DR. PAROMITA PATRANOBISH

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SUMMARY:

Dr. Paromita Patranobish's work focuses on the intellectual history of the body in modernity, and the conceptual and aesthetic links between embodiment and ecology. She is currently Assistant Professor of English, Mount Carmel College, Bangalore, where she teaches UG and PG courses, along with curating, designing, and teaching Certificate Credit research courses on Environmental Humanities, Critical Plant Studies, British Modernism, Visual Culture, and Postmodern Theory. She is also passionate about curriculum design with a focus on innovative pedagogies, and faculty development initiatives, and is currently part of the core team at the Centre for Learning, Development and Transformation (CLDT), and Department of Holistic Education, Mount Carmel College, Bangalore. She has previously worked as a Visiting Lecturer in Delhi University, Shiv Nadar University, and Ambedkar University Delhi, where she designed and taught undergraduate and Postgraduate Courses on Gender Studies, Postmodernism, 19th Century Anglophone literature, Children's and Young Adult Literature, and Postcolonial Literatures. She writes and researches on topics at the intersection of gender, embodiment, environmental humanities, disability and neurodivergence, and nonhuman ecologies. Her doctoral thesis looked at disembodiment and spectrality in Virginia Woolf's writing, and she is currently working on a monograph on waste and environmental toxicity in South Asian speculative writing and visual culture. She also works as a freelance writer and her creative nonfiction, and book and art reviews have been published in *Hakara Bilingual, The Bombay Review, Gulmohar Quarterly, Scroll, Cafe Dissensus, Stir World, The Brazen Collective, The Chakkar: An Indian Arts Review, and The Assam Tribune,* among other publications.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCES:

Publications:

Articles in Journals

"Technologies of Becoming-Imperceptible in Ritwik Ghatak's *Ajantrik* (1958)," *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, Volume 48, No. 5, October 2025 (forthcoming)

"The Ruined Archives of W.G. Sebald," *Anglia*, Volume 143, No. 2, June 2025 (forthcoming)

"Articulating Visual Infrastructures of COVID-19 in the Global South through Pandemic Photography." *Ecocene: Cappadocia Journal of Environmental Humanities* 6, No. 2, December, 2025 (Forthcoming) https://doi.org/10.46863/ecocene.2020.1.

"Commoning and Commemoration in Vesper," *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 59, Issue No. 42, 19 Oct, 2024

"Of Speaking Crows and Alien Fish: Nonhuman Cosmopolitanisms in Satyajit Ray's Speculative Fiction," *Science Fiction Studies*, Volume 15, 2024. ISSN: 0091-7729

"Discard Ecologies and the 'Hyposubject' in Indra Sinha's *Animal's People* (2007)," *Critique: Studies in Contemporary Fiction*, 1–17. https://doi.org/10.1080/00111619.2024.2327421

"Discard as Extractive Zone in Chen Qiufan's *Waste Tide* (2013)" *SFRA Review,* Volume 53, No. 2, April 2023. ISSN 2641-2837

"Travelling cultures: religion, travel, and subjectivity in V.S. Naipaul's Among the Believers and William Dalrymple's Nine Lives," Studies in Travel Writing, Volume 23, No. 1, pp. 31-52, 2019. Print and Online. https://doi.org/10.1080/13645145.2019.1645993

"A Short History of Dust," Hakara Bilingual, Issue 13: Dust, June 2021. Edited by Ashutosh Potdar. ISSN 2581-9976. https://www.hakara.in/paromita-patranobish/

Chapters in Books and Book Reviews

'"I am also a we": Pathic Communities and the Globalization of Affect in The Wachowskis' Sense8.' *Globalization and Planetary Ethics: New Terrains of Consciousness.* Edited By Simi Malhotra, Shraddha A. Singh, Zahra Rizvi. Routledge. August 25, 2023, ISBN: 9781032222769, 220 Pages

Book review of *Mourning in the Anthropocene: Ecological Grief and Earthly Coexistence.* Ecozona, Volume 15, No. 1, 2024

Bloom, Lisa E., (2022) *Climate Change and the New Polar Aesthetics: Artists Reimagine the Arctic and Antarctic* (Review). *Journal of Ecohumanism*, Volume 2, No. 2, 197–204. Print and Online. https://doi.org/10.33182/joe.v2i2.2943

“Quidditch Incorporated: Sport, Fantasy and the Consumer Child,” *Fields of Play: Sport, Literature and Culture.* Edited by Poonam Trivedi and Supriya Chaudhuri. New Delhi: Orient Blackswan, 2015.

