



ANNUAL REPORT 2017



SELMA

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY
OF STORYTELLING,
EXPERIENTIALITY
AND MEMORY

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The research centre SELMA explores the interrelations between storytelling, experientiality and memory. The Centre is based at the School of History, Culture and Arts Studies at the University of Turku, Finland. It promotes interdisciplinary research and organises seminars, symposia and other events on both theoretical and topical social issues. SELMA aims at crossing the borders between research and artistic creativity by creating dialogue, promoting social engagement and fostering international collaboration between scholars, artists and other people outside academia.



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EDITORIAL

The second full year of SELMA's activities has been eventful and inspiring. In 2017, we continued to explore the concepts and phenomena that are at the heart of SELMA, such as trauma, experientiality, autobiographical narration in diaries, and the risks and potential of different kinds of narrative practices. Perhaps the most rewarding and memorable events of the year involved dialogic encounters with our various partners of collaboration.

Over the past year, we have strengthened our collaboration with several other networks at the University of Turku, such as the Research Center for Culture and Health (Faculty of Humanities) and the Culture and Interaction research network (Faculty of Social Sciences), with which we explored issues of narrative, experience and cultural perspectives on health and wellbeing. We had speakers from John Morton Center for North American Studies (Dr Samira Saramo) and Turku Institute for Advanced Studies (Dr Johanna Kaakinen and Dr Nena Močnik). We also extended our collaboration with Narrare: Centre for Interdisciplinary Narrative Studies (University of Tampere) by co-organising a workshop on the dangers and benefits of narrative, which led to lively discussion and contributed to the development of a joint funding application for the Academy of Finland.

Our collaboration with the Centre for Narrative Research (University of East London) was further strengthened by the visit of Professor Maria Tamboukou, who was the keynote speaker of our Hannah Arendt Workshop, one of the highlights of our research year. International research networks are a key aspect of our research centre, and in 2017 SELMA participated in coordinating two symposia of the international network "Narrative and Memory: Ethics, Aesthetics, Politics" (2017–2019, funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers). The first one, "Transcultural Memorial Forms", was co-organised by Associate Professor Eneken Laanes at the University of Tallinn. The second one, "Trauma Narratives and the Ethics of Reading", was co-organised by Professor Colin Davis (Royal Holloway, University of London) and took place in Latvia, under the auspices of the Nordic Summer University. In both symposia, we had participants from all over the world.

SELMA's research activities will be enlarged from 2018 onwards as a project led by Maarit Leskelä-Kärki received funding from the Kone Foundation in December 2017. "Uuden etsijät. Esoteerisuus ja uskonnollisuuden murros modernisoituvassa Suomessa, 1880–1930" deals with the cultural history of esotericism in Finland at the end of the 19th century and in the early 20th century. The multidisciplinary project involves researchers from comparative religion, history, literary studies and art history. It aims at

exploring how European esoteric and occult currents became part of the Finnish culture at the turn of the modernity. The project is interested in the meanings of esoteric ideas and movements and particularly in the daily life of individuals and social networks.

2017 was also a good year in terms of social engagement and collaboration with artists and activists. In September, SELMA presented a roundtable discussion on trauma, memory and art as part of Change2017, a project connecting art and research in an exploratory and affective way, organised by the Turku Philharmonic orchestra and musicologist and SELMA scholar Susanna Välimäki. Change2017 explored how music and art change the world, and it was a powerful experience for us to be part of the public event in the Turku City Library where about a hundred people listened intensely to our discussion. The warm, thoughtful and touching response we received really made us feel that art matters and so does discussion on art and encounters that spaces like the public library make possible.

Another powerful and transformative experience was the Transeuropa Festival Cha(lle)nging the Other, which Nena Močnik organised with her students, who explored, through tools of community art, various facets of imagining, narrating and physically manifesting “the Other” in contemporary European context. We want to use this opportunity to thank Nena, the first official postdoctoral researcher of SELMA, who will help us coordinate the activities of the research centre over the next couple of years. She has brought new international perspectives and insights into SELMA’s daily life and her experience in and commitment to engaging the community is invaluable in developing this aspect that is so integral to SELMA’s aspirations.

