

EDITORIAL

The Liberal Revolution and the civil war had an indelible and complex impact on Anglo-Portuguese relations, principally due to the news in the British press about Portugal or the political activities of Portuguese émigrés in London and to reports of British military participation in the struggle and associated eye-witness accounts, but also because of the repercussions of the novelistic, poetic and dramatic literary works (in both Portuguese and English) which were written during this period. It will be recalled that on the occasion of the bicentenary of these events in 2020, issue 29 of *REAP/JAPS* was devoted exclusively to this subject, which is far from exhausted, as is shown by the article jointly presented by **Elisabete Mendes Silva** and **Pedro Couceiro** entitled “**‘The infection of liberty has reached this country’: The First Liberal Attempts in Portugal Represented by the British Press**” which reveals that the British press expressed certain reservations about the recognition of the revolution of 1820, mainly due to the fear of the political influence of the armed forces which had initiated events. In effect, the press offers an almost inexhaustible store of information which significantly enlarges the scope of portrayals of Portugal in Britain (and vice-versa) and consequent studies. Reinforcing this observation, **Miguel Alarcão** draws the attention of researchers, in an article in the Projects section entitled “**A Lad from Portugal**”, to the echoes in the British press of the death of a Portuguese football player, underlining how much still remains to be discovered in the press concerning Anglo-Portuguese cross-cultural encounters, in this case in the world of sport from the end of the nineteenth century onwards.

And again, the research project entitled “Cross-Cultural Discourses: Portugal, Britain and the Press” which is an integral part of CETAPS’ “Anglo-Portuguese Studies” research area, is a paradigmatic demonstration of the ample resources in the Portuguese and British periodical press which are still waiting to be exploited from the viewpoint of this area of studies. The project may be consulted at: <https://cetapsrepository.letras.up.pt/collections/28599715-0efa-41a1-a8ba-c80f96877183> The main purpose of this project is to undertake a critical analysis of the discourse of the Portuguese and British press

during the twentieth-century in order to assess how far the confrontation of different narratives and portrayal strategies can contribute towards the study of intercultural relations between the two countries, whilst assisting in the (de)construction of the many cultural images which have played an important role in the changes and hierarchisation of the two cultures. One of the first results of this research project is shown by João Paulo Ascenso Pereira da Silva's review of Gabriela Gândara Terenas' study *"Imprensa, Viagens e Política: Episódios das Relações Luso-Britânicas ao Tempo da Primeira República. Vila Nova de Famalicão: Húmus, 2024"*.

Originally published in the press, more specifically in the *Gazeta de Notícias* in Rio de Janeiro and in the Porto newspaper *Actualidades*, the reports gathered together under the heading *Cartas de Inglaterra* and *Cartas de Londres* are perhaps the first to unequivocally reveal Eça de Queirós' relationship with British culture, conferring upon him a central place within the scope of Anglo-Portuguese Studies. In this context it will be remembered that Teresa Pinto Coelho's study *Eça de Queirós and the Victorian Press* – reviewed in issue no.23 of this Journal – revealed a clearly Anglophile Eça, particularly with regard to the influence of nineteenth-century English journalism on his thinking. The links between Eça and British culture are revisited in the present issue of *REAPS/ JAPS* through a review by Rogério Miguel Puga of another book on Eça de Queirós by *"Teresa Pinto Coelho, Eça de Queirós no Egipto e a Abertura do Canal de Suez: Viagem, Orientalismo e Império. Lisboa: Tinta da China, 2024, 366 pp. ISBN: 9789896718732"* which focuses on the journey of the youthful Eça de Queirós to Egypt. Of particular significance from the viewpoint of Anglo-Portuguese Studies are Eça's admiration for British culture, his critical assessment of British colonial administration and his prediction of British Imperialist dominion over the Canal and indeed Egypt itself, as would later come to pass. It will be recalled that, in 1875, in a political and strategic move after the inauguration of the Suez Canal, the then Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli took advantage of the Khedive Ismail Pasha's delicate financial situation to purchase his shares in the Canal, which gave the British the controlling majority.

As a consequence, in 1882 British troops invaded Egypt on the pretext of protecting the country's best interests, so allowing Britain to exercise greater influence in the region than France.

