



## Newsletter

Dear all,

With this newsletter we wish to inform you about relevant events, vacancies, calls for papers, new releases and PhD defenses.

The NOG-team,

Prof. dr. Rosemarie Buikema, Trude Oorschot and Vibeke Otter

## Conferences / Courses / Lectures / Events

### Postcolonial Film and Lecture series 2015-2016 (Utrecht University, NL)

The Postcolonial Studies Initiative is happy to announce its 6th film series with a selection of films, shown monthly, that draw on a variety of different contexts in our postcolonial world. The series is organized annually and invites all interested in our European postcolonial present and the representation of its political, cultural and aesthetic realities and challenges. We want to explore, through visual representations and cinematographic narratives, how these realities are analyzed and re-imagined in contemporary film. Each film will be introduced briefly by scholars connected to the PCI. The PCI Film series started on September 15 with *Those who feel the fire burning* (Morgan Knibbe, NL, 2014). The film was introduced by Christine Quinan and film director Morgan Knibbe was present for Q&A.

The series will take place every third Tuesday of the month, starting with September until April (in Drift 21, room 0.32, from 19.15-21.30 hrs). Admission to the screenings is free of charge.

#### Programme of the Postcolonial Film Series 2015-2016:

October 20: *Fitzcarraldo* (Werner Herzog, Germany, 1982). Introduced by Kari Driscoll.

November 17: *Besouro* (João Daniel Tikhomiroff, Brazil, 2009). Introduced by Edward Akintola Hubbard.

December 15: *Mediterraneo* (Jonas Carpignano, Italy, 2015). Introduced by Domitilla Olivieri.

January 12: *The missing picture* (Rithy Panh, Cambodia, 2014). Introduced by Sandra Ponzanesi.

February 16: *Aferim!* (Radu Jude, Romania, 2015). Introduced by Laura Candidatu.

March 15: *Drone* (Tonje Hessen Schei, Norway, 2014). Introduced by Doro Wiese.

April 19: *The Act of Killing* (Joshua Oppenheimer, Indonesia, 2013). Introduced by Susanne Knittel.

#### Programme of the Postcolonial Lecture Series, fall 2015:

October 9: *Writing Transcultural Adoption*, by John McLeod (University of Leeds, UK)

October 13: *Discursive Mangroves in the Contemporary Caribbean Imaginary*, by Odile Ferly (Clark University, USA)

November 17: *Ghost Cities and Ruin Lust*, by Christoph Lindner (University of Amsterdam, NL)

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### Postcolonial Studies lecture by John McLeod (Utrecht University, NL)

In the lecture series of the Postcolonial Studies Initiative (PCI), John McLeod (University of Leeds, UK) will speak about 'Writing Transcultural Adoption' on 9 October, 2015 (from 13.15–15.00 hrs in Utrecht, NL). John McLeod is Professor of Postcolonial and Diaspora Literatures in the School of English, University of Leeds, UK. He is the author of *Life Lines: Writing Transcultural Adoption* (Bloomsbury, 2015), *Beginning Postcolonialism* (MUP, 2nd ed. 2010) and *Postcolonial London: Rewriting the Metropolis* (Routledge, 2004).

Adoptions that cross the lines of culture, race and nation are a major consequence of conflicts around the globe, yet their histories and representations are rarely considered. While acknowledging the sobering inequalities which engender transcultural adoptions and the lasting upset of sundered relations, John McLeod considers the transfigurative and creative propensity of imagining transcultural adoption in recent literary texts as radically calling into question ideas of biogenetic attachment, racial genealogy, cultural identity and normative family-making. How might the predicament of 'being adopted' transculturally enable the transformative agency of 'adoptive being' for all?

The PCI is sponsored by and connected to Utrecht University's research focus area Cultures, Citizenship and Human Rights. The lecture is free of charge.

