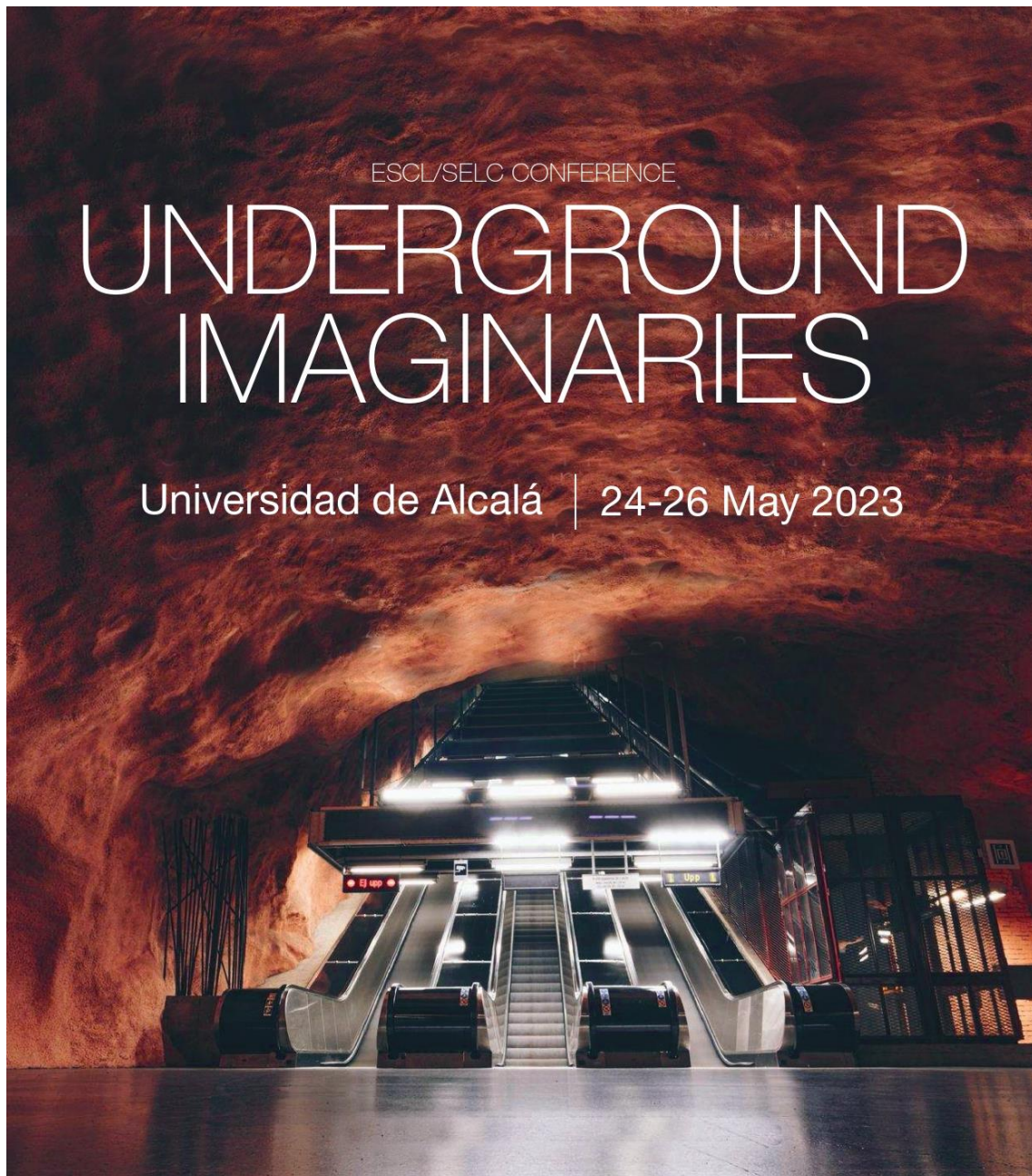


PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME (January 2023)



