

New Comparisons in World Literature

Series Editors

Upamanyu Pablo Mukherjee

Department of English Comparative Literary Studies

University of Warwick

Coventry, UK

Neil Lazarus

University of Warwick

Coventry, UK

New Comparisons in World Literature offers a fresh perspective on one of the most exciting current debates in humanities by approaching ‘world literature’ not in terms of particular kinds of reading but as a particular kind of writing. We take ‘world literature’ to be that body of writing that registers in various ways, at the levels of form and content, the historical experience of capitalist modernity. We aim to publish works that take up the challenge of understanding how literature registers both the global extension of ‘modern’ social forms and relations and the peculiar new modes of existence and experience that are engendered as a result. Our particular interest lies in studies that analyse the registration of this decisive historical process in literary consciousness and affect.

Editorial Board

Dr. Nicholas Brown, University of Illinois, USA

Dr. Bo G. Ekelund, University of Stockholm, Sweden

Dr. Dorota Kolodziejczyk, Wroclaw University, Poland

Professor Paulo de Medeiros, University of Warwick, UK

Dr. Robert Spencer, University of Manchester, UK

Professor Imre Szeman, University of Alberta, Canada

Professor Peter Hitchcock, Baruch College, USA

Dr. Ericka Beckman, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA

Dr. Sarah Brouillette, Carleton University, Canada

Professor Supriya Chaudhury, Jadavpur University, India

Professor Stephen Shapiro, University of Warwick, UK

More information about this series at

<http://www.palgrave.com/gp/series/15067>

Filippo Menozzi

World Literature,
Non-Synchronism,
and the Politics
of Time

palgrave
macmillan

Filippo Menozzi
Liverpool John Moores University
Liverpool, Merseyside, UK

New Comparisons in World Literature

ISBN 978-3-030-41697-3

ISBN 978-3-030-41698-0 (eBook)

<https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-41698-0>

© The Editor(s) (if applicable) and The Author(s), under exclusive license to Springer
Nature Switzerland AG 2020

This work is subject to copyright. All rights are solely and exclusively licensed by the Publisher, whether the whole or part of the material is concerned, specifically the rights of translation, reprinting, reuse of illustrations, recitation, broadcasting, reproduction on microfilms or in any other physical way, and transmission or information storage and retrieval, electronic adaptation, computer software, or by similar or dissimilar methodology now known or hereafter developed.

The use of general descriptive names, registered names, trademarks, service marks, etc. in this publication does not imply, even in the absence of a specific statement, that such names are exempt from the relevant protective laws and regulations and therefore free for general use.

The publisher, the authors and the editors are safe to assume that the advice and information in this book are believed to be true and accurate at the date of publication. Neither the publisher nor the authors or the editors give a warranty, express or implied, with respect to the material contained herein or for any errors or omissions that may have been made. The publisher remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

Cover image: © Gina Pricope/Getty Image, Image ID: 636246536

This Palgrave Macmillan imprint is published by the registered company Springer Nature Switzerland AG

The registered company address is: Gewerbestrasse 11, 6330 Cham, Switzerland

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to express my gratitude to the series editors, Neil Lazarus and Pablo Mukherjee, for their support and for always being an inspiring guide. Many thanks to colleagues who have supported me with their generosity, friendship and encouragement during the past few years: Alice Ferrebe, James Whitehead, Jo Croft, Glenda Norquay, Kathryn Walch-ester, Jonathan Cranfield, Michael Morris, Ross Dawson, Patricia Murray, Colin Harrison, Rebecca Bailey, Deaglan O'Donghaile, Jude Piesse, Jo Price, Gerry Smyth, Bella Adams, Joe Moran, Elspeth Graham, Anna Maria Cimitile, Miguel Mellino, Guido Rings, Deepika Bahri, Stephen Morton, Lisa Lau, Chantal Zabus, Pina Piccolo, Nilufer Bharucha, Katharine Cox, Danielle Chavrimootoo, Chiara Zuanni, Michael Birchall, Lee Wright, Alex Miles, Helen Rogers, Emily Cuming, Steven Spittle, Nedim Hassan, Nickianne Moody, David Tyrer and Joe Sim. My students at Liverpool John Moores University, especially Christinna Hobbs and my postcolonial writing and world literature classes. Vicky Bates, Tomas René and Rebecca Hinsley at Palgrave for their work and help. The anonymous peer-reviewers for their thoughtful feedback and the production team. On a personal note, I would like to say thank you to: i Milanese in Cambridge (Fra and Irving), Yata and Yuriko, Yama and Mami, Vale, Ale and Oscar, Ricky and Manu, Donata and Antonio, Raffo, Simona and Adele, and my family (Luigi, Elena, Gregorio, Francesca, Chiara, Angelo, Carolina, Camillo, Vinicio and Pizzi). Dedicato a Roberta e ad Alessandro.

CONTENTS

1	Introduction: World Literature Beyond Synchronism	1
2	Dislocating Time: <i>Nampally Road</i> and the Politics of Non-synchronism	47
3	The Author as Digger: <i>The Gypsy Goddess</i> and the Strata of History	75
4	Beyond Diaspora and Nostalgia: M.G. Vassanji's Asynchronous Images	103
5	Written Out of History: The Agbekoya Rebellion at Temporal Crossroads	133
6	Time, Extinction and Accumulation: Reading Henrietta Rose-Innes's <i>Green Lion</i>	161
7	Conclusion: On Skipping History	191
	Index	209

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Filippo Menozzi (Ph.D., Kent) is lecturer in postcolonial and world literature at Liverpool John Moores University. He is the author of *Post-colonial Custodianship: Cultural and Literary Inheritance* (Routledge, 2014) and guest editor of a special issue of *New Formations* on Rosa Luxemburg and the postcolonial condition. His work has appeared in journals such as *College Literature*, *The Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, *Interventions*, *ARIEL* and *Wasafiri*. He is section editor of the online journal *Postcolonial Text* and Exchange Associate at Tate Liverpool. With Deepika Bahri, he is co-editor of *Teaching South Asian Women's Writing* for the Publications of the Modern Language Association. In 2019, he was awarded an LJMU Vice-Chancellor's Medal and Individual Teaching Excellence Award.