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### TC ReadingRoom and lecture Odile Ferly (Utrecht University, NL)

ReadingRoom is a space for careful readings and meaningful conversations around different texts. It was initiated last year by the Utrecht wing of Terra Critica, an interdisciplinary network for the critical humanities, in collaboration with Casco. The second series focuses on relationality as a fundamental condition of critical assessment and intervention today, and is informed especially by Caribbean theoretical, artistic, and social practices. The upcoming gathering on 12 October (17.00-21.30 hrs) features excerpts from *Poetics of Relation* (2006) by Édouard Glissant, a Martiniquan poet, cultural theorist, and key thinker on relation in view of the postcolonial contemporary and a documentary film on Glissant, *One World in Relation* (2010) by Manthia Diawara. Odile Ferly, teacher of Caribbean literature and culture from a comparative perspective at Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts joins as discussant. Please e-mail us to participate as we also provide the readings and food: [info@terracritica.net](mailto:info@terracritica.net)

In conjunction with this ReadingRoom, there is also a public lecture by Odile Ferly on Tuesday, 13 October (11.00-12.30 hrs) at Drift 21, Sweelinckzaal, Utrecht University on *Discursive Mangroves in the Contemporary Caribbean Imaginary*. See below.

[Read more -->](#)

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### Postcolonial Studies lecture by Odile Ferly (Utrecht University, NL)

In the lecture series of the Postcolonial Studies Initiative (PCI), Odile Ferly (Clark University, USA) will speak about 'Discursive Mangroves in the Contemporary Caribbean Imaginary' on 13 October, 2015 (from 11.00-12.45 hrs; Drift 21, room 0.05, Utrecht). Dr Odile Ferly received a BA from the University of Bristol, UK, an MA from the Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, and a PhD from the University of Bristol. She has been at Clark since 2004 and is affiliated with the programmes in Communication and Culture, Race and Ethnic Relations, and Women's and Gender Studies.

As the breeding ground of numerous fish, birds, crabs and other indigenous fauna and flora, the mangrove is synonymous with life in the Caribbean. Standing out far above ground, its rhizomic trees pick up the brackish water and use it for their growth after exuding the salt. The mangrove therefore symbolizes fertility, growth, and purification.

At the same time, the mangrove is what Bhabha would call a Third Space, marine and terrestrial, at once both and neither. An extension of Deleuze and Guattari's regenerating rhizome and of Édouard Glissant's *Relation*, the mangrove has inspired many Caribbean intellectuals, shaping their conception of identity.

It is also a metaphor for the female discourse in the Caribbean, which represents a reinvigorating

force in the regional canon. The mangrove thus figures as the common creative matrix from which the aesthetic projects of many Caribbean writers, especially women, have emerged.

The lecture is in conjunction with the Terra Critica ReadingRoom.

The lecture is free of charge.

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### **10th Anniversary Conference of the Contemporary Women's Writing Association (University of Brighton, UK)**

On October 17, 2015, the 10th Anniversary Conference of the Contemporary Women's Writing Association will be held at the University of Brighton (UK). The conference is entitled 'Legacies & Lifespans. Contemporary Women's Writing in the 21st Century'.

The very existence of the term contemporary women's writing suggests a relationship as well as a difference, a continuity, and a radical creative break between women's writing from the 1960's and 70's onwards, and those works of women writers which came before. Simultaneously it suggests writing which captures the evolving spirit and concerns of the twenty first century with experimentation, innovation and speculation.

Contemporary women writers have long explored their present through both the past and the future, through historical explorations of women's lives and worlds, and through imaginary times ahead. This conference seeks to ask what has been the big news of the last ten years in contemporary women's writing, and what may define it in future decades. We hope to explore contemporary women writers' relationships to the past and the future, their continuities, legacies, radical breaks and innovations, including – but by no means limited to – the following topics: historical fiction; utopias / dystopias; feminist genealogies and generations; gendered temporalities; the politics of (re)writing the past and of imagining the future; women's science fiction and fantasy; new genres/new forms; the future of feminist literary criticism; writing in an age of crisis; defining the contemporary; women's writing and the new technologies; women's writing and the literary market place.