Overall, the events of SELMA in 2017 have involved inspiring dialogue between scholars, students, artists and activists. We look forward to continuing this dialogue in 2018 and developing it in new directions through the contributions of all of you who have participated or will participate in our activities. You are all most welcome to join us and hopefully some of you will find a new intellectual home in SELMA!

Hanna Meretoja,

Director of SELMA, Professor of Comparative Literature

Maarit Leskelä-Kärki,

Vice Director of SELMA, Senior Lecturer, Adjunct Professor of Cultural History



SEMINARS & LECTURES

Perspectives on the study of culture and health

3 February 2017

In February, SELMA invited Prof Marja-Liisa Honkasalo and Dr Anu Laukkanen to talk about their interdisciplinary research and the work of the Research Center for Culture and Health at the University of Turku. Since the work of the center has connections to SELMA's focus on storytelling, experientiality and memory, the aim of the event was also to provide a space for a discussion on the future possibilities of cooperation between the Research Center for Culture and Health and SELMA.

Prof Marja-Liisa Honkasalo first presented the research center, the activities of which are based on what is internationally defined as "medical humanities". In this context, medical humanities signify an approach to health, illness, cure and medical knowledge from the viewpoint of culture and of disciplines such as anthropology, sociology, folkloristics, literary studies, ethics and philosophy in addition to medicine. We learned about the four broad research areas of the center – cultural knowledge of the human mind, vulnerable agency, multicultural communication and art, health and welfare, as well as about the aims and methods of the past and current research projects of the center, "Multicultural encounters in health care", "Culture, health and well-being", "Vulnerable lives,

illness and embedded agency" and "Mind and the Other". Honkasalo emphasized that the increasingly multicultural societies make the work of the center increasingly important.

Dr Anu Laukkanen then introduced to us her research in the context of the project Arts Equal, a research initiative coordinated by the University of the Arts Helsinki examining the arts as public service, with equality as the starting point, and exploring how the arts can meet the social challenges of the 2020s. We then talked about the role of narrative studies in medical humanities, about ethnographic methods, the possibilities of artistic research in the study of culture and health, as well as about the definitions of the concept of agency.

Inspired by the presentations on the study of culture and health at the University of Turku, we also discussed the possible topics of future SELMA seminars and found that there would be interest in topics such as "embodiment and narrative", the "concept of experience" or "intersubjectivity". It was also proposed that we could choose a common object of analysis, such as a novel, and invite researchers from different disciplines to engage with this object using their respective methods and concepts. This would provide a fruitful basis for a discussion on the points of contact between different disciplines represented at SELMA.

Dr Samira Saramo:

Loss in Finnish North American Life Writing

12 April 2017

In April, we heard a lecture by Dr Samira Saramo, a research fellow at John Morton Center for North American Studies at the University of Turku, who presented to us her research on Finnish immigrants in 1880–1939 North America and the ways in which death and mourning produce ethnicity in everyday practices and personal narrations.

The lecture analyzed diverse narratives of loss in the personal letters and autobiographies of Finnish North Americans from 1900 to 1960. In the context of twentieth-century migration, the death or disappearance of a loved one raised questions about a person's place and sense of continuity and challenged the process of identity maintenance. Letter correspondence with friends and family in the home community offered a platform for making sense of grief and connection. Engaging in memoir-writing, even years later, could allow life writers to confront the rupture of loss and re-script their experience. The life writing studied in Saramo's project highlights the emotional, physical, and practical responses to death and loss. Though very intimate, loss often also served to solidify collectives, shaped by ethnicity, gender and class.

After the lecture, we had an interesting conversation on Saramo's aim to prompt discussion on life writing studies by questioning why the personal letters of ordinary people have faced an uneasy reception within the field. Bridging personal letters

and autobiography, the theme of loss provides an opportunity to critically engage with the form and content of these source types.

