

# Brown Bag Biography Fall 2022

## FROM MASKING TO MASQUERADE: AUTOFICTIONAL FORMS AND EFFECTS IN DIACHRONIC PERSPECTIVE



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The contemporary publishing landscape is full of hybrid autobiographical-fictional books, commonly discussed under the (contested) label *autofiction*. The term, coined in the 1970s by writer and critic Serge Doubrovsky, is generally acknowledged to be applicable to texts *avant la lettre*, but is still mostly used for postmodern and contemporary texts. In this talk, Dr. Effe proposes a holistic approach that allows us to understand better how autofictional forms have emerged, to chart developments in forms and functions, and in so doing, to historicize the contemporary boom.

**Alexandra Effe** is Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Oslo, where she is part of the interdisciplinary research and teaching initiative “Literature, Cognition, and Emotions,” and teaches Anglophone and comparative literature. She is the author of *J. M. Coetzee and the Ethics of Narrative Transgression* (Palgrave, 2017), co-editor of *The Autofictional* (Palgrave, 2022) and *Autofiction, Emotions, and Humour* (Routledge, 2023), and has published articles and book chapters on narrative and cognitive theory, twenty-first-century literature, postcolonial literature, and testimonial writing. As Visiting Scholar at the Oxford Centre for Life-Writing, she co-convened the project “Autofiction in Global Perspective.”



**Thursday, October 27**  
**BIOMED B-104 & Zoom /12 to 1:15 PM HST**  
**Meeting ID: 961 7286 9118 / Password: 336906**

