# Autofiction:
Theory, Practices, Cultures - A Comparative Perspective

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Wolfson College, Linton Rd, Oxford OX2 6UD  
**19th/20th October 2019**

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Panels 19\textsuperscript{th} October

Panel 1  **Autofiction: Theory and Practice**
Chair: Alexandra Effe

*Alison James* (University of Chicago)
*What's Fictional in Autofiction?*

*Arnaud Schmitt* (University of Bordeaux)
*Avatars as the Raison d'Être of Autofiction*

*Innokentij Kreknin* (TU Dortmund University)
*Autofiction as Subject-Formation: Opting for a Restrictive Approach*

Panel 2  **Autofiction as Literary Strategy**

*Alison Gibbons* (Sheffield Hallam University)
*Autofiction as a Reading Strategy: “dissolving margins” of Fictionality in Elena Ferrante’s Neapolitan Quartet*

*Lut Missinne* (University of Münster)
*The Functioning of Autofictional Strategies*

*Gertrud Maria Rösch* (University of Heidelberg/Dalhousie University at Halifax)
*Playing Hide and Seek with the Author. Demarcating the Roman à Clef from Autofiction*

Panel 3  **Affordances of Autofiction as Term and Strategy**
Chair: Meindert Peters

*Sebastian Brass* (Harvard University)
*Fact, Fiction, and (Non-)Transparency: The Question of Self-Referentiality in Autofiction*

*Hywel Dix* (Bournemouth University)
*From Private Quest to Public Commemoration: Autofiction, Postcolonial Writing and the Politics of Memory*

*Alexandra Effe* (University of Oslo)
*Autofiction in Historical Perspective*

Panel 4  **Self Designs in Autofiction**

*Zuzana Fonioková* (Masaryk University)
*Autofiction and Autobiographical Comics: A Narratological Perspective*
Karin Westerwelle (University of Münster)
Michel de Montaigne, Les Essais: Self-Representation and the ‘Power of Imagination’

Stefan Neuhaus (University of Koblenz-Landau)
The Author as a Fictional Character

Panel 5  
**Autofictional Modes in Francophone Literature**
Chair: Antonella Lipscomb

Elise Hugueny-Léger (University of St Andrews)
Living, and Writing, Against Norms: Women, Autofiction, and (Self-)Transformation

Mercédès Baillargeon (University of Maryland)
The Personal is Political: Autofiction in French And/As Engagement

Sam Ferguson (University of Oxford)
The Diary as Radicalisation of French Autofiction

Panel 6  
**Autofictional Modes in Contemporary South African Art and Literature**

Karen Ferreira-Meyers (University of Eswatini)
Scriptural and Visual Autofiction: A Way of Representing and Understanding the Self

Laurel Braddock (Freie Universität Berlin)
Madness as National Trauma, Autofiction as Testimony and the Ubuntu Self

Daniel Stander (Stellenbosch University)
Reza de Wet’s Verleiding [Seduction] (2005): South African Autofiction in the Lecture as Drama and Vice Versa

Panel 7  
**Autofictional Modes in Contemporary Scandinavian Literature**
Chair: Marie Lindskov Hansen

Claus E. Andersen (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
A Postfiction Turn: Knausgaard, Cusk, and Heti

Hanna Meretoja (University of Turku)
Metanarrativity in Karl Ove Knausgård’s My Struggle

Helle Egendal (Albert-Ludwigs University Freiburg)
On the Subversive Strategy of Blending Voices and Languages. Samples from Danish, Swedish and German Literature
Kjersti Aarstein (University of Bergen)
The Veil of Reality in Karl Ove Knausgård’s My Struggle

Panels 20th October

Panel 8  **Autofiction, Authorship, and Identity**

**Naziha Hamidouche** (Bath University)
*Autofiction and Authorial Identity: A Comparative Analysis*

**Antonia Wimbush** (University of Birmingham)
*Autofiction: A Francophone Female Aesthetic of Exile?*

**Melissa Schuh** (Christian-Albrechts University Kiel)
*Autofiction and Literary Autobiography*

Panel 9  **Autofictional Modes in Contemporary Anglo-American Literature**

**Elisabeth Reichel** (University of Basel)
*Autographic Inscriptions: Assertions of Authorship in the Contemporary Anglo-American Novel.*

**Sonja Pyykkö** (Freie Universität Berlin)
*Theorizing Fictionality and Referentiality in Contemporary Feminist (Auto)Fiction*

**Ben Grant** (University of Oxford)
*Self-Portraiture and Narcissism in Jenny Diski’s The Dream Mistress*

**Ricarda Menn** (Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut Essen)
*Reading Serial Autofictions – Knausgård and Cusk*

Panel 10  **Rethinking the Real: Autofiction and Critical Discourse in Spain and Argentina**

**Julio Prieto** (University of Potsdam)
*Autofiction and Postmemory in Argentina: Notes on First-Person Documentary Film*

**Anna Forné** (University of Gothenburg)
*Archival Autofiction in Post-Dictatorship Argentina*

**Patricia López-Gay** (Bard College, New York)
*Archive Fever and the Return of the Real in Autofiction. Rethinking Recent Life Narration Produced in Spain*

Panel 11  **Autofictional Modes in Contemporary Egyptian Literature**
Chair: Dalia Mostafa

**Zainab Magdy** (Cairo University)
"Personalities ... of a fictitious type": Reading Waguih Ghali's Beer in the Snooker Club as Autofiction

**Fatma Massoud** (British University in Egypt)
*Life-writing, History and Memory in Auto/Fiction: A Reading of Radwa Ashour’s Specters and Reports of Mrs. R.*

**Hala Kamal** (Cairo University)
'A Murmur in the Heart of the Novel': Fictionalising Memory in Miral Tahawy’s Brooklyn Heights

Panel 12  **Autofictional Modes in Japanese, Hindi, Tamil and Iranian Literature**  
Chair: Shilpa Daithota Bhat

**Justyna Kasza** (Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun)
*The Mode of Self-Reading: Japanese Female Writers and the (Re)invention of Autofiction*

**Ritu Tyagi** (Pondicherry University)
*Autofiction and Dalit Feminism*

**Jack Clift** (University of London)
*Factual Histories and Historical Fictions: Autofictional Experience in Post-Partition Hindi Literature*

**Naghmeh Esmaeilpour** (Humboldt Universität zu Berlin)
*(Auto)Fiction and Authorial Narrative: A Comparative Study of Mandanipour and DeLillo*

Panel 13  **Autofictional Modes in Contemporary German Literature**  
Chair: Meindert Peters

**Yvonne Delhey** (Radboud University Nijmegen)
*Autofiction as Self-Emancipation: Uwe Timm’s Literary Autopoiesis*

**Ruth Signer** (University of Geneva)
*Writing the Self In the Face of Its Disappearance. Autofictions in the 1970s*

**Anna Sennefelder** (Albert-Ludwigs University Freiburg)
*Overperforming Boundaries. Felicitas Hoppe’s Autofictional Travelogue Prawda as Question Mark on the Possibilities of Autofiction*