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### **Sophia Conference 'Unruly Bodies. Gender \ Norms \ Resistance' (Brussels, BE)**

Sophia, the Belgian gender studies network, cordially invites you to UNRULY BODIES. GENDER \ NORMS \ RESISTANCE. A conference that delves into bodies that fall outside of what is considered normal and aims to deconstruct bodily norms, give a voice to people whose bodies are unruly, question biases, explore the subversive potential of feminist interventions and map resistances. Unruly Bodies will offer a multilingual space for exchange and experimentation among people with academic, artistic, activist, self-taught and interdisciplinary backgrounds.

The conference will be held from October 29-30, 2015. Join us on October 29 at the KVS for lectures, screenings and performances on de/colonising bodies and new representations of sickness, disability and age, as well as a keynote lecture by Noortje van Amsterdam titled "Let's Talk About Fat. Raising Critical Questions and Debunking Cultural Myths". On the 30th of October paper sessions, artistic interventions and hands-on workshops will take place in Amazone. The conference concludes with a lecture by Sam/Marie-Hélène Bourcier.

**Deadline** for registration is October 15, 2015.

[Read more -->](#)

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### **21st World Congress of the International Comparative Literature Association (University of Vienna, AT)**

On July 21-27, 2016, the 21st World Congress of the International Comparative Literature Association will be held at the University of Vienna (Austria). The congress focuses on topics such as the globalisation of the book market, the multilingualism of literature, and art as a universal language – all under the heading 'The Many Languages of Comparative Literature'.

See the website for the list of all public group sections and topics.

**Deadline** for registration is February 29 (early bird), May 31 (late) or July 27, 2016 (onsite).

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## Vacancies

### Lecturer in Politics and International Studies (POLIS) (The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK)

We are seeking to appoint a Lecturer to contribute to the development of Politics and International Studies at the Open University (Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Politics and International Studies, Based in Milton Keynes, UK).

You will have or will be working towards, a PhD (or equivalent) in Politics or International Studies or a related subject. You will possess a developing record of excellence in research and publication as an early career researcher in Politics or International Studies, with appropriate REF-quality publications, and be able to make a significant contribution to our interdisciplinary culture in research and teaching. You will have an established or developing Higher Education teaching record in these fields, and a commitment to collaborative curriculum development across the broad range of Politics. You will be expected to make a significant contribution to our teaching in political theory and international politics. Applications are particularly welcome, but not limited to, those with expertise in the areas of citizenship, political theory, migration, borders, or international politics.

**Deadline** for application is October 8, 2015.

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### ATGENDER Office Manager (Utrecht, NL)

AtGender, the European Association for Gender Research, Education and Documentation is looking for an office manager located at Utrecht University for 6 hours per week. AtGender is a professional organization in the field of international gender studies. The ATGENDER office manager maintains the ATGENDER office by organizing and supporting board members with the organization of: Accounting & finances; Communication & Marketing; Membership administration; Archiving material; Board meetings; Supervision of interns; ATGENDER Spring conferences (2016 and 2017).

We offer:

- A job within an ambitious and exciting international network of students, teachers and experts in gender & women's studies and feminist research
- A job with space for new initiatives and ideas for feminist networking
- Flexible working hours in neighborhood of Utrecht University Gender Programme

**Deadline** for application [via email](#) is October 8, 2015.

[More information -->](#)

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### Research Scholarships (Western Sydney University, AU)

The Institute for Culture and Society of the Western Sydney University (Australia) invites applications from outstanding applicants for PhD study. Funding is available through a number of scholarship schemes.

The Institute for Culture and Society is internationally recognised for its high quality, innovative research on the transformations in culture and society in the global era. Headed by Director, Professor Paul James, and Research Director, Professor Brett Neilson, the Institute is especially interested in PhD proposals that connect with its research programs: Digital Life; Diversity and Globalisation; Cities and Economies; Heritage and Environment.

