

The French Review

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Devoted to the Interests of Teachers of French

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Bilan cinématographique 2020–2021: en plein cœur! **17**

par Nathalie Degroult, Michèle Bissière, et Marie-Line Brunet

Malgré une année cinématographique atypique, *Adieu les cons*, le nouvel opus de l'iconoclaste Albert Dupontel, s'est imposé comme une œuvre majeure, devenant l'inspiration thématique de ce bilan (mai 2020–juin 2021). Passant de la comédie noire au drame social, du suspense ludique à la tragédie burlesque, le film explore le sort de trois personnages désabusés et fait la satire d'une société moderne déshumanisée. Le réalisateur mélange l'humour décalé, la romance tendre et le mélodrame exubérant pour traiter ses thèmes de prédilection, à savoir la maternité, la filiation, l'aliénation, ainsi que les injustices historiques, politiques et sociétales.

Dossier pédagogique: *Petit Pays* (Éric Barbier, 2020)

par Nathalie Degroult, Michèle Bissière, et Marie-Line Brunet

Ce Dossier pédagogique accompagne le "Bilan cinématographique 2020–2021: en plein cœur!" *Petit pays* est l'adaptation du roman éponyme de Gaël Faye, prix Goncourt des lycéens 2016. En 1992, Gabriel, le protagoniste franco-rwandais, vit une enfance heureuse au Burundi jusqu'au jour où ses parents se séparent et la guerre civile éclate. Ce drame historique permet aux apprenants d'examiner le conflit entre les Hutus et les Tutsis tout en abordant les thèmes de l'enfance, de la famille, du racisme, de la guerre et de ses conséquences.

[This *Dossier pédagogique* is available on the *French Review* website:

<<http://frenchreview.frenchteachers.org/Dossiers.html>>.]

SOCIETY AND CULTURE

Lexical Cleansing: Anglicisms and Francophone Québécois Identity

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by Edward Dawley

This article discusses the multifaceted campaign to reduce the number of Anglicisms in the oral and written expression of Québécois French speakers. After the Seven Years' War (1756–63), French-speaking inhabitants of the region previously known as New France had to fend for themselves in what had become a territory ruled by Great Britain. The nearly two centuries of British political and economic hegemony resulted in a massive influx of English words into Québécois French. This article explores the various entities within Francophone Québécois society that endeavor to erase the linguistic vestiges of this hegemony.

Belgium's Pop-Music-#MeToo Moment: Angèle and Damso Confront Gender Politics, Sexism, and Misogyny

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by Joanne Burnett

Belgian pop music artists Angèle and Damso have courted enormous success but also controversy. While Damso's lyrics are viewed as debasing to women, Angèle's first album *Brol* confronts societal misogyny. The complexity of the role of these artists in the larger context of Francophone popular culture offers a chance to gauge the socially critical ways gender politics has played out in the Francophone music world. The article will examine these artists and their works from a sociocultural, feminist, and linguistic perspective to better gauge the artistic and the social impact that informs current commentary on feminism, sexism, and misogyny.

Paths to Empathy in Jacques Tardi's *C'était la guerre des tranchées*

75

by Scott Truesdale

C'était la guerre des tranchées (1993) is a somber and poignant work that delves into the stories of ordinary soldiers during the Great War. This graphic novel has rarely been analyzed concerning the methods the author adopts to evoke an empathetic response from readers. This article demonstrates that by drawing readers into the conflict through artistic elements such as the "thousand-yard stare," Jacques Tardi places them into the shoes of the fallen. His literary and artistic techniques seek to arouse empathy from readers and lead them toward a pacifist outlook that will surmount the failures of our violent past.

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Echo with a Difference: Louise Labé and Female Subjectivity

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by Julia Karczewski

This article examines how Louise Labé uses mimicry of Petrarchan poetics to assert her authorial voice, while refusing the narcissism at the heart of this poetic model. In her second sonnet, Labé elaborates a version of subjectivity that is much less focused on the poetic self, as can be seen through the absence of the *je/moi*. Instead, she proposes a more relational poetic model that privileges the interaction between the self and the other.

Framing African Nation-States in Transnational Francophone African Literature

103

by Koffi Anyinefa

Transnationalism and its permutations constitute the currently dominant theoretical frameworks in Francophone African literary studies. This state of affairs does not seem untenable, if only by virtue of the expatriate status of the field's most celebrated contemporary writers and the issues raised in their works. While transnationalist criticism presupposes the obsolescence of national boundaries, these are almost always those of Western nation-states. Transnationalist critics often ignore texts set in Africa by expatriate writers, as these texts usually uphold the heuristic value of national borders. This article frames an African nation-state, Togo, in works by Théo Ananissoh and Edem Awumey.

Michel Houellebecq, la possibilité d'une lecture en Chine

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par Hua Hu

Je propose ici une revue de la littérature critique chinoise sur l'œuvre de Houellebecq, dans un ordre chronologique, à partir de la traduction, des articles sur Internet et dans la presse, ainsi que des critiques universitaires les plus représentatives, en vue de faire connaître l'état présent et d'envisager les tendances actuelles des études sur Houellebecq en Chine. J'espère par ailleurs que ce survol critique provenant d'un pays asiatique pourra apporter à des lecteurs occidentaux un nouvel éclairage sur l'œuvre de celui qui est actuellement l'écrivain français vivant le plus connu en dehors de la France.

FOCUS ON THE CLASSROOM

***Je la veux... cuite?* Francohegemony, Steak, and FLE in French Cultural Contexts**

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by Alexander Mendes

This article presents an analysis of interactional data from a *français langue étrangère* (FLE) class to explore ideologies and policies implicated therein. The focal lesson involves the teaching of *la cuisson* and related vocabulary, which students repeatedly struggle to grasp. The study illustrates how Francohegemony, a dominant ideology which upholds normative French national ideals, extends beyond the purely linguistic in FLE curricula to include the sociocultural and culinary. The implications of this case extend to language policy and planning, working with linguistically and culturally diverse student populations, and reflexive praxis on the part of multilingual instructors.

Reexamining Our Approach to Conjunctions and Adverbs in the Beginning French Classroom

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by Theresa A. Antes

While the importance of vocabulary for developing speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills is well known, our choice of which vocabulary to teach (and when) follows few pedagogically sound principles. This article compares the most frequent conjunctions and adverbs in French with those featured on vocabulary lists in six popular beginning-level college textbooks in the United States. It demonstrates that textbooks neglect to provide explicit coverage and practice of these crucial building blocks for organized speech and writing, and provides suggestions for ways to include them much earlier, paving the way for greater use as proficiency increases.

The Saliency of Phonetics in Language Mixing

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by Tracey G. Adams

Despite research showing equal or greater usage of French by male speakers in North Africa, the language is still considered a stereotypical element of females' speech in the region. This study investigates the role that pronunciation may have in the perpetuation of this stereotype. A global accent survey was administered to assess how speakers in Morocco pronounce French in contexts of language mixing. Results suggest that women may produce French borrowings with a more Hexagonal French pronunciation than their male counterparts. Additionally, commentary provided by survey respondents illuminates which aspects of phonetics are salient in distinguishing Francophone accents.

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- Le mystère Henri Pick* (2016) de David Foenkinos (Stéphanie Ravillon, Kaitlyn Quaranta, et Laurin Williams)

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