Kasvatuksen mieli ja muistot

Interdisciplinary seminar on the history of education

11 May 2017

This interdisciplinary one-day seminar was organized by the Finnish Society for the History of Education in cooperation with SELMA, FOHN – Finnish Oral History Network, Finnish Youth Research Society and Finnish Historical Society. The event focused on various scholarly perspectives on studying memories and experiences related to education as well as on the sources and methods related to this research. The seminar was organized in memory of Finnish historian Saara Tuomaala.

Dr Nena Močnik: "I will not raise my child to kill your child."

Motherhood, collective memory and the continuum of sexual violence in the aftermath of war

7 September 2017

The lecture by Dr Nena Močnik (SELMA/Turku Institute for Advanced Studies) introduced the questions of collective trauma in war-rape survivors' families and its impact to reconciliation processes in post-conflict Bosnia-Herzegovina. The initial premise was built on the current marginalized socio-political status of women survivors, now-mothers, and Močnik then investigated how their testifying, or sharing their violent past through their storytelling might impact the ideas, percep-

tions, behavioral patterns and understanding of gender-based violence, cultural scripts of sexuality and violence among descendants and how this furthermore affects also unsuccessful reconciliation and peace-building in the region.



Experience and Narration

1 November 2017

This seminar was a joint endeavor of the Culture and Interaction research network (Faculty of Social Sciences), the Research Center for Culture and Health (Faculty of Humanities) and SELMA. This interdisciplinary seminar focused on topics that are central to humanity and the human sciences: experience and how we narrate our experiences. Papers were presented on a wide range of topics by researchers of these three networks. They approached experience and narrativity from both theoretical-methodological and empirical perspectives. Anna Ovaska (University of Helsinki) talked about narrative medicine, narrative and empathy. Tero Pajunen (Economic Sociology, University of Turku) presented a project that studies the situationality of aesthetic capital, in relation to the significance and value attributed to appearances.

The last three talks were by SELMA scholars. Päivi Kosonen talked about therapeutic writing and reading. Hanna Meretoja and Maarit Leskelä-Kärki gave an overview of SELMA's different approaches to the relationship between experience and narrative as well as briefly presenting their own research interests, Meretoja particularly in relation to the ethical potential of storytelling and Leskelä-Kärki in relation to biographical research.

SYMPOSIUM

Transcultural Memorial Forms: Contemporary Remembrance of War, Displacement and Political Rupture
17-19 March 2017 (Tallinn University, Estonia)

The symposium launched the three-year cooperation of the international research network “Narrative and Memory: Ethics, Aesthetics and Politics” (2017–2019) funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers (<http://nordic.university/study-circles/4-narrative-memory>) and directed by Prof Hanna Meretoja (University of Turku) and Prof Eneken Laanes (Tallinn University).



The three-day event explored the role of transcultural memorial forms in the articulation of memories and contemporary experiences of war, displacement and political conflict. In addition to the Nordic and Baltic countries, which is the main geographic context of the Nordic Summer University framework, the symposium attracted scholars from Britain, continental Europe and the United States, and many of them showed interest in attending future events of the network as well.

We heard two keynote lectures, by Michael Rothberg and Ann Rigney, who both are leading scholars in the interdisciplinary field of cultural memory studies, as well as around 40 papers divided into 13 thematic panels (see <http://nordic.university/study-circles/4-narrative-memory/program-winter-session-2017/>).

The accompanying programme included a screening of Kristina Norman's video art piece *Common Ground* and a discussion with the artist, who presented her piece to the audience. The lively discussions continued over conference dinner.



