A JOURNAL’S JOURNEY ACROSS TIME AND SPACE: THE IMPORTANCE OF ILHA DO DESTERRO WITHIN LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND TRANSNATIONAL CONTEXTS

Renata Wasserman*
Wayne State University

Anelise Reich Corseuil**
Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina

Magali Sperling Beck***
Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina

Mailce Borges Mota****
Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina

Rosane Silveira*****
Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina

Abstract
Taking, as a point of departure, the fact that the journal Ilha do Desterro is currently celebrating the publication of its 70th volume, this article presents an overview of Ilha’s trajectory since its first issues, almost forty years ago. Besides tracing the major changes in the journal’s editorial line, the article also demonstrates Ilha’s impact as a transnational scholarly publication. Moreover, by presenting a description of Ilha’s journey along time and space, the article shows the journal’s consolidation as a venue for critical discussions on cultural production within the Anglophone world, offering to its readers state-of-the-art bilingual research in English Language, Literatures in English, and Cultural Studies.

Keywords: Ilha do Desterro; transnational research; English Language; Literatures in English; critical theory within an Anglophonic context.

*Renata Ruth M. Wasserman is a Professor Emerita in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Wayne State University. She is a PhD in English and American Literature and she is currently the International Editor of Ilha do Desterro Journal.

**Anelise R. Corseuil is Professor of Literatures in English and Film Studies in the Graduate Program in English at UFSC. She holds a PhD in Literatures in English from Wayne State University and she is currently the editor-in-chief of Ilha do Desterro Journal.


****Mailce Borges Mota is a member of the faculty in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature at the Federal University of Santa Catarina. She is the director of the Language and Cognitive Processes Lab and a CNPq fellow. Her research focuses on the relationship between memory systems and language processing.

*****Faculty member of the Departament of Foreign Language and Literature and the English Graduate Program of the Universidade de Santa Catarina – Brazil. CNPq researcher. Her research interests include the development of L2 speech, with a focus on phonetics, phonology and pronunciation teaching. E-mail: rosanesilveira@hotmail.com.

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In 2017, 37 years after it began publication, *Ilha do Desterro: a Journal of English Language, Literatures and Cultural Studies* celebrates its 70th volumes. *Ilha do Desterro* is published by the Graduate Program in English at the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina and EDUFSC, Editora da Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina. Its journey along time and space represents not only the process of consolidation of an academic journal whose first publication was in 1979 as “A journal of Criticism Centering Around the Invisible Generation”, but also the mapping of a culturally marked space that shows the value of transnational partnership among scholars in a connected world. Along time, the journal has had a double mission: to think critically about cultural production within the Anglophone world, and to offer to its readers state-of-the-art bilingual research in English Language, Literatures in English, and Cultural Studies originating in different local, national and transnational contexts, collecting and making available work by scholars from all over Brazil and worldwide. *Ilha do Desterro* is available in a range of international electronic databases, such as SCOPUS, SciELO, the MLA International Bibliography, SEER - Sistema Eletrônico de Editoração de Revistas, Sumários de Revistas Brasileiras, DOAJ - Directory of Open Access Journals, Livre! PKP - Public Knowledge Project, OJS - Open Journal Systems, Latindex - Sistema Regional de Información en Línea para Revistas Científicas de América Latina, el Caribe, España y Portugal, and Ulrichsweb - The Global Source for Periodicals, among others.

