

# 20th International Colloquium of the North American Catalan Society

Survival, Resistance, Rebirth

**April 15–18, 2026**

## Conference Organizer

Henry Berlin (University at Buffalo)

## Academic Committee

Vicente Lledó-Guillem (Hofstra University)

Sarah Thomas (Brown University)

## With the Collaboration of:

North American Catalan Society

Institut Ramon Llull

Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, University at Buffalo

Humanities Institute, University at Buffalo

International Education, University at Buffalo

Department of Anthropology, University at Buffalo

Department of Linguistics, University at Buffalo

[University at Buffalo Clinical and Translational Research Center](#) | 875 Ellicott Street, Buffalo, NY 14203

## Wednesday, April 15

**2:30–6 p.m. Trobada de doctorands (5002)**

## Thursday, April 16

**8:30–10:15 a.m. Registration, breakfast, and welcome (7002)**

**10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.**

**HISTORY AND LITERATURE IN THE 20TH AND 21ST CENTURIES (7002)**

*Moderator: Luis Corteguera (University of Kansas)*



- **Maria Dasca (Universitat Pompeu Fabra):** “L’ús de materials documentals en la novel·la del segle XXI”
- **Molly Wagschal (Brown University):** “Catalan and the Politics of Silence: Linguistic Resistance in Carmen Laforet’s *Nada*”
- **Irene Quintana (Universitat de Girona / Sorbonne-Université):** “Teresa Pàmies i exili: memòria, història i literatura”
- **Sergi Castellà Martínez (Universitat Pompeu Fabra):** “El realisme de J.V. Foix: filosofia, política, religió”

## LITERARY AND LINGUISTIC PEDAGOGIES (5002)

*Moderator: Vicente Lledó-Guillem (Hofstra University)*

- **Enrique Muñoz-Mantas (University of North Dakota):** “Del fil a la paraula: exili, maternitat i cura amb Remei Oliva”
- **Alba Girons (Northwestern University):** “Com més serem, més riurem! ‘Reading Catalan for Research Purposes’, un curs de comprensió lectora per fer més accessible la recerca en català a entorns nord-americans”
- **Elsa Ubeda (Columbia University):** “Iniciatives dels estudiants a l’aula de català com a llengua adicional: construcció, orientació i oportunitats per a l’aprenentatge”

## TOURISM AND THE IMAGE OF THE CITY (6003 A+B)

*Moderator: Bob Davidson (University of Toronto)*

- **Laura Caballero-Rabanal (University of Massachusetts Amherst):** “Barcelona i els seus desposseïts: desplaçament de la població i precarietat laboral en dos documentals sobre la turisticació”
- **Aitana Guia (York University):** “‘La ciutat per qui l’habita’: Social Movements and Mass Tourism in Valencia and Barcelona”

## 12:30–1:45 p.m. Lunch break

Meeting of the Board of *Catalan Review* (5002)

## 2–3:15 p.m.

## 70 YEARS OF *INCERTA GLÒRIA*: A CERTAIN GLORY OF A WRITER (5002)

*Moderator: William Viestenz (University of Minnesota, Twin Cities)*

- **Carlos Julio Chacón Preciado (Stanford University):** “The Other Gospel of Childhood”: The Pure Inexistence of the Future, Reactionary Imagination, and the Childish Tales of Sacrifice in *Incerta glòria* by Joan Sales”
- **Mary Elizabeth Duffy (Stanford University):** “Rock and Cloud: Reconciling Radical Freedom with the Other Will in *Uncertain Glory* by Joan Sales”

- **Òscar Ferrer i Bech (Stanford University):** “The Danger of Listening to Wagner in the Spanish Civil War: Music, Intertext, and Modernisme in *Incerta glòria* by Joan Sales”
- **Jessica Youngji Ryu (Stanford University):** “‘L’entrada obscena, la sortida macabra’: The Grotesque Aesthetic of the Absurd in *Incerta glòria* by Joan Sales”

## POLITICAL HISTORIES (7002)

*Moderator: H. Rosi Song (University of Durham)*

- **Luis Corteguera (University of Kansas):** “The Medieval Turn in Enlightened Catalan Historiography: Repressed or Selective Memory?”
- **Edgar Illas (Indiana University Bloomington):** “A Catalan Spinoza: On a Medieval-Global Concept of Power”

