

## Make It Explicit: documenting interpretations of literary fictions with conceptual formal models (MITE)

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#### MITE Research Seminars



#Literary studies, #Analytic Philosophy, #Applied Ontology and #Knowledge Representation

From February to June 2024

More information at:

https://www.loa.istc.cnr.it/mite/

Registration is required:

http://tiny.cc/miteform













#### Agenda of the day

10:00-10:15: Project overview

10:15 - 10:40: Gaia Tomazzoli, Fictional Characters and their Interpretation: Case studies in Medieval Italian Literature

10:40 - 11:05: Michele Paolini Paoletti, Literary Interpretation and the Identity of Fictional Characters

11:05 - 11:30: Emilio M. Sanfilippo, Towards the documentation and analysis of scholarly interpretations

... up to 12:00 for discussion













# MITE - Make it explicit: Documenting interpretations of literary fictions with conceptual formal models

#### Project duration:

• 2 years (01/12/2023 - 30/11/2025)

#### Supported by:

 Italian Ministry of University and Research and European Commission – Next Generation EU (approval document: <u>Decreto Direttoriale n. 1234 dell'01-08-2023</u>)

#### Main ERC field:

SH5 - Cultures and cultural production













#### Project partners

1. National Research Council (CNR), Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies (ISTC)

Roles: Project coordination and WP3 leaders

<u>Team members</u>: Emilio Sanfilippo, Roberta Ferrario, and colleagues at LOA

2. University of Rome "La Sapienza", Department of European Studies

Roles: Project coordination and WP1 leaders

<u>Team members</u>: Gaia Tomazzoli, Gioia Paradisi, PhD students in Textual Sciences

3. University of Macerata, Department of Humanities - Languages, Mediation, History, Literature, Philosophy

Roles: WP2 leaders

<u>Team members:</u> Michele Paolini Paoletti, Jansan Favazza, Francesco Orilia, Marco Buzzoni, Benedetta Giovanola













#### Core objective of MITE

To document and compare interpretive data produced in literary studies, i.e.,

→ data concerning scholars and critics' interpretations of literary texts

Research on the <u>first steps</u> for:

- Interdisciplinary methodology
- Conceptual models, i.e., ontologies (in the computer science sense)
- Computational framework













## Why?





In existing cultural heritage platforms:

- Simple representation of basic data about texts
- No trace of interpretive data
- No trace of the scholarly debate



Scholars and critics react to texts





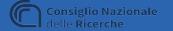












## Why?



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- Simple representation of basic data about texts
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Source: data BNF (<u>link</u>)

MITE - make it explicit: the interpretive dimension of data

... to support scholars, critics, and students in their analyses













#### Focus on interpretations of literary characters

Characters play a prominent role in:

• <u>Literary studies and criticism</u>: Anderson, A., Felski, R., & Moi, T. (2019). Character: Three inquiries in literary studies. University of Chicago Press.

Extensive and multidisciplinary debate, including research work in:

- <u>(Analytic) Philosophy</u>: Kroon & Voltolini (2023), <u>Fictional Entities</u>, The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy
- <u>Digital Humanities:</u> Ciotti, F. (2016). <u>Toward a formal ontology for narrative</u>. MATLIT: Materialidades da Literatura, 4(1), 29-44.













### Core methodology of MITE

To reach MITE's goals,

from <u>multidisciplinarity</u> >> <u>interdisciplinarity</u>

Hopefully, leading to a renewed *open-minded* research attitude and dialogue between different communities

How can the conceptual and formal contributions of <u>analytic philosophers</u> and <u>applied ontologists</u> provide novel insights and methods to support <u>literary</u> <u>interpretation practices</u>, as well as the documentation and comparison of interpretations through <u>computational means</u>?













#### Forthcoming events: Research Seminars



When: March 20,10:00-12:00 (CET)

Speakers:

Francesco Orilia (University of

Macerata, IT)

James Phelan (University of Ohio, USA)

More information at:

https://www.loa.istc.cnr.it/mite/













#### Forthcoming events: Lab at Sapienza Univ. of Rome



MITE's labs in Textual Criticism for PhD students

April 11 and 18, 10.00-12.00

Sapienza University of Rome, PhD in Textual Sciences from the Middle Ages to the Modern Era

Gaia Tomazzoli & Emilio Sanfilippo

Formal models for representing vocabularies and methodologies of literary criticism













### Forthcoming events: Special Issue

# Special Issue of «Humanities»

The Interpretation of Fictional Characters in Literary Texts: History of Literary Criticism, Philosophy and Formal Ontologies

A Special Issue of the open-access journal «Humanities», guest edited by M. Paolini Paoletti, E.M. Sanfilippo, G. Tomazzoli More information at:

https://www.loa.istc.cnr.it/mite/index.ph p/2024/02/07/special-issue-of-humaniti es/

Important dates:

Abstract: October 31, 2024

Full paper: February 28, 2025

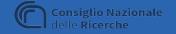












## Forthcoming events: MITE workshops

#### Three workshops:

- University Sapienza of Rome (?? October 10-11, 2024)
- University of Macerata (February 4-5, 2025)
- CNR ISTC (by end of the project)

Stay tuned for updates!













### Forthcoming events: MITE workshops



Website: <a href="https://www.loa.istc.cnr.it/mite/">https://www.loa.istc.cnr.it/mite/</a>

Email: miteprinpnrr@gmail.com

Newsletter (no spam!): Visit website or click here

Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/mite">https://www.instagram.com/mite</a> make it explicit/



Facebook: MITE - Make It Explicit















#### Wish to collaborate?



Drop us an email!











## Thank you!













