

Izabella Agárdi

Researcher - Institute of Advanced Studies Kőszeg (IASK)

Faculty - University of Pannonia Kőszeg Campus

Izabella.agardi@iask.hu

izabellaagardi@yahoo.com

(+36) 30 609-4012

AREAS OF ACADEMIC EXPERTISE:

History, Anthropology, Gender Studies, Literary and Cultural Theory, Qualitative Research Methods and Academic Writing

GENERAL SKILLS:

Interviewing, Transcription, Translation, and Editorial Skills. Can work with different types of source material (audio, audio-visual, written, spoken) according to their own medium-specificities. Language expertise in Hungarian (native), English (fluent written and spoken), basic German (written). High-level proficiency with MS Office (Word, Excel, Power Point), web-related activities, and database software. Have also taught high-school and have independently tutored students in English composition and thesis writing.

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. Research Institute of History and Culture (Onderzoekinstituut voor Geschiedenis en Cultuur, OGC), International Ph.D Program, Utrecht University, The Netherlands, January 2013

specialization: oral history, rural women, individual and collective memory, narrativity and history writing, totalitarianisms, transitions

M.A. Central European University, Budapest, Hungary, July 2005, Gender Studies, with distinction

M.A. (“Oklevél”) Institute of English and American Studies, University of Szeged, Hungary, January 2003, English

specialization: US literature, literary theory, Post-colonialism, Modernism and Postmodernism, post-structuralism, feminist criticism, semiotics

B.A. Institute of English and American Studies, University of Szeged, Hungary, English

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND INTERESTS

Cultural Memory, University of Pannonia, 2016

Masterclass: “Interviews and Life Narratives”, Utrecht University, June 2015

Masterclass: “Interviews and Life Narratives”, Utrecht University, April 2014

Graduate Reading Group “Postcolonialism and Postsocialism” (*Jan-April 2007*), (reading seminar on theory and history self-designed and co-coordinated with Prof. dr. Berteke Waaldijk at Utrecht University, Spring 2007, Spring 2008)

Courses Designed:

Post-colonialism and Post-socialism: Intersections of Theoretical Discourse and History Writing – a seminar/discussion group on theory and its uses for the actual writing of histories, a graduate seminar

Central Europe in the Twentieth-Century: Political and Social History (with special focus on Rural Populations and Gender History) – a survey course, undergraduate level

Memory, History and Narrativity – a graduate seminar

Oral History as Theory and Methodology of Historical Inquiry – a seminar/lab of the uses and function of oral history and the knowledge it may or may not produce, a graduate seminar

Imperialism, Nationalism and the Anthropology of the State – a seminar on ideologies as they inform political and administrative power-structures, a graduate seminar

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS

Soros Foundation (For the pursuit of MA degree at CEU, *Sept 2004-May 2005*)

Marie Curie Early Stage Research Fellowship (For carrying out research for Phd dissertation, *Sept 2006- Sept 2007*)

OGC scholarship (offered by the Dutch Council, (For finalizing work on dissertation, *Sept 2007-Dec 2009*)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Rural women’s oral life narratives, the intersections of public and personal oral narratives, frames of remembering and modes of narration (nostalgia, amnesia, laughter), life narratives as narratives of historical change and transformation.

How is history articulated by individuals? How does microhistory intersect with macrohistory? Intimate citizenship, cultural citizenship.
Cold-war, State socialisms and Post-socialist transitions through material culture and ideology. I am interested in the subtle mechanisms of power in the dual world-order (1949-1989) as they pervaded the macro-, the private and social spheres and thus defined subjects'/citizens' everyday lives under socialism and how some of those have changed, some continued after the 1989 transitions. Informal economies.
The history of Budapest International Fair (1940s), Light industry during state socialism (1960s-1980s), the Polyester Program
Nationalism, Political violence, gender, anthropology of the state
Migration, Borders, home and away
Body, Power, cultural meanings, intersectionality and gender and disability

PUBLICATIONS

Edited volumes:

Making Sense, Crafting History. Practices of Producing Historical Meaning. (co-edited with Breteke Waaldijk and Carla Salvaterra) Pisa, Pisa UP, 2010.

