Indiana University Graduate Student Conference in Germanic Studies

“Peeling the Onion: Levels and Stratification in Germanic Literature and Linguistics”

Friday, February 21st: University Club – Indiana Memorial Union

6:00pm
Arrival

6:15pm – 7.45pm
Opening Remarks followed by the Keynote Address:

Professor Kerstin Barndt (University of Michigan)
“Layers of Time – Tropes of Stratification in Contemporary Museum Culture”

7:45pm – 9:45pm
Welcome Reception

Saturday, February 22nd: Walnut Room – Indiana Memorial Union

9:00am
Coffee and Light Breakfast

9:30am – 10:30am
Experiencing Layers:
Daniel Jones explores Herder’s synaesthetic envelopment of cognition as he strives to dissolve the limits of language as perceived by Nietzsche and von Hofmannsth. Arne Willée attempts to strip bare the very nature of experience with a narratological understanding of the epistemologies of Descartes and Husserl.

“J.G. Herder: Transcending Art through Myth”
Daniel C. Jones (Purdue University)

Evidenzerfahrungen zwischen Erinnerung und Erwartung
Arne Willée (Indiana University)

10:30am
Coffee Break

10:45am – 12:15pm
What Layers are made of:
Juliane Wuensch seeks the fundamental motivation uniting the various roles of sexuality in the life of Wedekind’s Lulu. Julia Scho unpacks Berlin Alexanderplatz with a Deleuzian rhizomatic reading and a view from above motivated by the work of Michel de Certeau while Jinsong Chen pursues the connection between the Wagnerian musical and thematic layers of Werner’s Nosferatu that bind the film to the German cultural past.
“Lulu’s Desire – Peeling away the layers from Frank Wedekind’s heroine”
Juliane Wuensch (Indiana University)

“Peeling Alfred Döblin’s novel Berlin Alexanderplatz - different layers of textual constitution and interpretation, a poststructuralist approach”
Julia T. Scho (University of Bonn / John Carroll University Cleveland)

“Der Ring des Nibelungen as Mnemonic Agent in Werner Herzog’s Nosferatu (1979)”
Jinsong Chen (Purdue University)

12:15pm – 1:45pm
Lunch Break

2:00pm – 3:00pm
Exploring Layers in Form:
Lane Sorensen attempts to peel back the High German influence obscuring the Low German kernel of the Niederdeutsche Leberreime des Johannes Junior while David Bolter outlines the temporo-spatial patterning of dialectal reflexes of Germanic *sk to reveal an underlying unity of development.

“Liver & Onions…”
Lane Sorensen (Indiana University)

“The Historical Evolution of German(ic) */sk/”
David Bolter (Indiana University)

3:00pm – 3:15pm
Coffee Break

3:15pm – 4:45pm
Confronting Layers of a Past:
Claudia Mueller-Greene unravels the meaning of a uniquely challenging chapter of Die Blechtrommel and strips away the accretions of the contemporary culture of remembrance in Germany that stand in the way of an appreciation of its original impact. Sara Rossini considers the consequences for the present of the fossilization of a character’s psyche in a long-past historical stratum, and Catherine van Halsema critically evaluates the contemporary German culture of remembrance surrounding the Holocaust and National Socialist period.

„Narrative Strategien eines literarischen Gegengedächtnisses - Das Kapitel Glaube Liebe Hoffnung in Günter Grass’ Die Blechtrommel“
Claudia Mueller-Greene (Purdue University)

“Die Fetischisierung von Traumata in Günter Grass’ Novelle Im Krebsgang”
Sara Rossini (Ohio State University)

“Not your Parents’ Guilt: Collective memory, guilt, and forgiveness after the Holocaust” Catherine Van Halsema (Indiana University)
4:45pm – 5:00pm
Short Break

5:00 pm – 6:15pm
Plenary Address

Professor Robert B. Howell (University of Wisconsin)
“Old Cities or “New Towns”? On the Early Modern Dutch Urban Vernaculars”

6:15pm
Thanks and Closing Remarks

7:30pm
Group Dinner for Speakers at Taste of India