

# WAYS OF THINKING THE BODY IN THE HISPANIC CULTURES

18th International Conference **ALEPH** (20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

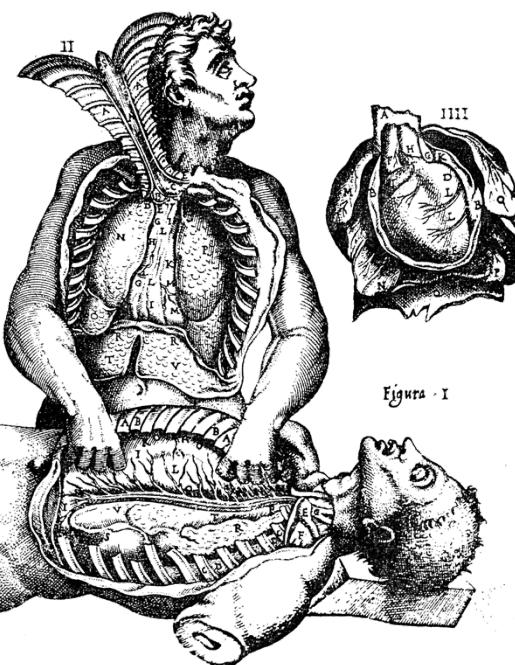
22-25 August 2022

Queens' College, Cambridge

## *Call for Papers*

The conference organizers would like to invite the submission of **proposals for papers and prearranged panels** for the 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Asociación ALEPH "Ways of Thinking the Body in the Hispanic Cultures", which will be held on 22-25 August 2022 in Queens' College, University of Cambridge (UK). **The submission window is open from 28 January to 15 March.**

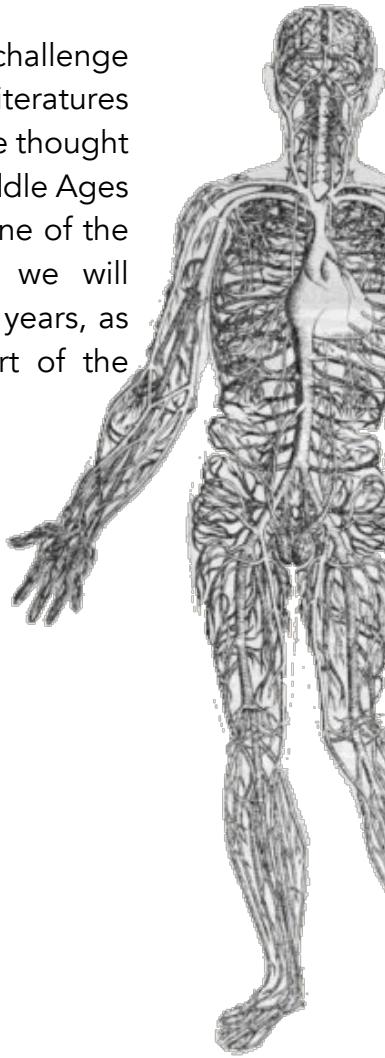
In response to the uncertainty that still exists in the UK, the EU and other parts of the world, **the congress will likely be held in a hybrid format**. That said, given the high rates of vaccination (including booster doses being rolled out to the entire adult population in the UK since December 2021, with Spain and other European countries following suit throughout the first half of 2022), **the organisers strongly encourage our fellow postgraduate students to travel to Cambridge**, where we will enjoy a fruitful exchange of knowledge and perspectives among the members of our academic community in a unique environment. In the coming months, we will provide more information about the details of the hybrid format, which will apply according to the respective COVID rules in the UK, the University of Cambridge, and Queens' College at the time.



