



GRIEVINGS 2012

Annual International Conference

of the Institute of English Cultures and Literatures

University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland

Ustroń, Poland, 20—23 September, 2012

www.grievings.us.edu.pl / grievings@us.edu.pl

*No one comprehended that really he was ill,
that grief had made him so,
that grief had drawn a circle around him
he could not escape from
and others could not enter*

Call for Papers

Although generally resented and deemed unfavourable for individuals, societies and nations, grief, grievance, and grieving, along with a complex list of epithets that could in various situations, under varying circumstances, accompany them—racial grief, political grievance, protracted grieving, chronic grief, traumatic, unresolved grievance—nevertheless occupy a notorious place in culture and its manifestations in literature, art, history, science, or politics.

Confused experiences of melancholia, grief, nostalgia, shame, anguish, hate, longing, and jealousy continue to permeate cultural productions across historical moments, literary epochs, and political sympathies. It is these veneers that we intend to uncover and dismantle, thus – dissolve, or, assuming yet a different approach, assemble into larger entities exhibiting common patterns of formulaic imagining.

The name Grievings comes with several emphases in mind—we place great impact on attempts to explore questions of how globalization has affected modes of grieving, how it has altered the subjects/objects over which we grieve, and finally, how grievances have come to adopt the shape of ultimatums, sometimes escalating into forms of sabotage, schizophrenia, or even outright military conflict.

Conference Chair, Professor Zbigniew Białas, and Program Committee Members, Dr. Paweł Jędrzejko and Julia Szołtysek, M.A, welcome proposals for 20 minute papers from scholars working in all areas of literary and cultural studies. We invite paper abstracts on all aspects of grudging, grieving, mourning and longing. We are particularly interested in proposals which explore literary/cinematographic representations of the phenomena under investigation from a wide array of scholarly proveniences, perspectives and attitudes, and encourage presentations on the potential intersections of grievings and politics; grievings and history; grievings and globalization; grievings and (post)colonization/(post)colonialism; grievings and trans/multi-culturalism.

We have the honour to announce that Prof. Tabish Khair (Aarhus University, Denmark; author of *Filming* and *The Bus Stopped*), and Prof. Horst Tonn (University of Tuebingen Germany) have been invited to deliver plenary lectures.

In keeping with the conference's theme, individual paper proposals may want to address the following issues:

- Trauma and traumatic haunting,
- Racial/ethnic grief,
- Melancholia,
- Mourning,
- Imperialisms,
- Sickness,
- Madness,
- Compulsion,
- Obsession,
- Terror,
- Violence

Interpretations of the conference themes ranging from the predictable to the surprising are highly encouraged. Interdisciplinary perspectives are particularly welcome since all these topics in themselves stretch across several disciplines: history, literary studies, psychology, linguistics, political sciences, educational sciences, ethnology, gender/queer studies, anthropology, sociology. Graduate students are most welcome to participate. **Note: papers should be delivered in English.**

Please submit your 300-word abstract online by April 15th, 2012, using the form provided at the conference website: www.grievings.us.edu.pl

To do this, please, prepare the following info:

- title,
- professional affiliation,
- e-mail address,
- phone number,
- AV requirements,
- a short biographical note.

Registration link:

<http://grievings.us.edu.pl/index.php/component/cck/form/user?Itemid=120>

With all our best regards,

Prof. Zbigniew Biały, Conference Chair

Julia Szołtysek and Paweł Jędrzejko, Program Committee Members



Valery Milovic, Grief (<http://brokentoyland.com>)

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