

Jelena Ulrike Reinhardt was born in Minnesota (USA) and moved with her family first to Germany and then to Italy. She graduated in Foreign Languages and Literatures from the University of Perugia with a thesis in German Literature entitled *Max Reinhardt and Hugo von Hofmannsthal: in Search of a New Theatrical Language*. She continued her studies in Perugia and Cambridge (UK) and obtained her PhD in Comparative Literatures from the University of Perugia in 2012, with a dissertation entitled *Foreign Identity between Metamorphosis and Habit. Language, Culture and Corporeality in the Writings of Herta Müller, Eva Hoffman and Sujata Bhatt*.

After several teaching and research appointments at the University of Perugia, she was a fixed-term researcher in German Literature from 2015 to 2018. From 2019 to 2022 she continued her academic work as a fixed-term researcher in German Literature at the Department of Humanities, Ancient and Modern Languages, Literatures and Civilisations. Since November 2022 she has been Associate Professor of German Literature at the same Department.

Her research interests focus on modern and contemporary German and Austrian literature, German-language theatre, European modernism, exile and migration literature, Central European culture, and the relationship between literature, image, body and performance. Within these fields, she has worked in particular on Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Max Reinhardt, Elias Canetti, Veza Canetti, Herta Müller, Oskar Kokoschka, Franz Grillparzer and Jura Soyfer, with a special interest in the connections between literature, cinema, theatre and the visual arts.

She published an extensive study on Hugo von Hofmannsthal's *Elektra*, for which she also produced a new Italian translation; this work was awarded the "Leone Traverso – Opera Prima" Prize, within the Premio Monselice. She has also translated German literary and theatrical texts, including contemporary plays and Jura Soyfer's *Bild-und-Wort-Satiren*. In 2013 she published the monograph *Sotto gli occhi tra le parole. Herta Müller da Ceaușescu al Nobel*, devoted to the work of the Nobel Prize-winning writer Herta Müller.

Her scholarly work includes essays on Max Reinhardt and mass theatre, Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Elias Canetti and the grotesque, Herta Müller, exile and migration literature, word-image relations, the representation of the body and the crowd, the Habsburg myth and Central European cultural forms. Her most recent publications include studies on Franz Grillparzer, Veza Canetti, Max Reinhardt, Oskar Kokoschka and the reception of Hofmannsthal in Italy.

She co-edited, with Uta Treder, the volume *Sorelle di Saffo sorelle di Shakespeare*, devoted to women's writing, and, with G. L. Grassigli, *Fellini-Satyricon. Tra memoria, racconti e rovine: un sottosuolo dell'anima*. More recently, she co-edited, with Hermann Dorowin and Federica Rocchi, *Die stärkste Absicht, zu wirken. Grillparzer heute* and *Fuori dal Pantheon. Franz Grillparzer oggi*. She is also co-editor, with Emmanuela E. Meiwes and Federica Rocchi, of *InterAzioni teatrali. Studi per Hermann Dorowin*.

She participates in national and international research projects and networks. Since 2024 she has been Head of the Perugia Research Unit within the PRIN project "Renegotiating Europe's Identities. Trans-integrations, Cross-roads and Borders in East-Central Europe". She is a member of CISUECO – the Interuniversity Centre for Hungarian and Central-Eastern European Studies, of the Scientific Committee of the Goethe&Company series, of the editorial board of the journal *Medea*, and of the scientific and editorial board of the series *TransAustria – Sprachlandschaften*. Since 2021 she has been a member of the PhD Board in "History, Arts and Languages in Ancient and Modern Europe" at the University of Perugia. In 2024–2025 she served as Director of the University Language Centre at the University of Perugia.