The Civil War (1946-1949) in Greek prose

Civil War is one of the main themes of the Greek postwar and contemporary literature. Especially prose is a field of privilege for the authors to narrate the trauma and to express the intensity of experience (βίωμα) either as protagonists or as eyewitnesses or even as carriers of the mnemonic narration of another person.

The purpose of the lecture is to probe the ways Civil War is being reflected or embodied in the Greek novels from 1950 till nowadays. These ways (concealment included) have been changed dramatically from time to time. Which are the factors that induce such differences? How (and to what extent) did some novels operate within the literary and intellectual field and cause a public political and ideological discussion for the representation of the Civil War in literature? Which other factors (political, cultural, intellectual etc) played a critical role so that this narration about the Civil War was enriched with characteristics questioning the certainty of realism and the validity of the historical evidences?

According to the purpose of the lecture the novels which will be mostly discussed are the following: Renos Apostolidis, I piramida (1950); Aris Alexandrou, To Kivotio (1974); Nikos Gatzogiannis, Eleni (1983); Grigori Valtinos, Orthokosta (1994); Maro Douka, To dikio einai zortko poli (2010); Michel Fais, Porfira gelia (2010) and Dimitris Nollas, To taxidi stin Ellada (2013).

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Anschließend wird zu einem Glas Wein gebeten! Eintritt frei. Gäste willkommen!