

Swetha Antony

Assistant Professor

e-mail: [santony@english.du.ac.in](mailto:santony@english.du.ac.in)

Office No: +91-11-27666757

Preferred Contact hours: Please set up by email [swethaantonyonline@gmail.com](mailto:swethaantonyonline@gmail.com)

PhD (The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, India, 2016)

MA (University of Kerala, Kerala, India, 2008)

BA (All Saints College, University of Kerala, Kerala, India, 2006)

### Biography

I am a generalist whose fingers are dipped in multiple fields of literature and humanities. My PhD in English Literature from The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, India focused on the poetry of Kamala Das and is broadly oriented towards postcolonial theory and literatures, with special focus on the language question and the theories of Cosmopolitanism. The poetics of exile as articulated by writers in the spectrum of New Literatures in English continues to fascinate me on accounts of the perspectives opened up by Spatiality Studies and Critical Food Studies. I forayed into the tantalizing area of food studies by co-editing with Elizabeth M. Schmidt the volume *Beyond the Superficial: Making Sense of Food in a Globalized World*, Brill (2016). I have also delivered various talks focusing on the paradigms of critical food studies within English Studies in India. The notion of third culture/third space in contemporary literature and popular culture is also an overarching critical context of my work with respect to my engagement with Food Studies, Film Studies, Visuality Studies, Kerala Studies, Sports Studies, Disability Studies, Environmental Humanities and Health Humanities. My ongoing research is on the larger impact of Portuguese colonialism and the origin and evolution of the Latin Catholic community in Kerala, which has led to my engagement with the relationship between art, literature, and environment. I am currently exploring the concept of *tiNai* to understand the presence of geographical spaces in the literary, cultural, and performative traditions of the coastal belt of South India. My most recent academic collaborations involve my engagement with Medical Humanities through the translation of Sheeba E K's Malayalam short story "Surgeon" for the anthology *Medical Maladies: Stories of Disease and Cure from Indian Languages*, Niyogi Books (2022) edited and introduced by Haris Qadeer. I have been a research affiliate for the project on ADHD Graphic Medical Narratives with Indiana University, Southeast New Albany, USA. (8 November 2022 – 31 December 2023) which led to my engagement with Graphic Medicine. As an extension of this work, I am currently exploring the notion of *menstrualscape* and the discursive practices of colour. I am currently focusing on the possibilities of drawing up academic boundaries through the concept of Pink Humanities.

### Courses Taught:

MA Programme

From January 2020 onwards

Medieval Literature, Early-Modern World, Post- Independence Indian Literature, Fiction, Postcolonial Literatures and Theory, Disability Studies and Literary Representations, The Long Eighteenth Century, Poetry 1 & II, Research Methodology, Gender Studies, The Long Twentieth Century, Introduction to the Study of Language, Religion and Literature, Violence and Memory Studies, and Discursive Prose

From February 2014 till December 2019

Eighteenth Century English Literature, British Romantic Poetry, Literature and Gender, New Literatures in English, Twentieth Century Poetry and Drama, Language and Linguistics, American Literature, Ancient Greek and Latin Literature in Translation, Literature and the Visual Arts in Europe, Methods in the Analysis of Culture.

MPhil and PhD Programme (2017 onwards)

Academic Reading and Writing as a part of the Research and Publication Ethics Course

Under the Cloud(?): The Question of Third Culture/ Third Space

““Edible Écriture”: Exploring the Representations of Food in Literature and Popular Culture”

## **Representative Publications**

### **Books (Edited)**

*Beyond the Superficial: Making Sense of Food in a Globalized World*, Brill, 2016.  
Edited with Elizabeth M. Schmidt. Inter-Disciplinary Press Sociology, Politics and Education Special E-book Collection, 2009-2016, ISBN: 9789004400979

### **Chapters in Books**

- “Invoking the Goddesses Within: Women’s Writing and Negotiations with Americanness” in *American Literary Studies in Post Millennial India: Critical Perspectives* (ed.) Sharada Chigurupati and Nageswara Rao Konda, Lexington Books, London, 2023 (ISBN 978-1-66690-625-7)
- “The Vicious Circle: Heterotopia(s) in Dave Eggers’ *The Circle* (2013)” in *Theorizing Space* (ed.) Babitha Justin, Gigy J Alex and Parasuraman M N, Bodhi Tree Books and Publications, Trivandrum, Kerala, 2019 ( ISBN 978-81-942668-5-3)
- “ The In-between Worlds in the Narrative called Nation: An analysis of the Depiction of Nation in Indian English Poetry” in *Contemporary Indian English Poetry and Drama: Changing Canons and Responses* (ed.) Arnab Kumar Sinha, Sajalkumar Bhattacharya, Himadri Lahiri, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2019 (ISBN 978-1527533226)
- "Ecotones as Loci of Cultural Diversity: Nature Culture Continuum in the Spatial Representations in Jhumpa Lahiri’s *The Lowland*" in *Post Modern Indian Women Writers in English: Critical Concerns and Trends*. (ed.) Sandhya Tiwari, New Delhi: Research India Press, 2019 (ISBN 978-93-5171-159-9)

