



USES OF MODERNISM  
20-22 SEPTEMBER 2023  
GHENT UNIVERSITY

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## Ghent University Campus Boekentoren

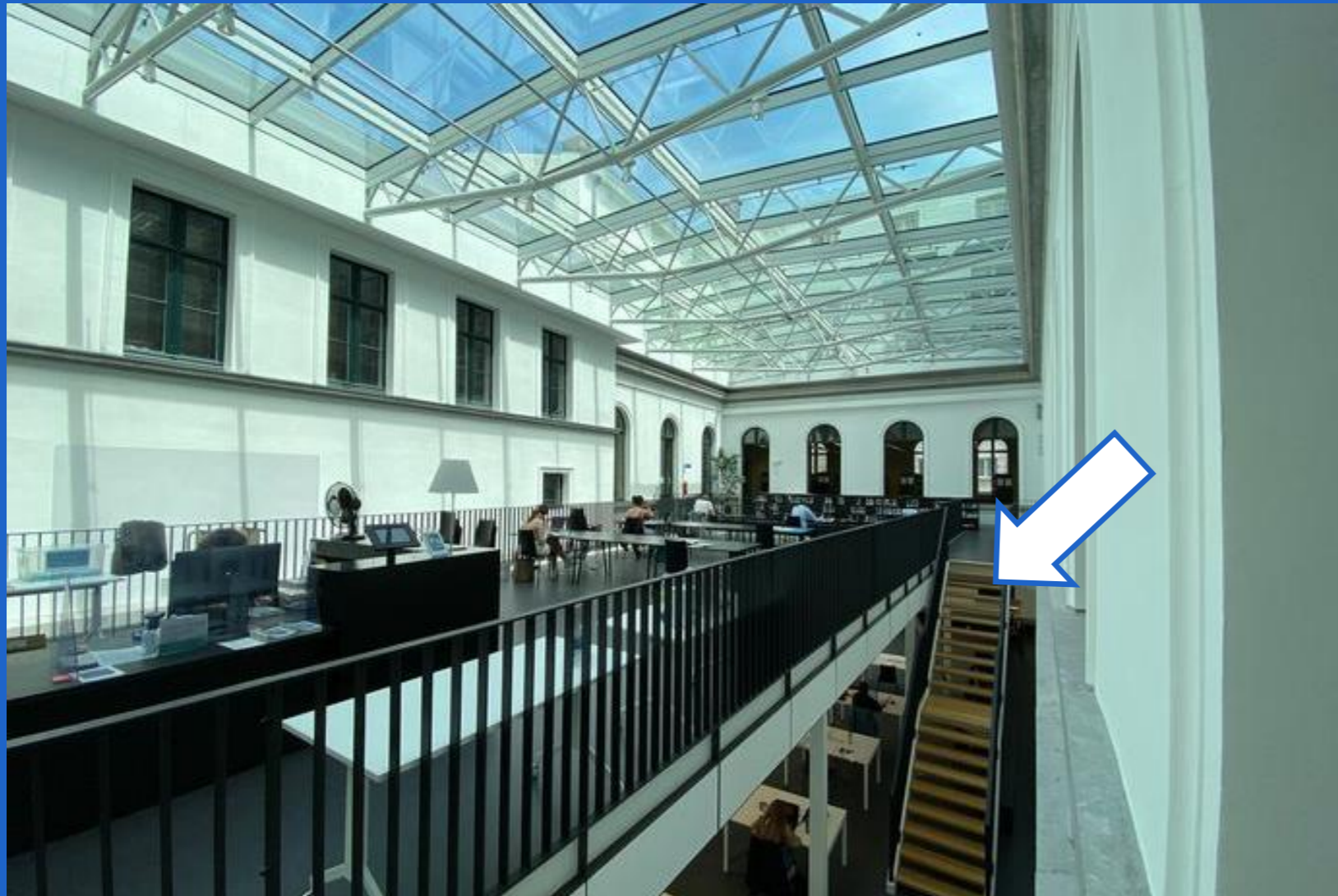
Rozier 44, 9000 Gent

The conference venue is in the right wing of the building (MAGNEL).

