



AUTONOMY: THEORIES AND PRACTICE SPEAKERS



Matías Martínez studied German Literature and Philosophy in Göttingen, Paris and Cambridge (Mass.). Since 2004, he is Professor of German Literature and also Founding Director of the *Center for Narratological Research* at the University of Wuppertal, co-editor of „Diegesis. Interdisciplinary E-Journal for Narratology“ and of the series „Narratologia. Contributions to Narrative Theory“, published by *de Gruyter*. Selected publications: „Wirklichkeitserzählungen. Felder, Formen und Funktionen nichtliterarischen Erzählens“ (co-ed., Stuttgart 2010); „Klassiker der modernen Literaturtheorie“ (co-ed., Munich 2010); „Handbuch Erzählliteratur“ (ed., Stuttgart 2011); „Einführung in die Erzähltheorie“, 9th ed. (co-author, Munich 2012).
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Ludger Mees. Undergraduate studies of History and Social Sciences at the Universities of Münster and Bielefeld (Germany); PhD in History at the University of Bielefeld (1988); 1989-91: Assistant Professor at the University of Bielefeld; since 1991 Professor for Contemporary History at the University of the Basque Country (Bilbao); since 2004: Full Professor; between 2004 and 2009 vice-chancellor. Author, co-author and editor of 15 books and about 80 articles and book chapters dealing with topics such as nationalism, social movements, historiography and agrarian history.
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Javier Montilla is a journalist and writer. As a columnist, he has edited a lot of media articles focusing on political affairs, particularly on Spanish subjects. In his newspaper columns, Montilla has defended the democracy in Cuba, Venezuela and Women's rights in Islamic countries such as Afghanistan, Iran or Saudi Arabia. He has contributed to many radio and TV talk shows in Badalona TV, Intereconomía, or 13TV. He is author of several books: "The rainbow society", "The cause of freedom", "The heart of torture" among others. His last book, "The walls of Catalonia" is a resounding success in Spain. In 2011 he was awarded with the "FEDAN journalism prize" in recognition of his human and animal rights fight and his social commitment to the victims of ETA terrorism. He currently lives in Barcelona.
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Carlos Garrido Castellano is FCT Post-Doctorate Researcher at the Centre for Comparative Studies of the University of Lisbon. His research focuses on Caribbean Studies, Postcolonial Theory, Collaborative Art and Emancipation. Currently, he is principal investigator of the research group "Comparing We's. Collectivism, Emancipation, Postcoloniality." He has done extensive fieldwork in the Caribbean area and the United States and has collaborated with journals such as *Third Text*, *Travessia*, *Anthurium* or *Cultural Dynamics*.
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Mario A. Della Costanza studied Spanish and German Linguistics and Literature at the Universities of Zurich, Complutense de Madrid, and Metropolitana de Ciencias Educativas, Santiago de Chile. He received his PhD in May this year from the University of Zurich with a thesis about the Prepositional Accusative in Spanish. He has co-edited two books, *Noi – Nous – Nosotros* and *Vox et Silentium*, both published by Peter Lang. In his research, he focuses on performative language use and its cognitive correlates, and he just started as a Post-Doctorate Assistant at the University of St.Gallen.
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Yvette Sánchez is Director of the Centre for Latin American Studies (CLS-HSG) and Full Professor of Hispanic Cultures and Literatures at the University of St.Gallen. Professor Sánchez is engaged in several projects on Latin American topics, especially on US Latinos. Her research basically bridges the gap between cultural studies and social sciences. In the field of cross-cultural training and research, she has just published, together with members of the HSG faculty, the manual on *Transculturalism and Business in the BRIC states* (Gower/Ashgate, 2015).
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Mirjam Weis is lecturer and research assistant for Developmental and Cross-Cultural Psychology at the Department of Psychology at the University of Constance. She recently finished her doctoral thesis on "Self-Regulation and School Achievement in Contexts: Aspects of Gender, Parenting, and Culture", where she analysed developmental conditions and outcomes of self-regulation in German and Chilean children. For her dissertation project, she received grants from the Graduate School of Decision Sciences and the Centre of Excellence "Cultural Foundations of Integration", University of Konstanz. In 2013, she was a visiting fellow at the Universidad de Chile in Santiago de Chile. Currently, she is planning a research project with collaborators from the Universidad de Chile, the Universidad Santo Tomás, Colombia, and the Universidad de Costa Rica.
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Michael G. Festl studied philosophy, sociology and statistics at Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich, the University of St.Gallen, and the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago. From 2013 to 2015, he was President of the Swiss Philosophical Society. His PhD thesis, "Justice as Historic Experimentalism - Theories of Justice after the Pragmatic Turn in Epistemology", has recently been published in German by Konstanz University Press. Since 2013, Michael has been a senior lecturer in philosophy at the University of St.Gallen. Currently he is working on his post-doctoral thesis (Habilitationsschrift) on the role of political philosophy in the downfall of the Weimar Republic.
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Gustavo Guerrero is Full Professor of Latin American Cultural History and Contemporary Literature at Cergy-Pontoise University, Paris, and at the Saint-Germain-en-Laye Political Sciences Institute. Former graduate student of the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales de Paris (EHESS), he is the author of many articles and several essays and literary studies, including *La estrategia neobarroca* (1987), *Itinerarios* (1996), *Poétique et poésie lyrique* (2000), *La religión del vacío* (2002), and *Historia de un encargo: La Catira de Camilo José Cela* (2008), which earned him the Anagrama International Essay Prize in Spain. He was visiting professor and fellow of the Latin American Studies Program at Princeton University in 2009 and 2010, at the Romance Studies Department at Cornell University in 2014 and at the University of Bern in 2015. He also teaches a seminar on "French Publishers and Latin American Literature" at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris.
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Victor de Souza Soares started his musical training at the age of nine in his homecountry Brazil. From 2008 to 2013, he studied Voice and Vocal Pedagogy at the Music Academy Basel, achieving highest distinctions for didactics. Victor's career led him to the Theater Basel, the Semperoper Dresden, the Tonhalle Zürich, and the Palau de la Música de Barcelona where he collaborated with great conductors of our time. Besides that, Victor moves with enthusiasm through the Jazz, Pop, and Rock scenes, having concluded several collaborations with established artists, including The Rolling Stones (UK), The Alan Parsons Project (USA) and Grupo Uakti (BRA).
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João Carlos Victor holds a bachelor degree in Guitar from the Universidade Federal da Bahia. His wide musical education and participation in international competitions led to 18 awards, among them the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) scholarship for a postgraduate program in Germany at the "Hochschule für Musik Nürnberg" and in 2015 he won the Francisco Tárrega International Guitar Competition. João attended the Masters in Performance at the Music Academy of Lucerne and in July 2014 obtained the "Master of Arts in Specialised Musical Performance as a Solist" from the Basel Music Academy. He continues his work with the modern as well as the romantic guitar and early music.

