

## ISSUE INTRODUCTION

It is with great satisfaction that we present to the academic community the second issue of 2016 of *ANAMORPHOSIS - International Journal of Law and Literature*, publication of the Brazilian Law and Literature Network (RDL), whose purpose is to disseminate national and foreign scientific articles aimed at producing interdisciplinary knowledge in the area of studies and investigations in Law and Literature.

The *ARTICLES* section is composed of ten scientific papers, five of which are written by foreign authors and five by Brazilian authors.

This issue begins with the famous essay by Robert Cover, *Nomos and Narration*, published in 1973 in the *Harvard Law Review* and made available in the *Yale Law School Legal Scholarship Repository*. In this article, commenting on the decision of the US Supreme Court in the *Bob Jones University v. United States* 461 - U.S. 574 (1983), Cover examines the processes of creating legal meanings and addresses the intrinsic relationship between law and narrative. Besides the importance that it acquires for the sphere of constitutional law, the text is of particular interest for the studies on Law and Literature and, until now, had not been published in the Portuguese language. We thank Diana Cover for the authorization to publish and Luis Rosenfield for the careful translation.

Jorge Roggero, from *Universidad de Buenos Aires* (Argentina), brings a reflection on the development of the studies in “Law and Literature in Argentina”, rescuing its relation with the Critical Theory of Law, led by the professors Enrique Marí, Ricardo Entelman, Carlos Cárcova, Alicia Ruiz and Claudio Martyniuk. Contrary to what happened in Brazil, the research carried out by our *hermanos* addresses the problem of the production of the legal discourse, exploring this theoretical dimension, which is still absent among us.

Angela Espíndola, from Universidade Federal de Santa Maria (UFSM – Brazil), inspired by the works of Milan Kundera, reflects on the judicial decision, the role of the judge and the way of producing law itself, investigating the representations of the law and the social imaginary on the judge and criticizing legalistic normativism and legal functionalism as models for the materialization of jurisdiction.

Sebastián Rodríguez Cárdenas, from University College London (England), starts from the apparent confrontation between writing and orality and, using philosophical and literary subsidies, addresses the validity of legal norms and their power of social coercion and, in order to understand the current tendency towards the unification of an oral and accusatory procedural system in Colombia, emphasizes that contemporary orality is linked in an indelible way to the structure of the written text.

Ednaldo Silva Ferreira Júnior, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (UFPE – Brazil), devotes his study to the approximation of procedural narratives to literary narratives and argues that the use of concepts from theory of literature – especially the concept of fiction – would allow new understandings of judicial processes, which he characterized as “fiction anchored in reality”.

Gretha Leite Maia, from Universidade Federal do Ceará (UFC – Brazil), recalls T. Todorov's assumptions about fantastic literature and relates the emergence and development of magic realism in Latin America with movements of resistance to military dictatorships, focusing on *The house of the spirits*, by Chilean novelist Isabel Allende, and *Incident in Antares*, by the Brazilian writer Erico Verissimo.

Diego Falconí Trávez, from Universidad San Francisco de Quito (Ecuador), rescues the play *El cerco de Numancia*, by Miguel de Cervantes, to reflect on the subject of corruption, based on the subsidies of political philosophy and theory of literature, and, adopting the singular and rich approach offered by body studies, examines the relations between gesture, discourse and ideology.

Gustavo Santana Nogueira, from Universidade de Barra Mansa (UBM – Brazil), favors the theme of judicial precedents and explores elements of Shylock's trial in Shakespeare's play *The Merchant of Venice* to draw a parallel with the English legal culture of the time, by making a correlation between legal sentences and the principles of legal certainty and the protection of trust.

Cássia Escoza, from Universidade de São Paulo (USP – Brazil), chose the novel *The Children Act* to approach the legal universe as an object of literary representation, proving the relevance of literary texts for the production of senses and as a possibility for critical reflection on Law.

Finally, Alberto Vespaziani, from the Università degli Studi del Molise (Italy), focuses on the classic work of Italian literature *Cristo si è fermato a Eboli*, by Carlo Levi, highlighting the political and constitutional themes that permeate it and focusing on the various types of censorship that appear in it.

This issue also premieres the *INTERVIEW* section, idealized with the objective of creating a space for dialogue with researchers considered exponents in Law and Literature studies, in order to enable the permanent exchange of ideas and the interaction of points of view, researchers and readers.

To open the section, we interviewed Jeanne Gaakeer, a professor at the *Erasmus School of Law* in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, where she is also a judge in the Criminal Section of the Hague Court of Appeal. Awarded the J. B. White Award in 2013 by the Association for the Study of Law, Culture and Humanities, she is one of the founders and coordinators of the European Network for Law and Literature (EURNLL).

We would also like to announce that currently *ANAMORPHOSIS - International Journal of Law and Literature* is already indexed in six databases (Ibict, Diadorim, Latindex, Google Scholar, Dialnet and Capes). This is another fundamental step towards its consolidation as a specialized journal of excellence.

We thank our authors, the reviewers (who anonymously participated in the submissions process), the translators and the editorial team. Without the commitment and collaboration of all, this magazine – the first fully bilingual Brazilian publication in the area of Law and Language / Literature – would not be a reality.

We sincerely hope the texts available here serve to open new roads for legal research, at the most diverse levels (undergraduate, master's and doctorate).

Enjoy reading!

Prof. Dr. André Karam Trindade

Prof. Dr. Henriete Karam

Editors