

Edited by Oliver Bock, Isabel Vila-Cabanes

# Urban Walking

*The Flâneur as an Icon of Metropolitan Culture in Literature and Film*

SERIES IN LITERARY STUDIES

## About the editor

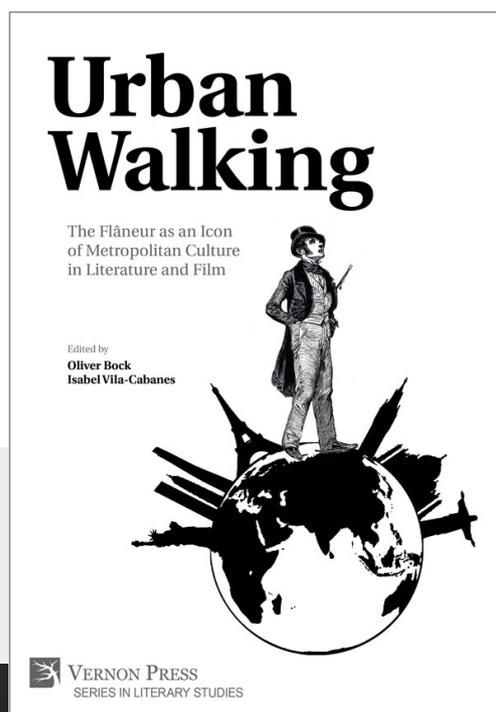
At present, **Dr. Oliver Bock** is a post-doc researcher in the Department of English and American Studies at the Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena (Germany). He received his PhD in 2013 upon completion of a thesis examining representations of violence in Anthony Trollope's novels. Since then he has been engaged in a research project concerning flânerie in American literature of the nineteenth and early- to mid-twentieth centuries. In 2016 he held a post-doc research scholarship from the German Historical Institute London. Other research interests include the manuscript heritage of the British Middle Ages, the history of English philology in Britain and Germany, cultural contacts between British and German literature during the nineteenth century, and British literature of the post-WWII period.

**Isabel Vila-Cabanes** studied English Philology at the Universities of Valencia (Spain) and Ghent (Belgium). She completed her PhD with summa cum laude at the Friedrich Schiller University Jena (Germany), where she has been a faculty member since 2009 working as a research fellow and as an associate lecturer. She is the author of *The Flâneur in Nineteenth-Century British Literary Culture: "The Worlds of London Unknown"* (2018), *Re-Imagining the Streets of Paris: The French Flâneur in Nineteenth-Century Literature* (2016) and she has published extensively on the topic of flânerie. She has written articles on Dickens, the grotesque, and iconicity, including "Dickens

in Popular Culture: Reception and Adaptations of his Works in Contemporary American Adult TV Series" (2014), "Reading the Grotesque in the Works of Charles Dickens and Jonathan Swift" (2014), "Iconicity, 'Intersemiotic Translation' and the Sonnet in the Visual Poetry of Avelino de Araújo" (2017).

## Summary

The volume assembles fresh treatments on the flâneur in literature, film and culture from a variety of angles. Its individual contributions cover established as well as previously unnoticed textual and filmic source materials in a historical perspective ranging from the late nineteenth to the early twenty-first century. The range of topics covered demonstrates the ongoing productivity of flânerie as a viable paradigm for the artistic approach to urban culture and the continuing suitability of flânerie as an analytic category for the scholarly examination of urban representation in the arts. This productiveness also extends to the questioning, re-evaluation, and enhancement of flânerie's theoretical foundations as they were laid down by Walter Benjamin and others. The work will be particularly relevant for students and scholars of literary studies, film studies and gender studies, as well as for theoretical approaches to flânerie as an important aspect of urban culture.



December 2020 | Hardback 236x160mm | 280 Pages | ISBN: 978-1-62273-680-5

SUBJECTS Literary Analysis, Cultural Studies, Urban Communities

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