



IRISH RESEARCH COUNCIL
An Chomhairle um Thaighde in Éirinn



UCD School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics
Scoil na dTeangacha, na gCultúr agus na Teangeolaíochta UCD

Diaries in the 20th Century

Testimony, Memory,
Self-Construction

University College Dublin
Newman Building
8-9 December 2023



UCD College of Arts and Humanities
Coláiste na nEalaíon agus na nDaonnachtaí UCD



UCD Humanities Institute
Institiúid don Léann Daonna UCD

Conference Programme

8 December

9:00 Registration
(Newman Building, corridor D3)

9:30-11:00 Keynote address (Room D301)
Leena Käosaar (University of Tartu): *The Versatile Vernacular Genre*

11:00-11:30 Coffee/Tea Break

11:30 - 13:00

Room D301

1a. Observing the World

Pietro Dalmazzo (Durham University):
Giovanni Comisso within the Adriatic. Self-Construction and National Identities

Elisa Russian (University of Zurich):
“Esercizi di osservazione”: Geneviève Makaping’s Ethnographic Diary

Mark Pendleton (University of Sheffield): *Fragmentation and Futurity in HIV/AIDS Diaries from Japan*

Room D201

1b. Editing and Self-Editing

Dorota Kownacka-Rogulska (Polish Academy of Sciences): *The diary as a tool of manipulation and creation. The case of Paula Modersohn-Becker and moral dilemmas.*

Deborah Lewer (University of Glasgow): *Confessions of a Lapsed Dadaist: Hugo Ball’s Flight out of Time Reconsidered*

Matilde Piu (University of Pisa):
Gombrowicz Looking for Gombrowicz. A Comparison between Gombrowicz’s “public” and “private” diaries

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 - 15:30

Room D301**2a. Diaries and Self-Exploration**

Paula Vene Smith (Grinnell College): *Reverse Prism, Capacious Hold-All, or 79-Cent Therapist? Metaphors of the 20th Century Diary*

Kathryn Carter (Wilfrid Laurier University): *Dreams of War: the Cultural Precedents and Generic Affordances of Dream Diaries*

Eirini Kotsovili (Simon Fraser University): *On Selfhood and Politics in Modern Greek Life Writing*

Room D201**2b. Diaries and Political Evolution**

Samuel O'Donoghue (Lancaster University): *Witnessing the Holocaust and Rewriting the Self: Political Disaffection in the War Diary of Dionisio Ridruejo*

Elmar Kossel (University of Innsbruck): *Ranuccio Bianchi Bandinelli's "From the Diary of a Citizen and Other Writings" (1948). The Diary as Political Writing and Historical Document*

Rowa Nabil (Cairo University): *Al-Wahat Diaries: Reading the Prison Diaries of a Political Activist*

15:30-16:00 Tea/Coffee Break

16:00-17:30

Room D301**3a. Literary Diaries**

Desirée Henderson (University of Texas at Arlington): *Diary Fiction in Diary Studies: Navigating the Divide*

Leanne Bibby (Teesside University): *The Ethics of the Fictional Diary: Margaret Forster's Diary of an Ordinary Woman*

Pawel Rodak (University of Warsaw): *Writer's Diary in the 20th Century: From Private Diary to Literary Diary. The Polish Case*

Room D201**3b. Diaries and Female Selves**

Aurora Sturli (University of Cambridge): *Creating the Self. Diaries and Girlhood in Post-Unification Italy: Grazia Pierantoni Mancini's Impressioni e ricordi (1906)*

Charlie Knight (University of Southampton): *The Envelope and the Kontobuch: The Writings of Clara Licht, 1939-40*

Emma De Pasquale (Roma Tre University): *«Scrivo la sera, come Valeria»: Intermedial Perspectives on Alba De Céspedes' Quaderno proibito*

Conference dinner

9 December

09:30 - 11:00

Room D301

4a. Travel Diaries

Eamonn Connor (University of Glasgow): *'Scenes of great animation!': Reflections on the Cruise Diary*

Georgios Katsantonis (Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa): *Pier Paolo Pasolini's 'The Long Road of Sand'*

Amanda Skamagka (University of Athens): *Diaristic Writing as Document and Travelogue: Yannis Ritsos in Italy*

Room D201

4b. Diaries of WWI

Dario Marcucci (City University of New York): *Diaristic Writing as a Shelter from War. Gadda's Giornale di guerra e di prigionia and the Literary Canon*

Gianluca Cinelli (Independent Researcher): *Looking at the War through an Explorer's Eyes. Ernst Jünger's War Diaries, 1914-1918*

Patrizia Piredda: *Ludwig Wittgenstein's Private Notebooks 1914-16. Knowing oneself through the experience of WWI*

11:00-11:30 Tea/Coffee Break

11:30-13:00

Room D301

5a. Visual Diaries

Teresa Bruś (University of Wrocław): *Composite Diary*

Matilde Manara (Collège de France): *"Le Reste est Croissance de Crystal". Co-writing, Drawing and Dictation in Catherine Pozzi's and Paul Valéry's Diaries*

Barbora Svobodová (Université Libre de Bruxelles - ULB): *Reflection of the Year 1952 in Pictures: The Pictorial Diary of Vladimír Fuka*

Room D201

5b. Diaries and WWII

Federico Sessolo (Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa): *An Intimate Field for Rebellion. The "Antifascist Diary" in Italy (Ferrero, Borgese, Morselli)*

Ellen Pilsworth (University of Reading): *Anti-Nazi Refugee "Diaries" for British Readers Before and During WW2*

Katherine Roseau (Mercer University): *Family Separation in War and Talking to Loved Ones Through the Diary*

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 - 16:00

Room D301

6a. Diaries and Poetry

Patricia Gillies (University of Essex):
*Construction of an Artistic Self: Sophie
Gaudier-Brzeska's Poetry Notebooks and
Journal*

Matteo Anecchiarico (La Sapienza
University of Rome/Univerzity Karlovy
Prague): *"I'm becoming a laudator
temporis acti...": the Diaristic Dimension
of Jan Zábřana's Poetics*

Tomaž Toporišič (University of
Ljubljana): *Srečko Kosovel and His
Hybrid Form of (Constructivist) Diaries:
From Testimony to Self-Construction*

Pádraig Ó Liatháin (Dublin City
University): *Diaries (1940-50): The Forge
of Seán Ó Ríordáin's Artistic Path*

Room D201

6b. Diaries and the Holocaust

Arvi Sepp (Vrije Universiteit
Brussel): *The Holocaust Diary as
a Genre and a Document:
Reflections on Literariness and
Facticity*

Giovanni Miglianti (Wesleyan
University): *University Diary:
Lidia Beccaria Rolfi and the
Thread of Holocaust Testimony*

Peter Lawson (The Open
University), *Mihail Sebastian's
Journal 1935-44: Reflections on
the Holocaust in Romania*

Kathryn Sederberg (Kalamazoo
College): *Multilingual Migrants:
Jewish Refugee Diaries 1933-1945*

16:00-16:30 Tea/Coffee Break

16:30-17:00

Closing Remarks (Room D301)

This conference is part of an IRC Government of Ireland Postdoctoral research project. The organisers wish to thank the Irish Research Council, the UCD Dublin Humanities Institute, the College of Arts and Humanities, the School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics, and the Foundation for Italian Studies for their generous support.



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