In a certain way Eça de Queirós' relationship with Britain is reflected in Maria Velho da Costa's *O Mapa Cor de Rosa (Cartas de Londres)* – the subtitle of which is an unequivocal clue to its links with Eça. In her article **"110, Stapleton Hall Road: Imagens de Londres nos Anos 80 em O Mapa Cor de Rosa de Maria Velho da Costa"**, Claudia Capela examines how far the London of the 1880s and indeed Britain itself could be compared to Portugal – especially with regard to imperialist mythologies and the interdependence between poverty and violence – underpinning the dialogue between the two countries, as well as the convergence and divergence between Portuguese and British auto- and hetero- imagotypes.

Cross-cultural encounters such as these, which, as previously mentioned, are the topic of frequent echoes in the press, are inevitably linked to the portrayal of minority groups, to the statute and views of migrants or travellers and also, in a wider and more transcultural context, to exile, aspects which are present in two other articles in this issue. In **"Samuel Beckett in Portugal"**, Carlos Ceia examines the visits of the celebrated dramaturgist to Cascais, to Funchal and finally to Porto Santo (hitherto unrevealed in Anglo-Portuguese Studies), interpreting them as a willing exile or refuge in response to a reality which, after his international recognition, he found unwelcome. Pointing out how the theme of (im)migrants and refugees (the Others) has begun to occupy present-day political agendas, Márcia Lemos in **"Um Mar de Esperança: Uma Leitura de *The Road* (Cormac McCarthy), *A Vida no Céu* (José Eduardo Agualusa) e *Prophet Song* (Paul Lynch) através da Lente das Humanidades Azuis"** focuses on the suffering of this Other in a comparative Anglo-Portuguese analysis which draws attention to how "new and old ghosts which help to desensitise human beings" are conjured up and the way in which the Other is being held responsible for everything which is considered erroneous, criminal or threatening in everyday life. Sharing a common ocean – the Atlantic – the plots of the novels offer the possibility

of an analysis which can be included within the scope of blue humanities whilst provoking reflection on dystopian scenarios.

Utopia as a literary genre is analysed from an Anglo-Portuguese point of view in **Gabriel Touça's** article entitled **"Visões Utópicas em Portugal e na Inglaterra do Século XVIII: Discursos em Contraste"**. The author compares for the first time two eighteenth-century works, which respectively exemplify the formal aspects of utopia as seen through Portuguese and British eyes. **Gonçalo Santos Dias**, in his article **"'Purposed action never act to be' ou A Vision in a Dream: Interrupção e Criação Literária"**, evokes the famous poem "Khubla Khan" whilst comparing the process of poetic creation in S.T. Coleridge and Fernando Pessoa taking as his point of departure the concept of "interruption", which he, simultaneously and somewhat paradoxically, understands as an obstacle or block which is an intrinsic (or metaphysical) condition necessary to literary production.

Although still at an incipient stage of research, the relations between Portugal and the United Kingdom during the "Estado Novo" regime have been the subject of a number of studies in the field of Anglo-Portuguese relations. In this context one may recall the articles published in *REAP/JAPS* referring to Roy Campbell, John Gibbons, and Neill Lochery or those dealing with transatlantic relations during the nineteen-sixties. **Maria Zulmira Castanheira** goes some way to breaching this gap with her article entitled **"...The Picturesqueness which is Portugal's Charm': o Olhar Estético de Nina Murdoch em *Vagrant in Summer: Holiday Memories of Nine European Towns* (1937)"**, in which she analyses the idealised view of "Estado Novo" – which broadly corresponds to the image publicised by the regime – as a tourist destination, as seen through the eyes of an Australian traveller (a first, as far as the study of English-speaking overseas travellers to Portugal is concerned). On the other hand, in her review of **"Neill Lochery, *Out of The Shadows. Portugal from Revolution to the Present Day*. London: Bloomsbury, 2017. 353 pp."**, **Ana Rita Pereira Brettes** examines the latest book by the British historian, set in the period between the April 1974 Revolution and the present day. Notably the

author opts to emphasise British and American sources in detriment to those of Portuguese origin in the construction of a narrative in which the theme for each chapter is inspired by the lyrics of songs originally written in English. Such discursive strategies were conceived to facilitate an approach to the recent history of Portugal within the broader scope of European and Anglo-Saxonic transatlantic relations.

Finally **João Paulo Oliveira e Costa's** review of "**Cacey Bowen Farnsworth's *Atlantic Crossroads in Lisbon's New Golden Age, 1668-1750*. University Park, The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2024**" revisits the question of transatlantic relations and their importance in Portugal's history, albeit in a far more distant era. The economic scale of the country's capital is emphasised, but also (and perhaps above all) the prominent role of the British communities resident in Lisbon and in Porto, whose growth and power were largely due to their privileged geographical situation and their natural promotion of transatlantic trade.

September 2025
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