

Family Fictions:

Generations and Genealogies in European Culture

Justus Lipsiuszaal, Erasmushuis, Blijde Inkomststraat 21, 3000 Leuven

15th May 2025

9.00-9.30 Registration

9.30-9.45 Welcome

9.45-11.00 Keynote Lecture 1:

Jennie Bristow (Canterbury Christ Church University): "Toxic Pasts and Stolen Futures? Generational Conflict and the Modern Culture Wars"

Chair: Fatima Bormann

11.00-11.30 Coffee

11.30-13.00 Panel 1: Generations: between Collaboration and Conflict

Ruth Van Hecke (KU Leuven): "Narrative Constructions of Female Adolescence through Generational Conflicts in Dutch-language Interwar Literature"

Sara Villamarín-Freire (University of Santiago de Compostela): "'A kind of an unmovable, iconic position': Narrating a Father's Death in Contemporary Literature"

Moritz Senft-Raiß (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität): "Linking the Generational Chain through Narration: Concerning two Texts by Adalbert Stifter"

Chair: Adele Guyton

13.00- 14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.30 Panel 2: Diasporic Genealogies

Maria Menzel (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität): "Discovering roots, discovering routes: Genealogy tourism in Yaa Gyasi's *Homegoing* and Bernardine Evaristo's *Lara*"

Judith Neder (TU Dresden): "Intergenerational Self and Diasporic Coming-of-Age in PP Wong's *Life of a Banana* (2015)"

Hogara Matsumoto (Sophia University, Tokyo): "Transnational Family Genealogies in Kamila Shamsie's *Burnt Shadows*"

Chair: Leanne Darnbrough

15.30-16.00 Coffee

16.00-17.30 Panel 3: Memory and Family in Contemporary Literature

Andree Michaelis-König (University of Antwerp): "On Siblings, Twins, and Friends. Shifting Genealogies in Contemporary German Jewish Writing"

Guillaume Etienne (UNamur): “Zu Fuß durch die Ruinen der europäischen Vergangenheit: Physische und emotionale Rekonstruktion der Familiengeschichte in Christiane Hoffmanns *Alles, was wir nicht erinnern. Zu Fuß auf dem Fluchtweg meines Vaters* (2022)”

Joke Struyf (University of Antwerp): “*The death of Vivek Oji* (2020)”

Chair: Anke Gilleir

17.30 Reception

16th May 2025

09.30-10.30 Panel 4: Elective Family Ties

Ana Bessa Carvalho (University of Minho): “On Binders and the Ties that Bind: Alternative Systems of Kinship in Transgender Narratives”

Cato Defoer (Ghent University): “Elective kinship in 21st-century (German-language) literature”

Chair: Carolin Loyens

11:00-13.30 (Artes Library Tour + Lunch)

Panel 5: Matriarchy

Beatriz Seelaender (University of São Paulo): “Robert Graves’s ‘I, Claudius’ (1934) : The Early Roman Empire as a (Cursed) Generational Saga”

Dagmar Reichardt (Latvian Academy of Culture): “Transcultural Genealogical Bounds between Fiction and Metahistory: The Matriarchal HERstory of the Maraini Family from Italy’s Risorgimento to Postmodern Times”

Lauren Ottaviani (KU Leuven): “‘Catching the right expression’: Amateur Women’s Photography in the *Woman at Home* [1893-1918]”

Chair: Helen Kingstone

15.00-15.30 Coffee

15.30-16.30 Panel 6 Genealogy in 19th century British Literature

Helen Kingstone (Royal Holloway): “Generational thinking in nineteenth-century Literature”

David McAllister (University of London): “Inter-Generational Resentment in Charles Dickens’s *Dombey and Son*”

Chair: Lauren Ottaviani

16.30-17.45 Keynote Lecture 2:

Stefan Willer (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin): “Family Inheritance and How (Not) to Escape It: Fictions and Non-Fictions in Contemporary German Literature”

Chair: Anke Gilleir

18.00 Conference Dinner

17th May 2025

09.30- 10.30 Panel 7: Women and Genealogy

Sarah Sosinski (Ludwig-Maximilians-University): “The Generational Project of Emancipation: German Jewish Family Novels as Transnational Narratives of Belonging”

Fatima Borrmann (KU Leuven): “From Genetics to Female genealogy and Generation in Lou Andreas-Salomé’s *Das Haus* (1921)”

Chair: Fatima Borrmann

10.30-11.00 Coffee

11.00-12.15 Keynote Lecture 3:

David Amigoni (Keele University): Generations, Ageing, and the Resourceful Fictions of Middle England: performing family sagas from Arnold Bennett to Jonathan Coe

Chair: Elke D’hoker

12.15- 12.30 Conference Closing