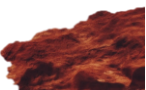
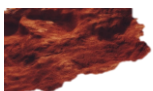
ESCL/SELC CONFERENCE

UNDERGROUND IMAGINARIES

Universidad de Alcalá | 24-26 May 2023



underground-imaginaries.jimdosite.com



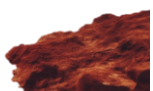
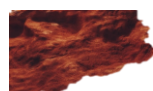
	Wednesday 24.05.23		
15:00-15:45	Registration		
15:45-16:00	Opening words (Patricia García and Jean-Philippe Imbert)		
16:00-17:00	Keynote: Prof. Rachel Falconer		
17:15-18:45	PANEL 1	PANEL 2	PANEL 3
18:45-20:00	Drinks reception (free for registered participants)		

	Thursday 25.05.23		
9:30-11:00	PANEL 4	PANEL 5	PANEL 6
	Coffee break		
11:30-13:00	PANEL 7	PANEL 8	PANEL 9
15:00-16:30	PANEL 10	PANEL 11	PANEL 12
16:45-18:15	PANEL 13	PANEL 14	PANEL 15
19:00-20:00	Tour. Universidad de Alcalá, World Heritage Site (free for registered participants)		

	Friday 26.05.23		
9:30-11:00	PANEL 16	PANEL 17	PANEL 18
	Coffee break		
11:30-13:00	PANEL 19	PANEL 20	PANEL 21
15:00-16:30	PANEL 22	PANEL 23	PANEL 24
16:45-17:45	Keynote: Prof. Sayak Valencia		
17:45	Closing words (Patricia García and Jean-Philippe Imbert)		
20:00	Tapas conference dinner at Restaurante La Cátedra (Hotel el Bedel)		

The conference is held 100% in person

Rooms and session chairs will be included in the final programme (13 of March).



CONFERENCE VENUE

The venue: **Colegio de San Ildefonso**, Plaza San Diego, s/n, Alcalá de Henares

Underground Imaginaries will take place in person in the city center campus of the Universidad de Alcalá, located in the city of Alcalá de Henares, a 30-minute drive east of Madrid and a 40-minute train ride from Atocha central station.

With one of the oldest universities in Spain, Alcalá de Henares is considered a World Heritage Center by UNESCO.

More information on how to get to Alcalá de Henares/ Accommodation/ Where to eat, [here](#).

REGISTRATION LINKS

- **Conference attendance:**

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/underground-imaginaries-tickets-519527279077>

Early bird, conference speakers (till 03/03/23): 60€

Full price, conference speakers (from 04/03/23): 80€

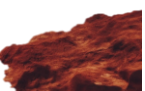
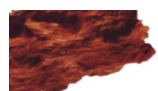
Attendance only, with certificate: 40€

Registration closes: 03/04/23

Membership of the [ESCL/SELCL](#) by the conference date is a requirement to present a paper.

Invoices will be only issued 2 weeks after the conference. To request an invoice, please contact fees.undergroundimaginaries@gmail.com

- **Drinks reception**, Wed 24 of May (free for registered conference participants).
Deadline: 28 April. <https://forms.gle/UesFnr1AFKpZQ2LV9>
- **University tour**, Thu 25 of May (free for registered conference participants). In English. Max. 50 attendees. Deadline: 28 April.
<https://forms.gle/y6jNHHzezLF4pWQe8>
- **Tapas conference dinner**, Fri 26 of May (36€ per person, food and drinks included, link TBA with the final programme)



KEYNOTES

Prof. Rachel Falconer, Université de Lausanne (Switzerland)

Respondent: Prof. David L. Pike, American University (US)

Title: “Descents to the Underworld in the Anthropocene”

In this talk, Rachel Falconer will reflect on the literary tradition of *katabasis*, or the descent into the underworld, and its ongoing relevance to our own times. She will outline the dynamics of this distinctive literary genre, including its spatio-temporal distortions, its sequencing of existential tests to the psyche, and its spring-mechanisms for a reascent from the world of the dead. A range of twentieth and twenty-first century texts will be cited as modern examples of, and revisions to, this most ancient of genres. She will then go on to consider how the tradition of *katabasis* has helped shape recent artistic responses to climate change, arguably the greatest threat to life on the planet in the twenty-first century.

