



The 52nd Annual Conference
The Joseph Conrad Society (UK)
In Association with the Joseph Conrad Society of Italy
Sapienza Università di Roma
Wednesday 2nd July – Friday 4th July 2025
PRESIDENT Laurence Davies CHAIR Robert Hampson

Wednesday 2nd July – Sapienza Università di Roma
Marco Polo Building, Via dello Scala San Lorenzo 82

9am to 9.40am – Registration, Marco Polo Building Main Entrance, 1st Floor

Opening Remarks, room T01

9.40 – Arianna Punzi, Dean of the Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia

9.45am – Robert Hampson, Chair of the Joseph Conrad Society (UK)

9.55am – Riccardo Capoferro, Chair of the Conrad Society of Italy, Deputy Head of the Dipartimento di Studi Europei, Americani e Interculturali

10am to 11am

Keynote: Richard Ambrosini, *Public Confessions of a Justified Formalist Sinner: in Search of a Content-Form Paradigm in Conrad's Works*

11am to 11.30am – coffee break

11.30am to 12.30pm, room T01

Chair: Riccardo Capoferro

Robert Hampson	Conrad and Casement Revisited
Chris Cairney	Seen and Unseen: Conrad's Connections with the Emerald Isle

12.30pm to 1.30pm – lunch

Panel A – 1.30pm to 2.30pm, room T01**Chair: Nic Panagopoulos**

Brian Richardson	Conrad's Problematic Narrators: An Approach from Postclassical Narrative Theory
Jakob Lothe	The Narrative Ethics of Conrad's Short Fiction

Panel B – 1.30pm to 2.30pm, Room T02**Chair: Kim Salmons**

Alessandro Valenti	Hospitality in "Amy Foster" as a form of heroism
Yoko Okuda	"Amy Foster": A Simple Answer to a Complex Question

*2.30pm to 2.45pm – Break***Panel A – 2.45pm to 3.45pm, room T01****Chair: Tania Zulli**

An Ning	Translation and the Unfettered: An Exploration of the First Principles of Translation Based on Personal Praxis
Simla Doğangün	"Multilingualism, Translation, and Cultural Exchange in Joseph Conrad's 'The Planter of Malata'"

Panel B – 2.45pm to 3.45pm, room T02**Chair: Mattia de Luca**

M. Luigia Di Nisio	Remembering the Future: "Heart of Darkness" and <i>When We Were Orphans</i> through the Lens of Cross-mapping
Trevor Ruck	"Unspeakable Rites": Mysterious Medicine in Conrad's "Heart of Darkness"

*3.45pm to 4.15pm coffee break***4.15pm to 5.15pm****Panel A, room T01****Chair: Ellen Burton-Harrington**

José Gonzáles	Do or Die – A life drill round a mahogany table
Yu Ando	Unrewarding Maturity: <i>The Shadow-Line</i> and the Modernist Bildungsroman

Panel B, room T02**Chair: Douglas Kerr**

Debra Romanick Baldwin	Conrad, Freedom and Censorship
Ewa Kujawska-Lis	In the Heart of Political Darkness: Conrad in the Service of Politics

5.15pm to 6.45pm, room T01**Chair: Mark Deggan**

Giampero Moretti	The Forest as a Mythical Space
Isabelle Loréal	The "livid expanse of snow": Razumov's motherland as inhuman land
Hugh Epstein	Joseph Conrad in the Wind: Wind in Conrad

7.30pm – Dinner at Hamburgeseria San Lorenzo

Thursday 3rd July – Polish Institute
Istituto Polacco di Roma, Via Vittoria Colonna 1

9.30am – Arrive

10am to 11.30am

Chair: Andrew Francis

Jay Parker	Freedom of the sea in the nautical fiction
Julie Gay	“The waterside of watersides”: The poetics of harbours in Joseph Conrad’s fiction
Nataša Tučev	Achieving Externality: The Sea in <i>The Shadow-Line</i>

11.30am to 12 noon – coffee break

12noon to 1.30pm

Chair: Anna M. Szczepan-Wojnarska

Tania Zulli	Between Visual Culture and Literary Studies: Female figures in Joseph Conrad’s works
Ellen Burton Harrington	Rendering Women in Kish’s and Kuper’s <i>Heart of Darkness</i>
Mark Deggan	Performing Interracial Femininity in Conrad’s Eastern Fiction