## TEXT AND CONTEXT FROM THE LATER MIDDLE AGES TO THE BAROQUE (6003 A+B)

*Moderator: Núria Silleras-Fernández (University of Colorado Boulder)*

- **Albert Lloret (University of Massachusetts Amherst):** “Metahistòria i poètica de la resistència a l’edició prínceps del *Llibre del Rei En Jaume*”
- **Maria Conca and Josep Guia (Universitat de València):** “Marques textuais de Joan Roís de Corella, creades després del 1465, presents al *Tirant lo Blanc*”

**3:30–5 p.m.**

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**Bel Olid (University of Chicago): “Una llengua que em desitgi. Límits i possibilitats de Pensar-nos en català”**

*Introduction: Sarah Thomas (Brown University)*

*Held at the University at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Active Learning Room, 955 Main St., Buffalo, NY*

**5:15–6:45 p.m. Welcome reception**

*Held at the University at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Active Learning Room, 955 Main St., Buffalo, NY*

**Friday, April 17**



## 8:30–9 a.m. Registration and breakfast (5<sup>th</sup> floor)

9–10:15 a.m.

### COURTLY AND POPULAR POETICS IN THE MIDDLE AGES (7002)

*Moderator: Albert Lloret (University of Massachusetts Amherst)*

- **Pablo Arenas Filardi (University of Massachusetts Amherst):** “Com l’infants quant mira lo retaula’: cultura material a un poema de Jordi de Sant Jordi”
- **Henry Berlin (University at Buffalo):** “The Poetics of Rebirth in the Medieval *Nadala*”
- **Courtney Joseph Wells (Hobart and William Smith Colleges):** “‘Aqui trobavon cuend’e gay e donador’: Les corts catalanes a l’obra de Ramon Vidal”

### COLONIALITY, MIGRATION, AND EXILE 1 (5002)

*Moderator: Colleen Culleton (University at Buffalo)*

- **Adam Singh (Indiana University):** “Snatching Defeat from the Jaws of Victory: Pere Calders’ ‘Primera part d’Andrade Maciel’ and the Allegory of Failure”
- **Silvia Sanz Megias (University of Utah):** “Pere Calders en la narració del exili: una perspectiva al ‘problema indígena’”

### LITERARY TRANSLATION AND THE LESSER-KNOWN ARCHIVE (5019 A)

*Moderator: Kathleen McNerney (West Virginia University)*

- **Leslie J. Harkema (Baylor University):** “Translating Rusiñol: María Lejárraga as Mediator of a Catalan Icon in the Early Twentieth Century”
- **Elisa Tameni (Universitat de València):** “El prosista desconegut: Vicent Andrés Estellés”
- **Anita Rescia (Stony Brook University) and Quim Solias (Stony Brook University / Bibliotheca Hertziana):** “Sonic Agency and the City: Reading Lola Anglada’s *El més petit de tots* (1937) in Wartime Barcelona”

10:30–11:45 a.m.

### HOW DOES LANGUAGE REPRODUCE NATIONAL NARRATIVES AND COLONIALISM? (5019 A)

*Moderator: Jennifer Duprey (Rutgers University)*

- **Aurélie Vialette (Yale University):** “Els republicans de la primera república i la qüestió colonial”
- **Gerard Llorens-DeCesaris (Princeton University):** “Ignorància colonial en el nacionalisme català”
- **Isabella M. Garcia Bernstein (Yale University):** “Les Filipines i el nacionalisme català: un estudi de la cobertura filipina de la premsa barcelonina del segle XIX quant a la divergència de les ideologies polítiques catalanes”

## QUEER STUDIES IN CATALAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE (7002)

*Moderator: Anna Casas Aguilar (University of British Columbia)*

- **Núria Alishio-Caballero (Indiana University Bloomington):** “Poetry as Queer Surface in the Work of Late 20<sup>th</sup> Century Catalan Women”
- **William Kirby (University of Cambridge):** “A Bleak Kind of Hope: Frustrated Futurity and Lesbian Defiance in Eva Baltasar’s ‘Triptych’”

## CONTEMPORARY APPROACHES TO NATIONAL IDENTITY (5002)

*Moderator: Eloi Grasset (University of California, Santa Barbara)*

- **Marisa Kelath (University of Pennsylvania):** “‘Elegia Valenciana’: Una història soterrada i un contrafactum ressonant”
- **Mariann Vaczi (University of Nevada, Reno):** “Survival, Resistance, and Rebirth: The Cultural Politics of Catalonia’s Human Towers”

