



Institute of English Studies  
University of Łódź



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The Institute of English Studies Newsletter  
University of Łódź, Poland

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The Institute of English Studies Newsletter is published for staff members as well as anyone interested in following the current developments and future activities of the Institute of English Studies at the University of Łódź. Each issue covers recent and upcoming events with regular updates on our conferences, publications, guest lectures and other educational and/or academic projects.

We welcome ideas for content and feedback on how the publication can be improved. You can submit your suggestions for the next issue directly to the Editors: [ies.newsletter@uni.lodz.pl](mailto:ies.newsletter@uni.lodz.pl).

In this issue, we provide updates on conferences hosted by the University of Łódź, recent and forthcoming publications, guest lectures, international projects and other important academic events. Read on to find out about our latest news updates.

## Recent conferences and workshops hosted by the Institute of English Studies

- **The Fifth International Conference on Philosophy of Language and Linguistics (PhiLang 2017), 12-14 May 2017, Łódź, Poland**

As in previous years, the principal aim of our Conference was to bring together philosophers, logicians and linguists. PhiLang2017 was concerned with "objects of inquiry" (or on "what there is") in language, logic, argumentation theory, philosophy, and literature.

Two **special sessions** were also included in this edition of the conference. A workshop on [Wallace Stevens](#), organized by Piotr Stalmaszczyk, Kacper Bartczak and Jakub Macha, addressed all aspects of his poetic praxis as well as Stevens' theoretical writings reflecting this praxis. The second, on the [Philosophy of Argumentation](#) was dedicated to exploring the relationship between Linguistics and Philosophy of Language and Argumentation, as well as general aspects of argumentation theory.

Selected conference proceedings will be published in monographic volumes in the new series of Peter Lang [Studies in Philosophy of Language and Linguistics](#).

- **Experiment in Drama, Theatre, Film and Media International Conference, 27-28 October 2017, Łódź, Poland**

This international conference delved into the value and outcome of experiment in literary, theatrical, dramatic and cinematographic representations across the world. It hosted scholars from USA, Russia, Greece, Croatia and Poland, inviting creative debates between artists (actors, directors, script writers) and researchers. One of the highlights of the conference was the multimedia performance by Prof. Bryan Reynolds (University of California). The planned publication will appear in *Multicultural Shakespeare* and *Polish Journal of English Studies*.

For more information visit <https://experimentconference.wordpress.com>

- **11th International Conference on Native and Non-native Accents of English, Accents 2017, 30 November – 2 December 2017, Łódź, Poland**

Accents' is an annual conference organized by the [Department of English Language and Applied Linguistics](#) at [University of Łódź](#), Poland. It brings together researchers and teachers interested in native and non-native accents of English, approached from a variety of theoretical and/or practical perspectives. Key issues discussed each year include individual accent characteristics, the dynamism of accent usage, accent teaching and learning, the methods and tools for accent studies. ACCENTS 2017 aim to continue the discussion of the main themes of variability and function of phonetic / pronunciation features, focusing on 'accents in use'.

This year the following scholars accepted invitation to be plenary speakers at the conference:

**Una Cunningham**, University of Canterbury, Christchurch

**Magnus Huber**, Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen

**Nancy Niedzielski**, Rice University, Houston

**Pilar Prieto**, ICREA-Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona

- **The Second MARS Symposium Conference, 15 May 2018, Łódź, Poland**

In October 2017 the newly founded Centre for Studies in Medieval and Renaissance English Literature organized its first conference in a new series under the MARS (Medieval and Renaissance Symposium) label. On October 17 Professor Andrzej Dąbrówka from the Polish Academy of Sciences opened the first MARS symposium with a plenary lecture on medieval drama. The Centre, headed by Professor Andrzej Wicher, will hold another symposium in the MARS series on May 15, 2018, with Lizanne Henderson (University of Glasgow) acting as the conference's special guest and plenary speaker.



