

## English Abstract

*From the Shadow of the National. About the Transnationalism of Finnish Literature*

The collection, *Kansallisen katveesta. Suomen kirjallisuuden ylijärjestyksestä* (From the Shadow of the National. About the Transnationalism of Finnish Literature), introduces the reader to the current theoretical discussion around methodological nationalism in literary studies and offers concrete examples of research detaching itself from a national foundation. The introductory chapter describes how nationalist thinking has affected the understanding of Finnish literature and also presents examples of research and theoretical perspectives that deconstruct the nationalist framework.

In the following chapters, empirical case studies suggest ways of doing research that discard methodological nationalism and are sensitive to the transnationalism and cross-border connections forming literature. The studies delve into literary multilingualism as a phenomenon that dismantles the connection between language and nation; the cultural policies concerning comics as a process of negotiation of nationalist and transnationalist evaluative conceptions; the transnational, national and ideological connections and border-crossings manifested in the life of an individual actor in the Finnish working-class movement and literary field; the mixed reception and variegated understandings of a literary work as a transnationally moving object; and an autoethnography of scholarly work on “immigrant authors” and transnational literary culture.

Overall, the book promotes a view that in a globalizing world there is a need for research that is able to capture and make visible the movement of people and ideas over national borders. Finland and Finnish culture are – and have always been – part of a broader culture, where influences travel simultaneously in manifold directions. The collection suggests ways of studying Finnish literature as a cross-border phenomenon and encourages both researchers and students to develop theoretical and methodological concepts that acknowledge the relentless movement within the literary field.