



UNIVERSITY OF  
BUCHAREST

VIRTUTE ET SAPIENTIA

AICED-23

THE 23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT,  
UNIVERSITY OF BUCHAREST

June 2-4 2022

*Literature and Cultural Studies Section:  
'Disaster Discourse: Representations of Catastrophe'*

<p><b>Thursday June 2</b></p> <p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 7.15-8.45 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 10.15-11.45 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 09.15-10.45 UTC/GMT+2</p>		<p>Chair: <b>Donna West Brett</b> <b>Donna West Brett</b>, <i>The University of Sydney</i>, Catastrophe and Calamity: Picturing British Disaster</p> <p><b>Marie Rose B. Arong</b>, <i>University of the Philippines Cebu</i>, Narrating Haiyan: Narrative Strategies in Disaster Representation</p> <p><b>Bede Scott</b>, <i>Nanyang Technological University Singapore</i>, Vikram Chandra's <i>Sacred Games</i>: Disaster, Emotion, and the Everyday</p>	
	Break		
<p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 9.00-9.30 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 12.00-12.30 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 11.00-11.30 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p><b>Formal opening and welcome</b></p> <p><b>Dragoș Ivana</b>, <i>Head of the English Department</i></p> <p><b>Alina Tigău</b>, <i>Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures</i></p>		

<p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 9.45-11.15 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 12.45-14.15 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 11.45-13.15 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Tatiana Konrad</b> <b>Sarah Yoon</b>, <i>Yonsei University</i>, The Cyborg's Plant: Trans-corporeality in Kim Cho-yeop's <i>The Greenhouse at the End of the Earth</i> <b>Steffen Wöll</b>, <i>Leipzig University</i>, Approaching Zero-Point: Radical Environmentalism, Eco-Apocalypticism, and Anti-Capitalist Disaster Culture in the United States <b>Tatiana Konrad</b>, <i>University of Vienna</i>, The "Slow Violence" of Climate Change Denialism in <i>Don't Look Up</i></p>	<p>Chair: <b>Gerald Gaylard</b> <b>Anna Seidel</b>, <i>Humboldt-Universität Berlin</i>, How to narrate urbicides? Lidija Ginzburg's and Miron Białoszewski's portrayals of urban destruction <b>Gerald Gaylard</b>, <i>University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg</i>, Greening the City: The Eco-Flaneur in Ivan Vladislavić <b>Eirini Bourontzi</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, Pacifist literature during WWII: T. H. White's <i>The Once and Future King</i></p>	
Lunch Break			
<p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 12.15-13.45 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 15.15-16.45 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 14.15-15.45 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Shruti Das</b> <b>Shruti Das</b>, <i>Berhampur University</i>, and <b>Deepshikha Routray</b>, <i>Maharishi College of Natural Law, Bhubaneswar</i>, Acts of Politics: Disaster of Partition, Gender and Trauma <b>Prachi Priyanka</b>, <i>Sharda University, India</i>, The Bengal Famine of 1943: Exploring Narratives of Hunger, Plight and Suffering in Art and Literature of Colonial Bengal <b>Bianca Roman</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, The Representation of Trauma in Zülfü Livaneli's Novel <i>Serenad</i></p>	<p>Chair: <b>Shadia Abdel-Rahman Téllez</b> <b>Shadia Abdel-Rahman Téllez</b>, <i>Universidad de Oviedo</i>, Physical Catastrophes: Representations of the Injured Body in Chronic Pain and Disability Memoirs <b>Ali Salami</b> and <b>Haniyeh Asaadi</b>, <i>University of Tehran</i>, An Ecocritical Reading of Neurodiversity in Richard Powers' <i>Bewilderment</i> <b>Sonakshi Srivastava</b>, <i>Indraprastha University, Delhi</i>, Sub/Versions: Speculating Justice in the Dis/Abling Anthropocene</p>	
Break			

