Reviving Europe Across the Pyrenees: International Modernism, the Great War, and Spanish Archives

by Gayle Rogers, Assistant Professor
Department of English, University of Pittsburgh

In the wake of the First World War, many writers and intellectuals believed that “Europe,” as a political, cultural, or social entity, was dead. The shock of this war and its cataclysmic devastation played a formative role in the emergence of the authors known collectively as Modernists, whose bold, unprecedented experimentations with language and aesthetics charted the course of twentieth-century letters. Among the key Anglo-American Modernist texts we still read regularly, a number were responses to the massive and senseless destruction of the war—T. S. Eliot’s *The Waste Land* (1922), Virginia Woolf’s *Mrs. Dalloway* (1925), Ernest Hemingway’s *A Farewell to Arms* (1929), and many of Ezra Pound’s poems. “There died a myriad,” Pound wrote, “For a botched civilization ... / For two gross of broken statues, / For a few thousand battered books.” These same authors and their colleagues from across the globe also looked to repair and revitalize European culture in this moment. In Britain and Spain in particular, an emerging, dynamic generation of Modernist writers believed this could occur through a set of unlikely collaborative alliances with one another. In the summer of 2010, a European Studies Center Faculty Research Grant enabled me to travel to Madrid not only to consult several overlooked archives that hold valuable evidence of these collaborations, but also to research the related critical questions: what were the relationships among English- and Spanish-language writers, and why were they directed toward Europe? What gaps or blank spaces exist in our literary histories and archival sources of international Modernism, and how can we fill them? And why did the seemingly hopeless, if not impossible task of renovating Europe appeal to so many of these figures?

As I argue in my book project *Modernism and the New Spain: Literary History, Cosmopolitanism, and Cultural Politics, 1922-39*, the best sources for answers to these questions are Spanish periodicals of the twenties and thirties. My work examines the efforts of leading Modernist figures, primarily in Britain and Ireland (Eliot, Joyce, Woolf, Stephen Spender), and their Spanish colleagues to rebuild from various margins a continent whose cultural centers were Paris and Berlin. The most important site for all of them was Madrid, and the reasons why Madrid appealed to these Anglo- and Hispanophone writers lie in the unique history of Spain’s relationship to Europe. By the early twentieth century, Spain, having just lost its war with America, had fallen far from the glories of its Renaissance Golden Age; it was now considered the emblem of decline, decay, and feudalism for all of Europe. (“Africa begins at the Pyrenees” was a famous mantra of French racism.) In this moment, the young philosopher José Ortega y Gasset, who would go on to become the most influential intellectual of the century in Spain, launched an ambitious program to counter this history and these trops, and to lead forward the creation of what he called the “New Spain.” After establishing himself as a national voice, Ortega outlined the New Spain in 1914 as a cosmopolitan, secular, pro-European liberal state, one that would welcome foreign cultures [ROGERS Continued on page 6]
Tuesday, April 5th
Anthony M. Bertelli, Associate Professor & C.C. Crawford Chair in Management and Performance School of Policy, Planning, and Development, University of Southern California, will present. 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., 4500 Posvar Hall. Sponsored by: EUCE/ESC, Department of Political Science.

Wednesday, April 6th
Lecture: “European Union in the Balkans—Case of Albania”
Adela Llatja, Junior Faculty Development Program Scholar at the Center for Russian and East European Studies, will present. 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m., 4217 Posvar Hall. Sponsored by: EUCE/ESC, Center for Russian and East European Studies, International Business Center.

Thursday, April 7th
Dr. Guy Standing, Professor of Economic Security at the University of Bath, will present. 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m., 4217 Posvar Hall. Sponsored by: EUCE/ESC Global Studies Center, International Business Center.

Thursday, April 7th
Panel Discussion: “Legal Internship Opportunities in Europe: Reflections from Previous Nordenberg Fellows”
12:00 noon, 113 Barco Law Building. Sponsored by: EUCE/ESC, International Business Center, Center for International Legal Education, Center for Russian & East European Studies.

Thursday, April 7th - Saturday April 9th
American Association of Italian Studies Conference
The Department of French and Italian, with support from the EUCE/ESC, will host this conference. For the full program, visit http://www.aais-pittsburgh2011.com/program.html.

