Research fellowship on “Lightness and meta-textuality: from India to Europe and back” - Università Ca' Foscari Venezia
(ITalian law 30 December 2010, n.240, art. 22)

The present document in English is to be considered as a mere summary of the main provisions of the notice of competition which is available in Italian at the following (link). The text in Italian is the official text of the notice of competition for all legal intents and purposes and, in the event of non-conformity with the present document, it shall prevail.

Description
The Department of Asian and North African Studies at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia invites applications for a fellowship in: Lightness and meta-textuality: from India to Europe and back.

SDS/SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINARY SECTOR: L-OR/19

SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISORS: Thomas Dähnhardt and Andrea Drocco

DURATION: 12 months

ABSTRACT: The project Lightness and meta-textuality: from India to Europe and back attempts an analysis of two peculiar aspects characterizing hindi prose literature at the end of the 20th century, i.e. the concept of 'lightness' and the importance of meta-textual reflection, which in their turn are encountered in a considerable amount of post-modern Western literature, in particular in the European literature of the second half of the 20th century. Primarily, the research wants to address the concept of lightness - as intended by Italo Calvino in his American Lessons - through the works of authors such as Manohar Śyām Jośī, Vinod Kumar Śukla, Uday Prakāś. A first comparative approach will be attempted though an analysis of Calvino's prose works and those of other renowned authors of European literature, including Juan José Millás and Angela Carter.

At the same time, the project intends to examine the frequent recourse to meta-textual reflection in hindi prose literature as, for instance, with writers such as Manohar Śyām Jośī, Mṛdulā Garg and Kṛṣṇa Baldev Vaid, trying to put evidence on the expressive and semantic value their works contain. In this context, the main sources of reference in European literature will be Italo Calvino, Umberto Eco, John Fowles and Vladimir Nabokov. 'world literature'

The present research project took shape from the desire to single out transverse patterns and tendencies, present in different and apparently distant literary traditions, such as the European literatures and the Indian literature in hindi language. Especially in the age of globalization it is increasingly important to propose visions oriented on broader horizons which, if accompanied by an analysis of single literary realities, can aim at overcoming the narrowness of conventional cultural barriers. While inserting itself into the recent debate on the need to review critically the concept of 'world literature', the project wants to trace 'significant geographies', going beyond the monolingual models of literary history so typical today, which tend to confine the literary traditions of non-European regions to the periphery of world literature.

The research may be carried out in English.

The fellowship is intended to provide the successful candidate with the opportunity to pursue his/her own research while benefiting from the range of expertise at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia.

Who can apply

Prospective candidates are expected to hold a doctoral degree.

Ca' Foscari encourages applications from researchers with positive evaluation in all the criteria in individual proposals such as Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar.

Researchers having successfully completed Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar funded projects are warmly encouraged to apply.

Duration of contract: 12 months (approximately starting: 1 March 2019).

Stipend: The research fellowship amounts to €19,367 per year, including taxes and social charges.
Deadline for submission of applications: 31 January 2019, 12:00/noon (Italian time).

How to apply:
Candidates should submit:
1. The application form;
2. A motivation letter (max 1 page) along with their CV in European format, duly dated and signed, both to enclosed as a one single .pdf file; 3. A copy of a valid identity document (either Identity Card or Passport);
4. (If available) Evaluation Summary Reports of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) individual proposals having passed all the evaluation thresholds;
5. (If available) Details of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR Scientific Young Independence Research funded projects;
6. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure (please, see the notice link);
All the schemes of the quoted documentation are available on the website (link).

How to submit your application
Applications should be submitted by the online procedure, available on the notice webpage (link) or submitted here: https://static.unive.it/domandeconcorsoen/accesso/dsaam-11012019
The candidate, after the uploading, will receive a submission number and an e-mail acknowledging receipt of his/her application.
The candidate if necessary could access the procedures for updating any data and materials by the link provided by the e-mail, in any case any updates must be made no later than the deadline 31 January 2019, 12:00/noon (Italian time).
Please note that the University can be contacted for any support needs by the candidate until 24 hours prior to the deadline.
Please note that in case of an high number of applications and/or weight of the materials loaded by the candidates the system might become slower. Therefore it is suggested not to start the process close to the deadline.

NB: the University does not take on responsibility for wrong or late communication of addresses, nor for any communication problem not depending on the University.

Evaluation
Up to 100 points, specifically:
For qualifications, publications and possible tests, from 0 to 60;
For interview, from 0 to 40.

Selection procedure
The interview will be on 13 February 2019 at 2:00 pm at the Department of Asian and North African Studies of Ca’ Foscari University of Venice, Palazzo Vendramin dei Carmini, Dorsoduro 3462, 30123 Venezia. The short-list of the candidates admitted to the interview, or any postponement, will be published on the University’s webpage on 6 February 2019. (link).
Candidates living farther than 200 Kms from Venice may ask to hold a telematic interview.

Information and contacts
Candidates may find further details about the application process and the research project in the official call published on the following (link).