Please follow the signs placed at the entrance.  
Wheelchair users can access the venue from the side entrance in the Gezusters Lovelingstraat.



# MAIN VENUE



## Faculty Library of Arts and Philosophy Atrium (-1)

General sessions, coffee breaks and lunches take place in the Library Atrium (floor -1).  
At the entrance of the library, take the stairs. You can also access the Atrium via the lift.

Lunches are only for registered participants.

# MAIN VENUE

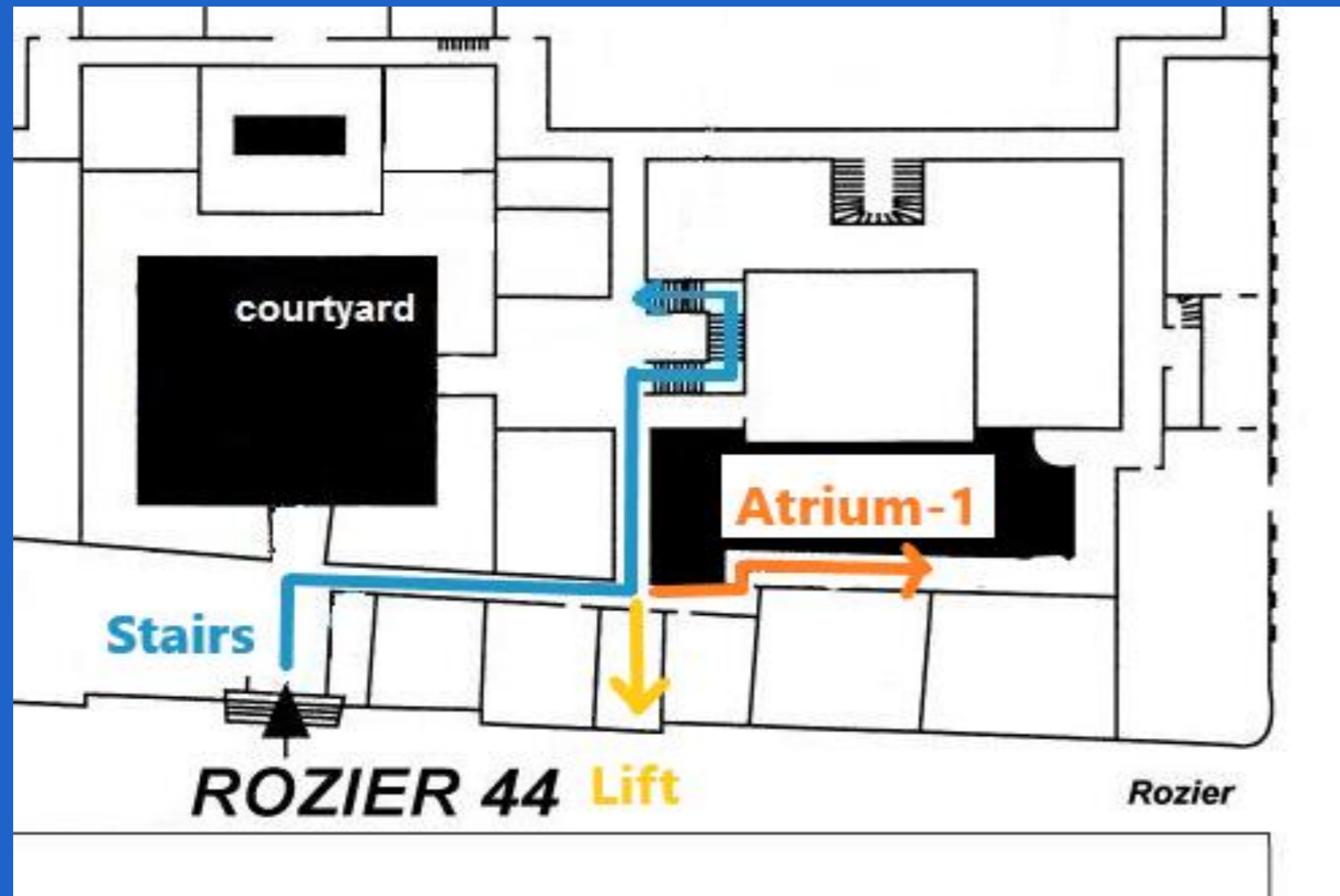
## Faculty Library of Arts and Philosophy

### Rooms 2.1, 2.2 and 2.4

All the parallel sessions take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the building (see the program for details).

