

# Trans-scriptions: Cultural Codings and the Poetics of the Body

International Conference organized by University of Szczecin & University of Wrocław

**11-13 February 2026**

Institute of English Studies, University of Wrocław, Poland

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

### Conference venues:

Institute of English Studies, Kuźnicza 22, 50-138 Wrocław  
Main University Building, Plac Uniwersytecki 1, 50-145 Wrocław (approx. 2-minute walk from the Institute)

### PLEASE NOTE:

Panel sessions take place in the Institute of English Studies building (rooms: 11, 111, 114, 208, 212, 215)  
Coffee breaks and lunches take place at the Institute of English Studies (ground floor)

Keynote lectures and conference dinner take place in the Main University Building

Day 1: 11 Feb 2026 (Wed)				
10.00 - 11.00	<b>Registration</b> (Ground floor of the Institute of English Studies building, Kuźnicza 22, immediately by the main entrance)			
11.00 - 11.30	<b>CONFERENCE OPENING</b> (Aula Leopoldina, Main University Building, Plac Uniwersytecki 1, 1st floor)			
11.30-13.00	<b>Keynote lecture:</b>  <h2 style="text-align: center;">Xavier Aldana Reyes</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">Contemporary Body Horror: Becoming "Other(-)Wise"</h3> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chair: Magdalena Dziurzyńska</b> <b>ROOM: Aula Leopoldina</b> (Main University Building, Plac Uniwersytecki 1, 1st floor)</p>			
13.00 - 14.00	<b>LUNCH</b> (Institute of English Studies, Kuźnicza 22, ground floor)			
14.00 - 15.30 (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźnicza 22)	Session 1A / room: 111 Chair: Beata Zawadka	Session 1B / room: 114 Chair: Krystian Grądz	Session 1C / room: 212 Chair: Radosław Siewierski	Session 1D / room: 215 Chair: Marta Usiekniewicz
	<b>Spectral bodies</b>	<b>Auto(body)biography</b>	<b>Bodies in the past</b>	<b>Liquid &amp; enmeshed bodies</b>
	Iwona Filipczak	Alessandra Pizzileo	Abbie Fray	Heidi Lucja Liedke
	Vulnerable bodies in Shaila Abdullah's <i>Saffron Dreams</i>	The refunctionalization of home movies in Simone Cangelosi's documentary cinema	A Sensorial and Affective Reading of Dysphoric Embodiment in the 1381 Peasants' Revolt	Ktir Bodies: Queerness in Slavic-Anglo-German Borderlands
	Barbara Braid	Anna Klimek	Mónica Morado Vázquez	Justyna Stępień
	Afrofuturistic dyschronia and dis/embodiment in <i>Antebellum</i> (2020) and <i>Kindred</i> (2022)	Revisiting Virginia Woolf's <i>Orlando</i> : Autobiography, Transmasculinity, and Desire	Passing Judgement: Ambiguous Sex and Liminal Ontologies in Early Modern Spain	Speculative Trans-scriptions of More/than/human Bodies in Performative Artistic Practices
	Karolina Kmita	Dominika Tokarz	Justyna Surmacz	Zuzanna Legan
"An Abomination of the Fleshly": Gender Trans-scriptions, Ogbanje Ontology, and Fragmented Selves in Akwaeke Emezi's <i>Freshwater</i> (2018)	<i>Songs Sung to Myself</i> by Konstancja Benisławska as a Study of Female Corporeality	Bodies on Display: Ageing, Social Utility, and the Politics of Victorian Womanhood	"already fallen, already wet, already missing" – unsettled subjects, practices of disorientation and swimmer poetics	
15.30 - 16.00	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b> (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźnicza 22, ground floor)			
16.00 - 17.30 (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźnicza 22)	Session 2A / room: 111 Chair: Dominika Ferens	Session 2B / room: 114 Chair: Anna Kurowicka	Session 2C / room: 212 Chair: Beata Zawadka	Session 2D / room: 215 Chair: Sylwia Hatub
	<b>Queer affect</b>	<b>Trans*bodies</b>	<b>Coded bodies</b>	<b>The body of a witch</b>
	Andreea Moise	Isaac Linton Clewes	Katarzyna Ostalska	Cora Baratti
	"Apples, Half Eaten Into": Trialectic Affects and Queer Desires in Ann Quin's <i>Three</i>	Jaundice and Gold: The 'Trans' Body Aestheticized in Luke Sutherland's <i>Venus as a Boy</i>	Coding bodies and de-coding embodied digital narratives in poems and fiction	The Witch Beyond Essentialism: Radical Feminism, Monstrous Femininity, and Trans-Embodied Futures
	Julia Wajdziak	Łukasz Smuga	Olga Rembienińska	Joanna Anczaruk
	Writing the Body, Mourning the Voice: Queer Grief in the Legacies of Andrea Gibson and Megan Falley	'I Trans-Scribe, Therefore I Am': Overcoming Transgender Identity Through Writing in Elizabeth Duval's Autofiction and Essays	The Embodiment of Code in Algorave Culture	Sacred Femininity as a Tool of Patriarchal Narrative – Reclaiming the Mythical Body of the Wiccan Goddess
	Ruiyang Tan	Maria Isabel Romero-Ruiz & Rocio Carrasco Carrasco	Fanny Wendt Höjer	
Body in Aftermath: Refugee Trauma and Queer Aesthetics of Resistance in Ocean Vuong's <i>On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous</i>	Cultural Codings through Transformations: Queer Practices of Use and Embodiment in Post 9/11 Fiction	Desiring disease: the re-coding of bodies in <i>The Virosexuals</i>		

