The Bildungsroman: form and transformations
Programme

Thursday 1.2-30
Session 1: Conceptualising the Bildungsroman
Chair: Katie Trumpener
Aleksander Stevic, Qatar: ‘The Trouble with Bildung’
Adam Hearman, UWA: ‘Digression through error: On the indirection of the aesthetic in Goethe’s Wilhelm Meister’
Matthew Taft, Duke: ‘The Bildungsroman: form or method’

Session 2: Coupling and the Bildungsroman
Chair: Guy Davidson
Lisa O’Connell, Queensland: ‘Bildungsroman and Marriage Plot: a happy couple?’
Matthew Clarke, Sydney: ‘Beyond Gay: Denton Welch’s In Youth Is Pleasure’
Elli Kyrmanidou, Ludwig Maximillian University, Munich: ‘The Intersex Bildungsroman: A Contemporary Approach’

2.30-3.15 coffee break

Thursday: 3.15-4.45
Session 1: Australian Bildung
Chair: John Frow
Ken Gelder & Rachael Weaver, Melbourne: ‘Killing and Sentiment in the Colonial Australian Kangaroo Hunt Narrative’
Brigid Rooney, Sydney: ‘Expatriate visions: Australian literary suburbia and the Bildungsroman’

Session 2: Girls’ Stories
Chair: Isabelle Hesse
Honni Van Rijswijk, UTS: Law’s Bildungsroman and the Girl: Genre and gender in the interpretation of violence
Kate Douglas, Flinders ‘“With this first cigarette, I kissed childhood goodbye”: Marjane Satrapi’s Persepolis on Adolescence’
Bec Kavanagh and Simmone Howell, LaTrobe: ‘The female Bildungsroman: liberating the adolescent female protagonist through memoir’

5-6.30 Keynote 1:
Katie Trumpener, Emily Sanford Professor of Comparative Literature and English, Yale
‘Actors, Puppets, Girls: Little Women and the Collective Bildungsroman’

6.30-8 opening drinks
Friday 8.45-10.15
Session 1: Fanny Burney and the Bildungsroman
Chair: Vanessa Smith
Alexander Creighton, Harvard: ‘Bildung Temporalities in Frances Burney’
Sara Crouch, Sydney: ‘The Last Touches of the Picture: the formation of feminine character in Frances Burney’s Camilla (1796)’
Megan Nash, Sydney: ‘Sentimental Miseducation: The Coming-of-Age of a Genre’

Session 1: American Bildungsromane
Chair: Paul Giles
Bavani Moodley, Sydney: 'Discursive Materialities: Formations of the Self from Tristram Shandy to Huckleberry Finn'
Setsuko Ohno, Kyushu Institute of Technology: ‘Connection or Disconnection: a way out of social contamination in American college novels’
Pardis Dabashi, Boston University: ‘Nella Goes to the Movies: The End of the Bildungsroman and the Coming of Classical Film

10.15-11 coffee

Friday 11-12.30
Session 1: Regency Bildungsromane
Chair: TBA
Sarah Ailwood, University of Canberra: ‘Jane Austen, romantic love and the male Bildungsroman’
Lydia Verschaffelt, Victoria University of Wellington: ‘Mr Woodhouse and Limits of the Female Bildungsroman Framework’
Olivia Murphy, USyd: ‘Natural sequels to unnatural beginnings: bad girls and the Romantic Bildungsroman’

Session 2: Recent British Bildungsromane
Chair: Nancy Armstrong
Ned Curthoys, UWA: ‘The affinity of the Bildungsroman with Unreliable Narrative’
Lynda Ng, ‘Fixing to Die: Kazuo Ishiguro’s Reinvention of the Bildungsroman’
Michael Allen, Harvard: ‘The Thatcherite Bildungsroman’