Within these four research programs, research is conducted across a wide array of areas and disciplines. Applicants with backgrounds in cultural studies, sociology, anthropology, human geography, cultural history, education, media and communication studies and Asian studies are encouraged to apply. Applications from international applicants are particularly welcome.

A number of competitively awarded scholarships are available for students of exceptional research potential eager to study at ICS.

All applicants are strongly advised to initially submit a 2-3 page expression of interest to ICS HDR Director, [Professor Greg Noble](#) by October 7, 2015.

**Deadline** for application is October 16, 2015.

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### 3 PhD positions 'Digital Crossings in Europe. Gender, Diaspora and Belonging' (1,0 fte each)

You will be working within the project 'Digital Crossings in Europe: Gender, Diaspora and Belonging' (CONNECTINGEUROPE). This project is funded by the European Research Council (ERC), by way of a Consolidator Grant awarded to the principal investigator (PI) Prof. dr. Sandra Ponzanesi

(Professor of Gender and Postcolonial Studies, Utrecht University, the Netherlands).

The project aims to investigate the relation between migration and digital technologies, in particular the way in which the 'connected migrant' contributes to new forms of European integration and cosmopolitan citizenship. The project explores digital diasporas in relation to issues of gender, ethnicity and affective belonging, focusing on how new technologies enhance new forms of connectivity between the homeland and destination countries, but also across diasporas. The project pioneers a new interdisciplinary method that combines media studies, postcolonial theories, digital humanities and gender studies, drawing from the humanities and social science. It proposes a comparative approach, based on qualitative digital methods, that focuses on Somali, Romanian and Turkish women migrants who have settled in some of Europe's main cities (London – PhD1, Amsterdam – PhD2 and Rome – PhD3) and the way in which they keep digitally and emotionally connected to their homeland cities (Mogadishu, Bucharest, Istanbul – Postdoc). The project will chart how different forms of migration (labour, postcolonial and post socialist) impact on the new European order at the local and transnational levels.

Within the project, three PhD positions and a postdoc position (advertised separately) will be available for the following projects:

1. PhD1 - Digital Diasporas: London.
2. PhD2 - Digital Diasporas: Amsterdam.
3. PhD3 - Digital Diasporas: Rome.
4. Postdoc: The Politics of Home

The three PhDs will have to conduct fieldwork across the three migrant groups (Turkish, Somali, Romanian) in the proposed city (London, Amsterdam or Rome). The interaction, collaboration and sharing of data with the other PhDs and the postdoc is expected. The PhD and Postdoc candidates will of course have the opportunity to fill in the details of these projects or expand on them, based on their expertise, the data they gather and their own research ideas, all in consultation with the principal investigator.

**Deadline** for applications for both positions is October 25, 2015.

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### **Postdoc 'Digital Crossings in Europe. Gender, Diaspora and Belonging' (0,8 FTE) (Utrecht University, NL)**

As a Postdoc you will be working within the project 'Digital Crossings in Europe: Gender, Diaspora and Belonging' (CONNECTINGEUROPE). This project is funded by the European Research Council (ERC), by way of a Consolidator Grant awarded to the principal investigator (PI) Prof. dr. Sandra Ponzanesi (Professor of Gender and Postcolonial Studies, Utrecht University, the Netherlands). See for a more detailed description of the project the vacancy above.

Tasks for the postdoc will include the following:

- Play a pivotal role in organizational matters related to the ERC project;
- Offer active support to the PhDs and be an active networker for the international promotion and visibility of the project, both in academic settings and among societal organizations;
- Carry out comparative fieldwork in the three homeland cities specified for the postdoc;
- Publish three to four peer-reviewed articles in established international journals and edit a special issue with the PI;
- Give regular presentations of intermediate research at workshops and conferences;
- Co-organize a summer school, exhibition, website and final conference;
- Participate in all training programmes and expert meetings scheduled for the project.