In this concise description of *Ilha*’s course along time and space, we will also trace some major changes in the Journal’s editorial line. The first issue, edited by Dilvo I. Ristoff together with Nona and Hugh Fox, had a handwritten front cover and a statement by Hugh Fox, which was, above all, an invitation for readers to keep up with the fresh spirit it would represent rather than the mausoleums of literature, and that, of course, included the reading of a more recent constellation of American poets. Having begun its publication with literary themes, always within an Anglophone perspective, it was not until its 3rd volume that *Ilha do Desterro* started to publish articles related to language and linguistics. Conceived as a locus of intellectual and academic work on literature and culture, the journal’s initial approach to language studies was interdisciplinary: the three papers published in 1982 (vol. 3, n. 7) addressing themes in language and linguistics did so in dialog with literature. In her paper, Rosa Konder, author of the *Longman English Dictionary for Portuguese Speakers*, discusses theoretical and methodological issues related to the teaching of literature in a language teacher education program: how much literature should a language school teacher know? How should literary texts be dealt with in low proficiency classes? How could language and literature be integrated in the curriculum? She addresses these questions by drawing on H.G. Widdowson’s and R. Pearce’s ideas. Caldas (later Caldas-Coulthard), in turn, analyses tense in simple (children’s stories) and complex (literary) narratives. Finally, Scott applies principles of Halliday’s view of language to an analysis of Margaret Atwood’s *Surfacing*. 
This conversation between language and literature was still seen in volume 4 (n. 9, 1983), but the following issue (vol 5, n. 11, 1984) is a landmark for language studies in Ilha do Desterro. In her Editor's Note, Caldas-Coulthard states: “From now on, it is our intention to share critical thought not only on Literature, but also on Linguistics, Language, and Language Teaching” (Caldas-Coulthard, 1984, p. 7). To implement the new editorial policy, a decision was made to publish two thematic issues per year, each edited by invited experts. The first thematic issue of Ilha do Desterro dedicated to language studies was n. 11, published in 1984. The issue put together a collection of papers by renowned researchers in the area of Discourse Analysis.

In 1994, Anelise R. Corseuil, the new Editor-in-Chief, expands the scope of Ilha by including Cultural Studies as its newest area of interest. In 2004, Professor Renata Wasserman, a specialist in the area of Comparative Literature, mainly Anglophone and Brazilian Literatures, was invited to be our International Editor. In the same year, the editorial board was expanded to include new members. Along this process of internationalization, in 2007, Ilha's issues became available online. Pursuing its politics of expansion, in 2007, Ilha also became available as a free access journal at OJS and, since 2012, it has been included in major databases such as SCOPUS and SciELO. Nowadays, Ilha is classified as an A1 journal under QUALIS CAPES.

In 2015, the Journal expanded its editorial line by starting to publish three issues per year instead of two and, in 2016, by including non-thematic issues dedicated, in alternate years, to the areas of language and literature, along with the thematic issues. Thus, beginning in 2015, Ilha do Desterro has complied with newer editorial demands to seek a more intensive chronogram of publication and, as a consequence, broader visibility worldwide by instituting a shorter interval between issues. One of the most positive consequences of this change is that it allows the publication of more recent research work. Volume 68, number 1, whose title is I2 Teacher Education: Bridging the Complexities of Teaching and the Learning of Teaching, organized by Professors Adriana Kuerten Dellagnelo and Karen E. Johnson (2015), was the first volume in Ilha's new format of publishing three volumes per year. Moreover, in 2016, a new team of editors, peer reviewers and staff inaugurated the editorial mission of also publishing non-thematic numbers. Along with Renata Wasserman and Anelise Reich Corseuil, international editor and chief-editor, respectively, Magali Sperling Beck, Mailce Borges Mota and Rosane Silveira became the new associate editors of the Journal. Number 69.1, The Multiple Facets of Language (2016), organized by Rosane Silveira, was the first non-thematic issue of Ilha do Desterro. We note, with pleasure, the high number of submissions received for the non-thematic numbers of Ilha. For Volume 70.1, a non-thematic issue under the organization of Magali Sperling Beck (2017), more than 40 manuscripts were submitted.

As for our thematic issues, our Editorial Committees have assisted us along these years in the selection of topics that best represent the research work and teaching interests of professors, researchers and graduate students in the areas of
English Language and Linguistics, Literature and Cultural Studies, thus helping us to achieve this landmark: the completion of our 70th published volume.

