



IV CONGRESSO INTERNACIONAL DE CULTURA LUSÓFONA CONTEMPORÂNEA – CICLC 2020

Crónica: Between the Useful and the Frivolous

July 1st -2nd 2021

ESECS-IPP, Portalegre, Portugal

CALL FOR PAPERS – 3rd Open Call until October 31st, 2020

We had hoped to welcome you in June 2020, but this exceptional year, which has left us all in suspense, made it impossible for us to meet at the IV International Congress of Contemporary Lusophone Culture – *Crónica: Between the Useful and the Frivolous*.

Despite the uncertainty, we have decided that the event will take place on July 1st and 2nd, 2021. We hope that on that date we can already meet in person. If this is not possible, we will migrate to digital and/ or adopt a mixed format, with remote participation, for those who prefer it.

Aware that this delay may capture the interest of other scholars of the *crónica*, we are issuing our 3rd call for papers, open until October 31st. Please pay attention to the new dates:

- Date of the Congress – **July 1st -2nd, 2021**
- Submission of abstracts – **October 31st, 2020**
- Disclosure of acceptance – **November 30th, 2020**
- Registration – **January 1st to February 1st, 2021**
- Submission of papers for publication – **July 31st, 2021**

Etymologically derived from *chronos* - time -, “crónica” was a synonym of historiography until the 19th century, when the expansion of the press reinvented it and made it reborn with the features we know today.

When stating that “crónica is like the intimate, indolent, easygoing conversation of the newspaper with those who read it”, Eça de Queirós coins one of the first definitions of the genre, in the newspaper Distrito d’ Évora (1867). Before, Machado de Assis (1859) attributed to the serial writer, the immediate predecessor of the modern “cronista”, the ability for the “admirable fusion of the useful and the frivolous”.

At the same time, the word “crónica” seems to be an umbrella term, covering a panoply of short author texts, which are disseminated through the media, but whose objectives and functions are

diverse. Thus, “crónica” is opinion and argument; it is commentary about the present; it enlightens; it entertains; it is a report; it is a literary exercise; it is artistic experimentation; sometimes it is serious; others, it is funny; it informs; it teaches; it convinces: one forgets it; one remembers it. It is no wonder that, given its plasticity, the genre continues to be a problem for its devotees. Manuel António Pina, for example, asks himself in one of his “crónicas”: “And what is this about “crónicas”? If someone asks me (...) I don't know what it is, if someone does not ask me, I know.” António Lobo Antunes calls them “small prose” and “feeding literature”. Because the “crónica” is due to the newspaper or to the magazine, Lobo Antunes often regrets the time he spends writing it, a task that forces him to abandon his major endeavor - the writing of the book.

Also in the Lusophone space, examples of renowned “cronistas” accumulate. Machado de Assis, Clarice Lispector, Rubem Braga, Luís Fernando Veríssimo, in Brazil; José Eduardo Agualusa in Angola; Mia Couto in Mozambique are just some of the names that can be presented as an example.

Both the prevalence of the “crónica” in traditional media and its migration to online platforms, along with the fortune it enjoys in the publishing market, corroborate the genre’s notoriety, which seems to uphold a new aphorism: Lusophony is a nation of “cronistas”.

Thus, we call for the participation of scholars from diverse fields, interested in the study of the contemporary crónica genre, in its diverse angles and uses. Proposals may include the following topics, among others:

1. Crónica in the press, radio, television and digital media
2. Crónica, opinion and politics
3. Crónica, dissemination and cultural criticism
4. Crónica and critique
5. Crónica and audience formation
6. Cronistas and writers
7. Crónica and its relations with other literary genres
8. Crónica and travel
9. Crónica, illustration and photography
10. Crónica and humor
11. Language of / in the crónica
12. Crónica as textual genre

Each proposal must include:

- Title
- name (s) of the author (s)
- affiliation,

- thematic line
- 3-5 keywords,
- abstract between 200-300 words

Each applicant can submit one individual proposal, plus one co-authored proposal, or two co-authored proposals. The estimated time for each presentation is 20 minutes.

Languages: Portuguese | English

Submission of proposals: 2020.CICLC@gmail.com

E-mail: 2020.CICLC@gmail.com

Important dates

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Registration Fees

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| • Participants with communication (on-site) | 50 € |
| • Participants with communication (on-line) | 25€ |
| • Attendees with certificate (on-site/ on-line) | 10 € |
| • Attendees without certificate (on-site/ on-line) | Free |
| • IPP community (on-site/ on-line) | Free |

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