The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor is accessible by lift or by stairs.

Toilets are in the basement floor (-1: access via the lift or via the Atrium) and on the ground floor (0: access via the Library).



# MAIN VENUE

19<sup>th</sup> September: Welcome Reception Sint-Pietersabdij

Only for registered participants ([register here](#))

Sint-Pietersplein 9, 9000 Gent - Kapittelzaal - 7pm-9pm

**PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT**

21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> September:

Guided tour to the 'Book Tower'

Only for registered participants ([register here](#))

Rozier 9, 9000 Gent



# GUIDED TOUR BOEKENTOREN

# SEP. 20 - MORNING SESSION

08:30 Registration opens: Faculty Library

9:00 - 9:15

**Opening address by Prof. Dr. Gita Deneckere** Dean Faculty of Arts (Ghent University)

**Keynote speaker: Prof. Dr. Xudong Zhang (NYU)**

9:15 - 10:45

Being and Nothingness in Non-Western Modernism: Politics and Poetics in the Mixed Styles Approach in the Chinese Vernacular Revolution in the 1920s and 1930s

Chair Mara Santi (Ghent University)

10:45 - 11:15

Coffee break. Faculty Library Atrium -1

11:15 - 12:45

**PARALLEL SESSIONS 1** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Panel 1a - Room 2.1

Panel 1b - Room 2.2

Panel 1c - Room 2.4

Modernist Afterlives: Critique, Literature, Theory

Spaces of Abstraction, Abstractions of Space:

Modernist Science at the Crossroads of

Philosophy, Literature and Art / 1

Modernism on Stage

Chair Bart Eeckhout (University of Antwerp)

Chair Nicolas Michel (Bergische Universität Wuppertal)

Chair Guylian Nemegeer (Ghent University)

[Ian Ellison](#) (University of Kent): Living Forth a Century Later: Benjamin, Proust, Kafka

[John Greaney](#) (Goethe University Frankfurt): Modernism Living On: Periodisation and Polarisation

[Mimi Lu](#) (University of Oxford): The University and the Afterlives of Modernism

[Tom Hedley](#) (Trinity College Dublin): Transforming Empty Spaces: Modern Mathematics, Metamorphosis and “die neue Frau” in Mela Hartwig’s *Bin ich ein überflüssiger Mensch?* (1931)

[Abigael van Alst](#) (KU Leuven): A New World in  $n$  Dimensions: Aleksei Kruchenykh, Velimir Khlebnikov, Kazimir Malevich and Mikhail Matiushin’s *Victory Over the Sun* (1913)

[Adele Guyton](#) (KU Leuven): Open and Closed Spaces: Narrating Pseudoscience, Fiction, and Scientific Authority in the Periodical *Das Neue Universum*

[Irina Rasmussen](#) (Stockholm University): Musicalization in Joyce and Toomer: Staging the Sound Panic

[Martina Turconi](#) (University of Padua): The Manifestation of Silence in Puccini’s *Tosca* and *Turandot*

[Sarah Bonciarelli](#) (Ghent University): The Mute Parrot. Reflections on the Role of Sounds and Silences in Aldo Palazzeschi’s work

12:45 - 14:00

Lunch. Faculty Library Atrium -1

# SEP. 20 - EARLY AFTERNOON SESSION

14:00 - 15:30 **PARALLEL SESSIONS 2** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Panel 2a - Room 2.1

Modernism and Radio

Chair Bart Van den Bossche (KU Leuven)

[Edward Allen](#) (University of Cambridge, Università degli Studi di Padova): Remembering Memories: Stuart Woolf's *Primo Levi* in 1961

[Birgit Van Puymbroeck](#) (Vrije Universiteit Brussel): Modernism's Afterlives on Radio: Katie Hims's *Luxembourg Gardens* and Mary Cooper's *Edith Sitwell in Scarborough*