1.30pm to 2.30pm lunch

2.30pm to 4pm

Chair: Hugh Epstein

Mattia de Luca	Listening to Memory: Soundscape, Voice, and Haunting in “Karain”
Jennifer Cranfill	Writing and Unwriting Conrad
Anna M. Szczepan-Wojnarska	Lena’s Voice – Wordless Message (J. Conrad, <i>Victory</i>)

4pm *Aperitivo*

5pm Guided Tour of Rome

7pm Free evening

Friday 4th July – Sapienza Università di Roma

9am Arrive

9.30am to 11am

Panel A, room T01

Chair: Simla Doğangün

Agnes Adamowicz-Pośpiech	Representations of Kurtz in Graphic Novels
Riccardo Rosati	From Darkness to War: Conrad and Coppola
Andreas Panagopoulos	“In the Darkness, No One Can Hear You Scream”: Conrad and Ridley Scott’s <i>Alien</i>

Panel B, room T02

Chair: Brian Richardson

Sylvia Janina Wojciechowska	Temporalising Space: The (Classical) Shadows in “Poland Revisited”
James Mellor	Aesthetic theory & Gadamer’s hermeneutics: Between Conrad’s prefaces and fictions
Marina Lops	“More true than any history I ever learned”: narrative forms and historical truth in Conrad’s <i>Nostromo</i>

11.00am to 11.30am – coffee break

11.30am to 1pm

Panel A, room T01

Chair: Hugh Epstein

Grażyna M. T. Branny	Denegativity and Epistemology Dramatized: Joseph Conrad’s Short Story “The Return”
Ludmilla Voitkovska	Russian Branch of the Korzeniowski Clan: Irina Korzeniowska(ya) and Her Novel <i>Oak Leaf</i>
Sylvia Wendel	“Hirsch Speaks!?”: a short story by Sylvia Weiser Wendel

Panel B, room T02

Chair: Richard Ambrosini

Tamás Juhász	Emotion, Attention, and Urban Connectivity in <i>The Secret Agent</i>
Marilena Parlati	Still Harping on Naples: Conrad’s (and Benjamin’s) Disorienting City
Fausto Ciompi	Remembering Mario Curreli, 10 Years After His Death

1pm to 2pm – lunch

2pm to 3.30pm

Panel A, room T01

Chair: Agnes Adamowicz-Pośpiech

Brygida Pudelko	Sienkiewicz Compared to Conrad in their Treatment of Emin Pasha
Daniel Vogel	Jan Józef Szczepański: A Connection Between the Worlds of Joseph Conrad and Stanisław Lem
Ewa Rzanna	Land and Sea – the uncanny parallels in life and work of Vladimir Korolenko and Joseph Conrad

Panel B, room T02

Chair: Sylwia Janina Wojciechowska

Jean Szczypien	Kraśiński's <i>The Undivine Comedy</i> in "Heart of Darkness" and <i>The Secret Agent</i>
Joanna Skolik	Wandering with Conrad in Search of the Contemporary Heart of Darkness
Karen Chen	On the Rewriting of "Heart of Darkness" in Gurnah's <i>Paradise</i>

3.30pm to 4pm – coffee break

4pm to 5pm

Panel A, room T01

Chair: Chris Cairney

John B. Murphy	Code vs. Character vs. Contingency: Virtue and Dependence in Conrad's Fictions of Apprenticeship
Nic Panagopoulos	The Will to Live and the Will to Power in "Falk"

Panel B, room T02

Chair: Katherine Baxter

Douglas Kerr	Doing Time in the Outposts
Andrew Francis	The Presence of Farewell: <i>Lord Jim</i> and Elegy for What is to Come

5pm to 5.15pm – break

5.15pm to 6.15pm

Philip Conrad Memorial Lecture, room T01

Chair: Robert Hampson

John Peters	Free Will or Determinism in Conrad's Cosmos
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6.15pm to 6.30pm – Closing Remarks

7.30 pm – Dinner at La Taverna dei Quaranta