Autenttisuuden jäljillä(kö?): Päiväkirja, minuus ja historia
Symposium on diaries as historical sources

18 May 2017

The one-day symposium was organized by the Department of cultural history at the University of Turku in cooperation with SELMA. The main aim of the event was to give space for a focused discussion on diaries as historical sources as well as objects of historical research. The central questions discussed during the event concerned the kind of knowledge about the past that diaries can mediate and the meaning of “authenticity” when diaries are

approached as historical sources. We discussed both epistemological and ethical questions raised by diaries as source material as well as the history of the genre and its place in the larger field of autobiographical writing. The symposium was followed by a call for papers for an anthology that will discuss diaries from a long historical perspective, and explore it both as a literary and historical genre and as an autobiographical source material.

Kertomusten vaarat ja hyödyt

Risks and Benefits of Narratives

19 May 2017

The symposium was organized by SELMA in cooperation with Narrare: Centre for Interdisciplinary Narrative Studies, University of Tampere. The aim of the event was to launch SELMA's closer cooperation with Narrare and to begin discussions on a joint research project application for the Finnish Academy, which was submitted in September 2017. Ten scholars from Turku, Tampere and Jyväskylä gave short presentations, among them scholars hailing from literary studies, philosophy, political science and psychology. At the end of the session we discussed the risks and benefits of narratives in light of the perspectives opened by the presentations, which dealt with a broad range of contexts, such as political theory, bibliotherapy, cognitive psychology, multidisciplinary teaching of literature, historical and apocalyptic fiction and social media.



At the end of the day, psychologist Dr Johanna Kaakinen, who had given us a presentation on her research in reading comprehension, guided us through the Turku Eye-tracking Laboratories (Turku EyeLabs), and the group discussed the possibilities of combining the psycho-physiological research methods in cognitive psychology to the study of narratives in the humanities and social sciences.

Trauma Narratives and the Ethics of Reading

26 July–2 August 2017, Saulkrasti, Latvia

The second symposium of the network “Narrative and Memory: Ethics, Aesthetics, Politics” took place in Latvia and was part of the summer session of the Nordic Summer University. This symposium was co-organised by Colin Davis (Royal Holloway, University of London) and Hanna Meretoja. We discussed the specific ethical and aesthetic issues raised by writing and reading trauma narratives.

Participants examined the aesthetic means which have been adopted to confront this problem and the ethical challenge which trauma narratives pose, as they radically bring into question our re-

sponsibility as readers, scholars, subjects, and citizens.



The summer school took place over a week and this allowed us to continue our discussions from day to day and also over evening events, including beach parties on the beautiful shores of Saulkrasti.

WORKSHOPS

Hannah Arendt & Life Narratives

17 October 2017

The workshop explored Hannah Arendt's thinking particularly from the perspective of life narratives. The keynote lecture and workshop "Who are you? Narrative traces of uniqueness and plurality", was delivered by Professor Maria Tamboukou (University of East London).



During the workshop Prof Tamboukou looked at entanglements between narratives and the political in Hannah Arendt's thought. She particularly presented, explicated and discussed three important notions in her work: action in concert, uniqueness and plurality, and made connections with her take on narratives as tangible traces of the human condition. Besides, she fleshed out these concepts drawing on Arendt's own work in engaging with "the lives of others" through the connections she has made between biographical writing and historiography.

Ari-Elmeri Hyvönen based his presentation on Hannah Arendt's notes for "Political Experiences in the Twentieth Century", and sought to enrich the understanding of the Janus-faced character of political experience. He emphasized the importance of vicariousness, and argued that experience should be understood as a process of suffering, enduring, and narratively re-experiencing events beyond our conscious control. He concluded that experiences appear only when events, through metaphors, are allowed to leave their mark on our way of using language.

Hanna Meretoja's paper "Arendtian storytelling as a mode of non-subsumptive understanding" suggested that in Arendt's thinking the ethical potential of storytelling is linked to three main functions of narrative, which are: 1) sharing experiences, 2) shaping the in-between (the intersubjective space) and 3) understanding who someone is. In relation to Arendt, she explored some of the theoretical assumptions at play when scholars argue for or against narrative as a form of understanding. She argued that underlying different ethical takes on storytelling are drastically different conceptions of understanding and knowledge, which can be best understood in terms of the difference between *subsumptive* and *non-subsumptive* conceptions of narrative understanding.

