



RDL

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ISSUE INTRODUCTION

We are happy to introduce the new issue of *ANAMORPHOSIS – International Journal of Law and Literature* to the academic community. It is a publication by the Brazilian Network of Law and Literature (Rede Brasileira Direito e Literatura – RDL), whose purpose is to publicize scientific papers, from Brazil and abroad, on the research area of Law and Literature.

The ARTICLES section is composed of eleven scientific papers – five of them written by foreign researchers and six by Brazilian ones –, following the journal’s tradition of contemplating different approaches, perspectives, and intersections.

In this issue, the reader will find four theoretical studies, two of them dealing with the problem of different interpretations given to the constitutional text, and two papers on the potential of literature to the legal training and education.

The opening paper is a beautiful essay by Alicia Ruiz, from *Universidad de Buenos Aires* (Argentina), proposing the idea that there is not only “one” way of reading the Constitution, nor several ways of “un-reading” it, but rather, that people can only *un-read* it. That is because there is not just “one” original meaning with “several” copies, representations or translations, and this can be seen especially in the Latin-American constitutions, always the object of controversy and dispute.

Lara Taroco, from *Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos (Unisinos)*, researches the phenomenon of *overinterpretation* in the *Raposa Serra do Sol* case, sentenced by the Brazilian Supreme Court, in which the so-called “time of occupation criterion” was defined, with the conclusion that the decision was beyond textual limits, thus contradicting the Constitution.

André Karam Trindade, from *Centro Universitário de Cascavel (Univel)*, and Henriete Karam, from *Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (Ufrgs)*, describe the Program *Law, Literature, and Citizenship*, with its proposal, theoretical background, objectives, methodology, and the results of the pilot project held by *Sertão – Law and Literature Nucleus from Bahia* (DGP/CNPq), during the period of 2018 to 2020.

Agustín Parise, from Maastricht University (Netherlands), studies fiction as a tool for the educational training in Law, highlighting two approaches: in the first one, the analysis is on how writers create their own Law in fiction; in the second one, on how jurists create their own fictitious scenarios.

The following five papers deal with current social problems – justice, dictatorship, proceedings, ecology, and pandemics – based on western literature classics, since these narratives are a never-ending source that allows critical analyses of legal and social phenomena.

Maria Pina Fersini, from *Universidad de Málaga* (España), deeply knowing the singular ability of literature to project legal meanings, explore the idea of justice in the narratives by Friedrich Dürrenmatt, especially the novel *A Dangerous Game*, in which the allegory of a supper reveals the organic character and the logic of sacrifice that compose the modern legal systems.

Diego Gil Maturana, from *Universidad de Chile*, deals with the polyphonic novel *I, the Supreme*, by Augusto Roa Bastos, on the intention of Paraguayan dictator José Gaspar Rodríguez de Francia of staying in power through the written language. *Can literature serve as support for a dictatorship?* Is one of the many questions raised in the article.

Victor Sampaio Gondim, from *Universidade de Fortaleza (Unifor)*, reads the story *The Minority Report*, by Philip K. Dick, to draw reflections on the change of proceeding law that, based on the idea of outvoting, installed collegiate voting to ensure the debate, amplify the rationality of decisions, and hinder divergence in court.

Dabel Leandro Franco, from *Universidad Nacional del Litoral* (Argentina), questions what a science fiction story from the early twentieth century can offer to contemporary environmental law. Based on the novel *Star Maker*, by Olaf Stapleton, published in 1937, the paper reviews the legal tools for nature and environment protection, in a context of ideological crisis and of global climate emergency.

Elda Coelho de Azevedo Bussinguer and Alberto Dias de Souza, both from *Faculdade de Direito de Vitória (Fdv)*, study the development of the legal theory in the context of pandemics, by analyzing the novel *The Plague*, with its philosophy of the absurd. The aim is to problematize the struggles for power and the economical decrease as key factors for all the recent distrust and denial surrounding actions promoted by the State.

The final two articles are both related to the studies of Law and Art.

Rafael Lazzarotto Simioni, from *Faculdade de Direito de Pouso Alegre (Fdsm)*, analyzes the painting *Coronation of Dom Pedro II*, by Manuel Araújo Porto Alegre, and identifies in its bidimensional image four different temporalities of power. Based on the theory by Agamben, the paper speculates on how the painting develops a visual chiasm around the glory of power but subverts this same chiasm with the way the characters' eyes are positioned, not acclaiming the emperor, nor the constitution, nor the people, but other complex references of meaning.

Arnaldo Godoy and Raquel Xavier Vieira Braga, both from *Centro Universitário de Brasília (Uniceub)*, focus on gender issues. Taking the authoritarian regime of Brazil as background, they show how art is able to convert tragedy into potential and thus act in the possibility of overcoming traumatizing experiences, fostering the law to adapt to new models of human interaction, especially when it comes to the feminine gender in the social scope.

In the section *REVIEWS*, Flavia Hardt Schreiner, from *Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul*, offers an interesting analysis of the film *God Exists, Her Name Is Petrunija* (2019) – directed by Teona Strugar Mitevska, a production from North Macedonia. The text establishes a dialogue between art and human rights, and puts certain canons of the church in check, by discussing the (im)possibilities of leading character's subjectivation processes in a notably patriarchal and sexist society.

Once again, we are thankful to the authors, reviewers, translators, and the members of our editorial team. Without the collaboration of all, this journal – the first Brazilian fully multilingual publication in the fields of Law and Literature – would never come true.

May the papers hereby published foster disturbances in the instituted knowledge, thus opening new paths for research in law, in every level (bachelor, master's and doctoral degrees).

Best wishes,

Professor André Karam Trindade, PhD.
Professor Henriete Karam, PhD.
Editors-in-chief