The second MARS symposium looks towards the postmedieval period in the history of Western culture to examine particular literary, cultural and historical phenomena in the British context. We are above all interested in papers that spell out the nature of the relationship of their subject of choice with the categories of the Renaissance and the early modern. While the former term carries with it an air of optimism and a promise of renewal, looking back to the legacy of classical heritage, the same period has also been hailed as bringing in religious polyphony, the dissolution of a universal worldview, and a conflicted social reality that earned it the latter name. Whereas one term stresses aesthetic harmony and the re-nascence of the virtues of the Western world's ancient forefathers, the other shifts focus to what lies beyond the aesthetic decorum of Renaissance art, tracing the heterogeneity of modernity to its nascent, early stage and fostering a more interdisciplinary approach to the period. But whether the two terms should really be seen as opposed in a kind of dialectic remains an open issue, one that the symposium hopes to engage directly.

More information about the event is available from dr Piotr Spyra ([piotr.spyra@uni.lodz.pl](mailto:piotr.spyra@uni.lodz.pl))

- **The 27th Annual Conference of the Polish Association for the Study of English- PASE 2018, 25-27 June 2018, Łódź, Poland**

The 27th Annual Conference of the Polish Association for the Study of English LANGUAGE, ART, LITERATURE: IN SEARCH OF IDENTITY will be held at the University of Łódź on 25-27 JUNE 2018.

In *Seeing Through Race*, W.J.T. Mitchell provides a framework for reflection on the nature of socio-cultural perception by arguing that race is “not merely a content to be mediated, an object to be represented visually and verbally, or a thing to be depicted in a likeness or image, but that race is itself a medium and an iconic form—not simply to be seen, but itself a framework for seeing through or (as Wittgenstein would put it) seeing *as*.”



This conference aims to expand this perspective onto other historically essentialist notions such as gender, sex, age, class, nation, ethnicity and religion and to scrutinize the categories that have come to define identity throughout the history of Anglophone cultures, literatures, and in the English language. Suggesting that it is worthwhile to look at each of these concepts not as something to be studied but rather, as Mitchell has it, as “a frame, a window, a screen, or a lens” through which people have historically structured the world around them and endowed it with meaning, we thus hope to inquire not just into how language, literature and art *reflect* reality but also how they *shape* it.

The following scholars have accepted our invitation to address the conference as plenary speakers:

**Christoph Bode** (LMU Munich)

**Adam Głaz** (Maria Curie Skłodowska University, Lublin)

**Jan Jędrzejewski** (University of Ulster)

**Agnieszka Kielkiewicz-Janowiak** (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań)

**Barbara Lewandowska-Tomaszczyk** (State University of Applied Sciences in Konin)

For more information visit <http://filolog.uni.lodz.pl/wp-content/uploads/pase2018cfp.pdf>

## Recent and forthcoming publications

- **Piechucka, Alicja (2016) Teksty transatlantyckie. Eseje o literaturze amerykańskiej i francuskiej, Łódź, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego, ISBN 978-83-8088-264-5; E-ISBN 978-83-8088-265-2**

For more information visit <https://www.amazon.de/Teksty-transatlantyckie-literaturze-amerykanskej-francuskiej/dp/8380882644>

- **Bartczak, Kacper and Małgorzata Myk (eds.) (2017) Polish Journal for American Studies Volume 11, Special Issue: Technical Innovation in North American Poetry: Form, Aesthetics, Politics**

For more information visit [http://paas.org.pl/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/PIAS\\_11\\_autumn\\_2017.pdf](http://paas.org.pl/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/PIAS_11_autumn_2017.pdf)

- **Deckert, Mikołaj (ed.) (2017) Audiovisual Translation – Research and Use, Peter Lang: Frankfurt am Main**

This book explores two strands of Audiovisual Translation referred to as «research» and «use». As their points of convergence as well as divergence are brought to light, the contributors show that the two tend to overlap and cross-pollinate.



The volume's inquiries of linguistic, cultural, sociological, computational, educational and historical nature give a comprehensive up-to-date account of AVT as an expanding and heterogeneous, yet internally coherent, field of scientific and professional endeavour.