## DESCRIPTION

'The body—one reads in the *Phenomenology of Perception*—is the vehicle of being in the world, and having a body is, for a living creature, to be interwoven in a definite environment, to identify oneself with certain projects and be continually committed to them'. Under the aegis of Merleau-Ponty, the last few decades have witnessed the consolidation of the body not only as the gravitational centre in numerous fields of study both in the Humanities and in the Cognitive Sciences, but also as a key interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary bridge between them, as exemplified by works of diverse nature such as Michel Foucault's *Surveiller et Punir* (1975), George Lakoff and Mark Johnson's *Metaphors we live by* (1980), Judith Butler's *Bodies that Matter* (1993), Linda Williams' *Hard Core* (1999), Lawrence Shapiro's *Embodied Cognition* (2010) or Guillemette Bolens' *The Style of Gestures* (2012). The body can be thus thought and analyzed from multiple perspectives, including, but not limited to, the phenomenology of the body; the biopolitical, ethical and identitarian implications of the corporeal; the obscene and the sublime as embodied categories; the embodied nature of cognition; the extension, inclusion, and exclusion of the individual body within the social and political body...

For the 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Asociación ALEPH, we challenge our fellow postgraduate students specializing in Ibero-American literatures and cultures to explore how the body has been and continues to be thought in our cultural production in both sides of the Atlantic since the Middle Ages to the present day. We invite you to do so in Queens' College, one of the University of Cambridge's most emblematic colleges. There we will celebrate the return of the Asociación ALEPH to the UK after 12 years, as well as the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Asociación with the support of the University of Cambridge and Stanford University.



## THEMATIC LINES

The Conference has four main thematic lines. Each one is supplemented by several theoretical and methodological perspectives, as well as by a suggested bibliography. That said, these are suggestions: we encourage the submission of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary proposals that take advantage of these perspectives and go beyond them.

Recommended starting point:

Hillman, David, & Ulrika Maude (eds.) (2015). *The Cambridge Companion to the Body in Literature* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).



### **The body as vehicle of thought**

Cognitive Literary Studies, Phenomenology, Spatial Studies, Sound Studies, Language and Embodiment...

Suggested bibliography:

- Agamben, Giorgio (1993). *Stanzas: Word and phantasm in Western culture* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press) [(1977) *Stanze. La parola e il fantasma nella cultura occidentale* (Torino: Einaudi)].
- Armstrong, Paul B. (2020). *Stories and the Brain: The Neuroscience of Narrative* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press).
- Bolens, Guillemette (2012). *The Style of Gestures: Embodiment and Cognition in Literary Narrative* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press).
- Cave, Terence (2016). *Thinking With Literature: Towards a Cognitive Criticism* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).
- Daniel, Yvonne (2005). *Dancing Wisdom: Embodied Knowledge in Haitian Voudou, Cuban Yoruba, and Bahian Candomblé* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press).
- Foster, Susan Leigh (ed.) (1996). *Corporealities: Dancing Knowledge, Culture, and Power* (London: Routledge).
- Hammond, Nicholas (2019). *The Powers of Sound and Song in Early Modern Paris* (University Park: Penn State University Press).
- Jaén, Isabel, & Julien Jacques Simon (2016). *Cognitive Approaches to Early Modern Spanish Literature* (New York: Oxford University Press).
- Kozak, Mariusz (2019) *Enacting Musical Time. The Bodily Experience of New Music* (New York: Oxford University Press).
- Lakoff, George, & Mark Johnson (1998). *Metáforas de la vida cotidiana* (Madrid: Cátedra). [(1980) *Metaphors we live by* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press)].

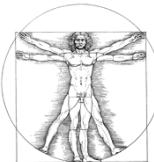


## **Body(-ies): normativities and subjecthoods**

Medical Humanities, Gender Studies, Queer Theory, Critical Race Theory, Deconstruction, Otherness, Porn Studies, Identity Studies, Psychoanalysis, Erotica...

Suggested bibliography:

- Capdevila-Argüelles, Nuria (2017). *Autoras inciertas* (Madrid: Sílex).
- Cohen, Theodore (2020). *Finding Afro-Mexico: Race and Nation after the Revolution* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).
- Gil-Albarellas, Susana (ed.) (2006). *Ecos silenciados: la mujer en la literatura española: siglos XII al XVIII* (Segovia: Junta de Castilla y León).
- Goldberg, K. Meira. (2019) *Sonidos negros: On the Blackness of Flamenco* (New York: Oxford University Press).
- Jones, Nicholas R. (2019). *Staging Habla de Negros: Radical Performances of the African Diaspora in Early Modern Spain* (University Park: Penn State University Press).
- Middlebrook, Leah (2009). *Imperial Lyric: New Poetry and New Subjects in Early Modern Spain* (University Park: Penn State University Press).
- Peral Vega, Emilio (2021). *La verdad ignorada: homoerotismo masculino y literatura en España (1890-1936)* (Madrid: Cátedra).
- Simón-Alegre, Ana I., & Lou Charnon-Deutsch (ed.) (2022). *Queer Women in Modern Spanish Literature: Activism, Sexuality, and the Otherness of the 'chicas raras'* (New York: Routledge).
- Surwillo, Lisa (2020). *Monsters by Trade: Slave Traffickers in Modern Spanish Literature and Culture* (Stanford: Stanford University Press).
- Zubiaurre, Maite (2015). *Culturas del erotismo en España, 1898-1939* (Madrid: Cátedra).