### 12–1 p.m. Lunch break

Meeting of the NACS Board (5002)

### 1–3 p.m.

Optional bus tour of Niagara Falls (operated by Gray Line Niagara Falls; meet and depart from 875 Ellicott Street; check-in begins at 12:45; comfortable shoes and light jacket recommended)

### 3:15–4:30 p.m.

## CATALUNYA: ITS MODERNITIES AND PRIMITIVISMS (7002)

*Moderator: Aurélie Vialette (Yale University)*

- **Katryn Evinson (Duke University):** “On the Economy of So-Called Primitive Art in Catalunya”
- **Jennifer Duprey (Rutgers University):** “A Ripping in History: The Uses of the Colony in Jaume Cabré’s *La teranyina*”
- **Noel Blanco Mourelle (University of Chicago):** “Living Under the Sun: Walter Benjamin in Ibiza (1932-1933)”

## CATALAN ACROSS BORDERS (5002)

*Moderator: Alba Girons (Northwestern University)*

- **Núria Silleras-Fernández (University of Colorado Boulder):** “Survival, Resistance, Rebirth of Catalan Studies: A Scholarly and Mediterranean/Atlantic Reframing”
- **Julia Alexandrakis (Georgetown University):** “Catalan in Contatto: Examining Vowel Reduction and Rhythmic Properties in Alguerès”



- **Marc Gandarillas (University of North Dakota):** “Survival and Memory: Majorcan Catalan in the Argentine Diaspora”

### 4:30–4:45 p.m. Coffee break

4:45–6:15 p.m.

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS (5019 A+B)

**James Hawkey (University of Bristol):** “To Live on the Border Is to Live Without Barriers’: Migration, Tourism, and Identity in Andorra”

*Introduction: Vicente Lledó-Guillem (Hofstra University)*

7–9 p.m.

Optional meet-up at International House Buffalo (617 Main Street, Buffalo, NY)

## Saturday, April 18

8–8:30 a.m. Breakfast (5<sup>th</sup> floor)

8:45–10 a.m.

### COLONIALITY, MIGRATION, AND EXILE 2 (5019 A)

*Moderator: Silvia Sanz Megias (University of Utah)*

- **Colleen Culleton (University at Buffalo):** “Catalans Abroad: Globalized Bodies in David Cirici’s *El setè àngel*”
- **Arnau Sala Sallent (Columbia University):** “Bohemians, Boers, and *Repatriats*: The Transcolonial Imagination and the Earliest Avant-Garde”
- **Júlia Ojeda Caba (Universitat de les Illes Balears):** “El pensament polític de Manuel de Pedrolo: una primera aproximació caps als estudis postcolonials catalans”

### MOVING IMAGES: TEMPORALITY AND LABOR (7002)

*Moderator: Caitlin Quintenz (Carthage College)*

- **Alejandra Rosenberg Navarro (Brown University):** “The Filmic Ghost: Joaquim Jordà’s Spectral Returns”
- **Paula Pontes García (Yale University):** “Staying or Crossing: Women Across the Pyrenees in Spanish Civil War Photography”
- **Àngel Quintana Morraja (Universitat de Girona):** “Modernitat i electricitat en les pel·lícules de Magí Murià interpretades per Margarita Xirgu”



## DISSEMINATING CATALAN CULTURE, THEN AND NOW (5002)

*Moderator: Leslie J. Harkema (Baylor University)*

- **Kathleen Mc Nerney (West Virginia University), Sílvia Aymerich-Lemos, and Pau-Joan Hernández:** “Versions Múltiples, un projecte col·laboratiu que enceta la segona dècada”
- **Laura Vilardell (Northern Illinois University):** “From Novelty to Exclusivity: The Advertising Strategy of the Dolphin Book Company (1935–1998)”
- **Aina Monferrer-Palmer (Universitat de València / Harvard University):** “Apunts de Llengua: la plataforma pública valenciana de materials didàctics audiovisuals útil per a l’aprenentatge del CLE”

**10:15–11:45 a.m.**

## LINGUISTIC IDENTITIES (7002)

*Moderator: Aina Monferrer-Palmer (Universitat de València / Harvard University)*