Panel 2b - Room 2.2

Spaces of Abstraction, Abstractions of Space:  
Modernist Science at the Crossroads of  
Philosophy, Literature and Art / 2

Chair Cedric Van Dijck (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

[Nicolas Michel](#) (Bergische Universität Wuppertal): Geometry as Symbolic Fiction: On Hermann Schubert's Modernist Mathematics

[Michael H. Whitworth](#) (University of Oxford): Popular Astronomy Writing at the Edges of 'Modernism'

[Anne Regina Grasselli](#) (University of Edinburgh): Kandinsky's Early Notebooks on Optics and their Relationship to Abstraction

[Chiara Ludovica Maria Nifosi](#) (University of Lisbon): Seen from above: Aerial Imagination in French War Poetry

Panel 2c - Room 2.4

Ecologies of Modernism

Chair Riccardo Barontini (Ghent University)

[Salvatore Francesco Lattarulo](#) (University of Bari): "Chi ci guarirà dalla mancanza di aria e di spazio?": An Ecomodernist Reading of *La Coscienza di Zeno*

[Nurten Bayraktar](#) (Cappadocia University): Trans-corporeality Opposed to Dead Matter in T.S. Eliot's *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*

15:30 - 16:00 Coffee break. Faculty Library Atrium -1



# SEP. 20 - LATE AFTERNOON SESSION

16:00 - 17:30 **PARALLEL SESSIONS 3** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Panel 3a - Room 2.1

Panel 3b - Room 2.2

Panel 3c - Room 2.4

## Transnational Modernism in Visual Arts & Literature

Chair Mao Chen (Skidmore College)

[Aathira Peedikaparambil Somasundaran](#) (Cardiff University): Migration as the Trigger for Change in the Levant Art Tradition

[Nicola Baird](#) (London South Bank University): Modernism, Identity and Intersectionality (Race, Class, Nationality): The Case of David Bomberg, the Ben Uri Gallery and the Sarah Rose Collections

[Mao Chen](#) (Skidmore College): Lu Xun and Transnational Modernism: Breaking with the Past

[Tsung-Han Tsai](#) (National Kaohsiung Normal University): *A Passage in India* in Taiwan: Translation, Politics, Modernisms

## Travelling the Boundaries of Modernism

Chair Francis Mus (Ghent University)

[Amalia Cotoi](#) (Babeş-Bolyai University): What About Legacy? Contemporary Modernism and the Logic of Reperiodization

[Francesca Caraceni](#) (Catholic University of Milan): Modernist Forms from John Henry Newman to Irish Modernism: The Case of James Stephens and Flann O'Brien.

[Tram Nguyen](#) (CUNY): Metamodernist Women: Millet, Erdrich, and Ozeki

## Contemporary Modernisms

Chair Hans Vandevoorde (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

[Izabela Sobczak](#) (Adam Mickiewicz's University): Intertexts of the "New" Modernism. Intimate Paths of Women Writers' Response to Literature of the Last Century

[Kaitlin Thurlow](#) (University of Georgia): Failing to Remember: Aesthetic Encounters in Damon Galgut's *In a Strange Room*

[Emanuel Lupascu](#) (Babeş-Bolyai University): Seeking Wholeness: Nostalgia, Psychoanalysis, and Metamodernism in Mircea Cărtărescu's Fiction

[Anneloek Scholten](#) (Radboud University): Meta-Modernism as Postcritique: *LOTE* (2020) and Modernist Trans-Fictions

# SEP. 21 - EARLY MORNING SESSION

09:00 Registration opens: Faculty Library

09:15 - 10:45 **PARALLEL SESSIONS 4** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Panel 4a - Room 2.1

Panel 4b - Room 2.2

Panel 4c - Room 2.4

Ongoing Literary Modernity in the Lusophone Space:  
Interactions between World-Modernism  
and Peripheral Literary Modernity / 1

Chair Marco Bucaioni (University of Lisbon)

[Fernando de Moraes Gebra](#) (University of Lisbon): Inside *Orpheu*: A Historiographical Review of the Portuguese Modernism

[Rui Sousa](#) (University of Lisbon): Portuguese Surrealism as a Critical Semi-Peripheral Movement in Mário Cesariny's Theoretical Proposals