<p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 14.00-15.30 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 17.00-18.30 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 16.00-17.30 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Luis Juan Solís Carrillo</b> <b>Luis Juan Solís Carrillo</b> and <b>Alma Leticia Ferado</b> García, <i>Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México, UAEMEX</i>, A Subverted Eden, Jerez, Mexico: A Past, and Present, Disaster,</p> <p><b>Bernardo Antonio Azevedo Ferreira Costa</b>, <i>University of Coimbra</i>, "At the end of the storm": How will the Hillsborough Tragedy be remembered?</p> <p><b>Christopher Ankersen</b>, <i>NYU Center for Global Affairs</i>, This Means War! Representations at Play in the Response to Covid19</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Dragoş Manea</b> <b>Caroliena Cabada</b>, <i>University of Nebraska-Lincoln</i>, Two Views of Pinatubo</p> <p><b>Laura-Victoria Stoica</b>, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" <i>University of Iaşi</i>, "She'd been collecting dreams like bright beads on a string of nights": Post-Apocalyptic Storytelling and Rhetorical Sovereignty in Cherie Dimaline's <i>The Marrow Thieves</i></p>	<p>Chair: <b>Ada Beleuță</b> <b>Andrei-Bogdan Popa</b>, <i>Babeş-Bolyai University</i>, Narrativizing Touch: Tactility during Wartime in <i>A Long, Long Way</i> by Sebastian Barry</p> <p><b>Ada Beleuță</b>, <i>Babeş-Bolyai University</i>, "What is left of it": Rewriting and (Re)Experiencing Tragedy in Colm Tóibín's <i>House of Names</i></p> <p><b>David Livingstone</b>, <i>Palacký University, Olomouc</i>, Calling Out to the Heavens for Aid: Disaster Songs in American Folk Music</p>
Break			
<p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 15.45-17.15 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 18.45-20.15 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 17.45-19.15 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p><b>Keynote speech:</b></p> <p><b>Nina Mickwitz</b>, <i>University of the Arts London</i>, Up Close and Personal: Mediated Testimony and Narrative Tropes in Refugee Comics</p> <p>Introduced and chaired by <b>Dragoş Manea</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i></p>		

<b>Friday June 3</b>			
<b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 07.15-08.45 UTC/GMT+0  <b>Bucharest time:</b> 10.15-11.45 UTC/GMT+3  <b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 09.15-10.45 UTC/GMT+2	<b>Chair: Andreea Paris-Popa</b> <b>Christian B. Long</b> , <i>University of Queensland</i> , Dystopian and Post-Apocalyptic Transportation Infrastructure <b>Andreea Paris-Popa</b> , <i>University of Bucharest</i> , Between Troubles and Peace in Northern Ireland: Cinematic Divisions in <i>Belfast</i> (2021) and <i>Mickybo and Me</i> (2004) <b>Stefano Ascari</b> , <i>UNIBO - Alma Mater Studiorum, Bologna</i> , Depicting catastrophes: storytelling and aesthetics at the end of the world	<b>Chair: Oana-Alis Zaharia</b> <b>Yuko Yoshida</b> , <i>University of Amsterdam</i> , When Memory Becomes Debris: Aesthetic Modes of Representing Disaster Loss <b>Lona Moutafidou</b> , <i>Aristotle University of Thessaloniki</i> , Memory as Flood: Transgenerational Trauma in Ocean Vuong's <i>On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous</i> <b>Laura Gimeno-Pahissa</b> , <i>Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona</i> , "That Past that Refuses to Go Away": Remembering and Representing the Holocaust through Humour in Contemporary Jewish American Literature	<b>Chair: Roxana Oltean</b> <b>Roxana Oltean</b> , <i>University of Bucharest</i> , "Because One Did Survive the Wreck." Modes of Perpetrating and Witnessing in <i>Moby Dick</i> Disaster Narratives <b>Dragoş Manea</b> , <i>University of Bucharest</i> , Nina Bujevac's <i>Bezimena</i> and the Logic of Punishment <b>Mihaela Precup</b> , <i>University of Bucharest</i> , "The first homosexual ever to grow old": Queer Time and the Comedy of Catastrophe in Andrew Sean Greer's <i>Less</i>
Break			
<b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 09.00-10.30 UTC/GMT+0  <b>Bucharest time:</b> 12.00-13.30 UTC/GMT+3  <b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 11.00-12.30 UTC/GMT+2	<b>Keynote speech:</b>  <b>Rareş Moldovan</b> , <i>Babeş-Bolyai University</i> , "An Ellipsis in Our Care": Language, Ethics and Catastrophe  Introduced and chaired by <b>Dragoş Ivana</b> , <i>University of Bucharest</i>		
Lunch Break			