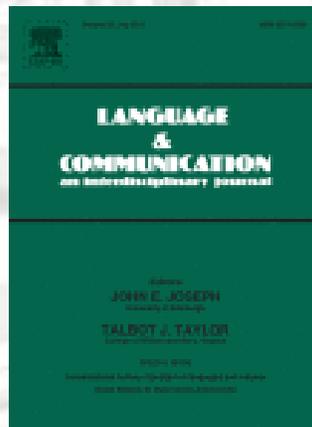
For more information visit <https://www.peterlang.com/view/product/80659>

- Deckert, Mikołaj (2017) Translation and Cognition: Cases of Asymmetry, *Research in Language* 15:2



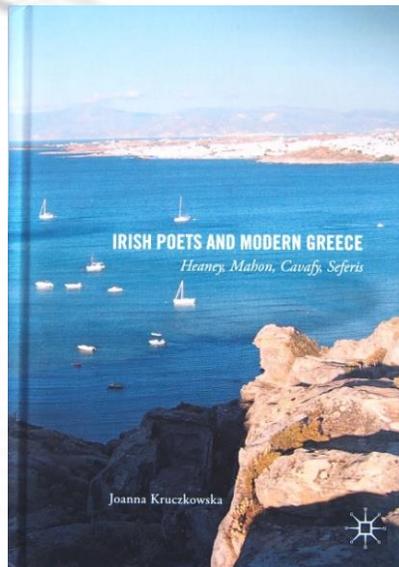
For more information visit <https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/rela.2017.15.issue-2/issue-files/rela.2017.15.issue-2.xml>

- Dynel, Marta and Valeria Sinkeviciute (eds.) (2017) Language & Communication Volume 55, Special Issue: Conversational humour: Spotlight on languages and cultures



For more information visit <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02715309/55>

- **Kruczkowska, Joanna (2017) *Irish Poets and Modern Greece: Heaney, Mahon, Cavafy, Seferis*, Palgrave Macmillan**



The monograph explores the perception of Modern Greek poetry and landscape in the writings of Seamus Heaney and Derek Mahon. Delving into travel writing, ecocriticism, translation and allusion, it offers a fresh comparative link between Greek modernity and Irish poetry which counterbalances the preeminence of Greek antiquity in existing criticism. The first section, devoted to travel and landscape, examines Mahon’s modern perception of the Aegean, inspired by his travels to the Cyclades between 1974 and 1997, as well as Heaney’s philhellenic relationship with mainland Greece between 1995 and 2004. The second section offers a close analysis of their translations of C. P. Cavafy’s poems, and compares George Seferis’s original texts with their creative rendition in the writings of the Irish poets. The book will appeal to readers of poetry, including specialists, as well as those interested in the interactions between Ireland and Greece, two countries at the extreme points of Europe, in times of crisis.

For more information visit <https://www.palgrave.com/gb/book/9783319581682>

- **Tardi, Mark (2017) *The Circus of Trust*, Victoria, Texas: Dalkey Archive Press**

In *The Circus of Trust*, Mark Tardi implicates us all in a pastoral of detritus where “the same indifferent sun” unflinchingly tracks devastation as part of the most routine actions. Whether the violence is architectural, biological, geological, or technological, we’re warned that atrocity is the most resilient form of human currency: “You don’t have to step on a body to carry death on your shoes.”

For more information visit <http://www.dalkeyarchive.com/product/circus-of-trust/>

- **Dynel, Marta (2018) *Irony, Deception and Humour: Seeking the Truth about Overt and Covert Untruthfulness*, De Gruyter**

This book offers fresh perspectives on untruthfulness entailed in various forms of irony, deception and humour, which have so far constituted independent foci of linguistic and philosophical investigation. These three distinct (albeit sometimes co-occurring) notions are brought together within a neo-Gricean framework and consistently discussed as representing overt or covert untruthfulness. The postulates that represent the interface between language philosophy and pragmatics are illustrated with scripted interactions culled from the series *House*, which help appreciate the complexities of the three concepts at hand. Apart from affording new insights into the nature of irony, deception and humour, this book critically examines previous literature on these notions, as well as relevant aspects of Grice's philosophy of language. Giving a state-of-the-art picture of untruthfulness, this publication will be of interest to both experienced and inexperienced researchers studying Grice's philosophy, irony, deception and/or humour.