Making Modernism Useful:  
Trans-Pacific Exchanges in Postwar Japan

Chair Cedric Van Dijck (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

[Hiromi Ochi](#) (Senshu University): The Uses of Faulkner: A Modernist and a Southerner

[Yuko Yamamoto](#) (Chiba University): The Art and Science of Cold War Modernity: William Faulkner, Hideki Yukawa, and USIA Films in 1955 Japan

[Mary A. Knighton](#) (Aoyama Gakuin University): How to Make Good Use of Lost Causes: Reproducing Faulkner's Impotent Fathers in Japan

Continuities and Discontinuities of Italian Modernism  
between the 1930s and the 1950s / 1

Chair Guido Bartolini (Ghent University)

[Giorgia Gherzi](#) (University of Pisa): Unframed Modernism: Fausta Cialente's *Natalia*

[Michela Rossi Sebastiano](#) (Università degli Studi di Siena): Carlo Bernari's *Tre operai*: The Modernist Structure of a Neorealist Novel

[Niccolò Amelii](#) (University G. D'Annunzio of Chieti-Pescara): Workers and Builders: *Tre operai* by Bernari and *Quartiere Vittoria* by Dèttore Between Modernist Realism and Expressionism

10:45 - 11:15 Coffee break. Faculty Library Atrium -1

# SEP. 21 - LATE MORNING SESSION

11:15 - 12:45 **PARALLEL SESSIONS 5 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

Panel 5a - Room 2.1

Ongoing Literary Modernity in the Lusophone Space:  
Interactions between World-Modernism  
and Peripheral Literary Modernity / 2

Chair Rui Sousa (University of Lisbon)

[Marco Bucaioni](#) (University of Lisbon): The Years that Changed the Dominant Poetics. Literary Modernity in the Portuguese Novel 1963-1980

[Sofia Morabito](#) (University of Pisa): "Center" and "Periphery": An Alternative Modernism in the Dialogue between Colonial and Postcolonial Portuguese Language Literature

[Mário Vítor Fernandes Araujo Bastos](#) (University of Lisbon): The Critique of Modernity in the Work of Mário Cesariny

Panel 5b - Room 2.2

Central European Modernisms

Chair Bart Keunen (Ghent University)

[Katarzyna Deja](#) (Jagiellonian University): Global Turn in Modernist Studies: A Polish Perspective

[Gabor Bednatics](#) (Eszterházy Károly Catholic University): The Local Strives to Be Global: Following, Resisting, and/or Remodeling Modernism in Hungarian Literature

[Mindaugas Kvietkauskas](#) (Vilnius University): Hybrid Diaspora: Lithuanian, Polish and Eastern European Jewish Modernist and Avant-Garde Milieu in Paris in the Late 1920s

Panel 5c - Room 2.4

Continuities and Discontinuities of Italian Modernism  
between the 1930s and the 1950s / 2

Chair Guido Bartolini (Ghent University)

[Alessandro De Laurentiis](#) (University of Pisa): Modernist Persistence in Vittorini's *Piccola borghesia*

[Michele Maiolani](#) (University of Cambridge): Calvino's Early Short Stories: A Modernist Debut?

[Erica Bellia](#) (University of Cambridge): "Una perfetta allegoria": A (Neo?)Modernist Re-reading of Ennio Flaiano's *Tempo di uccidere* and Lalla Romano's *Le Metamorfosi*

12:45 - 14:00 Lunch. Faculty Library Atrium -1

13:00-14:00 **Guided tour Boekentoren GROUP 1**

# SEP. 21 - AFTERNOON SESSION

14:00 - 15:30 **PARALLEL SESSIONS 6 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

Panel 6a - Room 2.1

Ongoing Literary Modernity in the Lusophone Space:  
Interactions between World-Modernism  
and Peripheral Literary Modernity / 3

Chair Marco Bucaioni/Rui Sousa (University of Lisbon)

[Marisa Mourinha](#) (University of Lisbon): Rio de Janeiro, New York, Mindelo, Lourenço Marques. Transatlantic Crossings of Modernism Models Into the Portuguese Language African Literature

