



The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures is pleased to invite you to talks by the three finalists for the Assistant Professor position in Slavic and Global Literature Studies. Below are the titles of the talks, brief bios of our presenters, and Zoom links. We hope to see you there!

Candidate 1: Daniel Webster Pratt

Thursday, February 3rd

5:00 – 6:00pm, talk: “Bruno Jasiński and the Quest for an International Literature”

Zoom link: <https://washington.zoom.us/j/92526936168>

BIO: Daniel W. Pratt holds a Ph.D. in Slavic literature from the University of Chicago and is currently Assistant Professor of Slavic literature at McGill University. A comparative Slavist who published and taught Czech, Polish, and Russian literature, Daniel also worked on Austrian and Hungarian literatures. His book project under consideration by Harvard University Press, *Against Narrative: Constructing Temporalities in Central Europe*, examines the temporal constructions of Central European authors – such as Rilke, Hrabal, Kundera, Gombrowicz, Hašek and Tokarczuk – who use collage, essayism, fragmentation or anecdote to construct the relationship of past, present and future in their novels. His second major project, *International Literature*, theorizes a socialist approach to world literature, and his third project looks at major writers who emerged from the region of Silesia and whose writing in Czech, Polish, and German complicates the move to create nation states out of the diversity of Central Europe and showcases this region as multi-ethnic and multi-faith, yet still maintaining a distinct identity. Dr. Pratt is a recipient of a number of national and international awards for his research, as well as an award-winning teacher. He has worked to build up the field of Central and Eastern European studies in North America through organizing conferences, fundraising, and engaging in

public outreach activities; as a member of the Slavic Executive Committee for the Modern Language Association he works towards promoting Slavic languages, literatures and cultures in the association.

Candidate 2: Piotr Florczyk

Monday, February 7th

5:00 – 6:00pm, talk: "Found in Translation: Translingualism & the Global Literary Marketplace"

Zoom link: <https://washington.zoom.us/j/94524853401>

BIO: Mr. Piotr Florczyk is a Ph.D. candidate in Literature and Creative Writing at the University of Southern California. An established essayist and poet, the author of two books of poetry in English and two in Polish, as well as a prolific translator, Mr. Florczyk as a scholar brings a fresh look to the issues of translation by seeing translation as a creative dialogue between Polish and American poets. His doctoral dissertation, "East Meets West: on Translation and the Dialogue of Polish and American Poets," argues that translators should tackle projects deemed "untranslatable" to destabilize the universalized literary marketplace. Translation could be seen as a performance where the focus shifts from representational efficacy to search for memorability. The thesis also looks at translingual writers such as Joseph Conrad, whose hybridity of cultures, literatures and identities provides both opportunities and constraints. Mr. Florczyk is a recipient of numerous awards, including the 2017 Translation Award from the Academy of American Poets, and serves on PEN Center's Translation Committee. His poems, translations, essays, and reviews have appeared in a number of publications including *The New Yorker*, *The American Scholar*, *Harvard Review*, *Times Literary Supplement*, *LARB*, *Boston Review* and others, as well as in several premier Polish magazines.

Candidate 3: Ena Selimović

Thursday, February 10th

5:00 – 6:00pm, talk: "Forms of Foreignness: Multilingualism in Contemporary Diasporic Literatures"

Zoom link: <https://washington.zoom.us/j/95197927310>

BIO: Ena Selimović is an ACLS Emerging Voices Fellow at Yale University's Program in American Studies and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. She holds a Ph.D. from St. Louis's Washington University in the Department of Comparative Literature.

Based on her own co-translation (with Katja Perat) of a Serbian folk poem, her PMLA essay on Goethe's reading of Balkan folk poetry, "World Literature and Its Others," profoundly challenged some of the more established notions of the genesis of the concepts of world or global literatures. Ena's dissertation compares 20th and 21st-century diasporic American and Balkan literatures with a focus on tracing their racialized, multi-lingual, and inter-imperial networks. This thesis, on language politics in writing the Balkans, argues that differences framed through concepts like *ethnic*, *cultural*, *ethnoreligious*, and *linguistic*, have often showed themselves to be proxies for racialization processes. Her research on multilingualism and the racialization of language brings a relational approach to the study of contemporary North American and Southeast European literatures. Dr. Selimović is currently at work on her second project, a book of illustrated essays *M is for Migration*, which studies the resonances of terms like *alien*, *barbaric*, *invader*, and *terrorist* as they appear in a range of cultural objects. A translator from BCMS language, Ena has most recently translated stories by Maša Kolanović and is one of the co-founders of the translators' project *Turkoslavia*. Her work has appeared in *Asymptote*, *Boulevard*, *Reading in Translation*, *Balkanist*, as well as (forthcoming) in *Slavic and East European Journal*.