- **Robert E. Vann (Western Michigan University):** “*Arrels cristianes de Catalunya* (Conferència Episcopal Tarraconense, 1985) as a Narrative of National Identity, Cultural Renaissance, and Migration”
- **Marguerite Morlan (University of California, Berkeley):** “The Politeness Paradox: Experimental Insights into Language Ideologies in Catalonia”
- **Daniel Stewart (Georgetown University):** “*Este Whatsapp diu ‘sí’ al valencià! A Case of Catalan Preference in a Digital Community of Practice*”
- **Vicente Lledó-Guillem (Hofstra University):** “La unitat de la llengua i la competició literària al Primer Congrés Internacional de la Llengua Catalana (1906)”

## TERROIR AND OTHER TERRITORIES (5019 A)

*Moderator: Edgar Illas (Indiana University Bloomington)*

- **Mary Black (Southern Illinois University Carbondale):** “Corpinnat as a Strategy of Survival, Resistance, and Rebirth”
- **Eloi Grasset (University of California, Santa Barbara):** “From *Terroir* to Diplomacy: Josep Pla’s Early Culinary Texts as a Geopolitical Intervention in the Interwar Period”
- **Bob Davidson (University of Toronto):** “*Vitreous Terroir: The Material Taste and Tradition of Cristalerías Moya*”
- **H. Rosi Song (Durham University) and Olga Sendra Ferrer (Wesleyan University):** “Framing Sight and Taste Through *els altres catalans*”

**12–1 p.m. Lunch and NACS Assembly (5019 A+B; pizza and salad provided)**



**1–2:15 p.m.**

## DRAMA AND LABOR IN MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY CATALAN LITERATURE (7002)

*Moderator: Katryn Evinson (Duke University)*

- **Ari A. Plymale (Indiana University Bloomington):** “Fora del joc: Play and Power in Joan Brossa’s Poesia Escènica”
- **Renee Congdon (Princeton University):** “‘Som noltros ses bugaderes’: Satire and Working-Class Political Speech in Jordi Martí i Rosselló’s *Monòlechs*”
- **Anna Casas Aguilar (University of British Columbia):** “‘Jo no faig 25 habitacions diàries’: les veus de les *kellys* a la literatura i a l’acadèmia”

## APOCALYPSE AND SURVIVAL IN THE ANTHROPOCENE (5019 A)

*Moderator: Henry Berlin (University at Buffalo)*

- **Maria Patricio-Mulero (Université Toulouse Capitole):** “Resistència i renaixement a les novel·les d’Irene Solà”
- **Laura Torres Bauzà:** “Apocalipsi zombi a la catalana: quan la política fa olor de mort”
- **William Viestenz (University of Minnesota, Twin Cities):** “Anthropotechnics and the Immunological in Martí Domínguez’s *L’esperit del temps* and *Mater*”

## DEATHS IN THE FAMILY: CONTEMPORARY CATALAN FILM STUDIES (5002)

*Moderator: Àngel Quintana Morraja (Universitat de Girona)*

- **Caitlin Quintenz (Carthage College):** “Family, Survival, and Collective Care in *Los Tortuga* (2025) by Belén Funes”
- **Sarah Thomas (Brown University):** “Memory, Myth, and Matrilineality in the Hybrid Cinema of Carla Simón and Elena López Riera”

**2:15–2:30 p.m. Coffee break**

**2:30–3:45 p.m.**

## PRESENTATION OF RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS (5019 A)

- **Sergi Castellà Martínez, *The Poetry Research of J.V. Foix (1918-1985): Knowledge Through Likenesses in the Avant-Garde***
- **Júlia Ojeda Caba, *Manuel de Pedrolo. Prosa de combat***
- **Bel Olid, *La mare incomplete***
- **Maria Patricio-Mulero, *Barcelona. L’eterna promesa***
- **Àngel Quintana Morraja, *Dylan i el cinema. Filmar la Llegendra***
- **Laura Torres Bauzà, *Quan el mort torna i mossega: les metàfores del zombi a la literatura catalana***
- **Mariann Vaczi, *Catalonia’s Human Towers: Castells, Cultural Politics, and the Struggle Toward the Heights***

**4–5:30 p.m.**

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS (5019 A+B)**

**Raül Garrigasait: “Fantasmes de Ramon Llull”**

*Introduction: Henry Berlin (University at Buffalo)*

**6:00–8:00 p.m. Closing reception and 2026 NACS Award**

*Held at Big Ditch Brewing Company, 55 East Huron Street, Buffalo, NY 14203*