**Deadline** for application is October 25, 2015.

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## **Calls for Papers**

### **The 2015 International Symposium on Women's Studies (Warsaw, PL)**

Call for papers and posters for the 2015 International Symposium on Women's Studies, which will be held on December 5, 2015, in Warsaw (Poland). Keynote speaker is Dalia Leinarte.

The symposium seeks to explore the past and current status of women around the world and to

situate gender in relation to the full scope of human affairs. It aims to examine the ways in which society is shaped by gender from an interdisciplinary perspective. Papers are invited on topics related, but not limited, to: gender equality; women's rights; women's history; women and education; women and leadership; women's health; women and sexuality; women and religion; women and literature. The symposium is addressed to academics, researchers and professionals with a particular interest related to the conference topic. We invite proposals from various disciplines including history, sociology, political studies, anthropology, culture studies and literature. The language of the conference is English. We also welcome poster proposals that address the conference theme.

**Deadline** for submission is October 15, 2015.

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### **International Congress 'Gender Studies in Debate: Pathways, challenges and interdisciplinary perspectives' (University of Lisbon, PT)**

Call for Papers for the International Congress 'Gender Studies in Debate: Pathways, challenges and interdisciplinary perspectives', which will be held on May 25-27, 2016, at the Institute of Social and Political Sciences (ISCSP) of the University of Lisbon (Portugal). We count on you to address questions such as: what impact have had different gender equality policies on the effective implementation of rights? How to ensure the implementation of laws and prevent perverse effects? Power, relations of power, masculine domination and gender: which connections? Are there frontiers between activism and research, and if yes, how/where to draw them? How to balance the collective subject 'women' with ethnic, class, generational, sexual orientation, and global diversity? How is gender performed in daily life and in different institutions: between reproduction and agency? Heteronormativity, bodies, and sexuality: central issue for gender studies? Men and masculinities: new configurations? What backlash effects have the crisis, the increased inequalities and the neoliberal thinking had on the current life of men and women?

We also wish to bring to the debate the contributions of researchers from different parts of the world to help us reflect upon the pathways followed by gender and women studies and feminisms in their geographic, political and sociocultural contexts. The abstracts, no longer than 300 words, should clearly indicate in which research line (I, II or III) the paper should be included. The research lines to consider are the following:

I Gender, feminisms and women studies

II Policies, institutions and citizenship

III Gender and the construction of contemporary societies

**Deadline** for submission of abstracts [via email](#) is November 30, 2015.

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### **Call for Papers 4<sup>th</sup> Issue of Pulse**

We are proud to announce our call for papers for the 4th edition of Pulse: A Journal of History, Sociology & Philosophy of Science! Pulse is a double-blind, peer-reviewed graduate and young scholars journal founded and housed within Central European University (CEU) and the Science Studies Program there. For this 4<sup>th</sup> issue we are looking to publish articles in the areas of: general philosophy of science; philosophy of biology, physics, and the social sciences; sociological approaches to science; the history of a science; discursive analysis; the pluralisation of rationality; the intersection between science and society; history of medicine and contemporary practices; network sciences; politics and ideological apparatuses; human/animal relations and the anthropocene. Topics could include, but are not limited to:

- Intersections between gender, sexuality, race, class, and scientific research/practices
- Theories of health and disease
- Modelling complexity
- Animal Studies beyond Posthumanism
- Perspectives on Experimental Philosophy (X-Phi)
- The relationship and tensions between science and technology

We welcome submission of both essays (2,000-3,000 words) and articles (4,000-6,000) on these themes. We seek both book reviews of 800-1000 words, as well as proposals for prospective reviews.

**Deadline** for submission is December 15, 2015.

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### **Queer Afrika II: New and collected fiction**

Following the international success of *Queer Africa: New and Collected Fiction*, MaThoko's Books is

delighted to announce a follow-up anthology: *Queer Africa II*.

We invite writers to submit for consideration short stories on a queer African theme. Stories will again be selected and edited by Karen Martin and Makhosazana Xaba.