<p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 11.30-13.00 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 14.30-16.00 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 13.30-15.00 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Ștefan Ionescu Ambrosie</b> <b>Ștefan Ionescu Ambrosie</b>, <i>Rijksuniversiteit Groningen</i>, Myth and Initiation at the End of Time: <i>Adventure Time</i> as Gnostic Text</p> <p><b>Monica Ruset Oanca</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, Facing disaster with serenity: Julian of Norwich's comforting words</p> <p><b>Maria Băncilă</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, A Plea for the Earth: Peter Reulein's Oratorio <i>Laudato Si'</i></p>	<p>Chair: <b>Eda Begüm Erer</b> <b>Delia Grosu</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, Writing a Personal Disaster: Performative Memory in Teju Cole's <i>Open City</i></p> <p><b>Houda Bouhadjar</b> and <b>Rima Bouhadjar</b>, <i>University of Mohammed Seddik Ben Yahya</i>, The Dark Face of Language: The Creation of a New Discourse for Oppressive Means in Margaret Atwood's <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i></p> <p><b>Eda Begüm Erer</b>, <i>Boğaziçi University, Istanbul</i>, The Bones of Atlantis: Cultural After Disaster in J. G. Ballard's <i>The Drowned World</i></p>	<p>Chair: <b>Judit Pieldner</b> <b>Vlad-Eugen Neagu</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, "Doomsday." The Ontological Threat of Neoliberalism and The Corporation as Object in <i>The Big Short</i></p> <p><b>Judit Pieldner</b>, <i>Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania</i>, Crisis Narrative and Affective Intermediality: Figuring Disaster in Michael Haneke's <i>Time of the Wolf</i></p> <p><b>Deepayan Datta</b>, <i>T.H.K. Jain College, Kolkata</i>, and <b>Arindam Nandi</b>, <i>Indian Institute of Technology, Madras</i>, "What is the cost of lies?": Historiography of a Disaster and Collapse of the Soviet Metanarrative</p>
Break			
<p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 13.15-14.45 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 16.15-17.45 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 15.15-16.45 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Elżbieta Klimek-Dominiak</b> <b>Elżbieta Klimek-Dominiak</b>, <i>University of Wrocław</i>, Cowitnessing Environmental Degradation as a Legacy of Cultural Genocide: Sacco's Slow Comics Journalism in <i>Paying the Land</i> (2020)</p> <p><b>Namitha Soman</b>, <i>Indian Institute of Technology Ropar</i>, Framing Truths? Disaster Retellings in the War Comics of Joe Sacco</p> <p><b>Carmen Dominte</b>, <i>National University of Music Bucharest, Romania</i>, Visualizing the Metaphors of a Disaster: Sea Catastrophes in Homer's <i>Odyssey</i></p>	<p>Chair: <b>Alina Bottez</b> <b>Alina Bottez</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, Cordelia Lynn's <i>Miranda</i> – a Contemporary Semi-Opera in Disaster Mode</p> <p><b>Tatjana Dumitrašković</b>, <i>University of East Sarajevo</i>, Disastering Madness in Shakespeare's <i>Hamlet</i> and <i>King Lear</i></p> <p><b>Laura Carasevici</b>, <i>"Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași</i>, Waiting for a Disaster to Happen: The Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Psychological Effect in Tom Stoppard's Play <i>Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead</i></p>	<p>Chair: <b>Raul Săran</b> <b>Raul Săran</b>, <i>West University of Timișoara</i>, The Disaster and the Postmodern Tragic Hero – A Case Study of Don Gately, the Protagonist of David Foster Wallace's <i>Infinite Jest</i></p> <p><b>Seda Bahar Pancaroğlu</b>, <i>TOBB University of Economics and Technology/Ankara</i>, Memory of a Tree: War, Exile and Other Disasters in The Island of Missing Trees by <i>Elif Shafak</i></p> <p><b>Soham Mukherjee</b>, <i>Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur</i>, War as disaster in the novels of Ismail Kadare</p>
Break			

<p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 15.00-16.30 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 18.00-19.30 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 17.00-18.30 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p><b>Keynote speech:</b></p> <p><b>Sascha Pöhlmann</b>, <i>University of Innsbruck</i>, (Write it!) Like Disaster: Precarious Futures in North American Poetry</p> <p>Introduced and chaired by <b>Andrei Nae</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i> Host: <b>Andrei Nae</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i></p>		
Break			
<p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 16.45-18.15 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 19.45-21.15 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 18.45-20.15 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p>Chair: <b>José Duarte</b> <b>Tyler Eyster</b>, <i>Miami University</i>, Screening the Hybrid Precarious: Anthropocene Disaster Cinema in Bong Joon-Ho's <i>Snowpiercer</i> <b>Crina Leon</b>, <i>Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași</i>, <i>The Wave</i> and the Beginning of Disaster Films in Norway <b>José Duarte</b>, <i>ULisboa-ULICES</i>, On disaster, from the point of view of the road</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Yves Schmitz</b> <b>Yves Schmitz</b>, <i>University of Duisburg-Essen</i>, Spectacular moments of failure – global feelings over national? <b>Chantelle Mitchell</b>, <i>University of Vienna</i>, Revelation and Reverberations of Challenger: aerial catastrophe and atmospheric disaster <b>Maya Gal</b>, <i>University of British Columbia</i>, The Mediating Narrator in Trauma Narratives; Implications of Authorial Intent</p>	

