

**Eva Auré is a student in the Master *Littératures, Langues, Patrimoines et Civilisations* at the University of Angers, during which she researched the work of Helen Simpson and is presently working on Jackie Kay, Christine Dwyer Hickey, and Janice Galloway short stories. Thanks to her Master's thesis supervisor, Michelle Ryan, Eva had the opportunity to participate in the SFBB project as a trainee since early 2022 and thus answered some questions about her experience within the project and with short forms in general.**

### **What was your relationship with short forms before joining the SFBB project?**

Last year, during my first year of Master's degree in research in English literature, I got interested in the study of the short story form. I did a first Master's thesis on the study of short stories by Helen Simpson. This year, for my second Master's thesis, I am still studying the short story form. I am focusing on three short stories by three different authors: Jackie Kay, Christine Dwyer Hickey, and Janice Galloway.

Thus, before the project, I was in the process of getting more familiar with the affordances of the short story form. However, I was not aware of the existence of short forms outside of literature. I didn't realise how surrounded we are by short forms in our daily life.

### **What was your role within the SFBB project?**

I joined the SFBB project last year, during the first year of my Master's degree. Thus, I attended the conferences and workshops at the TLT events in Giessen and in Athens and at the Multiplier event in Santiago as a trainee.

I gave one presentation during the event in Santiago about some short forms extracted from the feminist archives centre of Angers, where I had done an internship a few months before.

### **How has your relationship with short forms evolved since SFBB?**

As I said before, before joining SFBB, the only awareness of short forms I had was through short stories.

The SFBB project made me realise that short forms exist all around us. I understood that during the first event I attended in Giessen. We all discussed our relation with short forms and what short forms mean to us. I discovered that stories and pictures posted on Instagram, tweets, songs, tv series, micro fictions, advertisement, emojis, tattoos, etc. were all different kinds of short forms, with their affordances, their qualities, and also their risks.

What I discovered with the SFBB project was also how short forms can be used as pedagogical tools. Some of the pedagogical tools introduced during the workshops and conferences will be useful for me later as I aim at becoming a teacher after my studies. I for example understood that short forms seem to allow for an innovative and stimulating way of teaching. Memes, short extracts of poems or novels, photo texts, booktubes, etc. can become playful and fruitful educational tools. Brevity is anchored in today's society and it seems important to use it in class to reach students and show them everything that can be learned through the short forms they encounter on a daily basis.

### **What were the most important aspects of the project for you?**

I learnt a lot thanks to this project. I am glad to have been able to observe how teaching can constantly evolve and how bringing together teachers, researchers and students can lead to the discovery of innovative teaching tools, in this case using short forms.

I am also really thankful for this project as it enabled me to meet wonderful people with whom I was able to exchange, to do great teamwork. There was a real cultural exchange and I think this is what I will remember most about SFBB.