



BEYOND POSTMEMORY

September 2025

Publications

Gaviña Costero, María. *El Teatro de Brian Friel, bailando entre la ficción y la memoria*. Peter Lang Verlag, 2025.
<https://doi.org/10.3726/b22991>

This monograph offers an overview of the dramaturgy of Brian Friel (Omagh, 1929–2015), considered the most influential Irish playwright during the last quarter of the 20th century. His work is approached from a theoretical perspective that integrates postcolonial viewpoints and contemporary studies on the dialectics of memory, both in its individual and collective dimensions, with the purpose of identifying the central elements that structure his theater.

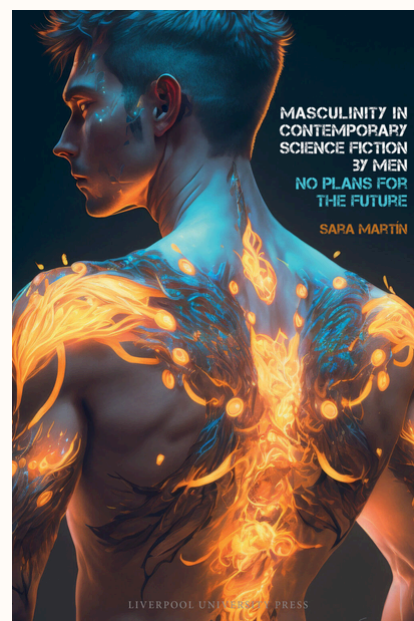


The study proposes a classification of his dramatic works, spanning from 1964 to 2005, into five distinct stages, based on criteria related to the historical context of Northern Ireland as well as the various influences that shaped the author's professional and personal trajectory. This book aims to fill the existing academic gap in the Spanish-speaking world regarding an author capable of combining the most political theater with the most intimate reflections on literary creation.



Martín Alegre, Sara. *Masculinity in Contemporary Science Fiction by Men: No Plans for the Future*. Liverpool University Press, 2025.
<https://liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/doi/epub/10.3828/9781836245704>

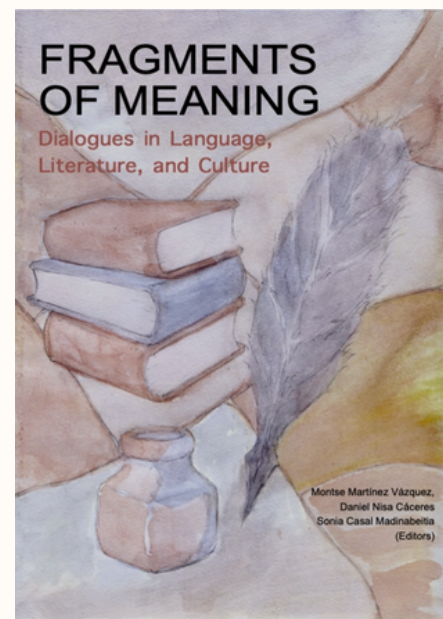
Masculinity in Contemporary Science Fiction by Men: No Plans for the Future is the first comprehensive study of the self-representation of men in SF novels published in the twenty-first century by male authors. Exploring a broad selection of writers and works, the fourteen chapters present a panoramic overview of men's contributions to current SF and explore their slow but noticeable progress in the representation of gender.



The impact of feminism and gender studies, and the demands of readers, have profoundly transformed men's SF, which now presents far more caring and vulnerable male characters. The old stereotypes are being replaced by a collective reflection on how men and masculinity are changing, though the lack of a common agenda results in novels that, while exciting and often challenging, sometimes miss the chance to imagine a better, anti-patriarchal, pro-feminist future for men and for all human beings. The authors analysed include Robert Charles Wilson, Geoff Ryman, Samuel R. Delany, Richard K. Morgan, John Scalzi, Iain M. Banks, Ernest Cline, James S.A. Corey, Colson Whitehead, Andy Weir, Daniel H. Wilson, Ian McDonald, Yoon Ha Lee, Tade Thompson, Neal Stephenson and Kim Stanley Robinson.

Howes, Christina. "Ordinary Affects and Cruel Optimism: A Phenomenological Study of Affective Responses in Rachel Seiffert's "Field Study"". *Fragments of Meaning: Dialogues in Language, Literature and Culture*, edited by Montse Martínez, Daniel Nisa, and Sonia Casal, 2025, pp. 152-159, <https://hdl.handle.net/10433/24438>.