Day 2: 12 Feb 2026 (Thu)				
9.00 - 9.30	Registration cont. (Ground floor of the Institute of English Studies building, Kuźniczka 22, immediately by the main entrance)			
9.30 - 11.00 (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźniczka 22)	Session 4A / room: 111 Chair: Agnieszka Kotwasieńska	Session 4B / room: 114 Chair: Justyna Stępień	Session 4C / room: 212 Chair: Paweł M. Baran	Session 4D / room: 215 Chair: Radostaw Siewierski
	<b>Asexual bodies</b>	<b>Body as assemblage</b>	<b>Body and trauma</b>	<b>Racialised bodies</b>
	Anna Kurowicka	Jacqueline Victoria Woroniec	Krystian Marcin Grądz	Ewa Kroplewska-Kuśnierz (ON)
	<b>The Traumatized Asexual Body in Hanya Yanagihara's <i>A Little Life</i></b>	Satanic Queer Animated Bodies in <i>Hazbin Hotel</i> (2024—)	De-pathologizing Sad/Depressed Bodies in Gregory Crewdson's Selected Work	Reclaiming "the self": body as a site of violence, resistance and healing in Patricia Grace's short stories
	Sylwia Hatub	Juan Carlos Hidalgo-Ciudad	Miki Masumoto	Łukasz Muniowski
"Leaves are growing out of my body, roots are sprouting out of my hands": Vegetal Transformation and Asexual Refusal in Han Kang's <i>The Vegetarian</i>	<b>Transness as Rhizomatic Assemblage: Josh Lake's <i>Future Feeling</i></b>	Fragmented Humanities and Weapons in Shaw's <i>Major Barbara</i>	Caitlin Clark and White Privilege in Women's Basketball	
	K. A. Harper	Katarzyna Rukojć (ON)	Pedro Mora-Ramírez	
	Freakuencies & Kinterventions: Exploring Pete & Lynne Burns' Queer Nonconformity in Liverpool's post-punk scene through creative praxis	<b>Memory, Trauma, and the Fictional Body: Transcribing the Aging Mind in Paul Auster's <i>Travels in the Scriptorium</i></b>	Trans-scripting the Black Male Body: Ava DuVernay's <i>When They See Us</i> (2019)	
11.00 - 11.30	COFFEE BREAK (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźniczka 22, ground floor)			
11.30 - 13.00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Keynote lecture:</b></p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Jack Halberstam</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">Trans Bodies Before and After the End of the World</h3> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chair: Barbara Braid</b> <b>ROOM: Aula Leopoldina</b> (Main University Building, Plac Uniwersytecki 1, 1st floor)</p>			
13.00 - 14.00	LUNCH (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźniczka 22, ground floor)			
14.00 - 15.30 (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźniczka 22)	Session 5A / room: 111 Chair: Barbara Braid	Session 5B / room: 114 Chair: Tomasz Basiuk	Session 5C / room: 212 Chair: Anna Maria Ronewicz	Session 5D / room: 215 Chair: Magdalena Dziurzyńska
	<b>DISCUSSION PANEL</b>  <b>"Updating the Hag: Limits of Old Age in Contemporary Horror"</b> A conversation between Olga Gajek, Joanna Kaniewska and Agnieszka Kotwasieńska (Weird Fictions Research Group at the American Studies Center, University of Warsaw)	<b>Bodies on display</b>	<b>More-than-human bodies</b>	<b>Bodies in drag</b>
