

Texto Literario, Texto Social: Acontecimientos históricos, debate social y discurso narrativo en la Argentina post Proceso.

Janneke Schellekens
Erasmus Mundus Masters
Crossways in Cultural Narratives

Between 1976 and 1983, Argentina was ruled by a brutal military dictatorship known as the “National Reorganization Process.” In those years, an apparatus of state terrorism and repression was created to instil fear in society through a system of enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings, and torture of anyone suspected of political dissent. By means of this violence, the military junta attempted to ensure public homogeneity of thought among the Argentinian people, presenting their version of the truth as the only one and penalising those who did not agree or refused to stay silent.

This dissertation examines the different reactions to the political events occurring during the dictatorship from both the social field, and the literary field. The disappearances of loved ones were a traumatic consequence of the authoritarian regime that civil society had to face; this moved family members to become active in new human rights organizations like Madres de la Plaza de Mayo, as well as previously existing ones. In the years after the dictatorship, the human rights movement became increasingly important in the social debate where it publically demanded truth and justice in a context that was still characterized by the attempts of the military to conceal their actions. Furthermore, Argentinian novelists have been addressing similar topics in their writings in a way that continues to resonate with the social discourse surrounding these events. Focusing in particular on the contributions of the contemporary novels *Dos veces junio* by Martín Kohan, *Un comunista en calzoncillos* by Claudia Piñeiro, and *Los topos* by Félix Bruzzone, this dissertation offers a comparative study of Argentinian literature from 1970 to the present, and the ways in which society interprets and reflects upon the political events of a dictatorship.