



THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR CONTEMPORARY LITERARY STUDIES

Welcome to the BACLS October/November 2022 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 acting BACLS Publicity Officer, Julia Ditter at julia.ditter@northumbria.ac.uk or via messaging the [@BACLS_official](#) Twitter account.

Please send items by 9th December 2022 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

Call for Papers: 'The Functions of Criticism', 19-20 May 2023, University of Cambridge. Keynotes: Rita Felski (University of Virginia), Jonathan Kramnick (Yale University), and Sarah Dillon (University of Cambridge). This event will be an interdisciplinary, two-day conference exploring questions of function, use, and method in the humanities, jointly supported by the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities, and the Faculty of English. Full CfP and contact information can be found [on the conference website](#). Proposals for 20-minute papers due by 20th November 2022.

Call for Papers: '[Gylphi Contemporary Writers: Ali Smith Symposium](#)', 26 April 2023, University of Cambridge. We welcome papers that engage with the rise of new critical approaches that have continued to transform and develop alongside Smith's writing, notably ecocriticism, meta-modernism, intertextuality and connections to visual art, postcriticism, recent queer/trans theory, and refugee/border studies that speak to her work and would enable the planned new collection of essays to reflect the most exciting current modes of critical engagement with her writing. The symposium will lead to the publication of a volume in the Gylphi Contemporary Writers: Critical Essays series. Abstracts due by 10th January 2023.

Events

TODAY [The Punk Rock Politics of Joe Strummer - book launch event with Gregor Gall](#), 9th November, 7pm. (online). Gregor Gall, author of *The Punk Rock Politics of Joe Strummer* (Manchester UP) will give a talk about his work, which will be followed by a Q and A session on Gregor's book and all matters Joe Strummer. The online event will be hosted by James Peacock (Keele University).

[BACLS Research Seminar: Monograph Prize Winner Showcase, 2nd December, 2pm.](#)

The first BACLS Online Seminar of 2022-23 promises to be a fascinating one: the joint winners of the 2022 BACLS Monograph Prize – Caroline Magennis (Salford) and Ian Hickey (Mary Immaculate College) – will talk about their monographs and participate in a discussion with BACLS members on issues arising from their research. Caroline Magennis's book, *Northern Irish Writing after the Troubles: Intimacies, Affects, Pleasures* (Bloomsbury), explores the ways in which the "post"-conflict period has led writers to a renewed engagement with intimacy, the body and pleasure. It examines work by a range of exciting contemporary writers, including Lucy Caldwell, Jan Carson, Bernie McGill and David Park. Ian Hickey's book, *Haunted Heaney: Spectres and the Poetry* (Routledge), explores Seamus Heaney's poetry through the lens of hauntology, illuminating the many significances of ghosts as, among other things, literary influences and legacies of British colonialism.

New Publications

Article: Ruth Maxey (2022). "[The Legacy of Gilman's Wallpaper in James Baldwin's Giovanni's Room and Jhumpa Lahiri's 'A Temporary Matter'](#)." *Comparative American Studies*.

Monograph: Dominic Head (2022). [Nature Prose: Writing in Ecological Crisis](#). Oxford University Press.

All members are encouraged to share news of recently published books, essays, or articles, so please feel free to send those over to include in future newsletters.

Job / Funded PhD Listings

[Research Associate Contemporary Poetry](#), Newcastle upon Tyne. Part Times, Fixed Term (9 months). Closes 16th November.

[Lecturer in English: Creative and Professional Writing](#), University of Sunderland, Arts & Creative Industries - School of Media & Communications. Full Time, Permanent. Closes 18th November.

[Research Associate EyCon](#), Loughborough University, School of Social Sciences and Humanities. Part Time, Fixed Term (7 months). Closes 21st November.

[Assistant Professor in Black Studies](#), University of Warwick, English and Comparative Literary Studies. Full Time, Permanent. Closes 5th January.

[Funded PhD Opportunity, AHRC Midlands4Cities Doctoral Training Partnership](#), Nottingham Trent University. Closes 12th January.

Please note BACLS shares all opportunities, so as to present a wide range of jobs on offer but does not seek to endorse precarious and fractional employment as a standard practice.

Other Announcements

BACLS Annual General Meeting

The BACLS AGM will be held on 5 December after the BACLS Research Seminar (see Events). A meeting invitation will follow in due course.

Membership Fee Waiver

BACLS has extended the availability of fee waivers beyond the Covid-19 situation. Members who are experiencing financial hardship or unforeseen difficulties may now request a 12-month membership fee waiver. If you would like to request a fee waiver then please contact Julia Ditter, Membership Secretary (julia.ditter@northumbria.ac.uk).

Best wishes,

Julia, on behalf of the BACLS Executive Committee.