Historical Imagination, Futurity and Narrative Form**17 November 2017**

In this workshop, SELMA invited Dr Natalya Bekhta, postdoctoral scholar in comparative literature at the University of Helsinki, to join Dr Kaisa Kaakinen, postdoctoral scholar in comparative literature at the University of Turku, to share a work-in-progress conversation on the connections between their respective research projects. Dr Kaakinen opened the event by giving a short presentation on her postdoctoral project “Historical biographies and relational imagination in contemporary literature”. Dr Bekhta then followed with a talk on her postdoctoral project “Imagining alternative futures: ghosts and saviors in post-Soviet fiction”. After the lectures, the presenters opened a discussion with the audience on the connections between their projects, especially on their interest in linking literary texts and their specific narrative strategies to relevant historical and social contexts and in reading figures of haunting and untimeliness in literature as not only linked to memory and remembering but also to imagining the future. The format of the event proved fruitful for identifying points of contact between the individual research projects and for launching a more sustained cooperation.

After their individual lectures, Kaisa Kaakinen and Natalya Bekhta will discuss current methodological challenges in the comparative analysis of literary form and cultural imaginaries. The following topics will be addressed in the discussion, in

dialogue with the questions from the audience: how historical narration and memorial forms intersect in literary narratives with emerging ways to imagine the future, how we should take into account both local and global contexts of literary production and reception in the age of globalization, and how we should respond to challenges of scale and (semi-)periphery in comparative studies.

EVENTS

Trauma, Memory, and Art: SELMA taking part in Change2017

Change2017 has been a project connecting art and research in an exploratory and affective way. Organised by the Turku Philharmonic orchestra and musicologist Susanna Välimäki from the University of Turku, Change2017 has asked whether music can change the world, and how it could do that.



SELMA participated in the series under the title *Satyagraha*, a term by Mahatma Gandhi referring to peaceful, non-violent opposition. Our discussion focused on the signification of art in dealing with traumatic events, and the ways we remember trauma through artistic processes. Our evening was related to SELMA's earlier projects, and particularly to our Travelling Stories workshop at Aboagora in 2016. We focused particularly on how literature, poetry and narrativity could help in coping with encountering traumas, dealing with them and remembering them. Our aim was connected to the concert organized in relation to this evening, "Sorrowful Song" (Symphony no. 3, Sympho-

ny of Sorrowful songs op. 36) by Polish composer Henryk Górecki (from 1976) that deals with the loss and sorrow of parents and children in the midst of wars.



Rajojen yli: viisi keskustelua naisesta/ Crossing the borders: a discussion series on biographies and women artists October and November 2017

Together with the Dance Company Aurinkobaletti, Maarit Leskelä-Kärki organized a series of discussion evenings that were connected to the new dance work of Aurinkobaletti and Rimpparemmi (from Rovaniemi) called *Kymmenen laulua naisesta* (Ten songs of a woman) premiered in Turku at Åbo Svenska Teatern.



The work choreographed by Marjo Kuusela and composed by Kaj Chydenius aims at depicting the history of Finnish woman through ten real or fictive life stories. The discussion evenings took part in the dialogue concerning the one hundred year's celebration of Finland's independence in promoting the numerous biographies written on Finnish women artists and writers during the recent years. These biographies included the works dealing with the artist Ellen Thesleff, writer L. Onerva, poet Edith Södergran, and writer Aino Kallas. Leskelä-Kärki invited five scholars and writers to discuss the possibilities of being a woman artist and to make visible the input of women's agency in the cultural history of Finland. The last discussion was held together with the choreographer Marjo Kuusela and circus artist Pauliina Räsänen.