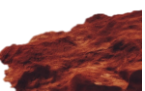
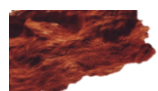
Prof. Sayak Valencia, El Colegio de la Frontera Norte (Mexico)

Moderan: Dra. Fernanda Bustamante, Universidad de Alcalá (España) / Dra. Anna Boccuti, Università degli Studi di Torino (Italia)

Título: “Necrópolis contemporáneas y política post-mortem: espacialidades y afectos”

En contexto mexicano donde la proliferación de desapariciones forzadas y de personas asesinadas no hace más que elevarse, es necesaria una reflexión sobre las nuevas figuras de la espacialidad y su relación con los que aquí se denomina necrópolis contemporáneas, entendidas no sólo como cementerios sino como la base material de un sinfín de expolios que pueden representarse a través de la figura de las fosas clandestinas.

Así, partiendo de la idea de fosa, realizaré una lectura cruzada entre lo que denomino “política postmortem” y la politización de los afectos en el libro Antígona González de Sara Uribe.



ACCEPTED PAPERS

Papers will be 20 minutes long. Abstracts and panel groupings will be included in the final programme (13 of March).

Albrecky, Naser. King's College London (UK). "Classical Reception and Appropriation in the Caribbean: Examining Katabasis in the Poetry of Derek Walcott and M. Nourbese Philip"

Antonangeli, Riccardo. University of Rome "La Sapienza" (Italy). "The Trapdoors of Plot: The Gothic Novel and Underground Space"

Barrientos-Gómez, Andy L. Cornell University (US). "Enclaves of Entrapment: Capitalism's Waste in *Maquilapolis* and *Sete Prisoneiros*"

Beas Marín, María. Université Paris 8 Vincennes Saint-Denis (France). "Bajar al metro - cartografías subterráneas en la obra del poeta madrileño Eduardo Haro Ibars"

Benazet, Estelle. Université Côte d'Azur (France). "La Géophagie: Une méthode d'enquête médiumnique et de transmission de l'incomplétude, à partir de *Mangeterre* de Dolores Reyes (2018)"

Benedicto Escajedo, Laura. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Spain). "La escritura como excavación"

Chekili, Melik. University of Southern California (US). "The Underground Voices of Silence: A Re-definition of Sound and Silence through the Perspective of Deafness"

Chiti, Elena. Stockholm University (Sweden). "'The houses of the crimes': Labban district in the Egyptian imaginary"

Coppola, Maria Micaela. University of Trento (Italy). "Down the Rabbit Hole: Fictional Explorations of the Mind's Recesses"

Coste, Didier. Bordeaux Montaigne University (France). "Transworld Underground: Casanova's *Icosameron* and the Limits of Cosmopolitan Hospitality"

De León, Francisco. Universidad de Barcelona (Spain). "De-Generaciones"

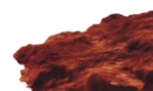
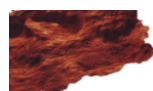
Di Rocco, Emilia. Sapienza Università di Roma (Italy). "Forms of Underground Lives: Images of Urban Landscapes and their Visualization in Dante and Milton"

Díez Cobo, Rosa María. Universidad de Burgos (Spain). "Parallel Spaces on your Doorstep: An Approach to Multi-layered Fictional Architectures"

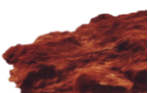
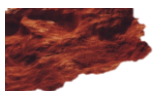
Erteber, Caglar. Universidad de Arizona (US). "Las reflexiones del diseño arquitectónico y urbano en la vida cotidiana bonaerense a través de la mirada fílmica en *Pizza, birra, faso* (1998) y *Medianeras* (2011)"

