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ABSTRACTS

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Villes et espaces africains : pour une géocritique en contexte postcolonial

Abstract: As for geocritics, postcolonial studies consider questions of representation according to a contextualizing approach, scrutinizing geographical and sociopolitical settings. This paper aims at studying methodological affinities between geocritics and postcolonialism in order to observe to what extent Bertrand Westphal's approach could respond to a postcolonial context and allow for an interpretation of African space – mainly urban – in a few francophone novels by Mongo Beti, Bernard Dadié, Ahmadou Kourouma, Henri Lopes, Alain Mabanckou, Patrice Nganang and Tierno Monémbo.

Africa, Francophony, Geocritics, Globalization, Postcolonial, Space

Mbaye DIOUF

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Roman féminin africain : pour une géocritique

Abstract: Based on novels published in the 2000s by Fatou Diome and Bessora, this article poses that in a postcolonial context marked by the intensification of population migration, as well as the international circulation of authors and the renewal of aesthetic categories, the current generation of female African novelists are constructing a new imaginary of space that resemanticizes textual territories through literary languages that are both unusual and personalized. Novels like *Cyr@no* or *Le ventre de l'Atlantique* rectify the real insular or urban topographies to which they refer by giving a connotated or new meaning to their own narrative, descriptive and dialogical components that the geocritical categories of deterritorialization and reterritorialization allow us to analyse.

Bessora, Fatou Diome, Female African novels, Géocriticism

Adama COULIBALY

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**Non-lieux dans le roman africain postcolonial francophone :
formes et enjeux**

Abstract: In the postcolonial African novel, new places are appearing, next to or replacing the former prison site. They can validly be read as «non-places» whose presence and implications in texts must then be questioned. Attempting a literary re-appropriation of an anthropological notion, this contribution analyzes three novels whose fictions are built around places of transit (of non-places) such as hotel, road and... container. These three figures of the non-place call for a writing of horizontality, rhizome, ephemeral, spatial mobility that reactivate the question of the fictitious or moving identity of the African subject from space.

African novel, Bar, Container, Ephemeral, Hotel, Non-places, Space

Hassan MOUSTIR

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Poétique de la ville-symptôme dans le roman maghrébin

Abstract: Postcolonial city is at the heart of maghrebian fictions so that it can be approached as a fundamental element of its particular poetics. In their novels *Triptyque de Rabat* and *Le chien d'Ulysse*, Khatibi and Bachi respectively link space as an explicative matrix of the national present and even of what goes beyond characters consciousness. This fact helps to understand the way history figures as a virtual paradigm coming down to space, sometimes threw separate facts, and being part of the personal perception of reality. The concept of reality itself becomes problematic regarding this endless past, we mean the impact and the power of the city's history in the present.

City, Geocriticism, History, Maghreb, Poetics, Postcoloniality

Laté LAWSON-HELLU

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L'espace géographique et la perspective postcoloniale chez Félix Couchoro (1900-1968)

Abstract: The writing of Félix Couchoro, member of the first generation of the Francophone African writers, problematizes the historical, cultural, political and geographic background of the railway system built at the beginning of the twentieth century in Togo. In that problematizing, Félix Couchoro's writing is in accordance with the geocritic principles as well as those of the postcolonial perspective. By putting those two perspectives together, however, in the reading of that writer's work, one should go beyond the epistemological frame of the geocritic perspective itself, notably its use of the western postmodern paradigm of indetermination, when it comes to the Francophone writings.

Colonialism, Félix Couchoro, Francophone Writing, Geocritic, Geographic Space, Postcolonialism

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Le global et le local : réécriture de Paris et reconstruction d'un espace esthétisé

Abstract: This article concerns the representation of Paris in the literary discourse of Michel Houellebecq and Alain Mabanckou. It is about placing space at the heart of our reflection to understand their production. Geocriticism approach brings them closer and makes it possible to show the coherence of their literary approach and the presence of space as the main literary subject.

Contemporary novel, Geocriticism, Michel Houellebecq, Alain Mabanckou, Parisian space

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Tanger : géocritique d'un espace intermédiaire

Abstract: Tangier is a city with several faces that oscillates between reality and imagination. Intermediate space between Africa and Europe, it occupies a geostrategic position which has aroused the covetousness of the East (with the Phoenicians then the Arabs). Novelistic city, it fascinates for its syncretic mythology, its economic stake, its role of civilizational bridge and its appearance of “coquettish” land. We propose here to carry out a geocritical analysis of this Tangier evocated by Tahar Ben Jelloun, Driss Chraïbi and Amin Maalouf, to the prisms of the foundations of the concept and other theories of space.

Geocritical, History, Intermediate space, Myth, Novelistic city, Tangier

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Tey (Aujourd'hui) : l'irruption du temps dans l'espace filmique schizophrène

Abstract: This paper is a reflection on space in film and the experience of migration in the film *Tey* by Alain Gomis. *Tey* shows the temptations to overcome the painful cleavage between the schizophrenic perception of a space filled with feelings and memories on one side, and the structures of power and economic interests on the other one. The focalisation on space becomes evident in the reduction of time down to one single day and the waiting for death of the individual. In the process of negotiation between absence and presence, the film makes evident what neo-liberal politics mean to the individual life.

African cinema, Cinematographic space, Dystopia, Identity, Migration, Narrative time