12.30- 1.30 Lunch

Friday 1.30-3
Session 1: Serial Bildungsroman
Chair: Melissa Hardie
Michael Ormsbee, Rochester: ‘Personal Growth, National Pride: The Mythos of Bildungsroman in Jane Eyre and The Great Queen Seondeok’
Monique Rooney, ANU: ‘Only Mediate: the Mere Interest of Interbrow in Kenneth Lonergan’s Margaret (2011) and Howards End (2017)’
Blythe Worthy, Sydney: Sites of Trauma: Imagery Rescripting in the Television Work of Jane Campion
Session 2: The Bildungsroman and colonialism
Chair: Ken Gelder
Amos Bivan, University of Western Cape: ‘The African Female Bildungsroman as Transformation’
Michael Griffiths, Wollongong: ‘Otherwise than Literal: The Arrest of Allegory in a Postcolonial Bildungsroman’
Meltem Gurle, Trinity College Dublin: ‘The Return of Children: A Comparative Study of Contemporary Turkish and Irish Novels’

3-3.45 coffee break

Friday 3.45-5.15
Session 1: ‘Autobiographical’ Bildungsromane
Chair: Vanessa Smith
Benjamin Hoffman, Ohio State: ‘A Poetics of Confusion: Casanova’s Story of My Life as Bildungsroman’
Stephanie Last, Sydney: ‘Just a “‘umble” servant? Re-evaluating the villain of Charles Dickens’s David Copperfield as a double of the protagonist and subject of a parallel Bildungsroman plot’
Eri Satoh, Kobe College: ‘Fantastic and Realistic “Wandering” in Female Bildungsromans: George Eliot’s The Mill on the Floss and Christina Rossetti’s Speaking Likenesses’

Session 2: Future Fiction and the Bildungsroman
Chair: Melissa Hardie
Stuart Molloy, UWA: ‘“But now as I end this story, brothers, I am not young, not no longer…”: The ambivalence of a coming-of-age logic in Anthony Burgess’ A Clockwork Orange’
Anthony D’Agostino, Fordham: ‘From Jane Eyre to Jean Grey: Marvel Comics’ The Uncanny X-Men: The Dark Phoenix Saga as Queer-Feminist Bildungsroman’
Ashley Maher, Sydney: ‘Memoirs of a Spacewoman: Naomi Mitchison and Interspecies, Intergalactic Educations’

5.30-7 Keynote 2:
Joseph Litvak, Professor of English, Tufts
‘Black Comedy and the Bildungsroman: Fran Ross’s Oreo’

7-8 drinks, Courtyard Bar
Saturday 8.45-10.15
Session 1: Victorian Bildungsromane
Chair: Vanessa Smith
Jessica Valdez, Hong Kong: ‘“Bad Infinity,” Newspapers, and the Victorian Novel’
Philippa Janu, Sydney: ‘“Tutored by Experience”: The Formation of the Governess in Anne Brontë’s Agnes Grey’
Sophie Frazer, Sydney: ‘“The orb of my life is not to be so rounded”: The ambivalence of the Bildungsroman in Charlotte Brontë’s Villette’

Session 2: The Bildungsroman and YA fiction
Chair: TBA
Evan Lawless, Curtin, ‘Narrating Twinks: Contemporary Young Adult Coming-of-Age Narratives and Their Relation to the Foundling’
Isabelle Hesse, Sydney: ‘The Contemporary Bildungsroman as a Didactic Tool: Engaging with Israel/Palestine in Young Adult Fiction Israel/Palestine YA fiction’
Samantha Poulos, Sydney: ‘“A fire that burns that bright is not meant to last” – Tris Prior and death of the hero’

10.15-11 coffee

Saturday 11-12.30
Session 1: Televisual Bildung
Chair: Monique Rooney
Guy Davidson, Wollongong: ‘Ineducable: Advertising Fictions on TV’
Stella Ktenas, Sydney: ‘Bildungsroman and narratology in The Simpsons episode “Lisa the Vegetarian”’
Annalise Pippard, Sydney: ‘Cigarette Break: The Killing and Quality Television’

Session 2: The Bildungsroman and Twentieth-century politics
Chair: John Frow
Natalya Sarana, Humboldt University Berlin: ‘A Room of Her Own: Female Bildungsroman and the Russian Revolution in Olga Org (1914) by Y. Slezkin’

