



FRONTIERS AND WASTELANDS

Redefining the Nation in US Popular Culture

International conference @ Alcalá de Henares | November 27–28, 2023

MONDAY 27

09:00 Colegio de los Trinitarios	REGISTRATION	
09:30–10:45	SESSION 1	
Panel A Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	Poetry of the Outsiders Chair: Esperanza Cerdá Redondo (Universidad de Alcalá)	
Elena Cortés Farrujia	<i>Universitat de Barcelona</i>	"There is something sick abt accusing an NDN of bein an illegal immigrant": Junk, Borders and (Two-Spirit) Indigenous Representation
Matthew Lear	<i>University of Edinburgh</i>	Outside the Borders: (Re)Presentations of Guam in <i>From Unincorporated Territory</i>
Martín Praga	<i>Universidade da Coruña</i>	"A Cosmos of Violets": Violence and Magic in Maurice Kilwein Guevara's Border Writing
Panel B Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Migrant Children on the Border Chair: Amaia Soroa Bacaicoa (UPV/EHU)	
Svitlana Kot	<i>Universität des Saarlandes</i>	Child's Face of the Border: Looking at Juvenile Migration through Corporeality in the Art Projects and Short Films on the US–Mexican Borderlands
Kimberly del Busto Ramírez	<i>City University of New York-LaGuardia</i>	Drawing the Line with Unaccompanied Migrant Children: Distinguishing Demarcations and Navigating Contested Narratives Post-Operation Pedro Pan
Elisa Fernández Rodríguez	<i>Universidad Autónoma de Madrid</i>	Borderland Childhood: Frontier Identity in Young Migrants

Panel C Alonso Room (Trinitarios)	Boundaries in the Wilderness Chair: Laura Álvarez Trigo (Universidad de Valladolid)	
Louise Akers	<i>New York University</i>	Seisms at the Frontier: Protocol and Abstraction
Laura Martínez-García	<i>Universidad de Oviedo</i>	Permeable Borders: Performing “Otherness” Within the Limits of Yosemite National Park
Robyn Johnson	<i>University of Florida</i>	Crossing Wild Boundaries: Establishing the American Wilderness as a Transporting Boundary

11:00–12:15	SESSION 2	
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Panel A Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	Male Perspectives and Metaphorical Borderlands Chair: Michael Fuchs (Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck)	
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Michael Olusa	<i>Université de Nantes</i>	Passing: Transgressing the Ethnic-Racial Boundary in Philip Roth’s <i>The Human Stain</i>
Simone Francescato	<i>Università Ca’ Foscari</i>	The Moral Wasteland of a War Hero: The Two Versions of <i>A Stranger in My Arms</i>

Panel B Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Liminality in the US Wastelands Chair: Amaia Soroa Bacaicoa (UPV/EHU)	
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Ilias Ben Mna	<i>Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin</i>	The Living Desert: The Borderlands of New Mexico as a Cultural Imaginary for Precarious Families in <i>Gas Food Lodging</i>
Isabel Oliveira	<i>NOVA FCSH–CETAPS</i>	Nomadland(s): Frontiers and Wastelands in the 21st Century
Gianna Fusco	<i>Università dell’Aquila</i>	“La ciudad se llama Duke/Nuevo Mexico el estado”: The Border Region as Waste Land in <i>Breaking Bad</i>

Panel C Alonso Room (Trinitarios)	Coping with the Ruthless Frontier Chair: Laura Álvarez Trigo (Universidad de Valladolid)	
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Elżbieta Horodyska	<i>Uniwersytet Warszawski</i>	The Cinematic <i>The Sisters Brothers</i> : Strands of Kindness and Care in a Tale of the Gold-Rush-Frenzied American West
Steve Spence	<i>Clayton State University</i>	Westerns, Wastelands, and <i>The Last of Us</i>
Franziska Friedl	<i>Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg</i>	“Heading to the Promised Land”: Echoes of the Frontier in the (Post-)Apocalyptic Landscape of Max Brooks’ <i>World War Z</i>

12:30–13:45 Salón de Actos (Rectorado)	Conference opening Esperanza Cerdá Redondo (Instituto Franklin-UAH), Julio Cañero Serrano (Universidad de Alcalá) KEYNOTE JOHN WILLIS (University of Kent) Doom Town and Las Vegas in the 1950s: Fun and Fear on the Atomic Frontier Chair: Anna Marta Marini (Universidad de Alcalá)
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14:00–15:00	LUNCH BREAK
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15:15–16:30	SESSION 3
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Panel A Cervantes Room (Trinitarios)	Representations of Necropolitical Violence on the Border Chair: Anna Marta Marini (Universidad de Alcalá)	
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Marek Paryż	<i>Uniwersytet Warszawski</i>	Reinterpreting the Trope of Captivity in a Contemporary Context: The Dynamics of Border Crossing in <i>Sicario: Day of the Soldado</i>
Matthew Carter	<i>Manchester Metropolitan University</i>	The Horrific Border: National Identity in <i>Savageland</i>
Michael Fuchs	<i>Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck</i>	Ludifying the US–Mexico Border in the Call of Duty Series

