

# KUDOS

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY. CULTURAL STUDIES AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE. MAY 2017. N° 12

## ESPRIT DE CORPS

As we go to press, our vibrant and beloved department is under threat. Specious arguments based on spurious or absent data threaten to suspend our highly successful graduate programs as well as our majors and minors. Faculty attrition is the apparent goal of this slash and burn policy. A probable deepening of the college deficit is the pretext, but the targets – CSCL and Hispanic – are incomprehensible for the reasonable, logical, and factual mind.

Petitions have been circulated, demonstrations have occurred, the press – including an op-ed in *The Guardian* by Francine Prose – is well aware, national organizations – MLA, ACLA, NeMLA – have written open letters to the high administration, a broad coalition of college chairs has worked tirelessly and with heart-warming solidarity to bring the forces driving this move to reason.

The days and weeks to come will tell whether these efforts will bear fruit. Until then, I wish to express my deepest thanks to all of you for your *esprit de corps*.

Robert Harvey  
*Distinguished University Professor  
Chair, Cultural Studies & Comparative Literature*

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## ACHIEVEMENTS

"Not Alone," is a feature film scripted, directed, and produced by **Tyler Miranda**, a CCS senior. The screening took place on April 23, at Bellmore Movies And Showplace.



**Diana Hernandez** is a senior, currently completing the requirements for an honors degree in Comparative Literature. Her thesis focuses on a 1933 work written by Salvadoran author Salarrué called *Cuentos de Barro* (Tales of Clay), a collection of folktales about the everyday lives of El Salvador's "campesinos" or impoverished farmers. Working under the mentorship of Professor Timothy August of the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature, Diana examines the language and the ways the book reproduces themes of colonization and stereotypes of indigeneity.



Diana also got helpful advice from Professor Paul Firbas of the Hispanic Language and Literature Department. Diana plans to present her thesis project in April at her department's spring colloquium; and at the upcoming URECA undergraduate research symposium (April 26).

Diana graduated from Brentwood High School, and earned an Associate of Arts degree in Creative Writing in December 2014 from Suffolk County Community College prior to transferring to Stony Brook University. At Stony Brook, Diana has served as a Teaching Assistant for Comparative Literature 301: Theory of Literature. She plans to pursue graduate study in Spanish literature/Comparative Literature.

For the full interview/feature, go to:

<http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/ureca/feature/February2017.html>

## AWARDS

**Tim August, Patrice Nganang, Sophie Raynard, Mireille Rebeiz, and E.K. Tan** were all recipients of Presidential Distinguished Travel Grants this semester.

**Celina Hung**, who was granted her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature 2011, has been awarded the Luce/ACLS Postdoctoral Fellowship and will be released from teaching in 2017–2018 to focus on her project "Staging Original and New Residents: Settler Colonial Imagination in 'Multicultural' Taiwan." For those who do not know or have not met her, Celina is currently Assistant Professor of Literature at NYU–Shanghai.

**Michelle H. S. Ho**, who is completing her dissertation on "Negotiating Genderplay: Affective labor and alternative socialities in Tokyo's drag cafes" garnered two awards and two major fellowships Graduate Student Organization Distinguished Travel Award, Stony Brook University. Spring 2016. \$1,500.

President's Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student was awarded to **Michelle H. S. Ho**, Stony Brook University in Spring 2016, \$1,000.

**Michelle H. S. Ho** received the Japanese Studies Fellowship from the Japan Foundation for 2016-2017 in the amount of \$30,000.

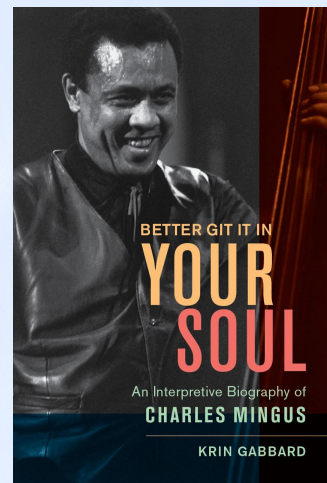
**Michelle H. S. Ho** has been awarded the Diversity Pre-doctoral Fellowship from MIT for the 2017-2018 academic year. I will officially be appointed as Visiting Scholar affiliated with MIT's Global Studies and Languages and will receive a salary of \$37,500 plus other employee benefits. I will also receive mentorship from Ian Condry and Paul Roquet, two experts in my area.

## AWARDS

**Beth Tsai** received two grants: an AAS-In-Asia Conference Travel Grant, Association for Asian Studies (AAS) in the amount of \$1,300 and an Asian Pacific American Caucus Travel Grant, the Society for Cinema & Media Studies (SCMS) for \$150.

Congrats to **Kathryn Silverstein** alongside **Nikolaos Panou**, student and faculty in Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature for receiving the Graduate Fellowship & Faculty Research Program for the upcoming year.

