

Axis 1. Transnational routes

PhD 1. Doctoranda Laura Bak Cely

*Mapping the self in Exile:
'Autogeographies' by Exile descendant Jewish-Latin American women writers.*



This part of the project draws on Brosseau's (2017) concept of 'transgenerational geography' which refers to the transgenerational transmission of spatial memory and imagination. For second and third generation exiles in Latin America, transgenerational relations with space are fundamental. From a spatial point of view, self-construal by second and third generation exile writers also includes the spaces inhabited by their ancestors, their meeting places, journeys and territories. Hence, the re-discovery (or the imagination) of the places important for their ancestors is instrumental for exile descendants to build their identity. In the framework of the concept of 'transgenerational geography', Brosseau understands the novel as a 'roman-geographe', or a text that constructs its own geography (1996). In this vein, this project understands autobiographical and autofictional writing by exile descendant writers as the drawing of a map, which unites the territories, and journeys of different generations. Hence, scholars of human geography claim that literature "captures the essence of fleeting experiences of place" (Wright cited by Brosseau 2017: 12).

In this context, we hypothesize that space takes precedence over time in autobiographical writings by Jewish Latin American exile descendant women writers. We label this subgenre of autobiographical writing 'autogeography'. The 'autogeography' establishes a critical dialogue between literature and political geography (Brosseau and Cambron 2003). In our hypothesis, the 'autogeography' transmits the strong ethical message that the creation of an alternative map beyond politico-geographical limitations is necessary to reconstruct second and third generation exiles' identities.

Works cited:

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Brosseau, Marc. (1996) *Des romans-géographes*. Essai, Paris, L'Harmattan, Collection Géographie et Cultures.

Brosseau, Marc, and Micheline Cambron. (2003) "Entre Géographe Et Littéraire: Frontières Et Perspectives Dialogiques." *Recherches Sociographiques*, vol. 44, no. 3, 527-545.