

# Sugar, Spice and the Not So Nice:

Comics Picturing Girlhood  
International Symposium



22 - 23 April 2021  
Virtual conference



# Programme

## Thursday 22 April

11 - 12:30

**Welcome** - Dona Pursall & Eva Van de Wiele (Ghent University)

**Keynote** - Mel Gibson (Northumbria University Newcastle)

*Professional Identity, Girlhood Comics, Affection, Nostalgia and Embarrassment + Q&A*

LUNCH BREAK

13:30 - 14:30

**Panel 1** - Disability in Girl Comics (Chair: John Miers)

Charlotte J. Fabricius (University of Southern Denmark)

*Beyond the WASP: Disability, Community, and Girl Power in The Unstoppable Wasp*

JoAnn Purcell (York University and Seneca College)

*What Does a Girl with an Intellectual Disability Really Want?*

15 - 16:30

**Panel 2** - Beyond Fact and Fiction (Chair: Michel De Dobbeleer)

María Porras Sánchez (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

*'A harrowing, transient girlhood': Representations of Refugee Girls in the Context of European Migrant Crisis*

Giorgio Busi Rizzi (Ghent University)

*Green Apples Sometimes Fall Far from the Tree: The Evolution of Valentina Mela Verde from the Pedagogy of Girlhood to Engaged Realism*

Özlem Alioğlu Türker (Ankara University)

*Sıdıka Behind the Window and the Women's Activism in Turkey*

COFFEE BREAK

17 - 18:30

**Round table** - Monalesia Earle (independent scholar) and Joe Sutliff Sanders (Cambridge University) discuss

*Hilda and the Black Hound* by Luke Pearson

*Jeg rømmer* by Mari Kanstad Johnsen

*Sardine* by Emmanuel Guibert and Joann Sfar

19 - 20:30

**Panel 3** - Beyond Judgement (Chair: Jessica Burton)

Alison Halsall (York University Toronto)

*'Friendship to the max!': The Lumberjanes' Collectivist and Feminist Revision of the Scouting Story*

Joan Ormrod (Manchester Metropolitan University)

*'It's fun-it's new and it's all for YOU': Modernity and the Active Female Body in Mirabelle 1964-1967*

Marine Berthiot (University of Edinburgh)

*Developing A Style of One's Own in Mophead, a Graphic Novel by Selina Tusitala Marsh (2019)*

**Book presentation and interview (available on website)** - Valentine Gallardo & Mathilde Van Gheluwe:

*Pendant que le loup n'y est pas*

Register [here](#) until 20 April 2021 (22 pm GMT+1)

# Programme Friday

## 23 April

9.30 - 11

**Panel 4** - A Space for Girls' (Comics) (Chair: Gert Meesters)

Sylvain Lesage (Université de Lille)

*Girls' Comics, The Lost Continent of the Ninth Art?*

Aswathy Senan (The Research Collective Delhi)

*The Childhood of Malayalis: The (Im)possibilities of Comic Imagination*

11.15 - 12.15

**Panel 5** - Feminists in Training (Chair: Ivan Pintor Iranzo)

Nicoletta Mandolini (Universidade do Minho)

*Re-Appropriating Abjection. Ana Caspão's Fundo do nada (2017) as a Feminist and Macabre Coming of Age*

Amanda Potter (Open University)

*Girlhood in Training: Learning to Become a Warrior and a Woman in The Legend of Wonder Woman (2015-16), Sword Daughter (2018-20) and Age of Conan: Valeria (2019)*

LUNCH BREAK

14 - 15

**Keynote Paper 2** - Julia Round (Bournemouth University)

*'There's no room for demons when you're self-possessed': Supernatural Possession in Spellbound and Misty*

+

Q&A

COFFEE BREAK

15.30 - 16.30

**Panel 6** - Beyond Bodies (Chair: Eszter Szép)

Martha Newbigging (Seneca College Toronto)

*Drawing Comics: A Methodology to Materialize Queerness Within Childhood*

Barbara Postema (Massey University New Zealand)

*'There are a lot of ways to be marked': Suffering Bodies in Skim by Mariko Tamaki and Jillian Tamaki*

17 - 18.30

**Panel 7** - Beyond Reading (Chair: Maaheen Ahmed)

Mel Loucks (New Mexico Military Institute)

*Out of the Mouths of Babes: Jackie Ormes and the Children of the Civil Rights Movement*

Sébastien Conard (KASK Ghent School of Arts and LUCA Brussels)

*Death and the Maiden: Charlotte Salomon in Red and Yellow Dots*

Register [here](#) until 20 April 2021 (22 pm GMT+1)

More information: [comics@ugent.be](mailto:comics@ugent.be)





© Valentine Gallardo



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

