Abstracts
ABSTRACTS

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Postures féminines dans l’œuvre de Calixthe Beyala

Abstract: The aim of this paper is to analyze, through the example of the feminist positions proposed by Calixthe Beyala in the novels she wrote between 1987 and 2007, the change of the novelist’s ideological and artistic perspective. It emphasizes the progressive loss of critical voice to the advantage of a new voice wishing to understand itself as individuality in its world. This study reveals the novelist’s contribution to the construction of a new position of the individual in the context of French social and cultural life.

Body, Calixthe Beyala, postcolonialism, space, woman

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Féminitude et négritude : discours de genre et discours culturel dans l’oeuvre de Calixthe Beyala

Abstract: This article examines how Calixthe Beyala, by using two key concepts, féminitude and négritude, engages in a dialogue with different European or Occidental feminist movements on the one side and the myths and traditions of the African continent on the other side. She addresses, one could say, Simone de Beauvoir’s question, “What is a women?”, as well as the question asked by the négritude writers, “What is a negro?”. The analysis of the opposition between the universal and the particular will show the complexity of the question of identity in Calixthe Beyala’s work.

Calixthe Beyala, cultural identity, féminitude, gender identity, négritude, particularism, universalism
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Dévirilisation de personnages et humanisme chez Calixthe Beyala

Abstract: This article shows how Beyala questions the traditional status of the male figure by the emphasis of an emasculate male type. This last one does not illustrate the feminists ideals attributed to the author. He is rather placed in the center of humanists questions relegated into the background by his counterparts for the profit of their “androcentriques” concerns. Beyala so creates a man symbolically close to the androgyne who reveals her inhalation to a world managed in an egalitarian way by the man and the woman because of the human nature of the stakes to be defended.

Androgyne, emasculation, fantasy, feminine, humanism, male, Pygmalion

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Et Beyala (re)créa Dieu : configurations de la divinité et du sacré dans les romans d’une écrivaine impie

Abstract: If there is unanimity among commentators that the harsh conditions of life of the underprivileged (women, children, and immigrants) constitute the major thrust of Calixthe Beyala’s works, there is still a dimension, crucial in my opinion to the understanding of her works, which has not yet received critical inquiry. For, discernible in the fifteen novels of the irreverent writer is a consistent reconstruction of divinity that induces one to think that her feminism is sharpened by the interrogation of the divine essence. The attempt to recreate women and the world is linked inextricably to the gesture of reconstructing God and rethinking sacredness. I will in this article attempt to examine the representations of divinity and the sacred in Beyala’s fiction along four lines: ideological convergence, demolition of androcentric gods, veneration of the female spirit, and the conciliation of opposites.

Beyala, conciliation, deconstruction, divinity, sanctification, similarities
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Écriture et oralité dans l’œuvre de Calixthe Beyala

Abstract: A reading of several works of Beyala will help us consider the way orality works for African women and to suggest new forms of the symbolic representation and of narrative framing drawn from the speech of the people. Reference to their African culture, to their consciousness of cultural identity, helps characters such as Édène, Loukoum and Beyala to define themselves and to lay claim to a critical and self-confident voice. They learn from orality the ways of saying of the wise, what is to be retained and transmitted through traditional culture and what aspects of collective memory are better forgotten.

Africa, Beyala, forests, markets, orature, proverbs, sacred, symbols, tradition

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Calixte Beyala ou la réécriture de la littérature coloniale française

Abstract: This article shows how Calixthe Beyala, in Le petit prince de Belleville (1992) and Maman a un amant (1993), presents the character of the child as producer of sociopolitical and historical discourse. By using the child as narrator, Beyala rewrites the colonial literature of the interwar period extending from Francis Carco to Mac Orlan from a less noble perspective. As producer of certain racist discourses, the child is singled out as the one who represents life and assures the future of the community.

Banlieue, colonial literature, immigration, library, negritude, nègre, postcolonial subject, racism, violence
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Beyala et le plagiat : Gary, Buten et Walker pourvoyeurs de textes

Abstract: If the name of Calixthe Beyala seems to be linked to controversial issues, it is also because she was repeatedly suspected and accused of plagiarism. One of these accusations led to her condemnation by the tribunal of Paris on May 7th, 1996. The purpose of this article consists not only in recapitulating the facts, but also, in capitalizing on them to study the phenomenon of plagiarism in general and the specific aspects which it takes with this writer.

Africa, America, comparative literature, literature, narratology, plagiarism, stylistics

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De Stock à Albin Michel : Beyala et l’édition

Abstract: Calixthe Beyala has remained faithful to the publisher Albin Michel for her fictional work since the publication of Le petit prince de Belleville in 1992, but her four first novels had three different publishers. A study of her relationship with the publishing world during this period shows her desire for recognition on the Parisian literary scene, which was ready to take up the challenge by publishing the novel of an unknown African woman writer. A careful analysis of paratextual elements, in particular the titrology, and of the contents of the novels reveals that Calixthe Beyala enters into a direct conversation with her publishers.

Ascendancy, Calixthe Beyala, literary consecration, publishers, titrology, the female Francophone novel
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**Calixthe Beyala chez les Scandinaves**

**Abstract:** The study focuses on the circulation of literature in the world and it takes as an example the publication of the literary works of Beyala in Scandinavia. The reception of her novels is analyzed on the basis of commentaries by critics in Swedish media. The analysis shows that the Swedes construct their own image of the author. In order to find interpretation tools they link her texts to their own literary patrimony and they take into account the exoticism inherent in her novels. It thus becomes legitimate, apt to serve current debates in Sweden, for example about feminism and cultural diversity.

Calixthe Beyala, cultural values, exoticism, Icelandic saga, literary market, reception, tale, translation, Scandinavia, world literature

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**Enjeux du message anticolonialiste en métropole dans les années 1950 : la critique journalistique de trois romans de Mongo Beti et de Ferdinand Oyono**

**Abstract:** This paper examines the effectiveness of the anticolonialist message in three novels published in 1956 by two Cameroonian writers -- Mongo Beti and Ferdinand Oyono-- by analyzing in particular their reception by French metropolitan reviewers. African writers of the 1950s depended exclusively on the metropolitan literary institutions and authorities for their recognition, i.e. the publishing houses and press of the colonial power. Mongo Beti and Ferdinand Oyono were among the first francophone African novelists to criticize the colonial regime. Nevertheless, important differences exist in the Africanist discourse of the critics who reviewed the novels when they were first published. We will analyze this discourse in order to discover the reasons for the discrepancy in the reception of the work of these two authors, while also taking into consideration other aspects that could have influenced its reception immediately after publication, such as the role played by the publishing houses.
African (Sub-Saharan) literature, Africanist discourse, anti-colonialism, cameroonian literature, critical reception, Ferdinand Oyono, journalistic critique, Mongo Beti, publishing house