Esposito, Cesare. Scuola Normale Superiore of Pisa (Italy) / Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (France). "Conceiving Crime: The Evolution of the *Cour des miracles*"

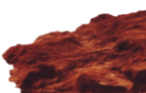
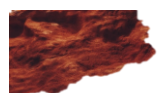
Ferebee, K.M. Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies/ University of Helsinki (Finland). "It Came from Underground: Narratives of Emerging Arctic Apocalypse"



- Fischer, Caroline. Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour (France). "La profondeur de la mine comme lieu de dépassement d'inimitiés « héréditaires » "
- Fuchs, Michael. University of Innsbruck (Austria). "When Dinosaurs Rise to Challenge Fossil Fuel Extraction: Anthropocene Unburials, Fossil Pasts, and Prehistoric Futures"
- Gillis, Stacy. Newcastle University (UK). "Chthonic Heritages and the Subterranean Anthropocene: History and Nationality in Early Twentieth-Century Writings about Hadrian's Wall"
- González, Guillermo. Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (Chile)/ Universidad de Alcalá (Spain). "Cambio de andén: el metro de Santiago como portal subterráneo en la ciencia ficción chilena"
- Gräbner, Cornelia. Lancaster University (UK). "Seizing the Historical Moment, Underground"
- Hatcher, Brian A. Tufts University (US). "Beneath the Hermit's Hut: Temple-ized Remains and Monastic Life in Vernacular Hinduism"
- Imbert, Jean-Philippe. Dublin City University (Republic of Ireland). "Lancing Subcutaneous Skin: Sacrilege and Sacrifice of a *Fin-de-Siècle* Milkmaid: «Péhor» (1894) by Remy de Gourmont"
- Jornet Somoza, Albert. Universitat de Barcelona (Spain). "Escrituras corticales: razón, lenguaje y subsuelo en el Antropoceno"
- Keunen, Bart. Ghent University (Belgium). TITLE TBC.
- Kriegel, Sophie. University Berlin (Germany). "Losing and Finding Oneself in Johannesburg's Underground: A Psychogeographic Exploration of Literary Underground Imageries"
- Kriza, Elisa. University of Bamberg (Germany). "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea: Madness and Underground Cultures in Soviet and Post-Soviet Russia"
- Langlet, Irène. Université Gustave Eiffel (France). "Le tournant (e)utopique du Paris souterrain : 1962-1985"
- Lonsdale, Laura. University of Oxford (UK). "Graveyard Politics: Earth and Unearthing in Frank McGuinness's *Carthaginians* (1988) and Antonio Morcillo's *Al hoyo* (2008/22)"
- Marini, Anna Marta. Universidad de Alcalá (Spain). "Descent to the Underworld: Mexican Underground Loci of Danger in Cross-Border Popular Media"
- Matas Pons, Alex. Universitat de Barcelona (Spain). "Estratos del tiempo, necropolítica y espacialización de la Historia. Una lectura del espectro londinense"
- Menezes, Maria Clara. Dublin City University (Republic of Ireland). "Beneath the Flowerbeds: A Comparative Reading of David Lynch's *Blue Velvet* (1986) and Barbey d'Aurevilly's 'Le Dessous de cartes d'une partie de whist' (1874)"
- Moll, Nora. Uninettuno University (Rome). "The Mountain at War: Trenches and Tunnels in Narrative Non-Fiction of the Twentieth Century"