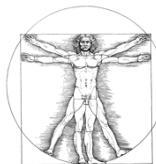
## **The body as historic, political, social, and symbolic entity**

Cultural Studies, Postcolonial and Decolonial Studies, Historical and Political perspectives, Historicism, Biopolitics, Marxist Critique, Visual Culture, Film Studies, Semiotics...

Suggested bibliography:

- Agamben, Giorgio (1998). *Homo sacer: Sovereign power and bare life* (Stanford: Stanford University Press) [(1995) *Homo sacer: il potere sovrano e la nuda vita* (Torino: Einaudi)].
- Brague, Rémi (2013). *Mitos de la Edad Media. La filosofía del cristianismo, el judaísmo y el islam medievales* (Granada: Editorial Nuevo Inicio).
- Callisen, Berit, & Angelika Gross (eds.) (2020). *Cuerpos en oposición, cuerpos en composición: representaciones de corporalidad en la literatura y cultura hispánicas actuales* (Madrid y Frankfurt: Iberoamericana/Vervuert).
- Figueroa-Vásquez, Yomaira C. (2020) *Decolonizing Diasporas: Radical Mappings of Afro-Atlantic Literature* (Evanston: Northwestern University Press).
- Graham, Heather & Lauren Kilroy-Ewbank (eds.) (2018). *Visualizing Sensuous Suffering and Affective Pain in Early Modern Europe and the Spanish Americas* (Leiden: Brill).
- Masjuan, Eduard (2002). *La ecología humana en el anarquismo ibérico: urbanismo "orgánico" o ecológico, neomalthusianismo y naturismo social* (Barcelona: Icaria).
- Mbembe, Achille, & Steven Corcoran (2019). *Necropolitics* (Durham: Duke University Press).

- Rivera-Rideau, Petra R., Jennifer A. Jones, & Tianna S. Paschel (eds.) (2016). *Afro-Latin@s in Movement: Critical Approaches to Blackness and Transnationalism in the Americas* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan).
- Sigal, Peter Herman, Zeb Tortorici, & Neil L. Whitehead (eds.) (2020). *Ethnopornography: Sexuality, Colonialism, and Archival Knowledge* (Durham: Duke University Press).
- Smith, Jennifer, & Lisa Nalbone (2019). *Intersections of Race, Class, Gender, and Nation in fin-de-siècle Spanish Literature and Culture* (London: Routledge).



### **Non-human, inhuman and posthuman bodies**

Posthumanism, Critical Animal Studies, New Materialisms, Ecocriticism, Biopolitics...

Suggested bibliography:

- Bennett, Jane (2010). *Vibrant Matter: A Political Ecology of Things* (Durham: Duke University Press).
- Braidotti, Rosi (2013). *The Posthuman* (Cambridge: Polity).
- Giorgi, Gabriel (2014). *Formas comunes: animalidad, cultura, biopolítica* (Buenos Aires: Eterna Cadencia).
- Haraway, Donna (2007). *When Species Meet* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press).
- Hawhee, Debra (2014). *Rhetoric in Tooth and Claw: Animals, Language, Sensation* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press).
- Hoyos, Héctor (2019) *Things with a History: Transcultural Materialism and the Literatures of Extraction in Contemporary Latin America* (New York: Columbia University Press).
- King, Edward and Joanna Page (2017) *Posthumanism and the Graphic Novel in Latin America* (London: UCL Press).
- Pueyo, Víctor (2016). *Cuerpos plegables: Anatomías de la excepción en España y América Latina* (Woodbridge: Tamesis).
- Shukin, Nicole (2009). *Animal Capital: Rendering Life in Biopolitical Times* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press)
- Tsing, Anna (2015). *The Mushroom at the End of the World: On the Possibility of Life in Capitalist Ruins* (Princeton: Princeton University Press)