For more information visit <https://www.degruyter.com/view/product/498500>

- **Kruczkowska, Joanna (ed.) (2018) *Landscapes of Irish and Greek Poets: Essays, Poems, Interviews***

*Landscapes of Irish and Greek Poets* juxtaposes two countries on the margins of Europe that display many affinities: Ireland and Greece. It investigates the ways in which contemporary poetry from both countries engages with external and internal landscapes, bringing together essays by poets and scholars, poems in English and Greek and interviews with the Irish poets Paula Meehan and Theo Dorgan. The topics explored include travel, nature, suburban areas, cultural and political landscapes, the perception of wilderness and the influence of technology in the digital age. Especially relevant at a time of ecological and social crisis, the correlation of external landscapes with the landscapes of the mind, mediated by poetry, offers a powerful insight into the world in which we live.

For more information visit <https://www.peterlang.com/view/product/78027?rskey=2Qs74a&result=1>

## Guest lectures

- **Guest lecture by Kacper Bartczak at University of Łódź**

In May 2017, Kacper Bartczak gave an opening key-note lecture at the conference: Anglophone Literature, entitled “Wiersz i nicość – retoryczne reakcje na Nietzscheański żywioł nicości w poezji W. Stevensa i J.M. Rymkiewicza”

- **Guest lecture by Christina Morin**

On 26 September 2017, the University of Łódź hosted a guest lecture by Dr Christina Morin (University of Limerick) on The Gothic Novel in Ireland, c. 1760-1829.

- **Guest lecture by Joanna Kruczkowska at Ionian University, Corfu, Greece**

Joanna Kruczkowska was invited to deliver a keynote lecture entitled “The Edges of Europe: Greece, Ireland, Literature” on 18 October, 2017, at Ionian University, Corfu, Greece

- **Guest lecture by Kacper Bartczak at the Center for American Studies, University of Warsaw**

In November 2017, Kacper Bartczak delivered a guest lecture on “The Poetics of Plenitude and Self-Creation in the Poem” at the Center for American Studies, University of Warsaw, which was a part of the American Studies Colloquium Series.



For more information visit <http://www.asc.uw.edu.pl/events.html>

- **Guest lectures by Una Cunningham**

On 11 November – 7 December 2017 Professor Una Cunningham from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand delivered a number of lectures on migration, language and language teaching at the University of Łódź.

## Other events

- **"The University of Łódź Chancellor's Award for Research" for Alicja Piechucka**

In 2017, Alicja Piechucka has been granted the University of Łódź Chancellor's Award for research.

- **Mikołaj Deckert has received an NCN Miniatura 1 grant**

Mikołaj Deckert has received a Miniatura 1 grant from NCN for a pilot study in translation entitled "Automatyzm decyzji tłumaczeniowych: Badanie procesu" (Automatism of decision-making in translation: A study of the process").

- **Małgorzata Myk is conducting research at Mandeville Special Collections Library in San Diego**

In winter 2017/2018 Małgorzata Myk is conducting research at Mandeville Special Collections Library at the University of California as part of her Kosciuszko Foundation scholarship.

- **Marta Dynel has become Editor-in-Chief of *Lingua***

From December 2017, *Lingua* will now have three editors. Professor Dynel becomes Editor-in-Chief.



She is supported by two Associate Editors whose complementary fields of expertise ensure full coverage of the areas the journal addresses. Dr Lise Fontaine of Cardiff University specializes in

functional grammar, word meaning, corpus linguistics, and psycholinguistics. Professor Hilary Nesi of Coventry University is interested in all aspects of language use in social contexts, across time, space, and discourse communities.

For more information visit <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/lingua/news/new-editorial-structure-for-2018>

- **150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ira Aldridge's death**

As part of the International Shakespeare Studies Centre Magdalena Cieślak and Agnieszka Rasmus organized a special event celebrating 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ira Aldridge's death in Łódź.



The event organized by the International Shakespeare Studies Centre at the University of Łódź consisted of an international symposium, a library exhibition and a theatrical event in AOIA theatre in Łódź. It gathered actors, playwrights, theatre directors and academics of international fame to discuss the amazing career of Ira Aldridge – the first black Shakespearean actor – who died in Łódź while on a tour in 1867.

For more information visit <https://www.uni.lodz.pl/aktualnosc/szczegoly/150-rocznica-smierci-iry-aldridge-a>

- **Mark Tardi WORDS without BORDERS interview**

For more information visit <http://www.wordswithoutborders.org/dispatches/article/the-city-and-the-writer-in-lodz-with-mark-tardi-nathalie-handal>