Book launch event

17 October 2017



SELMA celebrated the books published this year by the members of the centre. The publications include:

- Kaisa Kaakinen: *Comparative Literature and the Historical Imaginary: Reading Conrad, Weiss, Sebald*. Palgrave Macmillan 2017.
- Maarit Leskelä-Kärki: *Toisten elämät. Kirjoituksia elämäkerroista*. Avain 2017.
- Nena Močnik: *Sexuality after War Rape: From Narrative to Embodied Research*. Routledge Research in Gender and Society. Routledge 2017.
- *Storytelling and Ethics: Literature, Visual Arts and the Power of Narrative*, ed. by Hanna Meretoja & Colin Davis. Routledge 2017.

Transeuropa Festival Cha(lle)nging the Other

21 October 2017

The one day event was a public presentation of students' projects that were designed during the class of Social Justice and Critical Performative dialogues (held by Dr Nena Močnik). Students explored various facets of imagining, narrating and physically manifesting "the Other" in contemporary European context.



By the use of different community art tools, from exhibition, performance, documentary movie, to poetry reading, students addressed the questions of inequality and social injustice in their own environments and invited various community members to speak along.

in a end-of-the-term get-together with wine and snacks.

Pictures from:

Cinamatek <http://www.cinamatek.be>

Selma's Ellis Island film night

4 December 2017



This film night built on and deepened the Change2017 event “Trauma, Memory, Art” in which Päivi Kosonen talked about Georges Perec’s and Robert Bober’s documentary film *Récits d’Ellis Island. Histoires d’errance et d’espoir. 1. Traces* (1979). We watched together the first part of the film, Päivi Kosonen gave a brief presentation on it and on Perec’s essay on the documentary film project and on issues of memory and remembering. Kosonen has translated the essay by Perec in Finnish and it was published in *Parnasso* 6-7/2017, “Ellis Island. Projektin kuvaus”. Afterwards we discussed the film together and ended the evening

MOBILITIES

In **March 2017**, several members of SELMA, including Dr Kaisa Kaakinen and Prof Hanna Meretoja participated in “Transcultural Memorial Forms: Contemporary Remembrance of War, Displacement and Political Rupture”, the first symposium of the network “Narrative and Memory: Ethics, Aesthetics, Politics”. The symposium was held at the University of Tallinn, and explored how the narrative strategies and memorial forms developed in the context of remembering the Holocaust and postwar migration have contributed to the articulation of other histories of war and political conflict in the Nordic region and across Europe and how they are currently used to make sense of contemporary experiences of war and displacement.

In **April 2017**, Dr Nena Močnik attended the conference “Postmemory and Contemporary World” in Medellin, Colombia, where she presented her paper on the pressure between silence and memory among war-related rape survivors.

In **June 2017**, SELMA members participated at “Life-Writing, Europe and New Media” conference, organized by the IABA-Europe (International Auto/Biography Association) at King’s College in London. The discussants were Kaisa Kaakinen, Maarit Leskelä-Kärki, Hanna Meretoja, Anna Reading and Erkki Sutinen.



In **July 2017**, Prof Hanna Meretoja attended The Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) at the University of Utrecht, Netherlands. She participated in a seminar on “Ambivalent Affect: Perpetration in Contemporary Representations of the Holocaust”. The seminar focused on the function of perpetrator figures in aesthetic representations of the Holocaust and methodological and taxonomical frameworks for analysing the uncomfortable centrality of perpetration to how we conceptualise and commemorate the Holocaust.

In **July–August 2017**, several SELMA scholars from the University of Turku (Dr Kaisa Kaakinen, Prof Hanna Meretoja, MA Aura Nikkilä, MA Anna Vuorinne, and students from the department of musicology) attended “Trauma Narratives and the Ethics of Reading”, the second symposium of the network “Narrative and Memory: Ethics, Aesthetics, Politics” in Latvia. This symposium discussed the specific ethical and aesthetic issues raised by writing and reading trauma narratives. Participants

examined the aesthetic means which have been adopted to confront this problem and the ethical challenge which trauma narratives pose, as they radically bring into question our responsibility as readers, scholars, subjects and citizens.