This paper explores the intersection of Affect Studies, Textual Criticism, and Phenomenology to broadly examine the affective responses contemporary literature evokes. Focusing on Rachel Seiffert's short story "Field Study" (2004), it argues that the narrative's spatial poetics of the ordinary activate an affective mode of reading that unsettles the distinction between textual representation and lived experience.



Through its quiet yet insistent attention to relationality—both human and ecological—the narrative fosters an embodied awareness of interconnectedness, challenging assumptions about individual agency, historical accountability, and the socio-political conditions of the post-Cold War landscape. Drawing on Bachelard's spatial poetics, Kathleen Stewart's *Ordinary Affects*, and Lauren Berlant's *Cruel Optimism*, the analysis reveals an urgent sense of socio-political and existential transformation. Heidegger's concept of "dwelling" further exposes how the text questions Western modernity's promises of well-being. Ultimately, "Field Study" discloses the paradoxes of optimism and loss while advocating for a relational understanding of existence.



News

UN DECLARES THAT ISRAEL HAS COMMITTED GENOCIDE AND EUROPE RECOGNISES THE STATE OF PALESTINE

On September 16th 2025, the Human Rights Council acknowledged that Israel has committed—and continues to commit—genocide against the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. The inquiry found that Israeli authorities have perpetrated four of the five acts classified as genocide, namely: “(i) killing members of the group; (ii) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (iii) deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; and (iv) imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group” (UN).

In response, Portugal, France, and the United Kingdom announced their intention to recognise the Palestinian state, aiming to prevent the erasure of Palestine and ensure the possibility of a two-state solution. However, the symbolic gesture has raised concerns that Israel might retaliate by extending its occupation into other territories of the West Bank. Benjamin Netanyahu condemned the move, arguing that it fuels antisemitism and rewards Hamas.

SOURCES:

Burke, Jason, and Sufian Taha. “‘Not Enough in Itself’: Wary Welcome in West Bank over Recognition of Palestine.” *The Guardian*, 21 Sept. 2025, www.theguardian.com/world/2025/sep/21/west-bank-ramallah-palestine-recognition-state-uk-france-portugal-canada [Accessed 22 Sept. 2026]

Gritten, David and Imogen Foulkes. “Israel has committed genocide in Gaza, UN commission of inquiry says”, *BBC News*, 16 Sept, 2025, <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c8641wv0n4go>. [Accessed 22 Sept. 2025]

United Nations. Israel Has Committed Genocide in the Gaza Strip, UN Commission Finds. UNISPAL, 16 Sept. 2025, <https://www.un.org/unispal/document/israel-has-committed-genocide-in-the-gaza-strip-un-commission-finds-16sep25/>. [Accessed 19 September 2025]

Wintour, Patrick. “UK, Canada and Australia Announce Formal Recognition of Palestine, with Wave of Israel’s Allies to Follow.” *The Guardian*, 22 Sept. 2025, www.theguardian.com/world/2025/sep/21/uk-canada-and-australia-announce-formal-recognition-of-palestine-with-wave-of-israel-allies-to-follow. [Accessed 21 Sept. 2025]

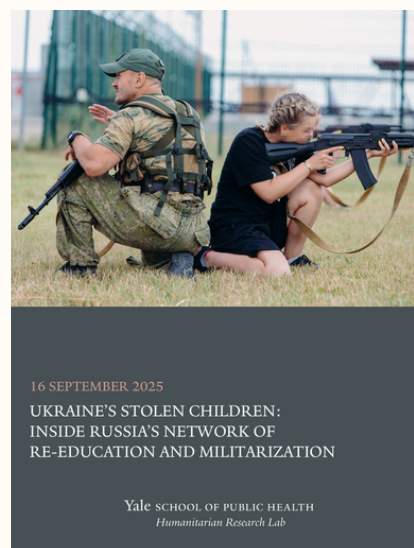




THE HRL AT YALE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS THAT RUSSIA IS IMPOSING RE-EDUCATION AND INDOCTRINATION ON UKRAINIAN CHILDREN SINCE 2022

On 16 September 2025, the Humanitarian Research Lab at Yale School of Public Health published *Ukraine's Stolen Children*, a report revealing that Russian authorities have relocated Ukrainian children to cadet schools, military bases, medical facilities, religious sites and orphanages. The study found that at least 130 camps—located in Russian-occupied Ukrainian territories—have been used since 2022 to impose re-education and militarisation on these children.