Conferences:

“Ordinary Affects and Minor Catastrophe in Ling Ma's Severance (2018)," International Conference titled Navigating Sustainable Futures: Literary Reflections on Precarious Lives and the Anthropocene, IIT Patna, 24 Feb 2024

“Traversing the Anthropocene: Posthuman Mobilities, Plastic Regimes and Impure Textualities in Nick Hayes's The Rime of the Modern Mariner,” International Conference titled Posthuman Condition in the Anthropocene, Centre for Research in Posthumanities, Bankura University, March 2024

"Visual Infrastructures of Covid-19 in the Global South: Pandemic Photography as Pharmakon" Race and Environmental Justice in the Era of COVID-19: Rethinking 'Social Distancing',” Conference organised by Air and Environmental Health in the (Post-)COVID-19 World, University of Vienna

“The Literary Clinic and Toxic Topographies: Towards a Decolonial Idiom of Care in Indra Sinha and J. M. Coetzee” CRITICAL: the fifth Congress of the NNMHR, jointly hosted by Northern Network of Medical Humanities Research and the Institute for Medical Humanities at Durham University, 19-22 April, 2023

“The Speculative Science of Skin in N. K. Jemisin’s Emergency Skin (2019)” The British Society for Literature and Science Eighteenth Annual Conference, Craiglockhart Campus, Edinburgh Napier University, Edinburgh and Online, 13-15 April 2023

“Discard as Extractive Zone in Chen Qiufan’s *Waste Tide* (2013)” London Science Fiction Research Community Annual Conference SF + Extraction, October 8–9th, 2022

“Radiant Ecologies: the Biopolitics of Animal Photography in ‘Exclusion Zones.’” Global Research Network's Animals in Wars & Disasters Symposium, September 4-6, 2022

“Speculative Spatialities and Suspended Futurity in Larissa Sansour's Arabfuturist Cinema,” Science Fiction Research Association Conference, FUTURES FROM THE MARGINS, hosted by CoFUTURES, University of Oslo, Norway, June 27 – July 1, 2022

“Plant-Thinking as Archipelagraphy in Shubhangi Swarup’s Latitudes of Longing (2018)” Second International Environmental Humanities Conference: Critical Animal and Plant Studies, Environmental Humanities Centre, Cappadocia University, Turkey, May 8-9, 2022

“Affective Entanglements and Disability Poetics in Elisabeth Tova Bailey's The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating.” Emotion: A Response To Our Environment, University of St. Thomas, Graduate Interdisciplinary Conference, April 28th-29th, 2022

“Solastalgia and Planetary Affect in Katla (2021)” Glasgow International Fantasy Conversations (GIFCON), April 26th-30th, 2022

“The Ruined Archives of Sebald and Frisch,” Memory: Forgetting, Futures and Foundations, Stony Brook University 34th Annual English Graduate (Virtual Conference), 24th-25th February 2022, Sponsored by the GSO and The Humanities Institute, Stony brook University, New York

“Technologies of “Becoming-Imperceptible” and the Figure of Non-Human Witnessing in Post-independence Bengali Cinema: The Case of Ajantrik (1958) and Hirak Rajar Deshe (1980),” the Fifth Deleuze and Guattari Studies in India Conference 2021 (Online), November 11-14, 2021, Life Infinite: Immanence, Inflection, Indeterminacy, Organized by Deleuze and Guattari Studies in India Collective

