

Laetitia ZECCHINI

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EDUCATION

- 2007 PhD in Comparative Literature and English Studies, Sorbonne (Paris IV) and INALCO (National Institute for Oriental Studies)
Dissertation: *'The Poetics of Relation and Dissidence in Contemporary Indian Poetry in English and in Hindi'*. Highest Honors.
- 2001–2002 M. Phil. Sorbonne (Paris IV) on the poetry of Rabindranath Tagore
- 2001 *Agrégation* in English Literature
- 1999–2000 MA French Literature, Sorbonne on the transactions between visual arts and poetry in the work of Blaise Cendrars.
- 1998–1999 BA, English studies and French Literature, Sorbonne.
- 1996–1998 Hypokhâgne/Khâgne (Literary Preparatory School), Lycée Henri IV, Paris.

EMPLOYMENT

- 2008–present Research Fellow CNRS, Paris – research institute THALIM (Theory and History of the Arts and Literatures of Modernity), Sorbonne-ENS-CNRS
Associate researcher at the [CEIAS](#) (Centre of South Asian Studies), EHESS, Paris.
- 2004–2007 Lecturer in English at the University of Jussieu, Paris.
- 2002–2004 Teacher at the secondary level, suburbs of Paris.
Consultant for the think tank of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (CAP – Centre of Analysis and Prevision), Paris
- 2001–2002 Work with a French NGO in Shadipur, New Delhi

DISTINCTION

CNRS (Institute for Humanities and Social Science) Bronze Medal in 2015

MAIN SCIENTIFIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSABILITIES

- Member of the CNRS National Committee (Commission 35)
- Member of the editorial board of the Journal [SAMAJ](#) (South Asia Multidisciplinary Asian Journal)
- Member of the [labex TransferS](#) (Excellence research cluster CNRS---ENS---Collège de France) and coordinator of THALIM in the cluster.
- Coordinator (with Rachel Potter and Peter D. McDonald) of the AHRC project on "[The Impact of Non-Governmental writers' organizations on free expression](#)".
- Member of the Research Program [EMOPOLIS](#) "Emotions and Political Mobilizations in the Indian Subcontinent" (CEIAS/EHESS, 2012-2016)
- From 2014-2016: co---organizer of the research seminar on "[Literature and Cosmopolitanism: discourses, practices, poetics, circulations](#)" at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris.
- Organizer of the following recent conferences and workshops: "[The Locations of \(World\) Literature: Perspectives from Africa and South Asia](#)" (with Francesca Orsini), ENS, Paris, 2016; "[Literature and Cosmopolitanism: Political and Social Uses](#)" (with X. Garnier, S. Moussa, G. Bridet), ENS, Paris, 2016; "[When Books and Art Hurt: Censorship, Emotions and Cultural Regulation in South Asia](#)", Paris---EHESS, 2014.

SELECT LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Books:

- Laetitia Zecchini, [*Arun Kolatkar and Literary Modernism in India, Moving Lines*](#), London, New Delhi, New York: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2014 (paperback 2016)
- Laetitia Zecchini, [*Kala Ghoda, Poèmes de Bombay*](#), translation (with Pascal Aquien) and critical edition of Arun Kolatkar's *Kala Ghoda Poems* (2004), Paris: Poésie/Gallimard, bilingual edition, 2013.
- Laetitia Zecchini, Anne Castaing and Lise Guilhamon, eds., *La modernité littéraire indienne : perspectives postcoloniales*, Rennes : PUR, 2009.
- Laetitia Zecchini and Annie Montaut, *Dans un pays tout plein d'histoires*, critical edition and translation of the Hindi poetry of Kedarnath Singh, Paris: Editions Caractères, 2007.

