

**Instituting Literature**  
**Writing Between Singularity and Transnational System**  
 Stockholm University  
 13-14 June 2013

List of Speakers (Alphabetical)

**Cecilia Alvstad** is Associate Professor of Spanish at the University of Oslo. She is Vice-President of the European Society of Translation Studies and Review Editor of *Perspectives: Studies in Translatology*. Her main research interests include literary translation from ideological, sociological, and narratological perspectives as well as translation in and of travel writing. She recently published “The Strategic Moves of Paratexts: World Literature Through Swedish Eyes” (*Translation Studies*, 2012), “Anthologizing Latin American Literature: Swedish Translative Re-Imaginations of Latin America 1954-1998 and Links to Travel Writing” (*Anglo-Saxonica*, 2012), and “The Transatlantic Voyage as a Translational Process: What Migrant Letters Can Tell” (*Tales of Transit*, Amsterdam UP, 2013).

**Nicholas Brown** is Head of the Department of African American Studies as well as Associate Professor in the Department of English at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he teaches modernism, African literature, and critical theory. His research interests include Marxism, the history of aesthetics, Lusophone literature, and music studies. His book *Utopian Generations: The Political Horizon of Twentieth-Century Literature* (Princeton, 2005) examines the relationship between postcolonial literature and European modernism, and the relationship of each to continuing crises in the global economic system.

**Helena Buescu** is Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Lisbon. Her main research areas are Comparative Literature and the construction of modernity (18th-20th centuries). She founded and directs the Centre for Comparative Studies and is a member of the Academia Europaea and of the Standing Committee for the Humanities of the European Science Foundation, as well as of different boards of evaluation at the European level. She is part of the Governing Board of the Institute for World Literature and has served as Pro-Rector for research in the Humanities at the University of Lisbon (2009-2011). Helena Buescu published *Emendar a Morte: Pactos em Literatura* (2008) and nine other books, and she co-edited *A Revisionary History of Portuguese Literature* (Garland, 1999), *O Grande Terramoto de Lisboa* (Gradiva, 2005), and *Stories and Portraits of the Self* (Rodopi, 2007).

**Claire Ducournau** teaches at the University of Bourdeaux III. She completed her doctoral thesis *Écrire, lire, élire l’Afrique: Les mécanismes de réception et de consécration d’écrivains contemporains issus de pays francophones d’Afrique subsaharienne* in 2012. She was a visiting Fulbright scholar at the University of Pennsylvania in 2009-2010. In 2012 she spent a six-month research period at the Freie Universität Berlin.

**Bo G. Ekelund** is an Associate Professor of English at Stockholm University. He has published on the conditions of authorship in the US and on scenes of recognition in contemporary fiction. His current research deals with the symbolic reproduction of “foreign” or “World” literature in Sweden, as exemplified in the scholarly field and the field of translation, and also with the construction of space in Anglophone Caribbean literature.

**Stefan Helgesson** is Professor of English at Stockholm University. His research interests include southern African literatures in English and Portuguese, postcolonial theory, and theories of world literature. He is the author of *Writing in Crisis: Ethics and History in Gordimer, Ndebele, and Coetzee* (2004) and *Transnationalism in Southern African Literature* (2009), and is co-editor of *Literature, Geography, Translation* (2011).

**Stephan Larsen** is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Comparative Literature, Stockholm University. He defended his doctoral dissertation *A Writer and His Gods: A Study of the Importance of Yoruba Myths and Religious Ideas to the Writing of Wole Soyinka* in 1983 and has since continued to work on postcolonial and world literature. His most recent research project deals with magical realism mainly in African literature. He has two essays on African literature in *Literary History: Towards a Global Perspective* (De Gruyter, 2006).

**Yvonne Lindqvist** is an Associate Professor of Swedish and a Senior Lecturer at the Institute for Translation and Interpretation at Stockholm University. Her research is interdisciplinary, combining Descriptive Translation Studies, Cultural Studies, Literary Studies, and Linguistics, specifically Systemic Functional Grammar.

**Peter McDonald** is Fellow of St Hugh's College and Professor of English and Related Literature, University of Oxford. His research interests include literature as a specific mode of thinking, the socio-political space of literary production, publishing history and questions of the book, ideas of the intercultural, and literary institutions and the law since 1800.