## PARTICIPATION

All postgraduate researchers specializing in Hispanic literatures and cultures who have not yet obtained their PhD degree and are currently enrolled in a masters or doctoral programme may submit a proposal. Early-career researchers working on Hispanic literatures and cultures who have obtained their PhD degree in the last academic year may also submit a proposal. The acceptance of a proposal will be conditional on receiving the appropriate academic-administrative accreditation (a verification letter, a certificate of inscription, an offer of enrolment, etc.). Presenting a paper in the conference entails applying for membership of the Asociación ALEPH.

## PROPOSALS

### 1. Papers

The proposed papers must be original and unpublished (although they may be part of a masters or PhD thesis). The content must focus on Hispanic literatures and/or cultures. The papers **should be written preferably in Spanish, although papers written in English will also be accepted**. The maximum length per paper will be 10 pages double-spaced in Times font (excluding bibliography and endnotes), or the equivalent to 20 minutes.

The proposals must be sent in a Word document to the conference email [[alephcambridge2022@gmail.com](mailto:alephcambridge2022@gmail.com) ]. These must include

- ❖ Name, contact and affiliation.
- ❖ The language of the paper [Spanish or English].
- ❖ An abstract in Spanish or English of about 250 words in length. This must include:
  - The specific object of study of the paper and its place in relation with the corresponding state of the art.
  - Conclusions and advances in research.
- ❖ The thematic line in which the paper is embedded.
- ❖ 5 keywords to be selected from the “Keywords” section of this CfP (see below).

## **2. Panels**

The proposed panels must have a maximum of four papers per panel; that said, the committee advises that panels should be limited to three papers per panel. The panel must focus on Hispanic literatures and/or cultures. The papers **should be written preferably in Spanish, although papers written in English will also be accepted**. The maximum length per paper will be 10 pages double-spaced in Times font (excluding bibliography and endnotes), or the equivalent to 20 minutes. If the proposed panel has four papers, each delegate will have 15 minutes only.

The proposals must be sent in a Word document to the conference email [[alephcambridge2022@gmail.com](mailto:alephcambridge2022@gmail.com) ]. These must include

- ❖ Name, contact and affiliation of each delegate and the moderator (should there be one).
- ❖ The language of each paper [Spanish or English].
- ❖ An abstract of the panel in Spanish or English of about 500 words in length.
- ❖ An abstract per paper in Spanish or English of about 250 words in length.  
This must include:
  - The specific object of study of the paper and its place in relation with the corresponding state of the art.
  - Conclusions and advances in research.
- ❖ The thematic line in which the paper is embedded.

The **proposals will be evaluated** by the Committee and its designated academic advisors. The Committee will acknowledge the receipt of every proposal via email. **Those proposals which do not follow the guidelines described above will be rejected automatically.**

**The submission window is open from 28 January to 15 March 2022.** The Committee will announce its decision in **early April** and will then get in touch with the conference delegates to specify if they will attend in person or online. The Committee will also let the delegates know about the available scholarships for attending the conference and who can apply.

## **REGISTRATION**

To participate in the conference, you must be a member of the Asociación ALEPH. The membership rate is £46 / €55, inclusive of: Participation in the 18<sup>TH</sup> International Conference ALEPH. Participation in the annual General Meeting of Members, which will be held in the 18<sup>TH</sup> International Conference ALEPH. The chance to publish the papers presented in the Conference (terms to be decided in the General Meeting). Those interested in participating may only register once their proposal have been accepted. The Committee will be in touch with the delegates to specify how the payment must be made to the Asociación ALEPH's bank account.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

As it is habitual in the Oxbridge system, the conference will be a residential conference. This means that Queens' College will make available for the conference delegates its en-suite rooms where the Cambridge students live during the academic year. The rate per night will be £37.83 (€45 approx.) (inclusive of breakfast). Please note that no event will take place on 25 August, and therefore delegates will leave Queens' on that day. Note as well that staying in Queens' is not compulsory. Conference delegates may look for alternative arrangements if preferred. That said, the committee recommends staying in college accommodation as the most convenient and best value-for-money option, given the touristic nature of the city.