“Quidditch Incorporated: Sport, Fantasy and the Consumer Child”, paper presented at “The game’s afoot ... Sport, Literature and Culture”, UGC Sponsored National Conference held at the Department of English, Indraprastha College for Women, March 11-14, 2011

“Mortuary Morphologies: Death, Dismemberment and Desire in Three Contemporary Indian Women Artists,” paper presented at Post-Feminist Postmortems, Annual International Conference of the Department of English, Delhi University, February 2011

SUMMER INSTITUTES AND INVITED LECTURES

Waste, Toxic Embodiment, and Speculative Futures with Dr. Paromita Patranobish, Interview with the Organic Filaments Network, New York

“Embodying Poison: Toxic Ecologies and Impure Bodies in Literature,” Invited Lecture for Department of Literary and Cultural Studies, Flame University, Pune, 17 February, 2025

“Toxic Ecologies: Waste Studies, Abject Bodies and the Environmental Humanities.” Invited Lecture for National FDP on Environmental Humanities in Practice: Integrating Research and Teaching, National FDP, Christ University, Delhi-NCR Campus, 22 June 2024

“Virginia’s Room: Space, Body and Aesthetics in the Woolfian Text” Invited Lecture, Zakir Husain Delhi College, University of Delhi, 4 December 2023

Excremental Landscapes and "Hyposubjects" in Contemporary Eco-speculative Fiction (book proposal) presented at The Bucknell Summer Institute 2022, hosted and organized by the Bucknell Humanities Centre, Bucknell University, from June 6 to June 17, 2022

Other Publications (Selected)

Review Essay, 'Vexing the Exemplary': on J.M. Coetzee's recent novel, *The Death of Jesus*, The Bombay Review, Issue 38 (Feb, 2021)

https://thebombayreview.com/2021/02/28/review-essay-vexing-the-exemplary-by-paromita-patranobish-issue-38-feb-2021/

Review Essay: "A Literary Cabinet of Curiosities: Excursions Through Hybridity in Olga Tokarczuk's *Flights*", Gulmohur Quarterly, Issue: 2, June 2021

https://www.gulmohurquarterly.com/essay/a-literary-cabinet-of-curiosities-excursions-through-hybridity-in-olga-tokarczuk-s-flights-paromita-patranobish-issue-02

"Enchantment as Pedagogy in Satyajit Ray's *Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne* (*The Adventures of Goopy and Bagha*)", Cafe Dissensus Magazine, Special commemorative issue: 100 years of Satyajit Ray – the indefinable genius (Issue 58) Edited by Roshni Sengupta, May 2021. https://cafedissensus.com/2021/05/06/enchantment-as-pedagogy-in-satyajit-rays-goopy-gyne-bagha-byne-the-adventures-of-goopy-and-bagha/

"On the Impossibility of a Room of One's Own: Rethinking Virginia Woolf's Spatial Politics," *Cafe Dissensus Magazine*, February 10th 2021.
https://cafedissensuseveryday.com/2021/02/10/on-the-impossibility-of-a-room-of-ones-own-rethinking-virginia-woolfs-spatial-politics/

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1. **Mount Carmel College (Autonomous) Bangalore, India (July 2023- present):**

Assistant Professor, Department of English, School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Courses Taught: Elizabethan and Jacobean Literature (M.A), Literature, Films, and Psychoanalysis (M.A.), Visual Culture (M.A.), Non-Fiction Writing (MA), British Modernism (BA)

Courses Designed and Taught (In collaboration with Centre for Extended Education, Mount Carmel College): Cultures of the Nonhuman: Animals and Plants in Literature and Media (4 Credit Certificate Course, December- January 2025); Climate and Culture: Media, Ecology and Justice (4 Credit Certificate Course, April-May 2024)

2. Ambedkar University Delhi, India (January 2019-June 2019): Assistant Professor (Visiting)

Courses Taught: EN 239: Postcolonial Literatures, EN 257:Written for Children and Young Adults

3. **Daulat Ram College, North Campus, University of Delhi, India (January 2018- June 2018): Assistant Professor (Ad-hoc)**
Courses taught: British Literature: 19th Century (Jane Eyre, Pride and Prejudice); Readings in Language, Literature and Cultural Diversity; Communication Skills in English