Friday, April 8th
Lecture: “Adding a Historical Dimension to the Study of Today’s EU”
Piers Ludlow, Reader at the Department of International History at the London School of Economics, will present. 12:00 noon, 4217 Posvar Hall. Sponsored by: EUCE/ESC.

Friday, April 8th
Performative Lecture: “Aliens with Extraordinary Skills”
Saviana Stanescu, Romanian-born playwright and performer, will explore the experiences of immigrants to America today. 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., 324 Cathedral of Learning. Reception to follow. Sponsored by: Graduate & Professional Student Organization, Humanities Center, Center for Russian and East European Studies, Department of English, Cultural Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh; Humanities Center & Center for Arts and Society at Carnegie Mellon University.

Friday, April 8th – Saturday, April 9th
4430 Posvar Hall. For more information, contact Karen Lautanen at kal70@pitt.edu. Sponsored by: American Political Science Association, EUCE/ESC, Department of Political Science.

Saturday, April 9th
Graduate Student Conference: “Taking the EU into the 21st Century: History, Challenges, and Debates”
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Patrician and Crown Mural Rooms, Pittsburgh Athletic Association. For more information, contact EUconf@pitt.edu. Sponsored by: EUCE/ESC.

Tuesday, April 12th
Pizza & Politics Lecture
Elyes Ghanmi, visiting scholar from the Universite libre de Bruxelles, will present. Pizza and refreshments will be provided. 12:00 noon, 4217 Posvar Hall. Sponsored by: EUCE/ESC.

Friday, April 29th
EUCE/ESC Awards Ceremony
4:00 p.m., Patrician and Crown Mural Rooms, Pittsburgh Athletic Association. For more information, contact Karen Lautanen at kal70@pitt.edu. Sponsored by: European Union Center of Excellence, European Studies Center.

EUCE/ESC Newsletter:
Director: Professor Ronald H. Linden
Associate Director: Timothy Thompson
Editor: Julie Draper

For newsletter announcements, comments, or submissions, please email eucenews@pitt.edu.

EUCE/ESC would like to thank the Delegation of the European Union for support for the Center.
Europe’s Oldest Terrorist Organization: The Curious Case of Euskadi Ta Askatasuna (ETA)

by Brandon M. Boylan

PhD Candidate, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

Brandon M. Boylan was the recipient of a Foreign Language Area Studies fellowship for the summer of 2010.

Last summer, I spent six weeks in Bilbao, Spain taking an intensive Spanish course at Instituto Hemingway with the support of a Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship. I am often asked, “Why did you go to the Basque Country to learn Spanish?” Contrary to conventional wisdom, the region operates primarily in Spanish, although many Basques can also speak Euskara—the Basque language. Euskara is a language with cultural and historical significance but its use has faded in practice. In fact, the area boasts that its Spanish dialect is easier to understand than the rest of Spain, especially the southern region. For me, studying in Bilbao allowed me to improve my Spanish language skills as well as conduct preliminary research for my dissertation.

My research focuses on the strategic logic of ethnic terrorist organizations and I examine Euskadi Ta Askatasuna (ETA or “Basque Fatherland and Freedom”) as my primary case study. For more than fifty years, ETA has been at the center of the Basque National Liberation Movement and the most violent actor in the ongoing Basque conflict. What began as a radical student organization opposed to Francisco Franco transitioned to a terrorist organization by attacking police and government officials as well as Spanish and Basque civilians. The organization aims to liberate the Basque Country from Spain, the region operates primarily in Spanish, although many

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University of Pittsburgh Opportunities:

Excellence in German Studies Undergraduate Paper Award

This is the first German Studies Undergraduate Paper Award offered by the EUCE/ESC. First and second prizes, accompanied by cash awards, will be given for undergraduate papers, written in English and related to Germany. The paper can be on any subject related to Germany past or present, in the social sciences or humanities, and written for a class from the 2010-2011 academic year. Papers must be submitted to Stephen Lund in 4216 Posvar Hall by 5:00 p.m., April 11, 2011. Please submit two copies of your paper with a cover sheet that lists your name, email address, phone number, the class you wrote the paper for, the term the class was offered, and the instructor's name. Prizes will be awarded at the EUCE/ESC graduation reception on April 29th. Please direct questions to Stephen Lund at slund@pitt.edu.