**Krin Gabbard** won the award for "Jazz Book the Year" by professional members of the Jazz Journalists Association in our 21st annual Jazz Awards" for *Better Git in Your Soul: An Interpretive Biography of Charles Mingus*.



## PUBLICATIONS

**Beth Tsai.** "The Many Faces of Tsai Ming-liang: Cinephilia, the French Connection, and Cinema in the Gallery." *International Journal of Asia Pacific Studies*, Vol. 13, No. 2 (Summer 2017): 1-28.

**Liang, Pi-Ju,** "Stratified Relations and Subimperial Ideology in Qi Xin's Taiwanese-Dialect Films." *Film Appreciation Journal*, No. 168-169 (2017): 37-52. (In Chinese).

**Michelle H. S. Ho.** "An Affective Reading of Precarious Japan." *electronic journal of contemporary japanese studies*, vol. 16, no. 2, 2016, <http://www.japanesestudies.org.uk/ejcs/vol16/iss2/ho.html>.

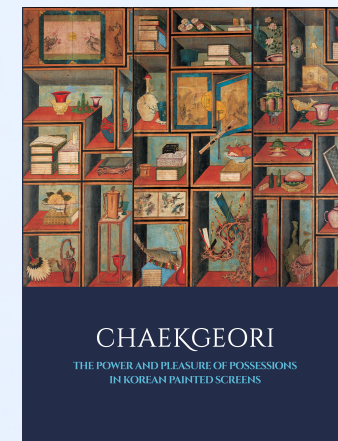
**Michelle H. S. Ho.** "Consuming Women in Blackface: Racialized Affect and Transnational Femininity in Japanese Advertising." *Japanese Studies*, 2017, Advance online publication, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10371397.2017.1297677>.

**Julia Meier** who studied with us and conducted research under Robert Harvey's supervision before completing her dissertation in 2010 at Universität Köln, published "Sonic Figure: The Sound of The Black Soft" in a volume entitled *Sonic Thinking: A Media Philosophical Approach* edited by Bernd Herzogenrath. New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2017 pp. 257-67.

<http://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/sonic-thinking-9781501327209/>



Current Ph.D. candidate **Jinyoung Jin** published "The Evolution of Chaekgeori: Its Inception and Development from the Joseon Period to Today" in *Chaekgeori: The Power and Pleasure of Possessions in Korean Painted Screens* edited by Byungmo Chung and Sunglim Kim (New York: SUNY Press, 2017), pp. 74-80.

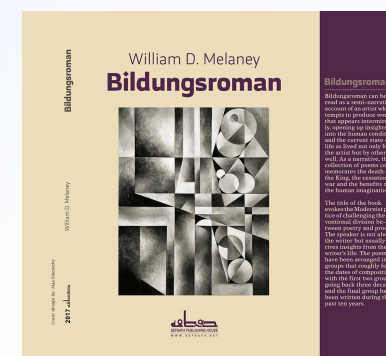


**William Melaney** (Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, 1993) who is Professor in the Department of English and Comparative Literature at The American University in Cairo published the following in the past few months:

*Bildungsroman* (Cairo: Sefsafa Publishing House, 2017).

"Hegel and Semiotics: Beyond the End of Art." *New Semiotics: Between Tradition and Innovation Proceedings of the Twelfth World Congress of Semiotics*, ed. K. Bankov. New Bulgarian University, 2016. 10 pages.

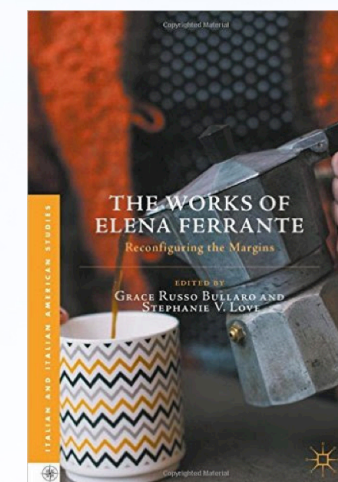
"Cosmology in H.D.'s *Trilogy*: Poetics, Logos and Trace." *Analecta Husserliana CXIX*. 2016. pp. 275-289.



Suchorita Chattopadhyay and **Debashree Dattaray**, eds. At the Crossroads of Culture and Literature. Delhi: Primus Books, 2016. — a book in the areas of Indigenous and Diaspora Studies. <http://primusbooks.com/2016/at-the-crossroads-of-culture-and-literature/>



**Grace Russo Bullaro** (Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, 1993) who is currently Professor of English at CUNY Lehman College coedited with Stephanie Love a volume entitled *The Works of Elena Ferrante: Reconfiguring the Margins*. Palgrave-Macmillan (Italian and Italian American Studies), 2016.



