



Reading Greek Australian Literature through the Paramythi Bridging Multiculturalism with World Literature

By Anna Dimitriou

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Explores the creative as well as the subversive power of paramythic narratives in Greek Australian literature

This is a comparative textual analysis of a body of relatively neglected works by Greek Australian writers Dimitris Tsaloumas, Antigone Kefala, Stylianos Charkianakis, Dean Kalimnios, Christos Tsiolkas, Fotini Epanomitis and Helen Koukoutsis. The focus is on reading their texts as a bridge between multiculturalism and world literature given each writer identifies in various ways with peripheral cosmopolitanism as they merge high-brow literary forms with the quotidian paramythi, or the storytelling oral tradition. The different ways they do this registers the writers' ambivalent relationship with their origins through their transculturally mediated expression. Discovering new possibilities in literary texts which have oral traces becomes a productive way to look at the question of translatability as posed by scholars of multiculturalism and world literature, such as Sneja Gunew, Emily Apter and Pheng Cheah.

Readership

Scholars of Greek Australian multicultural texts, world literature scholarship as it provides case studies showing how multicultural writing can be read as world literature, cultural studies critics and comparative studies focused on transcultural writing

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Dr. Anna Dimitriou gained a PhD in Literary Studies in 2014 from Deakin University and is currently teaching in the Dean's School of Humanities and Communication Arts at Western Sydney University.

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