In **August 2017**, Dr Nena Močnik attended “Seeing History: Traces and Representations of the Past”, The 110th Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association, California State University, Northridge. In her paper “Acting Out the Painful Past: Trauma Performed and Body as a Site of Memory”, she attempted to place survivors’ collective trauma at the heart of their memory by observing their bodies as the essential place of this trauma, as a “site of memory”, where not only past experiences but present and future perceptions and mental images are inscribed.

In **August 2017**, Maarit Leskelä-Kärki attended the 29th Congress of Nordic Historians in Aalborg, Denmark. She organized and took part in the panel discussion “Gender and the Reformation of Biographical Writing” together with Nordic scholars.

In **September 2017**, Dr Anne Heimo participated at roundtable discussion “Navigating Family Histories, Emotions, and Memory in New Media Spaces” at the Oral History Australia conference:

Moving Memories: Oral History in a global world, held in Sydney.

In **October 2017**, Maarit Leskelä-Kärki was the head of the organizing team of the biannual national Historiantutkimuksen päivät in Turku. The conference brought together over 300 historians from Finland in a three-day event. Biographical approaches were discussed in a workshop organized by Leskelä-Kärki, entitled “Yksilön paikka historiantutkimuksessa”.

In **December 2017**, Maarit Leskelä-Kärki organised in the context of Finnish Literature Society and Finnish Historical Society a seminar *Biografian rajat ja rajattomuus / Testing the Boundaries of Biography* that was held also to celebrate the twenty years of Finnish National Biography. The conference consisted of three keynotes by Sigirdur Gylfi Magnusson, Mineke Bosch, Hanna Suutela and Eero Hyvönen and of about twenty papers from scholars interested in biographical research. The conference theme was the diversity of the biographical approach and the connection between historical biographical research and its related fields. It aimed at discussing how biography can benefit from crossing boundaries and from the theories and methods of its related disciplines. One of the keynotes addressed the topic of digital humanities and computational methods in supporting biographical research.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Finch, Jason, Lieven Ameel, and Markku Salmela, *Literary Second Cities*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.

Heimo, Anne, "The Italian Hall tragedy, 1913: A hundred years of remediated memories," in *The Twentieth Century in European Memory: Transcultural mediation and reception* (eds. Törnqvist-Plewa, Barbara & Tea Sindbæk Andersen). Brill, 2017, 240-267.

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Meretoja, Hanna, "Narrative Hermeneutics and the Ethical Potential of Literature," in *The Future of Literary Studies* (ed. Jakob Lothe). Novus Press, 2017, 147–159.

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Močnik, Nena, *Sexuality After War: From Narrative to Embodied Research*. Routledge, 2017.

Mäkelä, Maria, "The Gnostic Space. Authorial Ethos between Voices in Michael Cunningham's *By Nightfall*," *Narrative*, 25:1, 2017, 113-137.

Oisalo, Niina, "The Enemies within: 'Fallen Women' of World War II in Finnish Contemporary Documentary in *The Enemy in Contemporary Film* (eds. Marzena Sokołowska-Paryż and Martin Löschnigg).

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SELMA co-operates with many other research centres in Europe and elsewhere working in the field of autobiography, life-writing and narrative studies. We are interested in new initiatives in the field of research, teaching and social engagement activities.

- Narrative and Memory: Ethics, Aesthetics, Politics (Nordic-Baltic research network coordinated by Hanna Meretoja and Eneken Laanes)
- IIPC – The International Institute for Popular Culture, University of Turku
- Narrare: Centre for Interdisciplinary Narrative Studies, University of Tampere
- Centre for Narrative Research, University of East London
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- The Holocaust Research Institute, Royal Holloway, University of London
- Memory Studies Association, <https://www.memorystudiesassociation.org/>
- IABA-Europe and *European Journal for Life-Writing*