



Epic and Intermediality

Third CIMEEP Colloquium

Centro Internacional e Multidisciplinar de Estudos
Épicos¹ in collaboration with FoReLLIS pole B (Poitiers)

Université de Poitiers / MSHS Poitiers Monday 28 -
Wednesday 30 March 2022

¹ CIMEEP website in English: <https://en.cimeep.com/>

Call for papers

The tradition of the epic or the “dream of the epic” (H. Christians, 2004), the search for the ideal by the inaccessible definition of the Homeric model, has always been accompanied by a question of the boundaries among the various mediums: the description of the shield of Achilles in the *Iliad*, the first *ekphrasis* in the European literary history, traditionally marks the beginning of reflections on text-image relations. Thus, since Classical Antiquity, the idea of the *oidos* and the ideal writing determined by the oral presentation have accompanied the production of intrinsically ambivalent epic texts, situated on the border between text and speech. The epic matter - stories of radiant heroes fighting for the collective - inspires authors in the search for an ideal text, capable of describing and at the same time uniting the community in a sophisticated and often versed language. But, to the same extent, these matters, whether based on concrete text or hybrid sources, also become motifs in the visual arts: they are found in the form of paintings or sculptures. The question of epic intermediality also arises when epic matter is staged - from classical tragedy and classical opera to long 19th century historical dramas, which often deliberately refer to the tradition of national epics and are received as “epic dramas”. But while the possibilities of representation on the classical stage were subject to clear spatial and moral limits, the emergence of the film in the 20th century was able to open completely new possibilities: on the screen, many adaptations of classical epic matters finally achieved the much expected popular success; in Hollywood, the *epic film* even became a genre of its own. More recently, this success has been amplified by video games and comics, which allowed, among other things, to question the linearity of the narrative and to resort to countless intertextual and intermedial quotes. The evolution over the centuries shows that each new medium evokes the skepticism of the previous ones, while opening up new possibilities for traditional or more recent epic matters. The emergence of new aesthetics, therefore, always reflects the long tradition of epic narratives.

For the third CIMEEP colloquium (Centro Internacional e Multidisciplinar de Estudos Épicos), we would like to focus on the relationship between epic and intermediality. The study of classic and contemporary works from all linguistic and cultural eras from the perspective of intermediality will be welcome.

We propose the following thematic axes:

- the **intermedial palimpsest of epic works**: the evocation and citation of old medium by more recent medium;
- the **intermedial transformation of epic matters**: changes in shape, aesthetics and linearity through a change in medium, for example, the adaptation of old epic matters in the arts of modernity, from photography to video games, including comics and films;

- **the aesthetic characteristics and (im) possibilities of epic narratives in different mediums**, for example for the study of the same epic matter adapted in different works and / or different mediums;
- the issue of **ekphrasis**;
- the question of **orality represented by writing**.

The third CIMEEP colloquium will take place in Poitiers (France), at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme et de la Société (MSHS) at the University of Poitiers and in collaboration with the research group FoReLLIS (Poitiers).

Scientific Committee:

Charlotte Krauss, Senior Lecturer at Poitiers University

María del Mar López-Cabrales, Full Professor at Colorado State University (United States of America)

Karina Marques, Senior Lecturer at the University of Poitiers

Fernando de Mendonça, Adjunct Professor at the Federal University of Sergipe (Brazil)

Christina Bielinski Ramalho, Associate Professor at the Federal University of Sergipe (Brazil)

Maria Aparecida Rodrigues Fontes, Professor-Researcher at Università degli Studi di Padova.

Key conferences (keynote):

Liliane Louvel, Professor of English Literature at the Université de Poitiers

Raúl Marrero-Fente, Professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Minnesota

Languages of the event: French and English - as well as Spanish and Portuguese for topics specifically dedicated to epic matters from South and Central America.

Registration fee: 30 euros (CIMEEP and FoReLLIS members are free from registration fees).

Please, send your communication proposal (title + summary of a maximum of 2,000 characters) to cimeep.epos@gmail.com before April 30, 2021.

All abstracts of accepted articles will be compiled in the form of a summary notebook. **A selection of contributions will be published in the online magazine *Revista Épicas***, in the number scheduled for the end of 2022 (publication with reading committee).