In the area of Language, the journal has covered a wide spectrum of research work, encompassing issues on Translation Studies, Text Analysis, Writing, Interfaces between Literature and the teaching of a Foreign Language, Phonology, Second Language Acquisition, Critical Reading and Psycholinguistics, Neurosciences and Reading, Language and Cognition, among others. On the topics of Literary and Cultural Studies, Ilha has published articles on Anglophone expression by itself, and in comparison to its counterparts in the Lusophone world, as well as on Adaptation Studies, Literary Theory, and Comparative Literature. A short history of our thematic issues may illustrate its importance within an academic context.

Our first thematic issue, organized by Malcolm Coulthard, was on Discourse Analysis. It was at the vanguard of an area of study in its beginnings in Brazil and would establish PPGI/UFSC as a reference in Discourse Analysis research, with the successful advising of innumerous MA theses and dissertations in the area. Our thematic issues on Language and Linguistics, such as those on Discourse Analysis; Textual Analysis; Translation Studies, Semantics; Systemic Functional Linguistics; Reading and Writing; L2 Learning; Multimodality; Corpus Linguistics, Cognitive Linguistics, Phonology, Language Acquisition and Critical Reading among others, were in accordance with new epistemological currents in the field of Linguistics. For instance, when we compare the special issues on Discourse Analysis, published in 1984, with the issue titled Expression, Identity and Society, organized by José Luiz Meurer, Keizo Nanri, Makoto Sasaki and Seiko Yasumoto (2006), we can observe a change of approach revealed in its transdisciplinary perspective. The comparison demonstrates academic developments in the various areas of study covered by Ilha and its association with national and international areas of critical debate.

Furthermore, the principles of interdisciplinarity and of multiple approaches to a theme have been preserved as a core element of the journal’s policy throughout its trajectory. In some cases, it is possible to find various issues approaching the same theme from different conceptual frameworks and paradigms: for instance, reading and second language learning, two recurrent topics, have been treated from instructional, sociocultural, psycholinguistic, and neurocognitive perspectives. In the case of L2 learning, it is possible to find issues entirely dedicated to specific subfields such as L2 speech, phonological acquisition, the role of technology, and teacher education.

One topic that has kept open the dialog between language and literature is translation studies, as can be seen in this current issue edited by Michael Toolan and Lincoln Fernandes. The first thematic issue devoted to translation was released in 1987 (issue 17) and edited by Walter Carlos Costa. The articles published in issue 17 focus mainly on the translation of literary texts. On the other hand, issue 28, published in 1992 and organized by Malcolm Coulthard, presented a collection of articles discussing translation studies in connection with sociolinguistics, pragmatics, discourse analysis and phonology as well.
Emphasis must be placed on the fact that, most often, thematic issues on language and literary studies have been co-edited by a Brazilian researcher and at least one international leading investigator in the area of the theme. In line with *Ilha do Desterro*’s policy, papers that report on analyses of linguistic or literary phenomena necessarily focus on the English language.

In relation to the issues on Literary and Cultural Studies, all themes are clearly inserted within transnational contexts. The thematic issue *Women Writers*, from 1984, organized by Susana Funck, points at a research area that has involved the education of new professionals whose perspective on canonical works and whose awareness of a politics of inclusion/exclusion has definitely created paradigmatic changes. In the same vein, publications on Shakespearian Studies, organized by José Roberto O’Shea *et al* (1999; 2010), have opened up new venues of debate about the role of canonic texts as well as newer perspectives on them. Along those lines, one can also include *Ilha*’s special issues on other significant literary figures, such as James Joyce and Virginia Woolf.