New E-Journal on French Philosophy

Academic manuscripts and essays on French philosophy are being solicited for The Journal of French and Francophone Philosophy (JFFP), a new e-journal published by the University of Pittsburgh’s University Library System. JFFP (http://jffp.pitt.edu) is an international, bilingual peer-reviewed journal devoted to the study of French and Francophone thought. To submit a manuscript or essay, please visit http://jffp.pitt.edu.

Programs at Other Institutions:

Fellowships for Trans-Atlantic Summer Institute in European Studies

The DAAD Center for German & European Studies at the University of Minnesota invites applications to the 11th Trans-Atlantic Summer Institute in European Studies, July 17-29, 2011. The 2011 topic is “Violence Across the Mediterranean to Northern Europe: Theory and Practice.” All selected students will receive fellowships. A reading knowledge of French is required. For more information, visit http://www.cges.umn.edu/fellowships/tasi.htm. The deadline is April 8, 2011.

Western U.S. Graduate Research Workshop on the EU

The European Union Centers of Excellence in Seattle, Washington and Boulder, Colorado have extended the deadline for their upcoming Western United States Graduate Research Workshop on the European Union, to be held at the University of Colorado at Boulder on May 13-14, 2011. Applicants should submit a 5-page research proposal and curriculum vitae, to be sent by email to ceuce@colorado.edu. Applicants should note the current stage of their research and the name of their dissertation/thesis adviser. These can be emailed directly to Felicia Martinez at ceuce@colorado.edu. The deadline is April 8, 2011.

Call for Papers: University of California-Berkeley Inaugural Conference in Romani Studies

The University of California, Berkeley seeks papers within the burgeoning field of Romani Studies to celebrate the Inaugural Conference in Romani Studies on November 10, 2011. Authors are invited to submit papers concerning new studies of the uses of Romani images in non-Roma cultures, contemporary social and political issues facing Romani communities across the globe, and Roma-related research in the fields of music, literature, film studies, religious studies, genocide studies, art history, anthropology, history, sociology, linguistics, women and gender studies, and political science, among many others. Please submit abstracts and any questions to Anna Torres at anna.torres@berkeley.edu by April 25, 2011.

Prague Summer Schools 2011

Prague’s Centre for Public Policy is pleased to announce the 2011 Prague Summer Schools, which are delivered as seven-day academic programs designed to bring together undergraduate and graduate students of various nationalities and academic backgrounds to enjoy their summer holidays in the unique academic and cultural environment. They will take place in Prague from July 2-9, 2011. For more information, visit http://www.praguesummerschools.org. The early bird application deadline is April 29, 2011. The final deadline is May 13, 2011.

Jean Monnet International Summer Seminars in Rome

The Jean Monnet European Center of Excellence of the University of Rome “Tor Vergata” invites applicants for the 2011 Summer Seminars: “Integrating Europe in a Changing World.” The Seminars are divided into two modules that can also be taken individually: “The EU Institutions and Decision Making after the Lisbon Treaty” (July 4-8, 2011) and “The EU Foreign Policy after the Lisbon Treaty” (July 5-11, 2011). For more information, visit http://www.eusummerseminar.uniroma2.it. The deadline is May 30, 2011.

Gerda Henkel Foundation and European Commission Funding Program

The Gerda Henkel Stiftung has joined forces with the European Commission to launch a new international grant program. EUR 7.5 million is available to fund around 100 research grants. For more information, visit www.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de. The deadline for applications is June 30, 2011.
Julie Draper: What was your students’ Green Shot project?