12.30-1.30 Lunch

Saturday 1.30-3
Session 1: Ecobildungsromane
Chair: Vanessa Smith
Susan Pyke, Melbourne: ‘Cathy’s Crag and Jane’s Flight: the Afterlife of Place in the Bildungsroman’
Adrienne Gavin, Canterbury Christ Church University: “I could not tell you what my life has been”: Anna Sewell’s *Black Beauty* as Equine *Bildungsroman*

**Session 2: The Bildungsroman and history**
Chair: John Frow
Paul Giles, Sydney: ‘The Metabildungsroman: Thomas Mann’s *Joseph and his Brothers*’
Manuel Clemens, ANU: ‘Why We Took the Car: Wolfgang Herrndorf’s *Tschick* Proposes the Beginning of a *Bildungsroman*’
Rochelle Simmons, Otago: ‘From G. to C: Berger’s and McCarthy’s reconfigured *Bildungsromane*’

3-3.45 coffee break

**Saturday 3.45-5.15**
**Session 1: Melancholia and the Bildungsroman**
Chair: Ashley Maher
Qian Zhang, Auckland: ‘A Linear Narrative or a Deepening Circle: Re-Reading *Pilgrimage* as a *Bildungsroman*’
Eleanor Rowe, Brown: ‘Jean, Genre, Gender: Critique and Comedy in Rhys’s Paris Novels’

**Session 2: Contemporary Bildungsroman**
Chair: Melissa Hardie
Agata Lagiewka, National University of Ireland: ‘Lucky Broken Girl: Growing up with Cuban Island Dreams in New York City’
Ella Collins-White, Sydney: ‘Breaking the Mould: “I am obliterated./ I am found”’
Yuki Namiki, Tokyo Kasei University: ‘It’s a Wise Child who Knows His Own Father: The Figure of the American Family in *The Last Samurai* and *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*’

5.30- 7 Keynote 3:
Nancy Armstrong, Gilbert, Louis, and Edward Lehrman Professor of English, Duke
Title TBA

8 conference dinner
**Sunday 9-10.30**

**Session 1: Modern Australian Bildungsroman**
Chair: Brigid Rooney
Isabelle Butler, LaTrobe: ‘Nature, environment, and the construction of identity in *Jane Eyre* and *My Brilliant Career*’
Jean-François Vernay, independent: ‘Gazing Inward and Outward: (Trans)formation in C.J. Koch’s *Bildungsroman* Protagonists and Readers

**Session 2:**
Chair: Joseph Litvak
Dan Dixon, Sydney: ‘The art of conversation in Rachel Cusk’s *Transit* trilogy’
Alexander Howard, Sydney: ‘Wild Mood Swings: The *Bildungsroman* in the Age of Austerity’
Melissa Hardie, Sydney: ‘Bad Bildung: Ivana Trump’s *For Love Alone*’

**10.30-11.15 coffee break**

**Sunday 11.15-12.45**

**Session 1: Fantasy and the Bildungsroman**
Chair: Melissa Hardie
Tiffany Basili, Sydney: ‘“Never go that way!”: Fighting to find the balance between responsibility and independence on the path to womanhood in Neil Jordan’s *A Company of Wolves*, and Jim Henson’s *Labyrinth*’
Leeanne Goldsmith, Queensland: ‘Hexen-bildungsroman: Fairy-tales meet the Bildungsroman in Terry Pratchett’s Tiffany Aching Series’

**Session 2: Literary Transformations of the Classical Bildungsroman**
Chair: John Frow
Elizabeth King, UNSW: ‘The Origins of the Author-Character: Representations of writers in the *Bildungsroman*’
John Attridge, UNSW: ‘Dumb knowledge in Karl Ove Knausgaard’s *My Struggle*’
Tamlyn Avery, ACU/UNSW: ‘After Bildung: Towards a theory of the *Halbbildungsroman*’