*Ilha* has also welcomed special issues on the cultural productions of different geopolitical Anglophone spaces, also from a comparative perspective, such as Canada, South Africa, Australia, among others. The issues *Canadian Studies* (1994), organized by Sigrid Renaux, *Poetics and Other Discourses of Resistance in Canada* (2009), organized by Susan Rudy and Maria Lúcia Milléo Martins, *South Africa: Literature and Media* (2011), organized by José Gatti, and *New Cultural Landscapes in Australian Literature and Film* (2015), organized by Eduardo Marks de Marques and Anelise R. Corseuil, demonstrate the relevance of *Ilha* as a transnational forum. This same characteristic is present as well in special issues that address broader geopolitical locations, such as *Literaturas de Língua Inglesa: Mediações Globais/ Literatures in English: Global Mediation* (2008), organized by Sônia Torres and Eloína P. dos Santos, which covers discussions on the role of artists and writers in the face of globalization, and *Crossing North and South: Re-visiting the Americas* (2014), organized by Magali Sperling Beck and Rubelise da Cunha, which encompasses the area of Inter-American Studies.

Some specific volumes published by *Ilha* are more markedly theoretical. Here we can include, *Trends in Contemporary American Criticism/ Tendências da Crítica Norte-Americana Contemporânea* (1989), organized by Sérgio L.P. Bellei, *Postcolonial Cultures in Contact: Bras(z)il/ Canada(á)* (2001), also organized by Sérgio L. P. Bellei together with Neil Besner, *Diversity and/ or Difference? Critical Perspectives* (2005), organized by Eliana Ávila e Liane Schneider, and *On Foreign Land: Ideologies and Travel Discourse* (2009), organized by Sandra Regina Goulart Almeida and Renata Wasserman. Not only post-colonial and post-structuralist criticism underlie these publications and others, but these thematic issues also demonstrate a recurrent concern with debates on identity, difference, and the politics of representation. In the issue *On Foreign Land* (cited above), for example, one notes a preoccupation in questioning the definitions of *self* and *other*, particularly in the context of travel writing.
From its beginnings, *Ilha* has always been attuned to what is new in literary and language studies. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that *Ilha* is also interested in publishing works that cross disciplinary boundaries. It was with this impulse that *Ilha*’s Editorial Board decided, in 1994, to include in its title the area of Cultural Studies, an area that had already been explored in the journal. Taking this area of investigation into consideration, we would like to highlight those issues that offer a revision of approaches to, and perspectives on, literature, which were mostly made possible by Cultural Studies. Here we can include *Ilha*’s issue *Gender Studies and Feminist Perspectives* (2002), organized by Sandra Regina Goulart Almeida, a volume that can be seen in relation to the issue *Women Writers*, from 1985.

Cultural Studies established a conversation among the cultural production of different nationalities, cultures, aesthetics, and disciplines making visible the relations between cultural productions and their contexts, economic, disciplinary, or aesthetic, within a globalized world that invests culture itself with newer and transgressive meanings. The same transdisciplinary tendency is seen in filmic production where the filmic text is more and more associated with its context of production and reception. It is within this transdisciplinary context that *Ilha* published issues like *Film, Literature, and History* (1997) and *Film Beyond Boundaries* (2006), both organized by Anelise R. Courseuil, as well as *New Perspectives to History Through Literature* (2010), organized by Gisèle Manganelli Fernandes and Norma Wimmer, and *Body, Literature, Arts and Media* (2015), organized by Eliane Campello and Rita Terezinha Schmidt.

To our first editors and founders, to our readers and colleagues, as well as members of our Editorial Board and those belonging to our technical support team, which makes *Ilha* available to all, our recognition for their vision and support. We want to move on in our mission of circulating the most advanced research work in the areas covered by our Journal as well as keeping intact the *avantgardist* spirit that moved Hugh Fox in his first publication of *Ilha do Desterro*: to give visibility to the work of those who are the antennae of the world. What moves us all, after all, is poetry.

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Notes

1. “De agora em diante, pretendemos divulgar o pensamento crítico não só em Literatura, mas também em Linguística, Língua e Ensino de Línguas.”

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