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**Global Hegemony/Local Realizations: Documentary and (auto)ethnographic strategies in contemporary Southern Cone poetry.**

This research project seeks to explore the new forms of poetic and political commitment to reality as expressed in Chilean and Argentine poetry written by four members of the 'post-dictatorship generation'. This commitment is driven by a 'realization' of the impact of neoliberal ideology and epistemology: It acknowledges this hegemony and, at the same, 'makes it real' in an attempt to tease out the local, very concrete experience of globalization, exploring new means of expression.

Our hypothesis is that these poets actively pursue new ways of addressing issues of cultural memory, history and identity, employing documentary strategies (e.g. collage and quotation) as a critical investigative method designed to uncover the hidden or silenced ideological legacy of their countries' recent history and its continued influence in present-day society.

Notwithstanding its so-called neo-realist or neo-objectivist aesthetics, their poetry does not offer the reader much 'guidance'. Instead, and in an unexpected but clear resonance with what has come to be known as 'postmodern ethnography', it presents complex and highly heterogenic 'images' in which, for instance, quotations from Heraclites or Claude Lévi-Strauss are juxtaposed with texts derived from popular culture.

We therefore believe that even though their work is undeniably socially engaged and touches on topics such as immigration, socioeconomic inequality and xenophobia, its political potential does not solely reside in the thematic or referential field but just as much in its innovative formal structure.

**Keywords:** (Research interests) Contemporary Latin American literature, Documentary poetry, Cultural identity and memory. (Methodological orientation) Literary close-reading, Discourse analysis, Comparative literary analysis.