[Dênis Augusto da Silva](#) (University of Lisbon): Questioned Modernity in Abdulai Sila's Works

[Frederico van Erven Cabala](#) (Federal Fluminense University): Modern Brazilian Drama: Impacts of the Play *O rei da vela (The Candle King)*, by Oswald de Andrade

Panel 6b - Room 2.2

Modernism as World Literature:  
The Case of C.P. Cavafy

Chair Takis Kayalis (Hellenic Open University)

[Paschalis Nikolaou](#) (Ionian University): Cavafy's Languages: Some Notes on the Poet Inflecting Other Literary Traditions in the Wake of Modernism

[Ewa Róża Janion](#) (University of Warsaw): Cavafy's Modernism and Polish Homosexualities

[Angeliki Mousiou](#) (Onassis Foundation Cavafy Archive): World Literature in the Cavafy Archive: Tracing a Modernist Canon

[Takis Kayalis](#) (Hellenic Open University): C. P. Cavafy's Modernist Connections

Panel 6c - Room 2.4

Conference Out of the Box

15:30 - 16:00 Coffee break. Faculty Library Atrium -1

16:00 - 17:30

**Keynote speaker: Prof. Dr. Tsitsi Ella Jaji (Duke University)**

Reduce, Reuse, Refuse: Some African Perspectives on Modernism

Chair Bart Van den Bossche (KU Leuven)

17:30 - 18:30 **Guided tour Boekentoren GROUP 2**

19:30 - 21:30 **Conference Dinner. De Abt (Lange Kruisstraat 4, Gent). Only for registered participants**

# SEP. 22 - EARLY MORNING SESSION

09:00 Registration opens: Faculty Library

09:15 - 10:45 **PARALLEL SESSIONS 7 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

Panel 7a - Room 2.1

Panel 7b - Room 2.2

Panel 7c - Room 2.4

Silence is Golden?  
Language, Ineffability, and Spirituality  
in Modernist Poetry / 1

Chair Diego Terzano (University of Pisa)

Modernist Poetry in Latvia:  
Masculinity, Hybridity, Temporality

Chair Kārlis Vērdiņš (University of Latvia)

Conference Out of the Box

[Francesco Ottonello](#) (University of Bergamo): Ganymede a Figure of Silence: A Modernist Reworking of the Myth in Saba's *Mediterranee*

[Enaiê Mairê Azambuja](#) (University of London): The Zen-inflected Apophatic Ecopoetics of William Carlos Williams, Wallace Stevens, and E. E. Cummings

[Lucia Battistel](#) (LUMSA): The Eloquence of Silence: Spoken and Unspoken Word in Mario Luzi's Poetry

[Kārlis Vērdiņš](#) (University of Latvia): "He Must Be a Magnificent Lover": Proletarian Bodies and Male Desire Aleksandrs Čaks's Early Poetry

[Ivars Šteinbergs](#) (University of Latvia): Modernism as Contraband? Tracing Some Aspects of Western Poetics in Soviet-Era Latvian Poetry

[Artis Ostups](#) (University of Latvia, University of Tartu): Presentist Approach to Post-Soviet Modernism: The Case of Arvis Viguls

10:45 - 11:15 Coffee break. Faculty Library Atrium -1

# SEP. 22 - LATE MORNING SESSION

11:15 - 12:45 **PARALLEL SESSIONS 8** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Panel 8a - Room 2.1

Modernism and Society / 1

Chair Eline Batsleer (Ghent University)

[Monica Jansen](#) (Utrecht University): Celso Costantini's Uses of Modernism in Missionary Sacred Art: An Act of Decolonization?

[Jamie Christopher Callison](#) (University of Agder): Rediscovering the Moravians: Between Credulity and Credibility in the Poetry and Lived Religion of H.D.