## FEATURED ALUMNA

I am an alumna of Stony Brook graduate program in Cultural Studies. I joined the Stony Brook CSCL Department in 2008, and I defended my Ph.D. in 2013. In 2014 I was hired as a Lecturer in the Department of Communication and Media Studies at Fordham University. A year later, just as my position was renewed for two more years, I was also offered a scholarship in the International Affairs office at the University of San Marino, my hometown. While I enjoyed teaching at Fordham, as I enjoyed being a T.A. and instructor at Stony Brook, and while of course I really liked living in New York City, with its diverse population, its culture, and its unique energy, San Marino University was expanding and recruiting, especially among Sammarinese academics abroad (brain drain), and it felt right to give the small Republic, my place of birth, another try. It was a difficult decision to make, but it turned out to be the right one.

My current position is Postdoctoral Researcher at the Center for International Relations of the University of San Marino, where I am in charge of developing projects in regards to international mobility and relationships with Universities abroad. The Centre is multidisciplinary and interdepartmental and works as a coordination point for scholars who specialize in European culture, history, and international relations. I am also the Coordinator of the San Marino Europe Point, an institution promoted by the University with the aim to raise awareness of the mission of the European Union and the challenges that the EU is facing now. Although San Marino is still not part of the EU, its government is currently negotiating the conditions of membership.

My position is thus an interesting admin/research hybrid, which proves to be both challenging and rewarding, as I had (and still have) to learn how to apply my research skills to more managerial tasks. However, I really appreciate the opportunity to be in contact with Universities all over the world and to help the University of San Marino on its path towards internationalization. Moreover, I have a lot of freedom in pursuing my academic research in my main areas, namely Italian genre cinema, transnational stardom, and European cinema, without the “publish or perish” pressure of more traditional academic roles.

I am also the proud mother of a boy and a girl, Luca and Lea. Luca was born in Brooklyn, while Lea came shortly after we moved from the States to San Marino. Being both a mother and an academic has renewed my interest in gender studies, especially in historical and contemporary discourses around motherhood and its representations in media. My new research interests have thus far led to a co-edited volume, *Italian Motherhood on Screen*, forthcoming with Palgrave.

It has been two years since our move from the Big Apple to the Most Serene Republic of San Marino, and we finally feel like we're home. I will be forever thankful to Stony Brook University for the opportunity to study, teach, and engage with brilliant people, an opportunity that provided me with a deep appreciation for a multicultural, diverse working environment. This open-mindedness is what I treasure most, and what has also proved to be the best asset in my new job, and what I think the world needs, now more than ever.

**Maria Elena D'Amelio, Ph.D. in Cultural Studies, Stony Brook University.**

## SPONSORED AND ORGANIZED EVENTS

Conferencia plenaria:  
**LOS INTELLECTUALES AFRICANOS ANTE LAS DICTADURAS**  
-Donato Ndongo-Biyogo

Preambulo:  
**PRESIDIOS DE ULTRAMAR, SUJETOS POLITICOS Y DIALECTICAS COLONIALES**  
-Renita Sampedro (Hofstra University)

Stony Brook University  
27 de abril  
3.00 p.m.  
Melville N3060

Presenta: Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature, African Studies, Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies, History, and Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center.



### CULTURAL STUDIES and COMPARATIVE LITERATURE COLLOQUIUM

Wednesday April 19 2017 – 1-2.30PM

HUMANITIES 1008

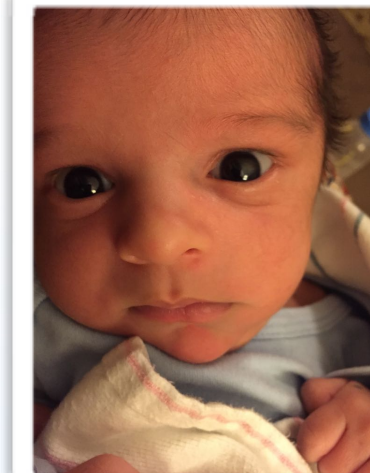
Robert Harvey  
Empathy's Wellspring

Kimberly Coates  
Walking the Line between Subject and Object:  
Queer Embodiment in *Nightwood* and  
*The Ravishing of Lol Stein*

Diana Hernandez  
Nation Building and Colonization  
in Salarrué's *Cuentos de Barro*



## NEW ADDITIONS



### Caspar Menon Kohn

was born on Thursday, March 16  
weighing 7 lbs. 8 oz.

and measuring a full 20 inches!

Congrats Divya and Adrian on your new baby boy!



### Francis Biff Isaac Springer

was born on October 17, 2015  
to Julie and Sean Springer,  
Ph.D Cultural Studies, 2014.  
Welcome to the CSCL family!