**Maria Olausen** is Professor of English in the School of Languages and Literature at Linnaeus University, where she teaches literature and literary theory. Her research interests are in Southern African literature, postcolonial literary theory, gender studies, and human-animal studies. She received her Ph.D. from Åbo Akademi in Finland with a thesis on Bessie Head. She held a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Cape Town in South Africa, working on women's autobiographical writing. She has edited a collection on the representation of Europe in African literature and contributed to that volume with a study of the Zanzibari author Abdulrazak Gurnah. Maria Olausen is currently working on literature of the Indian Ocean within the research project *Concurrences*, funded by the Swedish Research Council.

**Gisèle Sapiro** is a research director at the CNRS in Paris. She works on the sociology of intellectuals, of culture, of literature, and of international cultural exchange, especially on questions of translation. Her dissertation, which dealt with the "Writers' War" (1940-1953), was published by Fayard in 1999. Recently she was in charge of the publication of *Translatio: Le marché de la traduction en France à l'heure de la mondialisation* (Paris, CNRS Editions, 2008). Her latest publication is *La responsabilité de l'écrivain: Littérature, droit et morale en France, XIXe-XXIe siècle* (Paris, Seuil, 2011).

**Mads Rosendahl Thomsen** is Associate Professor in Comparative Literature at Aarhus University. He is the author of *Mapping World Literature: International Canonization and Transnational Literature* (2008) and *The New Human in Literature: Posthuman Visions of Changes in Body, Mind, and Society* (2013, in press), and a co-editor of *World Literature: A Reader* (2012) and *The Posthuman Condition: Ethics, Aesthetics, and Politics of Biotechnological Challenges* (2012). He is a member of the Academia Europaea and of the advisory board of the Institute for World Literature.

**Pieter Vermeulen** is Assistant Professor in English literature at Stockholm University. He works in the fields of critical theory, the contemporary novel, and memory studies. His writing has appeared or will appear in journals such as *Arcadia*, *Criticism*, *Journal of Modern Literature*, *Memory Studies*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, *Studies in the Novel*, and *Textual Practice*. His book *Romanticism After the Holocaust* was republished in paperback by Bloomsbury/Continuum in 2012. He is currently at work on a book-length study of the paradoxical productivity of the notion of the end of the novel in contemporary fiction.

**Andrew Edward van der Vlies** is Senior Lecturer at Queen Mary, University of London, and Research Associate at Rhodes University. He works on world and postcolonial literatures, especially African (and particularly South African) writing, in English, Afrikaans, and in translation; on transnational literary and cultural studies; theories of world literature; colonial, postcolonial, contemporary print cultures and History of the Book; queer theory, gender, and sexuality studies; and on fine art and visual cultures in global contexts.

**David Watson** is an Associate Professor in the Department of English at Uppsala University, where he specializes in American literature. He has published on modernism, nineteenth-century American literature, and transnational studies, and is the co-editor of two volumes, *Traversing Transnationalism* and *Literature, Geography, Translation: The New Comparative Horizons*. He is currently working on a book manuscript, entitled *A Precarious Empire: US Imperialism and American Literature, 1973-2008*, and a project on popular sovereignty in antebellum America.

**Liliana Weinberg** is currently a Principal Researcher at the Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean (CIALC) and Professor of Aesthetics, Literary Theory, and Essay at the School of Philosophy and Literature of the UNAM, the National Autonomous University of Mexico. She is also director of *Latinoamérica*, a journal published by the CIALC, as well as a member of the National System of Researchers and the Mexican Academy of Sciences. Liliana Weinberg has published mainly on Latin American literature and the Latin American essay genre in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, with a particular focus on essay theory and criticism, literary theory, symbolism, social discourse, and intellectual history.

**Helena Wulff** is Professor of Social Anthropology at Stockholm University. She works on the anthropology of communication and aesthetics based on a wide range of studies on the social worlds of literary production, dance, and visual art in a transnational perspective. Her current research is on writing and literature as cultural processes and forms, and focuses on contemporary Irish writers as cultural translators and public intellectuals.