



Call for Submission of Abstracts

Love at Large: Eros in World Literatures and Cultures

A volume edited by Fiona Moolla and Megan Moore

Romantic love appears throughout literatures across geographies and histories, so much so that it can appear naturalized as a cultural universal. But contemporary understandings of love as passion have also been disproportionately associated with European models stemming from courtly love, neglecting to consider the affective valences and histories of non-Europeans. The facile and overly reductive typification of courtly love as a means for valorizing heterosexual romance has led to the conception of romantic love as *the* affective practice of secular modernity. Paradoxically, whereas scholarship on the early modern history of (European) emotions has focused on exploring the civilizing transformation of eroticism into love, in the digital era of online dating and “hook-ups,” the globalizing discourse of internet technologies may have reduced the “civilizational” significance of love to just sex – eros morphed solely (back) into the erotic. Through scholarly recognition of colonization, imperialism, and globalization, and through the very recent influence of and disparate access to digital technologies, the universally normative and normalizing specificities of Anglo-American affective politics are being re-examined. Reading for love, eros, and the erotic in world literatures that are squarely situated within the affective practices of their own cultures broadens the diversities of scholarly discourses of love and interrogates the Eurocentrism of current models.

Against a broad cultural history of love, papers are invited which consider, but are not limited to, the following conjunctions:

- Love in oratures
- Grand myths of love: Vis and Ramin, Radha and Krishna, Tristan and Isolde, Laila and Majnun, Romeo and Juliet, ...
- “Foundational fictions”: love as national allegory
- “Distant love”: transnational romantic allegories
- Love and marriages monogamous and polygamous
- Love and revolution; love or revolution: eros and social justice
- Boundary-breaking love
- Popular romancing the world
- Digital romance
- Love and war
- Romance and feminisms
- Love and the non-human
- The materiality of love
- Writing romance