# RESPONSABILITÀ NARRATIVE

## DAGLI ANNI DI PIOMBO ALLA GIUSTIZIA RIPARATIVA

a cura di: Luca Zanchi e Viviana Meschesi



**Sabato 10 Giugno 2017** Sala della Lega Italiana dei Diritti dell'Uomo  
Piazza d'Ara Coeli, 12 - Roma h.10.30 - h.17.30

Lì dove gli anni di piombo hanno impresso una lacerazione nel tessuto della Storia collettiva Italiana, dove la Giustizia Retributiva ha comminato la pena senza tuttavia poter lenire il dolore, lo sforzo condiviso di convergere verso la narrazione dei vissuti offre una speranza di resilienza. Quali condizioni rendono possibile l'incontro tra vittime e responsabili della lotta armata? In che modo l'ascolto delle loro storie ci può aiutare ad articolare un discorso storico capace di accogliere la soggettività dei protagonisti senza diluirne le responsabilità personali?

Senza cedere alla tentazione di rispondere con facili prescrizioni, attraverso il contributo di relatori provenienti da ambiti quale la pratica della Giustizia Riparativa, i Cultural Studies, la Filosofia e la Letteratura Comparata, questo convegno internazionale e interdisciplinare tenterà di avviare uno spazio di riflessione attorno a questi temi.

Ingresso libero su prenotazione  
scrivendo all'indirizzo email: [luca.zanchi@stonybrook.edu](mailto:luca.zanchi@stonybrook.edu)  
oppure telefonando al numero: +39 3471337320

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DEI TERRITORI E DEI PRODOTTI TIPICI LOCALI

INTERVENGONO:

**Giorgio Benvenuto**

**Guido Bertagna**

**Laura Coltrinari**

**Graziano Graziani**

**Robert Harvey**

**Izabela Kalinowska-Blackwood**

**Viviana Meschesi**

**Patrice Nganang**

**Luca Zanchi**

**FULBRIGHT**  
España

PROGRAMMA:

h. 10.30: Saluti del Dott. **Antonio Stango**, Presidente Nazionale L.I.D.U.

h. 10.40: **Guido Bertagna**, Sacerdote Gesuita, a lungo attivo presso il carcere di San Vittore, ex direttore del Centro Culturale San Fedele, promotore e mediatore di percorsi di Giustizia Riparativa tra vittime e responsabili della violenza armata.

*Attraversare il Conflitto. Un'esperienza di Giustizia Riparativa con Vittime e Responsabili della Lotta Armata degli Anni '70.*

h. 11.25: **Giorgio Benvenuto**, Ex segretario del PSI e della UIL, Presidente della Fondazione Pietro Nenni, Roma.

*Ricordando gli Anni di Piombo.*

h. 11.45: **Luca Zanchi**, Borsista Fulbright, Dottorando e *Teaching Assistant* presso il Dip. di *Cultural Studies*, Stony Brook University (U.S.A.), saggista, Master in Storia dell'Arte Contemporanea e Cultura Visuale Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid.

*Sfida all'Egemonia. Brigate Rosse: Tra Utopia, Sogno, e Dissociazione.*

h. 12.15 **Izabela Kalinowska-Blackwood**, *Associate Professor, Graduate Program Director* presso il Dip. di *Cultural Studies* e Letteratura Comparata, Stony Brook University (U.S.A.). Saggista.

*È possibile tornare in Austeria? Ritorni Riparativi e Cultura Visuale.*

h. 13.00: Pausa pranzo

h. 13.45: **Patrice Nganang**, *Professor of Literary and Cultural Theory*, Stony Brook University (U.S.A.), critico, scrittore di numerosi saggi e romanzi. *Grand prix de la littérature d'Afrique noire e Prix Marguerite Yourcenar.*

*Due Modi di Affrontare un Conflitto: Esempi Africani di Giustizia Riparativa.*

h. 14.30: **Laura Coltrinari**, Avv. del Foro di Roma, volontaria della Lega Missionaria Studenti.

*L'Esperienza della Giustizia Riparativa in Perù.*

h. 15.00: **Viviana Meschesi**, Dottore di Ricerca in Filosofia e Teoria della Scienze Umane presso Università degli Studi Roma Tre, docente di Filosofia e Storia, saggista.

*L'incontro che Sfugge: dalla Dissociazione alla Diaconia.*

h. 15.50: **Robert Harvey**, *Distinguished Professor* presso il Dip. di *Cultural Studies* e Letteratura Comparata, Stony Brook University (U.S.A.). Saggista, Direttore di Programma presso il *Collège International de Philosophie* (2001-2007).

*From Cleft to Cleave: da Discorso a Narrazione.*

h. 16.40 – 17.30: Tavola rotonda

Modera: **Graziano Graziani**, Scrittore, critico, giornalista, conduttore radiofonico, documentarista. E' tra i conduttori di "Fahrenheit" per Radio3 e collabora con Rai cultura per Rai5.