Gregory Reed: The students’ Green Shot project was based on research they completed last summer in my Electric Power Research Group in the Power & Energy Initiative here at Pitt. Their undergraduate research activities centered around differences in how organizations in various aspects of the power and energy sector around the world define smart grids and their approaches to the associated technologies and applications. The students did a fantastic job, which resulted in the acceptance of a conference paper titled “Sample Survey of Smart Grid Approaches and Technology Gap Analysis,” an excellent analysis of a wide survey of key organizations involved in smart grid technology development and applications, including manufacturers, utilities, government entities, and universities. This paper was published and presented at the 2010 Innovative Smart Grid Technologies (IGST) Europe Conference in October in Gothenburg, Sweden. The work was also part of the student poster session at Pitt’s 2010 Power & Energy Industry Conference in November. When the Green Shot project was presented to us, we thought that the student’s work would be a very interesting submission to the competition and decided to make the video. The video was put together completely by the students, and it was a great learning experience for them.

JD: What is a “smart grid”?

GR: Since there are so many definitions to the term “smart grid” depending on the perspective from which it is being approached (i.e., end-use, transmission and distribution, microgrids; as well as technologies, regulation, and research & development), it is very difficult to establish a single definition. However, from our perspective at Pitt, which is looking at the smart grid comprehensively and independently without bias, we define it as: “the implementation of various enabling power system automation, communication, protection, and control technologies that allow real-time interoperability between end-users and energy producers, in order to enhance efficiency in utilization decision-making based on energy resource availability and economics.” Within this broad definition, everything from improved energy efficiency in buildings to effective expansion of transportation electrification to the integration of higher penetration levels of clean energy resources and advancements in power transmission and distribution system control will all be enhanced through effective smart grid implementation. Further, this captures the essence of what most of the organizations involved in smart grid are doing. One of the things that the students learned is that the smart grid is a very complex technology area with varying applications and development needs. They did a great job of analyzing this in their research, determining existing gaps, and then extending their research to what we believe to be one of the most important of the gaps, which is the needed advancement of energy storage technologies. They are already starting to develop this part of their work further, and one of the students is currently doing an independent study with me this term on the energy storage area.

JD: What did you and your students learn specifically from studying smart grid activities in Europe?

GR: Since a lot of smart grid activity is happening in Europe and other parts of the world, it made a lot of sense to include these international aspects in the analysis. One of the things that the students learned is that in some segments of the smart grid, again depending on how it is defined, Europe is a little
further ahead of the U.S. and other parts of the world with implementation of smart grid concepts. When the students put the video together, they wanted to capture all of this, including aspects of what is happening in Europe, and thus naturally selected a brief description of some of the work that is being done to apply certain smart grid concepts in Germany.

JD: You also recently received a grant as part of the Westinghouse Electric Company LLC Revolutionary Research and Technology Program to lead a research team. What project will you and your team be working on? Is this project connected in any way to the Green Shot project?

GR: It’s not directly connected, but it is certainly synergistic. The work we are doing for the Westinghouse project was definitely an excellent reference for the students working on the Green Shot project. For Westinghouse, we are developing new methodologies for the integration of large-scale renewable energy resources in coordination with nuclear power and other traditional forms of generation including fossils. The development of these methods is leading to improved overall generation coordination concepts. This includes the development of new approaches for dealing with an increase in renewable energy penetration levels, as well as determining how nuclear power can play an even larger role as a green energy resource in future generation markets. While there’s not a direct connection to the work the students did, some of the same concepts we are developing for Westinghouse are part of how the smart grid is being defined—so, it certainly contributed to the Green Shot project in its own way.

JD: The Swanson School recently formed a partnership with Siemens Energy Inc., a German energy company. What benefits will this transatlantic partnership bring to Pitt students?

GR: Yes, we recently established a significant partnership agreement with Siemens Energy Inc.’s Transmission and Distribution Service Solutions group. Siemens is providing the Swanson School with the full, professional version of its Power System Simulator for Engineering (PSS®E) software, the industry-standard tool for designing and analyzing power transmission systems. This means that Pitt’s aspiring electric power engineers will have access to the same training and software available to their professional counterparts. In addition, Siemens will establish a graduate fellowship in power and energy engineering at the school, as well as access for faculty and students to attend Siemens’ Power Technologies International courses, which provide up-to-date training in power system analysis and planning. This partnership has been established as a five-year agreement with Siemens, and it marks the first of only a few collaborations the company plans to form with U.S. universities for cultivating highly qualified and trained engineers at the university level.