## **QUERIES**

For any query, please contact the Committee via the email [alephcambridge2022@gmail.com](mailto:alephcambridge2022@gmail.com), or write to the organisers, Carlos Iglesias ([ci244@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ci244@cam.ac.uk)) and Sergio Martínez ([smrey@stanford.edu](mailto:smrey@stanford.edu)).

## KEYWORDS

As indicated in the proposals section, these must include 5 keywords (1 per section):

### **Section 1. Time:**

- [1] Middle Ages
- [2] 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries (*Golden Age*)
- [3] 18<sup>th</sup> Century
- [4] 19<sup>th</sup> Century
- [5] 20<sup>th</sup> Century
- [6] 21st Century
- [34] Theory: Critical Theory
- [35] Theory: Literary Theory
- [36] Theory: Other [specify]
- [37] Visual
- [38] Visual: Photography
- [39] Visual: Film
- [40] Visual: Documentary
- [41] Visual: other

### **Section 2. Place:**

- [7] Iberian Peninsula / Europe
- [8] Latin America
- [9] Caribbean
- [10] Africa
- [11] Asia
- [42] Plastic arts
- [43] Music and dance

### **Section 3. Language to be studied:**

- [12] Spanish
- [13] Catalan / Valencian
- [14] Galician
- [15] Euskera
- [16] Indigenous languages
- [17] Other [please specify]
- [44] Cognitive Literary Studies
- [45] Medical Humanities
- [46] Cultural Studies
- [47] Posthumanism
- [48] Phenomenology
- [49] Gender Studies
- [50] Postcolonial / Decolonial studies
- [51] Critical Animal Studies
- [52] Spatial Critique
- [53] Queer Theory
- [54] History / Politics
- [55] New Materialisms
- [56] Sound Studies
- [57] Critical Race Theory
- [58] Biopolitics / Biopower
- [59] Ecocriticism
- [60] Language and Embodiment
- [61] Deconstruction
- [62] Marxist Critique
- [63] Film Studies
- [64] Porn Studies
- [65] Visual Culture
- [66] Semiotics
- [67] Identity
- [68] Erotica
- [69] Psychoanalysis
- [70] Other [specify]

### **Section 4. Genre:**

- [18] Poetry
- [19] Poetry: lyric
- [20] Poetry: epic
- [21] Poetry: other [specify]
- [22] Theatre
- [23] Theatre: comedy
- [24] Theatre: tragedy
- [25] Theatre: others [specify]
- [26] Prose
- [27] Prose: short narrative
- [28] Prose: fiction / novel
- [29] Prose: essay
- [30] Prose: newspaper
- [31] Prose: other [specify]
- [32] Theory
- [33] Theory: rhetoric & poetics
- [54] History / Politics
- [55] New Materialisms
- [56] Sound Studies
- [57] Critical Race Theory
- [58] Biopolitics / Biopower
- [59] Ecocriticism
- [60] Language and Embodiment
- [61] Deconstruction
- [62] Marxist Critique
- [63] Film Studies
- [64] Porn Studies
- [65] Visual Culture
- [66] Semiotics
- [67] Identity
- [68] Erotica
- [69] Psychoanalysis
- [70] Other [specify]

## ORGANISERS

**Carlos Iglesias Crespo**  
(King's College, University of Cambridge)

**Sergio Martínez Rey**  
(Stanford University)

## ORGANISING COMMITTEE

**Jessica Hagley** (Clare College, University of Cambridge)  
**Oscar Ferrer** (Stanford University)  
**Oliver Wilson-Nunn** (Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge)  
**Tania Flores** (Stanford University)

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**Nuria Capdevila-Argüelles** (University of Exeter)  
**Ulpiano Lada Ferreras** (Universidad de Oviedo)  
**Víctor Bermúdez** (Universidad de Salamanca)

## CONTACT:

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<https://twitter.com/Aleph2022>

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