		C. G. Branch (ON)	Ane B. Ruiz-Lejarcegui (ON)	Dilek Menteşe-Kiryaman (ON)
		Intimate Domains: American Techno-nationalism and the Rise of the Celebrity Sex Tape	<b>Exploring posthuman embodiment in Becky Chambers' <i>A Closed and Common Orbit</i></b>	The Body in Transition: Racial and Gendered Identities in Dean Atta's <i>The Black Flamingo</i>
		Sylwia Frach	Piotr Płomiński	Olaf Adamczyk
Unwatchable Bodies: Nina Menkes, Cinematic Trans-cription, and the Politics of the Gaze		Bodies, labor and consumption through new materialist lens in <i>The Employees</i> by Olga Ravn	Performing Authenticity: Drag, Reality Shows, and the Cultural Politics of the Body in <i>RuPaul's Drag Race</i>	
Quen Took	Ana Bessa Carvalho	Christopher L. Ballengee		
	<b>'His Arms Around [Her] Beautiful Corpse' – Girls on film, and the male gaze that script-writes the dead in the female-led horror movie</b>	The Mermaid, the Tiger and the Monster: Queer Embodiments in Contemporary Fiction	Dulahin or Churite: Gender, Performance, and Spectrality in Indian Caribbean Creative Practice	
15.30 - 16.00	COFFEE BREAK (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźniczka 22, ground floor)			
16.00 - 17.30 (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźniczka 22)	Session 6A / room: 111 Chair: Jacqueline Woroniec	Session 6B / room: 114 Chair: Dominika Ferens	Session 6C / room: 212 Chair: Krystyna Mazur	Session 6D / room: 215 Chair: Olaf Adamczyk
	<b>Cannibalism</b>	<b>Ageing female body</b>	<b>Mutilated bodies</b>	<b>Fashioning bodies</b>
	Charlotte Elliott	Ewa Wylęzek Targosz (ON)	Zofia Kolbuszewska	Gabriela Iwanowska (ON)
	"She Ate": The Empowered Female Cannibal in Monika Kim's <i>The Eyes Are the Best Part</i>	Agency does not Age – the Power of the "Older Women" in Liane Moriarty's fiction	Mutilated Bodies and Horrific Ekphrasis: Art's Metaleptic Revenge on Arts Professionals in the Film <i>Velvet Buzzsaw</i>	Tattoos as a Means of Conveying a Personal Story on the Example of Sarah J. Maas' <i>Books</i>
	Marta Usiekiewicz	Paula García-Rodríguez	Molnár Kincső-Bernadett (ON)	Nina Augustynowicz
"If oral sex isn't sex, is it eating?": Sexual and Alimentary Consumption of Female Cannibals	Disposable Bodies in Trans-cription: The Transformation of the Ageing Female Body in Contemporary Horror Fiction	"Cut off his manhood and feed it to the goats!" The symbolism of mutilation in <i>Game of Thrones</i>	The Politics and Aesthetics of Nail Art in Contemporary Femininities	
Anna Maria Ronewicz	Sahar Javaid	Jarostaw Giza	Zuzanna Mazzoll	
"The mortal garden screams and bleeds": Self-Destruction and Embodiment in <i>The Magnus Archives</i> Audio Drama	The Poetics of the Graphic Body: Ageing Avatars in <i>Granny</i> and <i>Scary Teacher</i> 3D Video Games	From Scarred Detectives to Fragmented Corpses: Reading the Body as Text in Jo Nesbø's Oslo Trilogy	Text(ured Hair) on the Margins: Reading Textured Hair in the Mandatorily Straight Polish Hairscape	
18.30	CONFERENCE DINNER (Klub Uniwersytecki, Main University Building)			