- Ochoa, Debra J. Trinity University (US). "Underground Immigrant Spaces in New York: Texts by Spanish Women"
- Ofori-Amofo, Marian. University of Bayreuth (Germany). "Im/Mobility and Geographies of Resistance in Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad* and Bernardine Evaristo's *Blonde Roots*"
- O'Mullane, David. Dublin City University (Republic of Ireland). "Sexuality in Ruins: Cruising Literature and an Aesthetic of Collapse"
- Pernice, Marie. University of Sorbonne Nouvelle - Paris 3 (France). "Underground imaginaries of extractivism in the African novel"
- Pino Estivill, Ester. Universitat de Barcelona (Spain). "Cruising Theory. Constelaciones homoeróticas e incisiones teóricas en la crítica española de los setenta"
- Rimaz, Loris. Université de Lausanne (Switzerland). "Elden Ring, souterrains mythiques et leur influence sur le monde"
- Rivas Venegas, Miguel. Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea (Spain). "Restos vivientes: alteridad y diferencia en el discurso cultural franquista. Una lectura del «Espacio inferior» a partir de Y. Lotman"
- Ros, Violeta. Universidad de Zaragoza (Spain). "*De esta casa no se marcha nadie*. Venganza y reparación en el campo literario actual"
- Saez Tajafuerte, Begoña. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain). "Epistemologies from Underground. *Who Cares?* Gloria Anzaldúa's Descent to the Coalitcue State"
- Sakr, Rita. Maynooth University (Republic of Ireland). "Decolonial Underground Aesthetics and Political Imaginaries in Hassan Blāsim's Work"
- Sánchez-Molero, Pepe. Independent scholar. "The *Bakhauf* monster and the *Klappen* taboo: Tales of Subterranean Creatures and Homosexual Desires"
- Sathi, Anchit. Queen Mary University of London (UK). "Exclusionary Undergrounds in Neil Gaiman's *Neverwhere* and Slava Mogutin's *Lost Boys*"
- Seidel, Anna. Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (Germany). "Myth No More? Representations of the Warsaw Sewers in Literature, Music, and Film"
- Springer, Olga. Dublin City University (Republic of Ireland). "'Down, down, down': The Underground as Literary Topos"
- Stokowiec, A. Universidade de Lisboa (Portugal). "Burying and Writing Books in the Early-Twentieth Century. Underground as Literary Repository"
- Toivanen, Anna-Leena. University of Eastern Finland (Finland). "Underground Urban Mobilities in Francophone African Literatures"
- Trendel, A. Le Mans University (France). "Fate in Chigozie Obioma's Novel *An Orchestra of Minorities*"
- Trueba, Virginia. Universitat de Barcelona (Spain). "Poesía y cine que (aún) hablan la noche"
- Urakova, Alexandra. University of Tampere (Helsinki). "Between Depths and Surfaces: Nineteenth-Century Philanthropy, Slums, and City Marginals"



- Vásquez Rodríguez, Gilberto Daniel. Universidad de Murcia (Spain). “Cuerpos subterráneos y disidencias sexuales en la narrativa de Fernanda García Lao”
- Velázquez Velázquez, Raquel. Universitat de Barcelona (Spain). “Infierno, descenso y verticalidad en las narrativas patográficas. El caso del sanatorio tuberculoso”
- Waligórska-Olejniczak, Beata. Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań (Poland). “The Category of the Underground and the Underground Man in Selected Texts of Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Andrey Zvyagintsev and Todd Phillips”
- Welge, Jobst. University of Leipzig (Germany). “Urban Undergrounds in the Maximalist Novels of Ernesto Sábato and Mircea Cărtărescu”
- Wieczorek, Agata. Independent scholar. “Beneath their Skin: Female Masking and *Peau d’homme* (Hubert and Zanzim, 2020) Bodily Disguise in Writing and in Underground Practices”
- Williams, Emilio. Independent scholar. “Not Under, Nor Above: Spatial Disorientation in Gay Sexual Playgrounds and their Representations”
- Wood, Jennifer. Prifysgol Aberystwyth University (Wales). “Necropower and Subterranean Survival in Rodolfo Fogwill’s *Los pichiciegos: visiones de una batalla subterránea*”
- Zapf, Nora. University of Innsbruck (Austria). “Orpheus in Xibalbá. Syncretic Underworlds in Latin American Fiction”