Select Articles:

- “The interaction of National and Private Narratives in the Construction of Identities”, in Katherine Isaacs and Gudmundur Halfdanarson eds. *Citizenships and Identities. Inclusion, Exclusion, Participation.* Pisa, Pisa UP, 2010, pp. 211-212.
- “Introduction” (with Breteke Waaldijk and Carla Salvaterra) to the volume *Making Sense, Crafting History. Practices of Producing Historical Meaning.* Pisa, Pisa UP, 2010, pp. xi-xxv.
- “The Synthetic 'Otthonka': A Piece of Clothing and Cultural History”, in *Kaleidoscope*, 2010/1, available online at <http://www.kaleidoscopehistory.hu/index.php?subpage=cikk&cikkid=23>
- “Plastic Doodads and Synthetic Text(iles). Modernity and the Colonization of the Private in Socialist Eastern Europe”, in Mary Clancy and Andrea Peto eds. *Teaching Empires. Gender and Transnational Citizenship in Europe.* Utrecht, ATHENA, pp. 33-50.
- “A nejlon otthonka. Egy birodalom oroksege” (The synthetic housedress. Legacy of an empire), in Simonovich Ildiko and Vlauch Tibor eds. *Oltoztessuk fel az orszagot. Divat es oltozkodes a szocializmusban. (Let's Dress the Country. Fashion and Clothing in Socialism.)* Budapest, Argumentum, 2009.
- “Socialist Work on Display. Visualizing the Political at the 1948 Budapest International fair”, in Yannis Yannitsiotis and Dimitra Lampropoulou eds. *Rhetorics of Work.* Pisa, Pisa UP, 2008, pp. 1-26.

- “The Work of Nostalgia. Women Remembering the Double Burden In Post-socialist Hungary”, in Gro Hagemann ed. *Recipricoty and Redistribution. Welfare Reconsidered*. Pisa, Pisa UP, 2007, pp. 153-183.
- “Szakmák és Társadalmi identitás (Új európai történelmi kutatás a Munka, a Nemek és a Társadalom témakörében)”, Book Review in *Múltunk* (Hungarian journal of political history). 2007/3, 296-299.

TALKS AND CONFERENCES PAPERS:

- ““*We got nothing*” Working Mothers and the State in Memories of Socialism”, Berkshire Conference on Women’s History, Histories on the Edge/Histoires sur la brèche, University of Toronto, May 22-25, 2014
- ““*One had to adjust to everything: to the Kádár-regime, to the Tito-regime here, to Ceausescu there*” Structural Nostalgias in Hungarian Women’s Life Narratives from Serbia, Romania and Hungary”, 9th European Social Science and History Conference, Glasgow, April 2012.
- “Home and Movement in Life Narratives of Women from Hungary, Romania and Serbia”, Talk delivered at Princeton University, November 2011.
- “Merging Life Phases and Historical Periods: Analysing Women’s Life-Reviews in Hungary As Accounts of History”, NOV Day, Utrecht University, The Netherlands, February 2011.
- “The interaction of National and Private Narratives in the Construction of Identities”, CliohRES Plenary Conference, Pisa, December 2009.
- “Plastic Doodads, Synthetic Text(ile)s. Modernity and Socialist Citizenship”, 7th European Feminist Research Conference, Utrecht University, June 2009.
- “The Construction of Hungarian Cultural Citizenship at the 1896 Millennial Exhibition”, CRESC Conference on Cultural Citizenship, Oxford, September 2008.
- “*And the Narrative Moves on... Home and Movement in the Narrative (Connections of Space, Intersubjectivity and Difference in Women’s Memories)*”, Conference: Gender and Modernity in Central Europe: The Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and its Legacy”, The University of Ottawa, May 2008,
- “Otthonka. Egy birodalom öröksége.” (“The Housedress. The Legacy of an Empire.”), Conference: *Clothing and Fashion in Socialism*, Budapest, Történelmi Múzeum, 5-6 November, 2007
- “The Work of Nostalgia, Women Remembering the “Double Burden” in Pos-socialist Hungary”, Conference: *Memory and Nostalgia*, The University of Ege, Turkey, 9-11 May, 2007
- “Interpreting Narrativity in Oral History Sources. The Relevance of Literary Theory” Guest lecture at CEU, March 2007
- “War, Violence and Feminism in the Era of Globalisation”, graduate seminar lead at Utrecht University, February 2007

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

ATHENA, Teaching Empires (2a), (2007–2009), Doctoral student member
ClioRES, Thematic Working Group 4, “Work, Gender and Society”, (2006-2010),
Doctoral student member
ACLA (American Comparative Literature Association, 2010-present)

OTHER ACADEMIA-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Interviewer and Editor of “Rosi Braidotti”, film biography and roundtable conversation with Rosi Braidotti, feminist philosopher, activist, founding chair of Gender Studies Dept. and the Faculty of Humanities and distinguished professor at Utrecht University, Budapest, PrimaTV Production, 2009.

Supervisor of translation from English into Hungarian (July-Oct 2007)
Rosi Braidotti, *Egy nomád térképei, (Cartographies of a Nomad.)* Budapest, Balassi Kiadó, 2007.

Academic tutor (with special focus on writing and research methodologies in the humanities and social sciences, 2004-present)

English language editor (*Feb 2006*)
Andrea Pető and Berteke Waaldijk eds. *Teaching with Memories. European Women's Histories in International and Interdisciplinary Classrooms.* Galway, Women' Studies Centre, National University of Ireland, 2006.