Day 3 : 13 Feb 2026 (Fri)				
9.00 - 9.30	Registration cont. (Ground floor of the Institute of English Studies building, Kuźnica 22, immediately by the main entrance)			
9.30 - 11.00 (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźnica 22)	Session 7A / room: 111 Chair: Beata Zawadka	Session 7B / room: 114 Chair: Barbara Braid	Session 7C / room: 212 Chair: Sylwia Hatub	Session 7D / room: 215 Chair: Iwona Filipczak
	<b>Digital bodies</b>	<b>Augmented bodies</b>	<b>Reproductive bodies</b>	<b>Celuloid bodies</b>
	Emilia Pietropaolo (ON)	Fedoua Manar Grouri	Amber Anseeuw	Tomasz Basiuk
	Deaf Bodies in Media and Self-Representation: Resistance and Cultural Inscription	A Dyadic Transcription of the Cyborg: Human Enhancement and the Body in Neil Burger's <i>Limitless</i> (2011)	Of Waters and Clouds: the Trans-Corporeal Poetics of Reproductive Grief in Louisa Hall's <i>Reproduction</i>	Rape Revengers and Flesh Eaters. A Comparative Reading
	Diogo Marques	Agnieszka Jagła	Viktorija Krombholc (ON)	Klara Szmańko
	Haptic Inscriptions: The Digital Midas Touch and the Poetics of Embodied Interfaces	Transhumanism and disability in <i>Noor</i> by Nnendi Okorafor	Feral bodies in Claire Oshetsky's <i>Chouette</i>	"The Whisper of a Thrill": A Twilight Zone between Body and the Spirit, Love and Death in <i>Meet Joe Black</i>
Paweł M. Baran	Kamila Celmerowska	Katarzyna Burzyńska		
Embodying perception: Changes of perspective in <i>Resident Evil</i> (1996-present) series through the lens of body and narrative	Masochism, mobility, machinery: the influence of sexual fetishisation of medical and automotive technology on depictions of disability in <i>Crash</i> (1996) and <i>Titane</i> (2021)	Trans-scriptions of aging reproductive bodies in Shakespeare		
11.00 – 11.30	COFFEE BREAK (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźnica 22, ground floor)			
11.30 - 13.00	<p align="center"><b>Session 8 - Performance</b></p> <p align="center"><b>E.M. Parry</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Needlings</b></p> <p align="center"><b>ROOM: 11</b> (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźnica 22)</p>			
13.00 - 14.00	LUNCH (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźnica 22, ground floor)			
14.00 - 15.30 (Institute of English Studies building, Kuźnica 22)	Session 9A / room: 111 Chair: Zofia Kolbuszewska	Session 9B / room: 114 Chair: Krystian Grądz	Session 9C / room: 212 Chair: Barbara Braid	
	<b>Body poetics</b>	<b>Biopolitics</b>	<b>Transcorporeality</b>	
	Alina Zofia Hanusiak	Andrea Ragno (ON)	Natalia Pop Zarieva & Krste Iliev (ON)	
	Fragmented, Unstable, and Fractured Bodies in Contemporary Poetry	Medicalization Beyond Diagnosis: Semiotics, Biopolitics, and the Trans Body. Medical Narratives and the Politics of the Body: Medicalization, Autonomy, and the Biopolitics of Classification	Beyond the Human: Transcorporeal Belonging from Ecotopia to Climate Crisis	
	Katarzyna Danuta Wywiat	Anna Saracino	Magdalena Dziurzyńska	
	"Your fingers were our cathedral": the body in David Shapiro's poetry	Trans-scribing the spectacle: media-codings, power, and the poetics of trans femininity in the <i>Marazzo</i> Case	Ecotopias of the Flesh: Bodies Entangled with Land in Feminist Separatist Narratives	
Rudolf Sardi (ON)	Kamil Dukiewicz	Krystyna Mazur		
From Gothic Monster to Posthuman Figure: Rereading <i>Dracula</i>	Drawing as Embodied Remembrance in Joe Sacco's <i>Footnotes in Gaza</i>	Whose body? / Whose bodies? Queer ecologies by Wilczyce		
15:30 - 15.45	CONFERENCE CLOSING (room 208, Institute of English Studies building, Kuźnica 22)			