Special Issues:

- Laetitia Zecchini and Anjali Nerlekar eds., "[The Worlds of Bombay Poetry](#)", double special issue of *The Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, Vol. 53, Issue 1-2, Routledge 2017.
- Laetitia Zecchini and Guillaume Bridet eds., « [Penser à partir de l'Inde](#) », special issue of the journal *Littérature*, 04/2016 Paris : Armand Colin, 2016.
- Laetitia Zecchini and Claire Joubert, eds., « [Problèmes d'histoire littéraire indienne](#) », special issue of the *Revue de Littérature Comparée*, 04/2015, Paris : Klincksieck, 2015.

Main articles and book chapters:

- "South Asian Poetry", *The Cambridge Companion to Postcolonial Poetry*, ed. Jahan Ramazani, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017, pp. 45-57.
- "[More than one world': An Interview with Gulammohammed Sheikh](#)", *Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, special issue "The Worlds of Bombay Poetry", eds. A. Nerlekar & L. Zecchini, Vol. 53. Issue 1-2, pp. 69-82.
- "[We were like Cartographers. mapping the city': An Interview with Arvind Krishna Mehrotra](#)", *Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, special issue "The Worlds of Bombay Poetry", Vol. 53, Issue 1-2, pp. 190-206.
- "[Perhaps I'm happier being on the sidelines': An interview with Adil Jussawalla](#)" (with A. Nerlekar), *Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, special issue "The Worlds of Bombay Poetry", vol. 53, Issue 1-2, pp. 221-232.
- "[I had to construct lineages for myself: An interview with Amit Chaudhuri](#)", *Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, special issue "The Worlds of Bombay Poetry", Vol. 53. Issue 1-2, pp. 255-263.
- "Hurt and Censorship in India Today: On communities of sentiments, competing vulnerabilities and cultural wars", in *Emotions, Mobilisations and South Asian Politics*, eds. Amélie Blom and Stéphanie Tawa Lama-Rewal, Routledge India, forthcoming.
- "Translation as Literary Activism: On Invisibility and Exposure, Arun Kolatkar and the Little Magazine 'Conspiracy'", in *Literary Activism: A Symposium*, ed. Amit Chaudhuri, Oxford University Press/Boiler House Press, 2017, pp. 25-55.
- "Adil Jussawalla and the Double Edge of Poetry", *The Cambridge History of Indian Poetry in English*, ed. Rosinka Chaudhuri, Cambridge: CUP, 2016, pp. 251---266.
- "Penser le modernisme à partir de l'Inde: Traduction et braconnage, recyclage et renouvellement", in "A partir de l'Inde", dir. G. Bridet et L. Zecchini, *Littérature*, 04/2016, pp. 96-111.
- "'No Name is Yours until you Speak it': Notes Towards a Contrapuntal Reading of Dalit Literatures and Postcolonial Theory", *Dalit Literatures in India*, eds. Judith Misrahi---Barak and Joshil K. Abraham, New Delhi: Routledge, 2015, pp. 58---75.
- « *'Crisis in Literary History'? Du 'nativisme' et du provincialisme, et de quelques autres débats intellectuels en Inde* », in "Problèmes d'histoire littéraire indienne", *Revue de Littérature Comparée*, Numéro 4, Paris: Klincksieck, 2015, pp. 391---404.
- "Contemporary *Bhakti* Recastings: Recovering a demotic tradition, challenging nativism, fashioning modernism in Indian poetry", *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial*

