

## Interview

### 1. Please provide a brief outline of your training and scientific activity.

I have an established record of original research on early colonial and contemporary Latin American Literature. Regarding the former, I have published a number of studies on Fray Bernardino de Sahagún and the Florentine Codex, including a monograph (2014) on how Sahagún collected data by applying inquisitorial and confessional techniques, and articles in peer-refereed journals like *The Americas* (2018). Currently, I have in print an article on how the epidemics reported in the codex framed Sahagún's understanding of the evangelization (De Gruyter, 2024). I have two other fields of research in connection with colonial Latin America. First, I am analysing data on views of the conquest and the Columbian Exchange in early modern colonial Spanish-American accounts that were provided by indigenous and Spanish colonial authorities (*Relaciones geográficas de Indias*). On this topic, I have recently published a chapter in *Relating Continents: Coloniality and Global Encounters in Romance Literary and Cultural* (De Gruyter, 2023), have an article in print in a special issue (*Early Modern Studies Journal*), and will be delivering a paper at the international conference 'Synchronizing History: The Transplantation of European Ideas in the Americas' (September 2024, University of Palermo). My second line of enquiry is the examination of early modern English translations of Spanish documents on the New World (e.g. navigational manuals, accounts of exploration and conquest, and descriptions of natural history), which I initiated with a comparative essay of translations into English, French, and Italian of Francisco López de Gómara's *La conquista de México* in the peer-refereed journal *Target: International Journal of Translation* (2019).

As for my research on contemporary Latin American literature, since 2019, I have published over ten studies on twentieth-century authors, including Julio Cortázar and Guillermo Cabrera Infante. For instance, I have discussed their reading and writing practices (e.g. Cortázar's description of *Rayuela* and of some of his fantastic short stories) and the relationship with their translators (e.g. Cabrera Infante, Cortázar, and Suzanne Jill Levine). I am also completing a monograph on Cortázar's relationship with his editors, literary agents, and critics (under contract with Tamesis). I have also started a new line of research on contemporary Latin American women writers to understand their increase in number and popularity and give visibility to their activism. For example, I have just completed a master's dissertation (MA International Relations, Coventry University) on Mexican writers as non-state actors fighting femicide. In 2023, I submitted a chapter on Cristina Rivera Garza for *Resistencias y disidencias en la literatura latinoamericana actual* (Iberoamericana-Vervuert 2024) and published three studies, on Carmen Boullosa, Gabriela Jáuregui, and Claudia Piñeiro. The last article, in the *Bulletin of Spanish Studies*, was co-rewritten with a former colleague, Dr Carolina Miranda, with whom I have been co-organising an annual international conference to promote discussion on new, established, and revisited women writers since June 2022. Our first two conferences gathered over twenty speakers, whose selected papers, on these writers' denunciation of daily discrimination, violence, prostitution, sexual abuse, illegal abortion, and femicide in Latin America, inform two co-edited volumes with Dr Miranda that are under review (with the *Bulletin of Spanish Studies*: '*Siempre estuvimos aquí*': *Escritoras latinoamericanas noveles y predecesoras*, and with Tamesis: *El activismo social y político de las escritoras latinoamericanas actuales*).

### 2. Please state your reasons for choosing Venice and the Department for your research and teaching stay.

I have worked in the past with three members of your Department, who are experts on Latin American literature: Emeritus Professor Suzanna Regazzoni, Dr Margherita Cannavacciuolo, and Dr Alice Favaro. Our collaborations are still ongoing (please, refer to my answer to question 3) and new projects will be discussed during my stay.

### **3. Have you ever had a research collaboration with the teaching staff of Department of Linguistics and Comparative Cultural Studies in the past?**

I have written two 'Valutazioni' for two PhD students in your department (i.e. Mariana Oggioni, on crime fiction, and Silvia Lunardi, on the New Latino Boom).

I was invited to deliver a paper at an international conference organised by Dr Margherita Cannavacciuolo in 2023: "¿Vivieron (in)felices y comieron perdices? Construcción y deconstrucción de los modelos feéricos en las literaturas hispanoamericanas (siglos XX y XXI)" (19th-20th October 2023).

I contributed to the online debate on Julio Cortázar (1984-2024), academic discussion of *El cuerpo cómplice: Los cuentos de Julio Cortázar* (2020) by Margherita Cannavacciuolo, organized by Emeritus Professor Susanna Regazzoni (4th June 2024).

Together with Prof. Regazzoni, Dr Cannavacciuolo, and Dr Alice Favaro, my former colleague Dr Carolina Miranda and I co-organised the third international conference on Latin American women writers, which took place at Ca' Foscari on 13th-14th June 2024. This conference was inscribed as an event of the 'Archivio Scritture Scrittrici Migranti: Attività culturali'.

Prof. Regazzoni, Dr Cannavacciuolo, and Dr Alice Favaro are contributors to the two co-edited volumes aforementioned: *'Siempre estuvimos aquí': Escritoras latinoamericanas noveles y predecesoras* and *El activismo social y político de las escritoras latinoamericanas actuales*.

Dr Cannavacciuolo, Dr Favaro and Dr Rocío Peñalta Catalán (Universidad Complutense de Madrid) will be speakers of a conference panel on women writers, which I am organising for the 2025 AHGBI (Association of Hispanists) conference at the University of Edinburgh (7-8th April).