

The Narrative Identity of European Cities in Contemporary Literature



Writing Urban Places – COST Action CA18126

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Journal of Narrative and Language Studies - CFP (NALANS)

Drawing on Paul Riccoeur's theory of identity being considered in terms of narrative identity (Time and Narrative, 1984–88), one can argue that a city as a built and designed environment represents an entity that over time establishes a certain narrative identity that comes alive as a protagonist of its own ever-changing fiction.

The special issue of NALANS aims to give room to explore the urban narrative identities of European cities as they have been written in contemporary literature. In this call, we would like to define the term 'contemporary' as fiction that has been published in the last 20 years. The issue thus wishes to explore 21st-century fiction, playwriting and poetry that features the city as its (main) protagonist and as an element equally important as, if not even more than, its characters in the traditional sense. In doing so, we invite the submission of articles that place particular emphasis on urban narratives of cities or city neighbourhoods that have often been overlooked until now, such as mid-sized European cities to explore their multiple narrative identities arising from but not limited to chronicles, generational novels, travel writing and other forms of literary texts.

Check for more information: writingurbanplaces.eu/call-wup/

We invite submissions in form of abstracts of approx. 300 words to be submitted to wg2.wup@gmail.com

No later than 15th January 2022.

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