Often scholars of comparative literature and those who work on a national literary tradition engage in parallel readings of works whose authors are connected by their common language, nation or metropolitan center. This comparative work, albeit its merits, preserves the reading of literature within a canonical framework while sidelining works that may not necessarily partake in these common denominators. Through *L’Amour, La Fantasia* by Assia Djebar (Algeria) and *Afentis Batistas and Other Things* by Costas Montis (Cyprus) Hadjipolycarpou demonstrates that texts partake in multiple traditions simultaneously. This reflects the history of the space within which they belong. In the Mediterranean, a space swept over by successive rulers for a long period of time, a number of literary traditions and languages emerge in works of autobiography urging the reader to rethink the literary spaces within which they belong.

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**Prof. H. Aram Veeser** will be the discussant. He teaches English at City College and will offer a course on “Western and Middle-Eastern Autobiography Compared” at the Graduate Center, CUNY, in Spring 2016.