We would be honoured to consider your unpublished fiction in English, or your literary translation into English of a previously published story. Where necessary, the editors will work closely with writers to develop and refine submissions. Writers need not identify as queer, but do need to identify as African.

**Deadline** for submission of stories is January 31, 2016.

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## New Releases / PhD Defenses / Prizes / Awards

### PhD Defense Arla Gruda (Utrecht University, NL)

**Date:** Friday November 13, 2015, at 14.30 hrs

**Location:** Academiegebouw, University Utrecht (Domplein 29)

**Title:** 'Lone mothers and welfare policies in Albania. Conditions, experiences, expectations. 1944-2013'

**Supervisors:** Prof. dr. Berteke Waaldijk and dr. Saemira Pino

**Registration:** no registration; free entrance

'Lone mothers' are a women category of all times. Their stereotipization and categorizations is constructed by media and political discourses (such as in UK and US), by policy and decision makers need's discourses (such as in the Netherlands and Germany). But the real identities of lone mothers and their differences within a category stand far from what is being constructed in other political spaces rather than in their own homes. This research, therefore tries to construct the social category of 'lone mothers' in Albania, for purpose of welfare-policy-influencing. It is a feminist action research that endeavors to voice the needs of Albanian lone mothers through their own voice, through the voice of local governmental officers, women activists and religious practitioners, who provide services to them. By voicing their needs, lone mothers display their categorical differences.

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### Book: *Rethinking Romantic Love: Discussions, Imaginaries and Practices* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015)

On June 1, 2015, the book *Rethinking Romantic Love: Discussions, Imaginaries and Practices* (eds. Begonya Enguix, Jordi Roca) is published.

This book addresses current conceptions of romantic love in different social groups through different practices and in different countries, and shows that, despite the variability of discourses, experiences and practices related to love, a number of ideas of what love should be like – related to the Western ideals of romantic love – persist in all these contexts. The contributions to this volume are derived from extensive fieldwork and ethnographic research, and will be of undoubted interest for the academic milieu. However, given the topic it deals with, the book will also appeal to the general public, who will find in these pages many 'love stories' derived from the detailed study of the society which we inhabit and the ideals of love that we breathe.

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### ARC-GS National Prize for Best Social Science Master Thesis in Gender and Sexuality Studies 2015 (University of Amsterdam, NL)

Launched in September 2010, the Amsterdam Research Center for Gender and Sexuality (ARC-GS) is working to promote gender and sexuality studies within the social sciences at the University of Amsterdam, in the Netherlands and beyond. Aside from facilitating research synergies, its educational mission involves encouraging and valorizing advanced social science students working in the field. The 2015 ARC-GS Prize will award the best gender and/or sexuality studies master thesis in the social scientific disciplines in the Netherlands. Graduates from all over the country are encouraged to apply. Conditions to qualify:

- You have completed your master program in the social sciences (sociology, anthropology, political science, geography, economics, history) within a Dutch university;
- Your thesis must have been completed between October 1st, 2014 and October 31st, 2015;
- Your thesis can be written in English or in Dutch;
- Your thesis must be based on theoretically informed empirical research carried out independently;

- Gender and/or sexuality must be a central element of your research focus;
- Your obtained grade should be 8 or higher.

The prize will be awarded on Thursday, December 10 at the beginning of the ARC-GS monthly lecture, and the amount of the ARC-GS prize is €500.

**Deadline** for submission is October 31, 2015.

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**Book: *Seks in de nationale verbeelding. Culturele dimensies van seksuele emancipatie* (Amsterdam University Press, 2015).**

Agnes Andeweg (University College Utrecht) edited a volume (in Dutch) on the role of literature, film and popular music in the Dutch cultural memory of the sexual revolution: *Seks in de nationale verbeelding. Culturele dimensies van seksuele emancipatie* (Amsterdam University Press 2015). Various Dutch media paid attention to the book: [OBA Live](#), [VPRO](#) and [NRC Handelsblad](#).

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