However, the exact number of minors affected remains unknown, as does whether these have been deployed in battle. Indicators also suggest that Russian authorities may plan to accommodate more children, given the ongoing construction of two additional camps. This report is the first to expose Russia's deportation network, strengthening the allegations of war crimes and crimes against humanity.



SOURCES:

Farrenkopf, Paige, Caitlin N. Howarth, Nathaniel A. Raymond, et al. *Ukraine's Stolen Children: Inside Russia's Network of Re-Education and Militarization*. Humanitarian Research Lab, Yale School of Public Health, 2025, <https://medicine.yale.edu/lab/khoshnood/publications/reports>.

Cookman, Liz. "Russia Has Network of 200 Camps for 'Brainwashing' Ukrainian Children - Report." *The Guardian*, 16 Sept. 2025, <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2025/sep/16/russia-has-network-of-200-camps-for-brainwashing-ukrainian-children-report> [Accessed 22 September 2025]





Don't Miss...

NON-MILITARY WARFARE: A WAR OF OUR TIME

EDITED BY OSCAR JONSSON AND ILMARI KÄIHKÖ

Publication Date: 15 August 2025

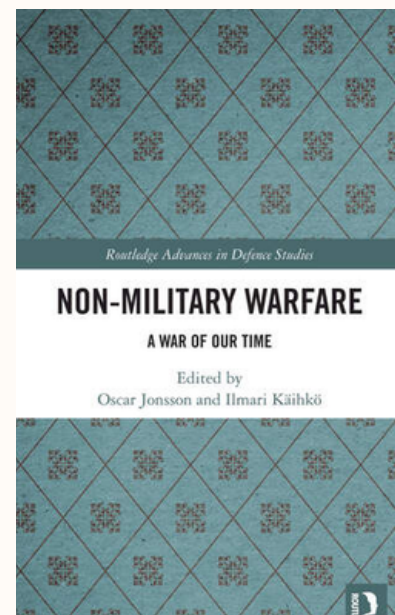
Publisher: Routledge

ISBN: 9781041019206

This volume analyzes the phenomenon of non-military warfare in theory and practice, including its relation to military warfare, and how states can understand and counter this activity.

War has traditionally been understood as soldiers with weapons fighting on a battlefield. Today, however, it is difficult to say who is a combatant, what weapons are, or even where the battlefield ends.

Industrial-scale information operations and hacking attacks can be both an integral part of and a substitute for military operations. This book, which brings together scholars from different fields, goes beyond conceptual debates and provides a focused analysis of the advent of non-military warfare and its impact on strategy. The empirical chapters investigate non-military warfare primarily as conducted by the United States, Russia, and China in the areas of politics, cyber, diasporas, technology, and law. The theoretical chapters seek to answer broader questions about how we should think about victory, defeat, and participation in non-military warfare, and when it can complement and take the place of military operations. As modern warfare is moving into non-military domains, understanding this shift is vital to state survival in the 21st century.





MEMORY STUDIES IN THE DIGITAL AGE: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE

EDITED BY D. SUDHA RANI AND RACHEL IRDAYA RAJ

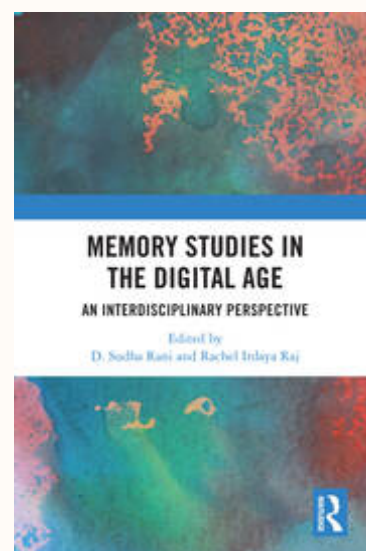
Publication Date: 25 February 2025

Publisher: Routledge India

ISBN: 9781032760490

This interdisciplinary volume attempts to gauge the individual and social issues related to memory, with an understanding of memory studies as an independent body of scholarship. It draws on multiple fields of knowledge, like popular culture, history, literature, oral cultures, and storytelling, which facilitates a panoramic view of memory studies.

This book investigates the intersection between memory studies, partition, oral literature, and digital technology. It is also informed by the consciousness of memory in the digital age, which plays an integral role in what is remembered/forgotten, the form in which such memories are stored, and how they might be retrieved in future.



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