The partnership is also expected to create internship opportunities for Pitt students, including opportunities to travel to global Siemens locations around the world, including headquarters and other operations in Germany. From Siemens’ perspective, they are a global trendsetter organization supplying products, services, and solutions that help solve the energy challenges of the future, and Pitt’s Swanson School of Engineering is viewed as a natural strategic partner for Siemens. The strategic partnership will ultimately bring competitive value to both Siemens and Pitt’s engineering students.

and would refashion itself as what he called the “prow” of a continent being reborn after World War I. Ortega’s grand project provided the means—especially through periodicals—for the writers of the New Spain to collaborate with their peers across Europe and beyond on the task of reinventing the continent and Spain together. The writers I study, from Britain and Spain to Ireland and the Americas, held that this modernization of Spain during the latter half of the Silver Age (roughly 1898-1939) would be the animating model for the entire continent’s renewal and diversification.

The primary way in which these writers found, translated, reviewed, and communicated with one another was through literary periodicals, from “little magazines” (so called because of their small circulation) to avant-garde journals to cosmopolitan. We already know a good deal about English-language publications: the most important ones included Poetry, the Little Review, and the Dial in the United States, and the Criterion, the Athenaeum, and the Egoist in England, to name only a few. The vast majority of famous Modernist texts first appeared in magazines, whether in singular or serial form. Recently, two large-scale ventures, the Modernist Journals Project and the Modernist Magazines Project, have been launched—with support from universities, private collections, and the National Endowment for the Humanities—in order to make these texts more available to scholars around the world. Such work has already begun to reshape approaches to Modernist studies and to expand and enrich the field. This focus on the material history of Modernism, however, has remained largely Anglo-American and Anglophone thus far, despite the fact that Modernists in every major European language published just as often in them. Spanish writers are rarely mentioned at all. Many in the field of Modernism want to see this work traverse new grounds, but experts in the literatures, languages, and cultural contexts have been lacking to help comprehend the international reach of this era of literary history.

My book argues that the archive of little magazines in

[ROGERS Continued on page 7]
English is inseparably tied to the explosion of similar publications in Spain that were at the heart of Ortega’s New Spain. The titles I research and write about include prominent ones such as Ortega’s own Revista de Occidente [Review of the West], its competitor La Gaceta Literaria [The Literary Gazette], Madrid’s belletristic La Pluma [The Pen], and the avant-garde title Índice [Sign, or Index], founded by Nobel laureate Juan Ramón Jiménez. All of these cosmopolitan publications, working for the majority of the time under the constraints of General Miguel Primo de Rivera’s strict censorship laws, engaged in significant efforts to translate and incorporate foreign literature, especially that of British Modernism, in their pages. Many such archives are often available to American and European academics, and the Biblioteca Nacional de España has digitized many others; a sizeable number of journals, however, are not accessible beyond Spain.

I spent several weeks in Madrid, amid labor strikes and World Cup fever, in the the Hemeroteca Municipal (a large repository for journals and newspapers) and in the periodical collections of the Biblioteca Nacional. I worked through the archives of the Residencia de Estudiantes, too; this campus, which houses what was Spain’s first residential college and was modeled directly on Oxford and Cambridge in 1910, has an incredibly rich collection of magazines. Few English-language scholars have explored these collections and institutions, yet the materials they hold document the creative ways in which the works of the best-known authors of the twentieth-century were translated, adapted, taught, re-envisioned, critiqued, and even personally engaged in a radically different literary-political context. A loosely-affiliated corps of translators and intermediates made all of this possible and made Anglo-Spanish literary relations a reality in what was a new Europe in the making.

