

OLD AND NEW FORMS OF COMMITMENT: cultural and artistic practices in Europe and around the world

3-6 NOVEMBER 2025

UNIVERSITY OF LORRAINE, NANCY, FRANCE

SALLE INTERNATIONALE (3rd floor), 91 AVENUE DE LA LIBÉRATION, NANCY

MONDAY, 3rd NOVEMBER

- 15:00 Meet & Greet

- 15:15 Welcome Address

Prof. Nathalie Collé, Sylvie Grimm-Hamen and Giuseppe Sangirardi (University of Lorraine)

- 15:30 – 16:30 Keynote Lecture

Prof. **Cécile Vaissié** (Rennes) : *The concept and realities of commitment for Sartre and the Soviet writers of his time*

- 16:30 – 18:30 Panel 1 – Changing forms of cultural and artistic engagement

Chair: Prof. Nathalie Collé (Lorraine)

Enda Griffin (Limerick): *Portrait painting as embodied a/r/tographic commitment and research*

Giuseppe Pantano (Lorraine): *Running Up That Hill: Kate Bush's artistic journey of emancipation and enduring legacy*

Irina Vasile (Bucarest): *Building a Space of Solidarity and Resistance in the Face of Eco-Anxiety in the Solo Performance A Play for the Living in a Time of Extinction* by Miranda Rose Hall

Madalina Leonte (Bucarest): *Literature as an act of resistance: social engagement and cultural activism in the work of Anna Seghers*

- 18:30 – 19:30 Keynote Lecture

Prof. **Antonio Montefusco** (Lorraine): *Francis of Assisi and ecological commitment to a new harmony with the wilderness: the case of the wolf of Gubbio*

- 20:00 Dinner in downtown Nancy

TUESDAY, 4 NOVEMBER

- 09:00 – 10:00 Keynote Lecture

Prof. **Jean-Philippe Heberlé** (Lorraine): *Benjamin Britten's Pacifist Commitment through War Requiem and Owen Wingrave*

- 10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break

- 10:30 – 12:30 Panel 2 – Tradition, heritage and new perspectives

Chair: Prof. Massimo Natale (Verona)

Laura Tomasi (Verona): *The early printed tradition of Marco Polo's "Devisement dou monde": cultural engagement, book heritage and new perspectives*

Léo Michel (Lorraine): *A typology of partisan literature in the campaign of Charles I of Anjou*

Vinicius Mourão (Santiago): *Fernando Oliveira and civic humanism: royal service and social critique in sixteenth-century Portugal*

Ilinca Ionescu (Bucarest): *Old Gods, New World: The Apologética Historia Sumaria (1552) and its Demons*

- 12:30 – 14:00 Light lunch on campus

- 14:00 – 18:00 Guided tour of Nancy, and free time on your own

WEDNESDAY, 5th NOVEMBER

- 09:00 – 10:00 Keynote Lecture

Prof. **Florent Coste** (Lorraine): *Politics of literature & politics of reading: the role of literary theory in shaping political commitment*

- 10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break

- 10:30 – 13:30 Panel 3 – Social movements, engaged art and cultural activism

Chair: Prof. Dorothy Morrissey (Limerick)

Eleanor Parkin-Coates (Lorraine): *Artist and "Intellectual"? The evolution of George Cruikshank's (1792-1878) engagement in public debate*

Marco De Bartolomeo (Verona): *From subversion to institution: towards a post-carnavalesque aesthetics of engagement – Pietro Marcello and the model of Instituting Praxis*

Sophie Fecht (Augsburg): *Between applause, opposition, and resistance: the German Protestant youth during the Nazi Regime in the 1930s*

Liudmila Sharaeva (Lorraine): *Methodological reflection: analysing artistic engagement, cultural resistance, and their suppression under the Putin regime (2000-2022)*

- 13:30 – 15:00 Light lunch on campus

- 15:00 – 17:00 Panel 4 – Old and new forms of activism and inter-cultural practices

Chair: Prof. Theresia Dingelmaier (Augsburg)

Simon Viot (Limerick): *The Irish Capuchin colleges and mission in Flanders and Northern France, 1610-1799*

Fernando Apolinar-Rodríguez (Santiago): *Convincing the public to fight: military accounts of the Peninsular War (1807-1814)*

Sabrina Hadwiger (Augsburg): *Narratives of sexualized violence as cultural activism: memory, change, and female self-empowerment*

Georg Tiroch (Augsburg): *Problematizing masculinity in the digital age: the staging of masculinity by Das Rudel on Instagram as a form of cultural engagement*

- 19:30 Dinner in downtown Nancy

THURSDAY, 6th NOVEMBER

- 09:00 – 12:00 Closing session and coffee

Synthesis of the symposium

Reports from the sections

Projects outlines by young researchers

Perspectives for further cooperation

- 12:00 Pre-departure cocktail party

