DIGITAL STORYTELLING: TEMPORAL NARRATIVES IN EXPAT BLOGS¹

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Abstract: The research hypothesis of the essay is that the promise of a new life which is embedded in the American myth of the frontier has been recycled in the electronic discourse of the expatriate blogger. In focus was the expatriate identity as reconstructed online through language use, on the basis of linguistic co-occurrences patterned on the dichotomy immediacy vs. remoteness. The conclusion is that "based on linguistic co-occurrence, two electronically-dependent patterns of social behaviour emerged that mirror the paradigms of the temporal divide: the social actor and the bon vivant".

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