I discovered not only a wealth of figures who wrote for magazines in both Spain and England—Antonio Machal lar, Ricardo Baeza, Ramiro de Maeztu, Luis Cernuda, Manuel Altolaguirre, J. B. Trend, Douglas Golding—but also some fascinating journals that have received very little attention, even in Hispanophone criticism. One was Altolaguirre’s 1616: English and Spanish Poetry, a bilingual review launched in London in 1934 and distributed across universities in England and in Spain. This publication featured poetry in both English and Spanish dating back to the late 1500s, with Anglo- and Hispanophone texts interwoven among one another, with translations throughout, all suggesting a deep, shared literary history between England’s and Spain’s Europeanist eras. Another was Residencia, a student-published title of the Residencia de Estudiantes, which featured articles on topics ranging from relief and humanitarian work across Europe to the latest in English literary trends—even news on British sports. Intriguing also was Nueva España [New Spain], founded just at the moment of the fall of Primo de Rivera and the birth of the Spanish Second Republic, the country’s first modern liberal democracy. This title, published by several of Spain’s leading young liberals, heralded the arrival of the new Europeanizing leftist aesthetics that would sweep across the country in the early 1930s, and it looked to England—a bastion of liberalism for centuries—as a cultural model. I spent time with the journals that played the same essential role for Spain’s Generation of 1927 (Federico García Lorca, Jorge Guillén, Rafael Alberti, and others) as little magazines did for the Anglo-American Modernists. And I came across, almost by chance, some articles for the Basque magazine Hermes published by Ezra Pound himself, who had done some of his graduate research in Spain. I was able to bring back digital images of some exciting untapped resources, and I’ve already used them both in my work and in the classroom.

To understand what all of these linkages and exchanges mean, we need to look at the big picture of scholarship on Modernism and, indeed, on world literature across the twentieth century. Spanish periodicals, the essential vehicle through which Ortega’s broad-ranging work to create the New Spain was engaged and disseminated widely, were also the meeting points at which Modernists in multiple sites and languages tied their own cultural agendas for the continent to the emergence of a new European Spain. In fact, they outpaced their Anglophone counterparts in drawing in foreign writers—especially British figures—as collaborators in “Europeanism,” as it was known. There were collaborations in the traditional sense, as when Altolaguirre and Spender translated side-by-side, and in an expanded sense enabled by periodicals, as when Machalar translated sections of James Joyce’s Ulysses (1922) into Spanish for the first time. When most people (scholars included) think of the Spanish associations of Modernist writers, they think of Hemingway’s and George Orwell’s works on the Spanish Civil War. To think more broadly of Modernism as having occurred not only in the production of creative texts, but also in their circulation, adaptation, and revision, is to think more accurately of Modernism as an international phenomenon. It is to see how, often in unexpected ways, writers across languages and borders involved themselves in cooperative efforts that were larger than any individual writer’s own literary projects. The politics articulated in these far-reaching networks of reciprocal interchanges ranged from pan-European intellectual cosmopolitan ethics to pleas for British intervention in the Spanish Civil War, all of them (in this case) focused on inscribing Spain and its literature and culture into the reformed Europe of the interwar moment. Contemporary theories of world literature can take direction from the innovative ideas of collaboration that Modernists used to define their own works, and we can use texts such as these Spanish periodicals to expand our literary archive to include published, unpublished, and lesser-known productions alike.
April 5 - Lecture: “Party Policy Investment.” 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., 4500 Posvar Hall.

April 6 - Lecture: “European Union in the Balkans.” 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m., 4217 Posvar Hall.

April 7 - Lecture: “Work After Globalization.” 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m., 4217 Posvar Hall.

April 7 - Lecture: “European Union in the Balkans.” 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m., 4217 Posvar Hall.

April 7 - Panel Discussion: “Legal Internship Opportunities in Europe.” 12:00 noon, 113 Barco Law Building.

April 7-9 - American Association of Italian Studies Conference.

April 8 - Lecture: “Adding a Historical Dimension to the Study of Today’s EU.” 12:00 noon, 4217 Posvar Hall.

April 8 - Lecture: “Aliens with Extraordinary Skills.” 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., 324 Cathedral of Learning.


April 9 - Graduate Student Conference: “Taking the EU into the 21st Century: History, Challenges, and Debates.” 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Patrician and Crown Mural Rooms, Pittsburgh Athletic Association.

April 12 - Pizza & Politics Lecture. 12:00 noon, 4217 Posvar Hall.

April 29 - EUCE/ESC Awards Ceremony. 4:00 p.m., Patrician and Crown Mural Rooms, Pittsburgh Athletic Association.

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