

# Bestiaries of/in Literary Theory

Annual Workshop of the Research Committee on Literary Theory  
of the International Comparative Literature Association (ICLA)

University of Zurich, January 31 – February 1, 2025  
Venue: Cabaret Voltaire, Spiegelgasse 1, 8001 Zürich

Convenors:

Divya Dwivedi (Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi)  
Davide Giuriato (University of Zurich)

## Friday, January 31

10.00 **Welcome**

Sandro Zanetti (University of Zurich) Dean of Studies PhF,  
President of the Cabaret Voltaire Association

Divya Dwivedi & Davide Giuriato

10.15-12.15 Panel I

**Vladimir Biti** (University of Vienna)  
Sniffing around: the doggedness of post-theory

**Anne Duprat** (Université de Picardie-Jules Verne)  
Fantastic Beasts of Literary Theory and Where to  
find them

**Zaal Andronikashvili** (ZfL Berlin)  
The Zoo, or the Bestiary of Formalist Theory

**Robert J.C. Young** (New York University)  
Why look at animals?

13.45-15.45 Panel II

**Ábel Tamás** (University of Budapest)  
Augustine and the Small Animals: From Attention to  
Curiosity in *Confessions* 10

**Karin Kukkonen** (University of Oslo)  
Mimetic Animals - A Salon Menagerie

**Stefan Willer** (HU Berlin)  
Herder's Sheep

**Maya Kesrouany** (NYU Abu Dhabi)  
The Howl and the Chirp: A Poetics of the Non-Human  
Witness in Modern Arabic Literature

16.30-18.30 Panel III

**Ivana Perica** (ZfL Berlin)  
The Animal That Therefore I Am Not - Cockroaches in War and Fiction

**Natalya Bekhta** (Tampere University)  
Beetles of Reality: A Poetics of Irrealism in Second-World Literature

**Davide Giuriato** (University of Zurich)  
Becoming-Insect. Kafka, and the Life of Beetles

**Elisabeth Weber** (UC Santa Barbara)  
Notes on Adorno's assertion "to revile man as an animal is genuine  
idealism"

## Saturday, February 1st

09.00-10.30 Panel IV

**Susanne Strätling** (FU Berlin)  
Writing Animals

**Divya Dwivedi** (Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi)  
The Fragment-Hedgehog: Romanticism in Literary Theory,  
Philosophy, and Politics

**Robert Stockhammer** (LMU Munich)  
The Whale as a Not-just-Trope of Literary Theory

11.00-12.30 Panel V

**Rok Benčín** (ZRC SAZU Ljubljana)  
Fictional Worlds/Animal Worlds: Uexküll and the Reframing of  
Transcendental Aesthetics

**Xiaofan Amy Li** (University College London)  
Urban animals in modern literature and ecocritical thought

**Tiphaine Samoyault** (EHESS Paris)  
Some thoughts on the fly ("mouche") as a meta subject

*Closing Remarks*



Universität  
Zürich <sup>UZH</sup>

Deutsches Seminar

UZH alumni

