Andrews - School of English. Full Time, permanent. Deadline 18 June 2021.

## Other Announcements

Membership Fee Wavier: last year BACLS introduced a 12-month membership fee waiver for members who may be experiencing hardship and unforeseen difficulties as a result of the ongoing Covid-19 situation. If you would like to request a fee waiver then please contact Mike Witcombe, Membership Secretary ([witcombeuk@gmail.com](mailto:witcombeuk@gmail.com)).

Best wishes,

Zoe, on behalf of the BACLS Executive Committee.