

THE PoP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER #10

05|2025

Poetry Off the Page: Literary History and the Spoken Word, 1965-2020 (ERC/FWF)

Dear PoP community,

we hope you're doing well! In Vienna, the summer term is in full swing, our campus is starting to wake up from its winter break, and the PoP team is working hard on organising our third project conference, 'Poetry Off the Page, Around the Globe' (more on this below). As always, if you want to get in touch, contact us at pop.anglistik@univie.ac.at for all poetry-related inquiries.

Firstly, we have an important team update: In February, we were joined by our new student assistant Purva Dua, who will be supporting PoP as a research assistant until the end of August 2025. Purva is currently an MA student in Anglophone Literatures and Cultures at the University of Vienna and has obtained her BA degree at St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi. Her research interests include grief studies, medical humanities, mediality, and postcolonial studies, with a particular focus on Partition literature. We warmly welcome Purva to the team and are excited to be working with her.

In terms of recent publications, we'd like to draw your attention to an [article](#) published by Helen Thomas on our Poetry Off the Page blog. Using bell hooks' concept of 'Talking Back,' Helen examines Black feminist thought, matricentric feminism, and maternal loss on the poetry performance stage.

We also have several exciting upcoming blog publications, including a two-part series on interviewing practice by Claire Palzer, in which she sheds light on the development of the 'Poetry Off the Page' interview guide and provides valuable insight from a self-reflexive interdisciplinary perspective. The first part is already online and you can read it [here](#).

Claire Palzer was also invited to give a talk entitled "Visible Bodies, Audible Voices – Contemporary Spoken Word Poetry in Ireland" as part of the [Invisible Lives, Silent Voices international seminar](#).

If you're on-the-go and don't have the time to read, we also have just the thing for you: within the next few weeks, our researcher Rachel Bolle's podcast episode on bass culture in dub poetry will release via our website and Spotify. So keep your eyes (or ears?) peeled for this release!

In the last few months, we've also been extremely excited to welcome two amazing poets in Vienna. Malaika Kegode visited us in January to talk about gig theatre and spoken word; William Keohane performed parts of 'Boxing Day' and discussed trans poetry with us in early April as part of the EFACIS Irish Itinerary programme. Both of these events were attended by members of our project and department teams as well as students and fellow poetry lovers.

Our PhD researcher Claire Palzer has also hosted a wonderful event at University College Dublin, together with Prof. Lucy Collins and the spoken word organisation Boundless and Bare. It included performances by renowned poets Emmet O'Brien and Stephen James Smith and a roundtable discussion additionally featuring Melissa Ridge and Paul Casey.

We're also happy to announce an exciting upcoming lecture by Prof. Richard Andrews about "Poetry Off the Page: Rhythm, Free Verse and Translation in Context." It will take place on 15 May 2025 at 09:30AM at the Department of English and American Studies (Besprechungszimmer on the second floor). You can register via email (pop.anglistik@univie.ac.at) until 14 May.

And last – but certainly not least! – we want to draw your attention to 'Poetry Off the Page, Around the Globe: Advances in Poetry Performance Research,' our third project conference, which takes place on 13-14 June 2025 in Vienna, Austria. This is a free conference with the option for remote attendance, held at Literaturhaus Wien (13 June) and the University of Vienna (14 June).

Registration is now open, both for the two-day academic conference and the evening programme. Please note that registration for these two events is separate.

Find out more about the conference, access the preliminary programme, and read up on our amazing keynote speakers Shantanu Anand and Cornelia Gräbner at www.popconf2025.univie.ac.at and stay up-to-date with our newest information on Instagram! We look forward to welcoming many of you in Vienna / online in June.

Thank you so much for being part of our PoP community!

All the best,
the PoP team

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