

The PoP Quarterly Newsletter #12

6/2026

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

Dear PoP community,

temperatures are rising, the summer term is gearing up for its grand finale, and our project is nearing its end – 2026 has already been an exciting year, and we're grateful that we get to share this important time with our community. Keep reading until the end for a very special announcement!

Research Activities and Publications

A lot has happened in the five months since our last newsletter. From guest lectures to publications and journal editing, we've been hard at work, collaborating with fantastic researchers across the globe and working towards the publication of our team book – [Contemporary British Poetry Performance in Context: The Event of Poetry](#), which is under contract with Palgrave/Springer and scheduled to be published in December 2026. We'd like to take this opportunity to once again thank our collaborators, who worked tirelessly to bring our book project to fruition, and all the poets who donated their time and knowledge to our project in [interviews](#).

In the meantime, we've published a new **blog article**, authored by **Dr. Kila van de Starre** (Utrecht University), on "[The Significance of Breathing in Poetry Performances](#)." This article discusses both the aesthetic and the political role of breath and will be a vital resource for anyone who wants to delve further into this topic, as it not only presents van de Starre's typology of 'performance breath' but also provides a helpful list of further readings.

On our website, we've also made available a cluster of **teaching resources** – "**Teaching (With) Spoken Word Poetry in the EFL Classroom**", which was developed and tested by student teachers at the University of Vienna under the supervision of our PhD researcher **Claire Palzer**. These resources, which include detailed lesson plans, handouts, and other useful information, can be accessed via our [website](#).

We also had a visitor here in Vienna: in March 2026, **Prof. Marit MacArthur** from UC Davis made the long journey to our department to talk about "Doing Digital Voice Studies," introducing workshop participants from across the Faculty of Philological and Cultural Studies to the open source software **Drift**, a pitch-tracking software for performance analysis which can be accessed [online](#).

Last – but certainly not least – we proudly announce that our PhD researcher **Shefali Banerji** has won a 2026 AAUTE Emerging Talent Award for Research in Anglophone Cultural Studies for their article “[Staging Intermediality and Queerness in Jasmine Gardosi’s *Dancing to Music You Hate*”](#) (OLH 2025). Congratulations, Shefali!

Upcoming Events

This newsletter ends on a bittersweet note. As we said above, the Poetry Off the Page project is soon coming to a close – after five years of joint poetry research, our team members are taking their leave after the summer.

However, we’re planning to go out with a bang: On **29 September 2026**, at **5PM**, we will be hosting a goodbye party at the **Department of English and American Studies** of the University of Vienna. We will facilitate a **hybrid format** to make the event accessible to those who cannot travel to Austria. Gear up to enjoy an evening of poetry, briefly look back at our PoP journey with us, and say good-bye. The exact plan and ‘lineup’ will be announced soon, but we’re already asking you to save the date! So, to our community – conference participants, collaborators, project partners, authors, poets, and everyone else who’s helped us make this project a success: you are cordially invited, and we hope to see many of you on **29 September!**

All the best,
the PoP team

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