- “In Search of a Method in the Madness: A Critical Overview of the New Age Digital Pedagogical Practices and Challenges” *New Age Trends in Education* (ed.) Sheena Thomas Bhopal: The Bhopal School of Social Sciences, 2018 (ISBN 978-81-939110-0-6)
- “Transcending the (Generic) Self: Liminality in Merrily Weisbord’s *The Love Queen of Malabar: Memoir of a Friendship with Kamala Das*. ” *Explorations in Critical Humanities: A Collection of Essays* (ed.) Sreenath Muraleedharan K and Devi K, India: Viva Books, 2017 (ISBN: 978-93-86385-53-6)
- “Introduction”, (co-authored with Elizabeth M. Schmidt) *Beyond the Superficial: Making Sense of Food in a Globalized World*, Brill, 2016. Inter-Disciplinary Press Sociology, Politics and Education Special E-book Collection, 2009-2016, ISBN: 9789004400979
- Self as a Trace in Postcolonial Discourse: An Analysis of Kamala Das’ Poetry”, *Gender and Commonwealth Studies* (ed.) Anuradha Kunda and Arnab Bhattacharya, Kolkata: Books Way, 2015 (ISBN: 978-93-5225-029-5)
- “The Soul that Knows How to Sing: A Post-structuralist Analysis of Kamala Das’s Poetry”, *Indian Poetry in English: Critical Essays* (ed.) Zinia Mitra, New Delhi: PHI Learning Private Limited, 2012 (ISBN: 978-81-203-4571-3)
- “The Dialectics of the Local and the Global in Indian English poetry”, *Modern Indian Languages and Issues in Globalization. Vol:1* (ed.) Shaikh Parvez Aslam, Aurangabad: New Voices Publications, 2012 (ISBN: 978-81-921877-0-9)

#### **Research papers published in refereed/peer reviewed Journals**

- “New Generation Malayalam Films as a Site of Liminality” in *Chalachitra Sameeksha – A Bilingual Magazine from Kerala Chalachitra Academy*, volume 1 Issue 10, May 2019
- “A Journey with no Return”: Kamala Das and the Poetic Manifesto of Flânerie in *Samyukta: A Journal of Gender and Culture*, Vol. 3, No. 2, July 2018
- “Identity as a Skein of Memory, History and Violence in Micheal Ondaatje’s *Anil’s Ghost*.” *Literary Quest*, Volume 1 Issue 11, April 2015 (ISSN: 2349:5650)
- “The Million Million Silences That Fill the Songs: An Analysis of the Poetry of Kamala Das.” *Critical Perspectives on English and New English Literatures, Journal of English Language Teaching and Literary Studies (JELTALS)*, 2014 (ISBN: 978-81-927128-1-9)

#### **Research Projects**

##### **International**

- Research affiliate for the project on ADHD Graphic Medical Narratives with Indiana University, Southeast New Albany, USA.  
(8 November 2022 – 31 December 2023)

##### **National**

- “Negotiating Caste Politics and Social Mobility through Orality and Performance: A Study of the Evangelical Oral, Literary and Performative Traditions of the Latin Catholic Community in Kerala” under the aegis of University Grant’s Commission-Special Assistance Programme, Phase III awarded to Department of English, University of Delhi in December 2019

- “The Journey of Kerala’s Latin Catholic Community: A Study through Missionary Narratives” under the aegis of University Grant’s Commission-Special Assistance Programme, Phase III awarded to Department of English, University of Delhi in March 2017

#### **Plenary Address by Invitation (The list is representative and not comprehensive)**

- “Academic Reading and Writing” at the Academic Writing Workshop organised by the English Literary Society Zakir Hussain College (Evening), University of Delhi on 15 March 2024 (online)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d2iMeTz7HcE>
- “A Journey through Pinkish Hues: A Critical Overview of the Recent Debates in Medical Humanities” at the National Seminar on Health, Literature and Arts: A Medical Humanities Perspective organized by Banaras Hindu University, 19-20 February, 2024.
- “Between Identities and Pronouns: Towards an Understanding of the evolving paradigms of Gender” at the Two Days National Seminar on the topic "Expanding Gender Spectrum: Subverting Binaries in Popular Culture." sponsored by the Directorate of Collegiate Education held at the Government Arts and Science College, Tholanur, Palakkad, Kerala, 28 - 29 November, 2023.
- "Book(s), Text(s) and Context(s): Towards and understanding of the "Academic" in "Writing" as part of "Two Day Editing and Publishing Workshop" under the aegis of IQAC, organised by the Department of English, Daulat Ram College, on 5th and 6th October 2023.
- “Disclaimer: AI Generated” : The Question of Truth and Fictionality in the Wake of AI” organised by the Department of English, Saraswati College of Arts and science, Vilappil, Thiruvannanthapuram, Kerala, India on 22 August 2023.
- “Culinary Terroir and the Terrain of Liberal Arts” at the International Conference on Culinary Aesthetics in Cultural Studies organised by the Department of English, Nirmala College, Muvattupuzha, Kerala, on 17 January 2023  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DIn-IjAg5cQ>