[Prabha Shankar Dwivedi](#) (Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati): Metaphysics of Boundary: Configuring the Bhagavadgītā in the Modernist Paradigms

Panel 8b - Room 2.2

Silence is Golden?  
Language, Ineffability, and Spirituality  
in Modernist Poetry / 2

Chair Bart Van den Bossche (KU Leuven)

[Diego Terzano](#) (University of Pisa): «Speech is not dirty silence / clarified». On the (Inter)discursive Nature of Silence Across Modernist Poetry

[Parul Tiwari](#) (Indian Institute of Technology): The Promise of Truth: A 'Silent' Theatre in Mallarmé's Poetry

[Matteo Zupancic](#) (Istituto Italiano di Studi Germanici / University of Stuttgart): «Wie eine hohle Form». On Rainer Maria Rilke's Kenotic Modernism

Panel 8c - Room 2.4

Writing the Self

Chair Guylian Nemegeer (Ghent University)

[Anna Dijkstra](#) (Huygens Institute): Aesthetics of Rationality in *The Man Without Qualities*: The Novel of Ideas and the Contemporary Far-Right

[Donato Ennio Gagliastro](#) (University of Bari): The Encounter with Modernity in Gabriele d'Annunzio's Autobiographical Writing

[Valeria Taddei](#) (University College Dublin): Uses of the Personal Diary: A Modernist Writerly Tool?

[Michele Paragliola](#) (Università degli Studi Suor Orsola Benincasa): Saba's Autobiographical Writing between Modernism and Antimodernism

12:45 - 14:00 Lunch. Faculty Library Atrium -1

13:00 - 14:00 **Guided tour Boekentoren GROUP 3**

# SEP. 22 - AFTERNOON SESSION

14:00 - 15:30 **PARALLEL SESSIONS 9** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Panel 9a - Room 2.1

Modernism and Society / 2

Chair Eline Batsleer (Ghent University)

[Luca Somigli](#) (University of Toronto): On the Borders of Modernism (Again): D'Annunzio and the Problem of Decadentism

[Başak Çün](#) (Fenerbahçe University): Is Wilde's Aesthetics "Lying"? Art as a Modernist Commodity

[Christina Bezari](#) (Ghent University): "Those Books Could not Have Been Ours: We Were Women": Ernestina de Champourcín and the Modernist Press in Interwar Spain (1918–1936)

Panel 9b - Room 2.2

Modernism, Criticism and Education

Chair Yoad Eliaz (Max Stern Yezreel Valley College)

[Joseph Anderton](#) (Birmingham City University): Productive Discomfort: Teaching Literary Modernism from Troublesome to Transformative

[Joseph Williams](#) (University of East Anglia): Malcolm Bradbury's Modernism: The Writer, the Critic, and the University

Panel 9c - Room 2.4

Spaces of Translation:  
Magazines and Modernism in Post-War Europe

Chair Francis Mus (Ghent University)

[Alison E. Martin](#) (JGU, Mainz-Germersheim): «The Art of the Translator Will Be Given Its Place»: Language, Bilingualism and Identity in the Anglo-German Journal *The Gate/Das Tor* (1947-49)

[Marina Popea](#) (NTU, Nottingham): Latin American Modernisms in European Magazines (1945-1965): Translation and the Cultural Cold War

[Dana Steglich](#) (JGU, Mainz-Germersheim): Favourite Author. George Orwell in *Der Monat*

[Andrew Thacker](#) (NTU, Nottingham): The World Perspective: Mid-Century Modernism, John Lehmann, and *The London Magazine*

15:30 - 16:00 Coffee break. Faculty Library Atrium -1

16:00 - 17:30

**Keynote speaker: Prof. Dr. Sascha Bru (KU Leuven)**

Persistencies of the Avant-Garde, or, How to Make History One's Own

Chair Maaheen Ahmed (Ghent University)

Farewell



23<sup>rd</sup> September:

Guided tour to the Musée Horta

Only for registered participants  
([register here](#))

Rue Américaine 27, 1060 Brussel

[www.hortamuseum.be](http://www.hortamuseum.be)

**POST-CONFERENCE EVENT**



**Contact:**

**[modernism@ugent.be](mailto:modernism@ugent.be)**

**[www.modernism.ugent.be](http://www.modernism.ugent.be)**

**Organising Committee**

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Dr. Sarah Bonciarelli (Ghent University)

Dr. Guylian Nemegeer (Ghent University)

Drs. Eline Batsleer (Ghent University)

Lic. Phil. Cato Defoer (Ghent University)

Tanja Vertriest (Ghent University)

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