

MULOSIGE Modules: International Solidarity and World Literature

Reading List Description

This reading list challenges the choice between nation and transnationalism that has often seemed central to theorizations of world literature, but which has tended to bypass internationalist networks of anti-colonial writers working within discrete national contexts.

It includes some of the poetry anthologies that arose in connection with anti-colonial struggles in Palestine, South Africa, and Nicaragua, and that were circulated through movements of international solidarity, to draw attention to the interlinking of national liberation movements through literary works. These readings thus call into question the assumption that world literary studies necessarily entails the transcendence of national frameworks.

This reading list developed out of a [talk given by Dr Anna Bernard 7th December 2016 at SOAS](#).

Reading List contributor:

Dr Anna Bernard's research is concerned with the literature and culture of anti-colonial struggles that have persisted after the formal end of European imperialism. Her first book, *Rhetorics of Belonging: Nation, Narration, and Israel/Palestine* (2013), examines Palestinian and Israeli writers' responses to the expectation that their work will 'narrate' the nation. Against a general tendency in postcolonial studies to question the validity of ideas of nationhood, the book seeks to reclaim the nation as a site of oppositional politics in the Palestinian context, while also working towards a relational literary history of Palestine/Israel.

Bernard is currently working on a book called *International Solidarity and Culture: Nicaragua, South Africa, Palestine, 1975-1990*. The book considers appeals for solidarity in literature and film that was circulated among British participants in the Nicaragua solidarity campaign, the anti-apartheid movement and the Palestine solidarity movement.

[Primary Readings](#)

Readings

B. Aldaraca et al (eds.), *Nicaragua in Revolution: The Poets Speak* (Minneapolis, MN: Marxist Educational Press, 1980).

M. Chapman and A. Dangor (eds.), *Voices from Within: Black Poetry from Southern Africa*

(Johannesburg: Ad. Donker, 1982).

- T. Couzens and E. Patel, eds., *The Return of the Amasi Bird: Black South African Poetry 1891-*(Johannesburg: Ravan Press, 1982).
- A. Elmessiri (ed.), *The Palestinian Wedding: A Bilingual Anthology of Contemporary Palestinian Resistance Poetry* (Washington, DC: Three Continents, 1982).
- B. Feinberg (ed.), *Poets to the People: South African Freedom Poems* (London: Heinemann, 1980).
- B. Jasiensky and A. Hidas (eds.), *Literature of the World Revolution* (Moscow: State Publishing House, 1931–2).
- K. Johnson, ed. and trans., *A Nation of Poets: Writing from the Poetry Workshops of Nicaragua* (Albuquerque, NM: West End Press, 1985).
- A. Karim and L. Sustar, eds., *Poetry & Protest: A Dennis Brutus Reader* (Chicago: Haymarket, 2006).
- D. Livingstone, ed. and trans., *Poets of the Nicaraguan Revolution* (London: Katabasis, 1993).

Secondary Readings

Readings

- A. Ahmad, 'The Communist Manifesto and "World Literature"', *Social Scientist*, 28.7/8 (2000), pp. 3–30.
- P. Anderson, 'Internationalism: A Breviary', *New Left Review*, II, 14 (2002)
<https://newleftreview.org/II/14/perry-anderson-internationalism-a-breviary>.
- C. Bartolovich, 'Global Capital and Transnationalism', in H. Schwarz and S. Ray (eds.), *A Companion to Postcolonial Studies* (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2000), pp. 126–161.
- A. Beecroft, *An Ecology of World Literature: From Antiquity to the Present Day* (London: Verso, 2015)
- J. Beverley and M. Zimmerman, *Literature and Politics in the Central American Revolutions* (Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 1990).
- T. Brennan, 'The Case Against Irony', *Journal of Commonwealth Literature* 49.3 (2014), pp. 379–394.
- M. Denning, *Culture in the Age of Three Worlds* (London: Verso, 2004).
- D. Featherstone, *Solidarity: Hidden Histories and Geographies of Internationalism* (London: Zed, 2012).
- B. Harlow, *Resistance Literature* (London: Methuen, 1987).
- S. Henighan, *Sandino's Nation: Ernesto Cardenal and Sergio Ramírez Writing Nicaragua, 1940-2012* (Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2014).
- H. Khamis Nassar and N. Rahman, eds., *Mahmoud Darwish, Exile's Poet: Critical Essays*

(Northampton, MA: Interlink, 2008).

'World Lite: What Is Global Literature?', *n+1*, 17 (2013) <https://nplusonemag.com/issue-17/the-intellectual-situation/world-lite/>.

R. Young, *Postcolonialism: An Historical Introduction* (London: Blackwell, 2001).

*MULOSIGE Modules seeks to foster research and pedagogy that highlights comparison across and between languages and that is attentive to the 'significant geographies' of each context. Readers can create and submit syllabi based on their own collaborations with other scholars at <http://mulosige.soas.ac.uk/contribute-collaborative-courses/>.