#### **Webinar: International**

- “The Littoral in the Literary: Blue Humanities as a Heterotopia” in the Valedictory Session of the Two Day Virtual International Conference on “Maritime Footprints: Crafting the Cultural Landscape of the Littoral Zone” organised by the PG and Research Department of English, St.Mary's College (Autonomous), Thoothukudi held on 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- ““Edible Écriture”: An Exploration of the Representation of Food in Literature and Popular Culture” in the International Webinar Series, "Stories, Storytellings and Methods: Currents in Vogue in Literature and Culture" organised by the Department of English, SB College Changanacherry, Kerala on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2020  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMdnNnoPgBU&t=18s>

**National:**

“Fashioning the Indigene: An Intermedial Approach to Analyzing Malayalam Films.”  
Organized by The Cultural Studies Research Forum, (CSRF), Vallath Education Pvt.  
Ltd. on 30 November 2024

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ve34NQQwlvI>

**Panel Discussions**

- On Diversity Hiring and Invisible Disability with Prof. Natasha Valentine, Lecturer and Head of Human Resources and Ms. Lucy Gomez at the Rome Business School, Rome, Italy on 5 May 2024
- *The Ocean is Her Title*: Manjima Misra in Conversation with Swetha Antony and Shelmi Sankhil on 17 December 2023 at Kunzum Bookstore, Jor Bagh, Delhi, India.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJsHtLFtR8Q>
- “Literature and Disability” organized by The English Literary Society of Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi as part of the opening event of Lit Luminous 2023, the Annual Literary Festival on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

**International Conferences (The list is representative and not comprehensive)**

- “Discursive Rifts as Proprioception: A Case Study of the Representations of Israel/Palestine Conflict” at the International Scientific Conference on “Literature in Eras of Conflict: Ideology and Ethics” at Vilnius, Lithuania from October 16 to 17, 2024. (online)
- “The Paradox of Blue: Towards an Understanding of the Metaphoric Turn within the Discursive Practices of Color and Disability Studies” at the “Real Colors and Cultures” organized by Université de Haute-Alsace, LLSH: Lettres Langues et Sciences Humaines, 10 rue des Frères Lumière, 68093, Mulhouse Cedex, FRANCE. The conference starts on Monday, 22nd April 2024 (Venue: Mulhouse, Musée de l’Impression Sur Etoffes, MISE) and extends into Tuesday, 23rd April 2024 (Venue: UHA Mulhouse, FLSH, Illberg Campus), Wednesday, 24th April (Venue: Dornach, Goetheanum) and Thursday, 25th April 2024 (Venue: UHA Mulhouse, FLSH, Campus Illberg).
- “The spectre in the spectacle in Kaliyattam: The shifting dynamics of governance in Jayaraaj’s cinematic adaptation of Othello” at the International Conference on “Governance and Justice in Shakespeare” organised by the Shakespeare Society of India in collaboration with Department of English & Faculty of Arts University of Delhi & National Council for Promotion of Sindhi Language (NCPSL) on February 23–24, 2024 at Faculty of Arts, North Campus, University of Delhi, 110007
- Tailor Gods! May thy Kingdom remain! An Inquiry into the Metaphoric and Metonymic Possibilities of Tailoring within Literature and Popular Culture.” at the International Conference on “Fashioned Bodies: Couture to Counter- Fashion” organized by the Department of English, Nirmala College, Muvattupuzha, Kerala, 11-12, January 2024
- “Crafting Solidarities and Common Experience: Graphic Medicine as the Connective Tissue between Academic Disciplines, Cultures and Communities” (lightning talk) at

the 2023 Graphic Medicine Conference titled “Encounters & Invitations” held at Toronto from 13-15, July 2023.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=geJHm7g7WHM>

- “The “Self” and the “Other”: Towards an Understanding of the Narrative Experience of ADHD in Evi Tampold’s *The Hallway Closet* and Candace Curry’s *Adhd Isn’t Me!Better*” at “Living Through Comics”: The 2023 Joint Conference of the International Graphic Novel & Comics and the International Bande Dessinée Society held at the Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge from 3-7, July 2023.