4. **G.D. Goenka University, Gurgaon, Haryana, India (August 2017- December 2017)**:
Assistant Professor, Department of English, School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Courses taught: Eng 3716: Introduction to Literary Theory; Eng 3719: Modern British Fiction; Eng 2710: Modern European Drama; Eng 2711: American Literature

5. **Shiv Nadar University, Greater Noida, UP, India(August 2015- December 2016)**

Assistant Professor (Visiting) Department of English, School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS)

Courses Designed and Taught: Eng 304 Monsoon 2015, Monsoon 2016/Eng 612 Monsoon 2015: Introduction to Gender Studies (3 Credits); Eng 301/Eng 615 Monsoon 2015/Eng 649 Monsoon 2016: British Romanticism (3 Credits, cross listed with MA English); Eng 326 Spring 2016: Introduction to Postmodernism (3 Credits); Eng 327 Spring 2017: 17th Century British Drama (3 Credits)

6. Department of English, Faculty of Arts, Delhi University, India (May 2010-April 2013): University Graduate Teaching Assistant

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL AND SCHOLARLY BODIES

Association of Commonwealth Literatures and Languages in India, IACLAS
The International Gothic Association (IGA)
The International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts (IAFA)

EDUCATION:

PhD (2010-2015; Awarded, 2017) "Writing The Woman: Language and The Body in Virginia Woolf." Department of English, University of Delhi, India.

Brief Synopsis of Thesis:

My thesis examined technologies of embodiment in Modernist writing and visual culture with a particular focus on the work of Virginia Woolf and the Postimpressionist Art of the Bloomsbury Group between 1915-1941. Using Maurice Merleau Ponty's philosophy of the body, and by re-examining the biases and assumptions underlying the metaphysics of the body in Western philosophy, I argued for a need to rethink the purported evasion of the body in Woolf's representational politics. Deploying a methodology of close reading and a critical study of the conceptual genealogy of the body in Western philosophy, my thesis explored figurations of disembodiment in Woolf's writing and Vanessa Bell's paintings. Individual chapters focused on how concepts of absence, haunting/spectrality, affect, memory, and the nonhuman evince an alternative epistemology of the body which acquires a deeper ethical and political significance in the context of the instabilities of technological modernity and the philosophical crises of the interwar years.

M.Phil (2008-2010): Converted to direct PhD in semester 4 under Ordinance VI (b) of The UGC, with an average grade of A+ , Department of English, University of Delhi, India

Courses Studied: Semester 1: Research Methodology; The Body in Performance: Comparative Contexts in the Twentieth Century. Semester 2: The Intellectual Foundations of the Renaissance in Italy; Children's Literature: Childhood, Pedagogy and Literary Forms. Semester 3: Rethinking Culture and Power

M.A (2008-2006) : St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi (Division: I, Percentage: 64.5 % with third position in University of Delhi in English)

B.A (Hons.) English (2003-2006): St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, India (Division I; Percentage: 61.4%)

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

Management Funded Minor Research Project Grant 2023-2024, Mount Carmel College Bangalore

IMRF International Distinguished Public Service Medal for Educational Excellence in English Literature & Cultural Studies, 2025

National Outstanding Professor Award 2024, Welred Foundation

University Graduate Teaching Assistantship, University of Delhi, India, 2010-2014

University Grants Commission India Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) 2011

Mukarji Memorial Prize, St. Stephen’s College, Delhi, 2008

The Department of English Award, St. Stephen's College, Delhi, 2006

Sharp Jai Bihari History Essay Prize, St. Stephen’s College, Delhi, 2006

VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITIES

Hasiru Dala, Bangalore: Campus Waste Literacy and Awareness; Community Engagement Programs

His Paradise for The Deserted, Lingarajapuram, Bangalore: Donation Drives, Visits and Community Engagement

Association for People With Disabilities, Lingarajapuram, Bangalore: Community Engagement Initiatives