



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES -

STUDIA MEDITERRANEA

POSTGRADUATE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

DEPARTMENT FOR ITALIAN STUDIES

AIPI – ASSOCIAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE DEI PROFESSORI DI ITALIANO

ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Call for Papers

Humour and the Mediterranean:

Manifestations, Representations, Functions and Literary
Implications

Split, Croatia, October 18-19, 2018

Venue: City Library Marko Marulić, Split

Conference dates: October 18-19, 2018

Abstract Submission Deadline: August 1, 2018

Abstract acceptance: August 15, 2018

Conference languages: English, Italian, Croatian

Conference fee: 30 Euro

In modern and contemporary literature and in art in general, humour is perceived as a social feature, usually derived from undesired or unconformist behaviour, frequently even related to the unconscious. It is attributed to humans, rather than to animals or objects and, as pointed out by

Bergson, there are some suggestions, that humans are animals which laugh. Also, Montaigne, Flaubert and Derrida, among others, implied an inverse possibility, that of animals laughing at us. Humour could undoubtedly be seen as a feature with important cultural, and/or cathartic impact. This conference undertakes to explore the anomalies that humour challenges by opposing the conventions and tradition, and/or political power or by overzealously observing the common ground rules. The conference is interested in the comic “expressed in language and created by language”, in various manifestations of humour, and especially in finding out if the comic “exists outside” of what is strictly defined as human (posthuman).

The conference shall challenge some traditional theories (Freud, Bergson, Pirandello etc.) and will welcome proposals which differentiate geographically where/if possible, ranges or types of humour, with special emphasis on the Mediterranean basin, seen as an area characterized by a special, hard to define, yet intuitively perceived type of humour. The conference is interested in answering the question if there are any literary and cultural patterns in highlighting the comic as opposed to solemn, and sober.

The conference welcomes submissions exploring any and all questions concerned with humour, and all its manifestations and features. The conference is particularly interested in finding out more about cultural implications and reflections of humour in literature, primarily in Mediterranean authors. Conference languages are English, Italian and Croatian.

For further information, please contact Antonela Marić at antonela@fst.hr.

Please send your abstracts, up to 250 words, and a short bio to medhumor2018@gmail.com by August 1, 2018. You will be informed about the abstract acceptance by August 15, 2018. The conference program will be issued by August 25, 2018.