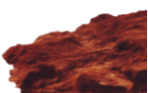
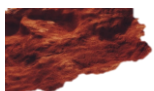
ACCEPTED GROUP SESSIONS

Association for Literary Urban Studies (Chair: Lieven Ameel)

- Ameel, Lieven. Tampere University (Finland). “Symbolic Cities Beneath Brussels: *Brüsel* and Other Underground Cities in Graphic Novels by François Schuiten and Benoît Peeters”
- Pulkkinen, Riikka P. University of Helsinki (Finland). “Tracing the Foreign. Representations of Athens’ Underworld in Contemporary City Literature”
- Juntunen, Hanne. Tampere University (Finland). “Stepping into the Urban and Human Underworld in *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*”

Heading North: Underground Anxieties and Utopias (Tampere University, Finland. Chair: Markku Salmela)

- Salmela, Markku. Tampere University (Finland). “Writing and Unearthing in Kathleen Jamie’s ‘In Quinhagak’”
- Vesala, Meeria. Tampere University (Finland). “‘The bones lay inert, mocking’: Archaeological Anxieties in Sarah Moss’s *Cold Earth*”
- Riquet, Johannes. Tampere University (Finland). “‘In the direction of the bizarre’: Black Utopia and Non-Linear Space in Colson Whitehead’s *The Underground Railroad*”



The Underground as Margin 1 and 2 (Margins research group. Chair: Bruna Mancini)

Cairo, Federica. University of Calabria (Italy). “‘I was engulfed in labyrinths of trouble’: Concealed Identities and Spaces in Daniel Defoe’s *Moll Flanders*”

Capalbo, Giuseppe. University of Rome “Tor Vergata”/ University of Calabria (Italy). “John Gay and the Aesthetics of the Underground”

Fusco, Carla. University G. D’Annunzio Chieti-Pescara/University of Teramo (Italy). “When a Coma Gives a Second Chance. Irvine Welsh’s *Threshold People*”

Mancini, Bruna. University of Calabria (Italy). “Into the Bowels of London: Underground as Margin of the Fantastic in Michael Moorcock’s *Mother London* and Peter Ackroyd’s *London Under*”

Marino, Elisabetta. University of Rome “Tor Vergata” (Italy). “Underground Lives: Slaves and Factory Workers in Frances Trollope’s Novels”

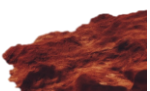
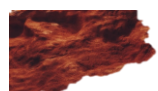
Tempestoso, Carla. University of Calabria (Italy). “Written ‘By another hand’: The Hidden/Censored World of Women Writers through Elizabeth Montague’s *Dialogues of the Dead*”

Romantic Rewritings of the Cave Myth (Chair: Bernard Franco, former ESCL/SELC President)

Hortoland, Pauline. Université Paris Cité (France). “‘I had rather be damned with Plato and Lord Bacon than go to Heaven with Paley and Malthus’: Percy Shelley and the Allegory of the Cave”

Schnebelen, Florence. Université Polytechnique des Hauts-de-France (France). “A Mine, not a Cave: Novalis’ Narrative Subversion of Plato’s Metaphysics”

Franco, Bernard. Sorbonne University (France). “The Cave in the Artist’s Romantic Narratives: the Platonic Myth of the Cave and Novalis’ Blue Flower in George Sand, Melville and Hawthorne”



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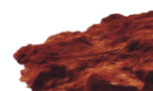
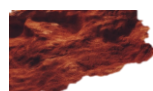
Fringe Urban Narratives is an interdisciplinary network of researchers and artists interested in the cultural processes of imagining and narrating urban experiences from the margins. www.urbanfringes.com

EROSS@DCU is an interdisciplinary sexuality-focused research cluster which recognises the intersectional nature of gender and sex matters, and their intrinsic relationship to our experiences in the world as intimate, social and political beings. <https://www.dcu-eross.com/>



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