

JorLitSAF April 5, 2023 meeting online

Agenda

1. update to our current publications (where things stand with Gilles/Mélanie's collection; where things stand with articles for Lesley/John's *Literary Journalism Studies* volume, whose first drafts are due by May and final versions by next October; other publication updates)
2. news about IALJS in May 2023
3. news about our *Ecole d'été* in May/June 2023
4. news about our Joberg activities in October
5. any additional things to discuss

1. Special issue *LJS*: Work plan

Brief from *LJS*

The special issue is targeted for Vol. 16, No. 2 (December 2024), and will likely contain the following content (all conforming to Chicago Manual of Style, 17th Edition):

- An introductory essay authored by Cowling and Bak;
- Five to seven blind-reviewed research papers (each between 5,000 to 8,000 words in length, not including end notes and bibliography), each focusing on an aspect of South African literary journalism) →Introductory paper is extra, not counted in the papers.
- Possibly an in-depth interview between a South African literary journalism scholar and a South African practicing literary journalist (usually 5,000 words in length);
- Possibly a "Teaching LJ" column (maximum 5,000 words in length) about a pedagogical issue (or issues) related specifically to the teaching of literary journalism to undergraduate and/or graduate students in South Africa (the unique historical roots of literary journalism, for instance);
- Possibly one or more book reviews of recently published works of South African literary journalism, or recently published works of South African literary journalism scholarship, or both;

Regarding the Reviewer Reports, we will be responsible for finding at least one blind reviewer for each research essay. And Lesley and John will work with Bill Reynolds to find a second blind reviewer from an international pool of literary journalism scholars.

Proposed articles

- Emily Hobhouse: the global circulation of her report; its place in literary journalism (John/Lesley C)
- Sol Plaatje's literary journalism/narrative non-fiction (Lesley M) →Sol Plaatje as an editor, literary journalist, etc. Not just the Mafeking diary.
- French soldier-diarists - Colonel Georges Comte de Villebois-Mareuil (Gilles) →A bit late but on schedule.
- Chimurenga, Zimbabwean literary journalists etc etc (Mfuneko) Not that different from what I proposed in October. Indiana can submit a first draft by the end of that two weeks and

submit a solid draft by June. Lesley: in Nancy, let's have something to work on even if it's half the thing.

- Jacob Dlamini's work (Anthea)
- Review article on the state of scholarship on literary journalism in South Africa (Hedley?)
- Explorer-diarists writing on Southern Africa in the early days of colonialism (Kevin)

A teaching literary journalism column? If Kevin was not able to write about the explorer, he could potentially write an article on how to teach LJ and use our example of how we teach it with historical roots.

John: these are suggestions by Bill, but we don't have to do everything suggested. If we have book reviews, it's great but it's not essential. The most essential is to have 5 to 7 articles, but the interview and the teaching are bonus chapters. My biggest worry is the schedule. We need to be strict with our deadlines. People need to submit something. Lesley and my article is nearly finished, can be sent to peer review within a week or so. We said the deadline was May back in October, but June or July is not much later than May. So be attentive to due dates.

Interview

- Possibly interview with Sisonke Msimang on life history writing? (Indie?)

Jeremy Boraine: links between graduating in History and working as a publisher; the role of the publisher; commissioning books; what sells and what doesn't in SA; evolution of publishing; foreseeable trends; nonfiction vs fiction; ethics and responsibility in commissioning books; Steinberg; literary journalism; languages; Jeremy's readings and writing; salvaging forgotten books; commissioning books vs using literary agents; Afrofuturism & dystopias. → I wrote to Jeremy asking about whether I can share the transcript with you guys and whether we can publish parts of the interview last night (07/04).

Upcoming interview with Fourie Botha (Penguin as a publisher → The Lennon-Ritchie Agency and as a literary agent)

Interviews with Masande Ntshanga & Imraan Coovadia

Book reviews

Suggestions?

Jonny Steinberg: relationship between Nelson and Winnie Mandela. He's trying something new.

Workplan schedule

June 2023 – have solid first draft of article/book review completed (and send to John and Lesley for any advice in completing it) **July very latest?**

September 2023 – last possible date to send your final article to John and Lesley (so we can read them, harmonize them, and request changes if necessary)

January 2024 – latest possible date to send out ms. of individual articles to peer-reviewers (to allow time for review and potential revisions demanded)

June 2024 – final ms. needed to be sent to Bill R (for fact-checking, InDesign layout) **Absolutely final manuscript.**

Dec. 2024 – issue published

2. IALJS in Gdansk, 17–20 May 2023

A ten-minute presentation each, based on what we talked about in October, leaving room for discussion. John is flying there on Wednesday and back on Sunday. The South Africans will fly into Gdansk at the same time as John. The per diems: do we need Campus France to confirm that they will pay our per diem? Lesley received 88 euros a day for the South Africans to share in Gdansk.

3. Summer School/Ecole d'été, May/June 2023

4 students enrolled for now.

John needs everyone readings to add to his Reader to put online in advance of the Summer School. We will redo the schedule depending on when people will be in Nancy (Indy and Mélanie are heading to an Afrofuturism conference mid-week; Andrew and Frank will arrive toward the end of the week, etc.).

4. Johannesburg/Wits University Program for October 2023

- Joburg: 800 euros left in our Protea account. Cannot buy Gilles's airline ticket with this. Will have him buy his own and Campus France will reimburse him up to 800 euros.
- Nothing planned yet at this point. Lesley is not sure of the financial situation from the NRF or from Wits. By the time of May, we should have solid plans of Joburg. Finances, reservations, etc.

Lesley: for some reason the NRF has given us less money this year. We have to use some of our NRF money for our train tickets from Gdansk to Nancy. We'll have enough money to accommodate you in Joburg. We won't know if we can do Mangwa or not until we come to Nancy. We could decide to do a few days using our department. We should not build around Mangwa, but Wits in Joburg for three or four days.

Mfuneko: between Gdansk and the Summer School, we'll be going through Germany.

Lesley: continuing the historical work with someone from Aix Marseille Uni.

Mélanie: the whole journal for which she and Gilles are editing a special issue is behind schedule. The volume before our own hasn't been published yet. They're changing names and platforms. One finalized article. October is far. Working on Damon Galgut, can this be an after-effect of the project, taking time in October to work on that.