

ARTICLE ABSTRACTS IN ENGLISH

Crossroads: Feminist Discourses and Narrative Psychology

Berán, Eszter

Pázmány Péter Catholic University

The article discusses how feminist discourses interact with approaches in narrative psychology in terms of research questions asked, theoretical assumptions and explanations, as well as research methodology. I examine the problems raised by feminist research regarding the function of narrative in feminist theory and relate these to problems of identity construction, which are raised in empirical studies in narrative psychology. More specifically, I examine three concepts used in feminist discourses: gendered identity, non-normative sexual identity, and ethnic identity. I discuss how these concepts are used and operationalized in narrative studies and what kind conclusions and interpretations emerge in the two different contexts.

Marginality and the practices of border-crossing: hybrid forms of identity in Erzsébet Szesz's works

Jabloneczay, Tímea

King Sigismund College, Budapest

I focus on the Czechoslovakian-Hungarian-Jewish woman writer, Holocaust survivor, Israeli writer and journalist Erzsébet Szesz (1902, Rajec -1981, Jerusalem), giving an introduction to her life and her literary and cultural texts. My paper examines the social, intellectual and political contexts of her texts. It aims to consider her literary and cultural identifications, her marginal position and her hybrid identity from a transnational feminist perspective. Erzsébet Szesz was known for her poetry in Hungarian and Czechoslovakian literary circles in the interwar period and had a favorable reception among her contemporaries. However, her life and her works have yet remained at the margins of literary canon. My paper examines her literary works written before and after the Holocaust, especially the postwar stories as memoirs of displacement dealing with traumatic experiences during the Holocaust, which were written in Israel from the 1950s to the 1970s. Her narratives pose

questions about identity and belonging as a double identity of belonging to Hungarian and Jewish cultural identities. My paper contributes to scholarship on Hungarian and Jewish-Hungarian literary history, Holocaust and gender studies by investigating a forgotten woman writer's life and works.

Political Discourse in the Wake of the 1945 Law on Women's Right to Vote

Lehotai, Orsolya

Corvinus University

The aim of the article is to analyze political discourses about women's voting rights in Hungary in 1945. In my paper, I mainly focus on the discourses that emerge in the decision-making sphere (politicians) and in the different women's movements in order to explore their overlap and discrepancies. At the same time, I also examine the results of the 1945 elections, the first of this kind in Hungary, in which women had equal rights with men. Since the voting ballots, in accordance with the regulations, were marked differently for men and women voters, I can show empirically how women voted and compare the results with the decision makers' expectations about women's political preferences before the elections.

Representative Synecdoche: On the Reception of Angelina Jolie's Mastectomy and the Fragmentation of the Female Body

Kocic-Zámbó, Larisa

University of Szeged

On May 14 2013, Angelina Jolie, American actress and director, publicly revealed her preventive double mastectomy on the *New York Times*' Opinions Pages. The news, engaging both foreign and domestic press, has generated an immense reader reaction – opposition and support alike. In my present paper, I examine the reductive approach of the Hungarian press and the correlation of these to the reaction of the international blogosphere in order to show the corresponding fragmentation of the so-called feminist cancer narratives (Deshazer) and of the celebrity/icon (Hills), and the invisible nature of their defragmentation efforts.

In Fear of a Domino Effect? The Anti-Gender Movement in France and Its Relevance for Hungary

Kováts, Eszter

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Budapest

&

Soós, Eszter Petronella

Politikatudományi Doktori Iskola, ELTE

Over the last few years, one could witness a rise of political movements in Europe, rejecting gender equality policies as well as the analytic concept of gender itself. These movements are most active in Spain, Italy, Poland, Slovakia and France. This study, by comparing and analyzing the French and the Hungarian case, aims to contribute to the understanding of the anti-gender phenomenon and that of the reconceptualization process of "gender" resulting in the term "gender ideology".

“I’m Not An Apostolic Character” – Margit Kaffka’s Articles During the First World War

Rákai, Orsolya

Research Center for the Humanities of HAS, Institute for Literary Studies

There is a consensus in the Kaffka-literature that Margit Kaffka's articles represent a typical feminine view and style, or rather that she approaches social questions through “women's issues”. But how does this style become “feminine”, and how does this way of writing (whether it is called feminine or not) contribute to the discussion of Kaffka's themes, especially those in the texts written during WWI? My hypothesis is that the difference is generated during the observation of social environment by way of selection between the problems and phenomena. The facts of everyday life – for example, the life of women, the reality of the lower classes and national minorities - which are unseen and irrelevant for the hegemonic (Hungarian, at least middle-class adult man) consensus, seems to be unavoidable for Kaffka. She decides un-hegemonic in the questions of relevant/irrelevant, and this helps her to show a very complex social context and permits her to be fully aware of the outcome of the war for Hungary from the very beginning of the war. There is also a clear link between Kaffka's arguments and the feminist pacifist movements of the beginning of the 20th century. The texts of feminist magazines such as A

Nő (The Women) or A Nő és a Társadalom (Woman and Society) articulate rational and logical opinions about social and economical modernization, placing "women's issues" into the broad context of modernization. Kaffka's articles represent an interesting contribution to this debate.

Contemporary East European Images of Women in Literature and Cinema

Virginás, Andrea

Sapientia University, Cluj Napoca

My study explores literary and filmic material that may be linked to contemporary Transylvania, Romania and/or consequently Eastern Europe as a region. I interpret this material in the framework defined by such concepts as national and unconscious allegory, as well as trauma culture to study the transnational inks of the chosen works. The methodology is a combination of literary and filmic narratology, iconography, trauma theory, the theory of allegory, as well as the representation of woman(hood).