



## The 27th FILLM International Congress

### *The Familiar and the Exotic in Language and Literature: The Politics of Perception and Representation*

Delhi, India  
15-17 March 2017

When Graham Huggan remarks on 'the fetishizing process,' which turns the literatures, languages and cultures of the 'non-Western' world into 'saleable exotic objects,' he lights on one of the most distinctive characteristics of our multicultural contemporary world. Indeed, the idea of 'oppositionality' that is the basis of the systematic deployment of similarity and difference at the heart of much literature and language, finds a very pertinent and deeply disturbing focus in the binary of the familiar and the exotic. Moreover, extensive globalization has resulted in cultural fragmentation on many planes, one major split being on the lines of this conflictual binary. The creation of this rupture calls for a re-configuration of the cultural map, especially with reference to the repercussions of these terms on the literatures and languages of the world, two foremost cultural markers.

There is an urgent need to critically engage with the rampant 'intellectual tourism', the 'dilettantism' and the conflict and 'fracturing racial violence' that has resulted from this arbitrary cultural division that marks the world. A series of questions trip into the reckoning: how should this 'exotic' be defined? Is it a quality that inheres in something or somebody or some people, or is it just, as Huggan calls it, 'a particular mode of aesthetic perception'? What is the political fallout of the slapping on of the rubrics of the 'familiar' and the 'exotic'?

Believing these to be some preliminary issues that the 27<sup>th</sup> FILLM International Congress should engage with, we invite scholars to submit papers which focus on one or more of the following topics:

- Perception and Representation of the Exotic and Familiar
- Form and Technique
- Myth, Language and Memory
- Language and the Exotic and the Familiar
- The Exotic and the Familiar and Translation
- The Play of the Exotic and the Familiar in Linguistics and the Concept of Similarity and Difference in Grammar, Text and Rhetoric
- The Exotic and the Universal: the Universal Structures of the Human Mind and Its Particular Languages
- Conflict and the Exotic and the Familiar

## How to make a proposal

In order to propose a paper for the Congress, please send a 300 word abstract as an email attachment to [fillm@svc.ac.in](mailto:fillm@svc.ac.in) **before 31 August 2016**.

At the head of your proposal, please supply the following information:-

- your full name
- your professional title
- your professional affiliation and address
- the title of your proposed paper

You will learn whether your proposal has been accepted by **30 September 2016**.

## Registration and Congress prices

The registration period runs from **1 October till 30 November 2016**. Information on how to register will be made available on the FILLM website ([www.fillm.org](http://www.fillm.org)).

It is possible to get an early-bird discount by registering before **31 October 2016**. The early-bird fee is GBP 220 / USD 350. After that date, the registration fee is GBP 250 / USD 400.

Special rates for SAARC nations apply. For these, the early-bird registration fee is Rs 5500 while, after the 31 October 2016, it is Rs 7500.

For more information, visit FILLM's website: [www.fillm.org](http://www.fillm.org)

President and Conference Convener: Dr Meenakshi Bharat, Sri Venkateswara College,  
University of Delhi

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### **The John Benjamins Prize for Linguistic and Literary Scholarship**

The best paper presented by an up-and-coming scholar at the 27<sup>th</sup> FILLM International Congress and subsequently submitted to the volume of Congress proceedings will be awarded the first *John Benjamins Prize for Linguistic and Literary Scholarship*.

The prize is created by John Benjamins Publishing Company and FILLM.  
It consists of a diploma and €1500,00.

For more information on *The John Benjamins Prize*, please visit the FILLM website ([www.fillm.org](http://www.fillm.org)).