Panel B Guillén Room (Trinitarios)	Boundaries of Black and Asian Americanness Chair: Amaia Soroa Bacaicoa (UPV/EHU)	
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Michael Docherty	<i>Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck</i>	Frontiers of Blackness: Contesting California in African American Film
Hongying Wang	<i>Universidad Carlos III de Madrid</i>	A Chinese Americans' Brothel in San Francisco: A Study of <i>The Lost Daughter of Happiness</i> (2001) by Geling Yan
Virginia Bonner	<i>Clayton State University</i>	“Friends on the Other Side”: New Orleans and Blackness in Disney's <i>The Princess and the Frog</i>

16:45–17:45	SESSION 4
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Panel A Cervantes Room (Trinitarios)	Exile, Migration, and Integration Chair: Amaia Soroa Bacaicoa (UPV/EHU)	
Oksana Starshova	<i>Pembroke College, University of Cambridge</i>	Space and Body Transgressions in Immigrants' New York: Graphic Novel <i>Unterzakhn</i> by Leela Corman
Olha Polishchuk	<i>Universität des Saarlandes</i>	From Borders to Belonging: Oksana Liaturynska's Immigration Narrative and the Search for Identity in the USA
Panel B Guillén Room (Trinitarios)	Political Discourses on US Boundaries Chair: Rajesh C. Shukla (Saint Paul University)	
Saïd Ouaked	<i>Université de Limoges</i>	The Concept of "Frontier": Semantic Shifts and Meaning in Trump's Post-American World
Susannah Mandel	<i>Independent scholar</i>	"Where No Human Being Would Want to Live," or, Trump in Philadelphia: Maligning Black Neighborhoods and Delegitimizing Black Voters from 1865 to 2020
18:00–19:15	SESSION 5	
Panel A Cervantes Room (Trinitarios)	Mexico and Transnationality in Film Chair: Anna Marta Marini (Universidad de Alcalá)	
Juan Antonio Del Monte Madrigal	<i>Colegio de la Frontera Norte</i>	From the Neighbor's Backyard to Our Wasteland: The Making of a Mexican Border City as Deportees Disposal Pouch in Four Films
Nicholas P. Taylor	<i>San José State University</i>	In Defense of Iñárritu's <i>Bardo</i>
Milan Hain	<i>Univerzita Palackého v Olomouci</i>	South of El Paso: Expanding the Canon of US Films Noir Set in Mexico
20:30	CONFERENCE DINNER Restaurante Hemisferio Loft	

TUESDAY 28

09:15–10:30		
SESSION 6		
Panel A Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Visual Borders and Meaning-Making Chair: Michael Fuchs (Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck)	
Gwen Cressman	<i>Université de Strasbourg</i>	The Aesthetics of the Migrant Body at the Border
Derek Castle	<i>University of New Hampshire</i>	Where Dream(er)s Go to Die?: The Emptiness of Graphic Space in <i>Frontera</i>
Panel B Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	Borderland Theater and Performance Chair: Laura Álvarez Trigo (Universidad de Valladolid)	
Laurie Ellinghausen	<i>University of Missouri-Kansas City</i>	“Ellos no entienden”: Linguistic and Cultural Disruption in <i>Hamlet, El Príncipe de Denmark</i>
Grzegorz Welizarowicz	<i>Uniwersytet Gdański</i>	Calafia and Ramona in the Garden of Freeways: Carlos Morton’s <i>Los Dorados</i> as the Wasteland of Memory and Alethic Frontier
Antònia Oliver Rotger	<i>Universitat Pompeu Fabra</i>	Guillermo Gómez-Peña’s Mobile Performatic Border
Panel C Alonso Room (Trinitarios)	Contemporary Migratory Experiences and Boundaries Chair: Amaia Soroa Bacaicoa (UPV/EHU)	
Magda Rodriguez	<i>Texas A&M University</i>	The Interspace of Valeria Luiselli: The Latinoamericano Across Borders
Debarchana Baruah	<i>Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen</i>	Crossing Over to <i>el otro lado</i> with a Bottle of Pepsi
10:45–12:15		
SESSION 7		
Panel A Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Chicana and Female Borderland Experience Chair: Luisa Juárez Hervás (Universidad de Alcalá)	
Nicole Henares	<i>Independent scholar</i>	Desolation and Magic: The Allegory of <i>Cannery Row</i>
Liliana Lule	<i>University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</i>	“Wherever I go I carry home on my back”: Notions of Belonging in Ana Castillo’s <i>Sapogonia</i>