<p><b>Saturday June 4</b></p> <p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 07.30-09.30 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 10.30-12.30 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 09.30-11.30 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Cristian Vîjea</b> <b>Christina Howes</b>, <i>Autonomous University of Barcelona</i>, Laughing and Crying at the Same Time: Reading Biyi Bandele's <i>Burma Boy</i> through Bergson's Theory of the Comic</p> <p><b>Cristian Vîjea</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, Common fictional strategies for disaster mitigation/avoidance in <i>Redgauntlet</i> and <i>Jingo</i></p> <p><b>Elena Ogliari</b>, <i>University of Eastern Piedmont</i>, Disaster Memories to Illuminate Present Vulnerabilities in Dorothy Macardle's <i>Earth-Bound</i> (1924)</p> <p><b>Ioana Zirra</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, The Singularity of James Joyce's Totalizing, Modernist Epic as a Regenerative Literary Response to the Total War and Its Effect in Contemporary History</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Şeyda Nur Yıldırım</b> <b>Rüya B. Kalıntaş</b>, <i>Kadir Has University</i>, Staging the Disaster: The Politics of Trauma in Transnational Alevi Theatre</p> <p><b>Honya Majeed</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, Life as Catastrophe for Kurdish Women in Huner Saleem's Movie <i>My Sweet Pepper Land</i></p> <p><b>Şeyda Nur Yıldırım</b>, <i>Kadir Has University</i>, Denial and Disaster in Contemporary Turkish Drama</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Mihaela Paraschivescu</b> <b>Azadeh Mehrpouyan</b>, Velayat University and <b>Elahesadat Zakeri</b>, University of British Columbia, Reimagining Literary Disaster Discourse in Cinema: Catastrophe or Catharsis</p> <p><b>Mihaela Paraschivescu</b>, Independent Scholar, Disaster Experience in Mircea Eliade's Works</p> <p><b>Nora Mathe</b>, Babeş-Bolyai University, Performing Disaster in Don DeLillo's <i>Falling Man</i></p>
Break			
<p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 09.45-11.15 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 12.45-14.15 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 11.45-13.15 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p><b>Keynote speech:</b> <b>Nicolas Tredell</b>, <i>University of Sussex</i>, Speaking the Unspeakable: Six Types of Disaster Discourse</p> <p>Introduced and chaired by <b>Alina Bottez</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i></p>		
Lunch Break			



<p><b>Coordinated universal time:</b> 12.15-14.15 UTC/GMT+0</p> <p><b>Bucharest time:</b> 15.15-17.15 UTC/GMT+3</p> <p><b>Central European Summer Time:</b> 14.15-16.15 UTC/GMT+2</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Adela Chiru</b> <b>Bahar Memiş</b>, <i>Boğaziçi University</i>, The City and Catastrophe in 9/11 Novels <b>Adela Chiru</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, Recovering from Disaster or Keeping the Trauma Alive? Imam Hussain’s Martyrdom and Its Reinterpretation in Warring Iran <b>Antony Hoyte-West</b>, <i>Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań</i>, Exploring disaster management strategies in a dystopian novel: A case study of JJ Amaworo Wilson’s <i>Damnificados</i> <b>Eliana Ionoaia</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, The Impact of Colonialism in Joseph Conrad’s “Heart of Darkness”</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Maria-Sabina Draga Alexandru</b> <b>Maria-Sabina Draga Alexandru</b>, <i>University of Bucharest</i>, Ecological Disaster and Colonial History in Amitav Ghosh’s <i>The Nutmeg’s Curse</i> <b>Glincoy Piyus</b>, <i>Indian Institute of Science Education and Research</i>, The Spectre of the Postcolonial Child <b>Cornelia Vlaicu</b>, <i>Independent Scholar</i>, “Not To Be Solved”: Dealing with the Apocalypse in Louise Erdrich’s <i>The Night Watchman</i> <b>Andrei-Cristian Neaguț</b>, <i>Independent Scholar</i>, <i>Fiat Voluntas Tua</i> – Manmade, Accident and Divine Will in Miller’s <i>A Canticle for Leibowitz</i> (1960)</p>	<p>Chair: <b>Stephen Greenfield</b> <b>Riccardo Minasi</b>, <i>University for Foreigners “Dante Alighieri”</i>, In Daniel Defoe’s <i>The Storm</i>, disaster discourse and the scientific mind of eighteenth-century England <b>Jingxuan Yi</b>, <i>University of Nottingham</i>, The Post-Apocalyptic world: Atopias in Mary Shelley’s <i>The Last Man</i> <b>Stephen Greenfield</b>, <i>University of Wolverhampton</i>, Constructions of Ecology and the Catastrophe of the Fall in Margaret Atwood’s <i>The Year of the Flood</i></p>