- Studies*, Routledge, Vol. 16, Issue 2, March 2014, pp. 257---276.
- « Figures de l'errance et de la dissidence: le dévot (*bhakta*) et le vagabond dans la poésie indienne contemporaine », Z. Ben Lagha et E. Feuillebois---Pierunek eds., *Les Figures du marginal dans la littérature*, Paris : Classiques Garnier, pp. 143---166, 2014.
 - « Moving Lines: The celebration of impropriety and the renewal of the world in Arun Kolatkar's poetry », *Burning Books: Interaction and Negotiations of Fundamentalism and Literature*, eds. Catherine Miquel and Klaus Stierstorfer, New York: AMS Press, 2012, pp. 163-188.
 - « Modernism in Indian Poetry: 'At the time, we didn't dissociate between East and West, it was just part of Bombay' », *Commonwealth Essays and Studies*, "Tectonic Shifts, The Global and the Local", Vol. 34, No. 1, Autumn 2011, pp. 33---42.
 - « Breaking From Origins, Hovering over Boundary Lines: Hybridity in Contemporary Indian Poetry », *Hybridity, Forms and Figures in Literature and the Visual Arts*, eds. Vanessa Guignery, Catherine Pessa---Miquel and François Speck, Newcastle: Cambridge & Scholars Publishing, pp. 237---249, 2011.
 - « Le postcolonial dans ses allers---retours transatlantiques: glissements, malentendus et réinvention », *Revue Française d'Etudes Américaines*, « American Theory: French receptions», ed. François Cusset, No. 126, Paris: Belin, 2010, pp. 66-81.
 - « Je suis le multiple: exil historique et métaphorique dans l'œuvre d'Edward Said », in *Tumultes*, ed. Sonia Dayan---Herzbrun, Paris: Kiné, 2010, pp. 49-66.
 - « *Dharma* Reconsidered: The inappropriate poetry of Arun Kolatkar in *Sarpa Satra* », in Diana Dimitrova ed. *Religion in Literature and Film in South Asia*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010, pp. 131-162.

SELECT AND RECENT TALKS

- "[Eating the Corners of Literature: Bombay Archival Research from the PEN All-India Center to Arvind Krishna Mehrotra](#)", The Bombay Poets' Archive, An Inaugural Symposium, Cornell, September 2017.
- "'Like it or lump it': the manifestos of *damn you* and other Indian little magazines of the 60s", "Ateliers Manart: les manifestes en littérature et en art", Université Sorbonne Nouvelle-Paris 3, Mars 2017.
- « Defamiliarizing India: Cosmopolitanism as aesthetic/political survival », « Cosmopolis and Beyond: literary cosmopolitanism after the Republic of Letters », Trinity College, Oxford, March 2016.
- « Hurt and Censorship in India today: On communities of sentiments, competing vulnerabilities and cultural wars », EMOPOLIS concluding conference, Paris, EHESS, February 2016.
- « *Bhakti* Beatniks and Drop---out Poets: the making of a Bombay Counter---culture in the 60s », International conference on "Counter---Culture and Indian arts", Musée du Quai Branly, May 2015.
- « Celebrating Arun Kolatkar », in conversation with Ranjit Hoskote, Kala Ghoda Festival, February 2015, Mumbai.
- « Translation as Literary Activism: on Invisibility and Exposure, Arun Kolatkar and the little magazine conspiracy », Conference on "Literary Activism", Kolkata, Jadavpur and Presidency University, December 2014
- « Writing in the Presence of World Literatures: Translation and the Cosmopolitan Local », European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies (ECSAS), Zurich, July 2014.
- « Hurt and the 'Unsanitizable': Reflections on the poetry of Kolatkar and Dalit writers », Workshop « Concepts of Emotions in South Asia from 19th to 21st century », December 2013, Max Planck Institute, History of Emotions, Berlin.
- Cycle of seminars on Kolatkar and literary modernism in India at the SOAS, University of London (Center for Cultural, Literary and Postcolonial Studies and Center of South Asian Studies Seminar), January---February 2013.
- « The space of Writing and the Space of the Nation: Poetry, Censorship and Hospitality in Bombay », workshop "Politiques Identitaires en Asie du Sud", Université Montpellier 3, 2013.
- « Indian poetry, Recollection and Defamiliarization: A politics of the ordinary », [«Johannesburg Workshop in Theory and Criticism»](#), JWTC: "Ordinary States/States of Ordinariness", 10---20 July 2011, WISER, Wits University, Johannesburg.