Christianna Anneke Snyder	<i>Texas A&M University</i>	Connecting the Collage: The Borderlands of Nostalgia in Norma E. Cantú's <i>Canícula</i> and <i>Cabañuelas</i>
Erin Murrah-Mandril	<i>University of Texas at Arlington</i>	The Angel of the Alamo: How Adina de Zavala Helped Build San Antonio's Timescape
Panel B Cervantes Room (Trinitarios)	Border and Immigration Policies Chair: Antonio Daniel Juan Rubio (Universidad de Granada)	
Rajesh C. Shukla	<i>Saint Paul University</i>	The US-Canada Safe Third Country Agreement and Its Critiques
Will McCorkle Beth Lloyd	<i>College of Charleston</i>	The US Border in the Week after Title 42
Shahanaz Parven Will McCorkle	<i>Università di Palermo</i> <i>College of Charleston</i>	The Difference in Treatment of Russians, Ukrainians, and Latinos at the Border
Antonio Daniel Juan Rubio Isabel María García Conesa	<i>Universidad de Granada</i> <i>Centro Universitario de la Defensa de San Javier</i>	The US-Mexican Frontier: Immigration Policies of the US Administrations
Panel C Alonso Room (Trinitarios)	Art, Rasquachismo, and Frontier Identity Expressions Chair: Sofía Martincorena (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)	
Matthew Stump	<i>Montana State University</i>	Having No Reservations: All Aboard the Oregon Trail of Tears
Marina Bernardo Flórez	<i>Universitat de Barcelona</i>	Representations of the Mexican-US border in Chicana Children's Picturebooks
Joseline González-Ajanel	<i>Texas A&M University</i>	"Hay Una Esquina" in Los Angeles: Journeys, Rasquachismo, and Space in Latinx Film

12:30–13:45 Salón de Actos (Colegio de Málaga)	ROUNDTABLE On Westerns, Gender and Genre Borders: Some Examples	
REWEST Group Research in Western American Literature and Culture (UPV/EHU)	David Río	
	Amaia Ibarraran	
	Ángel Chaparro	
	Amaia Soroa	

14:00–15:00	LUNCH BREAK
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15:15–16:30	SESSION 8
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Panel A Cervantes Room (Trinitarios)	Frontier Domesticity and Gender Chair: Amaia Soroa Bacaicoa (UPV/EHU)	
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Sofía Martinicorena	<i>Universidad Complutense de Madrid</i>	Explorations of the Wilderness Plot in Marilynne Robinson's <i>Housekeeping</i> (1980)
Elizabeth Coonrod Martínez	<i>Sonoma State University</i>	Racial Heritage and Borderlands Experience in Laura Esquivel's Discourse
Belaid Afettouche	<i>Université Mouloud Mammeri de Tizi-Ouzou</i>	The Frontier, Gender and Nationhood in Catherine Maria Sedgwick's <i>Hope Leslie</i>

Panel B Guillén Room (Trinitarios)	North American Frontiers in Comics Chair: Francisco Sáez de Adana (Universidad de Alcalá)	
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José Manuel Correoso Rodenas	<i>Universidad Complutense de Madrid</i>	The Skulled Road to Oregon: <i>Manifest Destiny</i> and the Re-Definition of the Pioneers' Frontier
David H. Evans	<i>Dalhousie University</i>	"He could still be there today!": Fractured Frontiers in Joe Sacco's <i>Paying the Land</i>
Lara RöBig	<i>Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München</i>	"Go West, Young Duck": The Renegotiation of the American frontier in a Scrooge McDuck Comic

16:45–17:45	SESSION 9
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Panel A Cervantes Room (Trinitarios)	Intersections of Gender and Ethnicity on the Frontier Chair: Anna Marta Marini (Universidad de Alcalá)	
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André Francisco	<i>ULICES–ULisboa</i>	"You ever think about leaving?": The Subversion of the Mythic American Frontier in <i>The Little Woods</i> (2018)
Paula K. Read	<i>University of Bristol</i>	The Invisible Frontier: A White Descendant's Family Perspective

Panel B Guillén Room (Trinitarios)	The Euro-Western Chair: Amaia Soroa Bacaicoa (UPV/EHU)	
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Zoltan Peterecz	<i>Eszterházy Károly University</i>	The Representation of the Frontier in Westerns in Hollywood and Hungary
Juan Antonio Sánchez Jiménez	<i>Independent scholar</i>	Spanish Westerns and Comics: The Work of Antonio Hernández Palacios

<p>18:00–19:15 Salón de Actos (Rectorado)</p>	<p>KEYNOTE CATHRYN HALVERSON (Södertörn University) Playing House in the American West Chair: Laura Álvarez Trigo (Universidad de Valladolid)</p> <p>Conference closure PopMeC Association for US Popular Culture Studies: Anna Marta Marini (president), Laura Álvarez Trigo (vice-president)</p>
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