The Department of Germanic Studies presents:

The Hedwig Leser Lecture

Dr. Florian Klinger

The Neubauer Family Assistant Professor in Germanic Studies at the University of Chicago

Will give a lecture entitled:

“Justice According to Kleist”

Abstract: The work of Heinrich von Kleist can be read as an intervention into a Western tradition that monolithically defines justice, in one way or the other, as appropriateness, equality, or balance. According to Kleist’s diagnosis, the notions of justice we possess are dysfunctional, yet we cannot do without justice – a dilemma to which he reacts by experimentation with one radical thought: What if we were to locate justification not in the appropriateness or fairness of our decisions, but in their factuality, in the act of decision itself? If justice wasn’t a matter of whatness, but of thatness? This talk sets out to record part of this experimentation, and to discuss possible consequences for our contemporary thinking of justice.

Friday, February 6, 2015

at

5:00 PM

at the

CAHI House (1211 E. Atwater Ave)

An open reception will follow the lecture.

The Leser Lecture was founded by Professor Emer. Henry Remark and others in honor of Hedwig Leser.