

Postgraduate Forum 2015
- Preliminary Conference Program -

Friday, November 6, 2015

02:00 – 02:45 p.m. Registration

02:45 – 03:30 p.m. **Conference Opening and Welcome**
with Prof. Dr. Jeanne Cortiel (Bayreuth)

03:30 – 05:00 p.m. **Panel 1: Challenging Heteronormativity**
Chair: Linda Hess (Münster)

Section A: Re-Writing Queer Lives

- Stefan Hippler (Würzburg): “‘I am Gay’: The Poetics and Politics of Coming Out in Contemporary American Gay Male Coming-of-Age Fiction”
- Florian Weinzierl (Regensburg): “Making a *Fun* Home: Queer Families in Contemporary Musical Theater”

Section B: Queer Representations

- Simon Daniel Whybrew (Marburg): “‘You gave Birth to a Freak of Nature. Doesn’t Mean it’s a Good Idea to Treat Him Like One’: Intersexuality in the *House, M.D.* Episode ‘The Softer Side’”
- Wiebke Kartheus (Leipzig): “Bargaining for Prestige: The Interrelation between Cultural and Economic Transactions in Exhibition Making”

05:00 – 05:30 p.m. Coffee Break

05:30 – 07:00 p.m. **Panel 2: Social Change and the Media Through the Ages**
Chair: Lukas Büttcher (Bayreuth)

Section A: News Cultures

- Timo Weidner (TU Dortmund): “Influence beyond Scope: Local News during the Republic’s Early Years and Today”
- Eric W. Fraunholz (Leipzig): “‘Of the Flies of the Market Place’: Nietzsche and the American Anarchists”

Section B: Analyzing Contemporary (Documentary) Film

- Michaela Castellanos (Mid Sweden U, Sweden): “Breaching the Lens: Gaze Constellations in *The Cove* and *Blackfish*”
- Jonas Bodensohn (Eichstätt-Ingolstadt): “From *Following* to *Interstellar*: Uncertainty in Christopher Nolan’s Cinema.”

09:00 – 10:15 p.m. **Nightwatchmen Tour** through Bamberg (Meeting Point: “Gabelmann”)

Saturday, November 7, 2015

08:45 – 09:00 a.m. Announcements

09:00 – 10:30 a.m. **Panel 3: Political Discourse and American Culture**

Chair: Stephen Koetzing (Erlangen-Nürnberg)

Section A: Foreign Politics & the Media

- Annika Brunck (Tübingen) "From Israel to Iran—The Origins of the Discourse on Arab Terrorism"
- Yuwei Ge (Marburg): "Drama and Reality: Discovering U.S.-China Relations in *House of Cards*"

Section B: Parks & Recreation

- Nico Völker (Gießen): "A 'Park' Grows in Brooklyn: Atlantic Yards, 21st Century Urbanism, and the 'Brooklynization' of Brooklyn"
- Sabrina Mittermeier (LMU Munich): "*Disney's America* or Who owns History?"

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 p.m. **Panel 4: Rethinking Race and Ethnicity in North America**

Chair: Antonia Purk (Erfurt)

Section A: Race & Resistance

- Alexandra Hartmann (Paderborn): "'I Believe in Nothing If Not in Action:' African American Humanism and (Embodied) Agency"
- Nele Sawallisch (Mainz): "The Radical Discourse of Black Nineteenth-Century Canadian Writing"

Section B: Ethnicity & Representation

- Evelyn Huber (Mannheim): "Native American Representations in US Advertising, 1890 – 2015"
- Carmen Brosig (Erlangen-Nuremberg): "Cultural Nationalism and Constructions of Transnational Solidarity: Ethnic Minorities' Protest Culture(s) during the Vietnam War"

12:30 – 02:00 p.m. Lunch Break

02:00 – 03:30 p.m. **Round Table Discussion: "Perspektiven nach der Promotion: Alternativen zur akademischen Laufbahn"** (in German)

03:30 – 04:00 p.m. Coffee Break

04:00 – 05:30 p.m. **Panel 5: American Literature in Global Contexts**

Chair: Nicole Poppenhagen (Flensburg)

Section A: Media Cultures & Globalization

- Naghme Esmaeilpour (HU Berlin): "The Effects of Global Media Culture on Authors and Artists"
- Steffen Reitz (Frankfurt): "Literature as Media Art: The Philosophy of John Cage's Literature"

Section B: Contemporary American Poetry & Globalization

- Anna Bongers (Bochum): "Globalization in Cathy Park Hong's *Dance Dance Revolution* and *Engine Empire*"
- Marleen Knipping (Göttingen): "Writing the Region in the 21st Century: Literary Communities and Contemporary American Poetry"

06:00 – 07:30 p.m. **Author Reading & Discussion "Writing the Female Body: Poetry and More with Laura Passin"**

08:00 p.m. Conference Dinner at Restaurant Weierich

Sunday, November 8, 2015

09:00 – 10:30 a.m. **Panel 6: Trauma and the Body in American Literature**
Chair: Marius Henderson (Hamburg)

Section A: Bodies and Violence

- Veronika Hofstätter (Stuttgart): "How many a *Fearful Thing* has been suffered by the *Fearful Sex*: The Body in American Captivity Narratives"
- Marta Usiekniewicz (Warsaw, Poland): "Sick and Dangerous: The Black Fat Body as a Challenge to Fat Studies"

Section B: Re-thinking Trauma Narratives

- Gesine Wegner (Dresden): "Making the Unspeakable Seen? Trauma and Disability in David Small's *Stitches* and Brian Selznick's *Wonderstruck*"
- Maartje Koschorreck (Mannheim): "How to Deal with the Plurality of Traumas? New Approaches to Trauma Literature"

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 – 11.30 a.m. **COPAS: A Short Introduction**

11.30 – 01.00 p.m. **PGF-Meeting** and Brown Bag Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. **Panel 7: Illness and Gender in American Culture**
Chair: Tanja Reiffenrath (Göttingen)

Section A: Illness and/as Discourse

- Claudia Trotzke (Regensburg): "Performing Health and White Privilege in *The Knick* – Some Spotlights"
- Laura Passin (Northwestern, USA): "What the Living Do: AIDS and Elegy in Contemporary American Poetry"

Section B: American Gender Politics

- Maria Kaspirek (Erlangen-Nuremberg): "Domesticity, Heredity and Insanity in *The Scarlet Letter*"
- Svenja Hohenstein (Tübingen): "The Heroine and the Meme – Establishing a Feminist Discourse Online"

2:30 – 3:00 p.m. Conference Wrap-up

3:00 p.m. End of Conference