

19th Annual Graduate Student
Symposium

DE/CIPHERING
ID/ENTITIES

Washington University in St. Louis

Department of Germanic Languages
and Literatures

2010 Committee Members

Russell Alt
Shane Peterson
Ervin Malakaj
Sarah Hillenbrand
Patrick Brugh
Tracy Graves
Anne Popiel

Special Thanks to

Jennifer Jodell
Empress Sanders

February 20th, 2010
Hurst Lounge, Duncker Hall

9:00 – 9:20 Breakfast (German Department Lounge)

9:20 – 9:30 Travel to Hurst Lounge

1st Panel EERIE OTHERS & GHOSTLY DOUBLES

Moderator: Lisa Haegele

9:30 – 9:50 Sarah Hillenbrand

Da er da wan: Causal Language in Heinrich von Kleist's "Das Bettelweib von Locarno"

It is tempting to read Kleist's short story "Das Bettelweib von Locarno" as a simple tale of karmic justice; a closer examination of Kleist's play with the duality of words, however, shows the story to be an excellent example of models of causality.

9:50 – 10:10 Erik Varela

Imagined Empire: The Multiplicity of Histories in Theodor Storm's "Ein Doppelgänger"

Storm's use of the *Doppelgänger* motif departs from models developed earlier in the 19th century to make the novella as much a critical commentary on the development of Imperial Germany as it is a tale of confounded identities.

10:10 – 10:30 Petra Watzke

(Robot) Maria – The Uncanny in Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*

This presentation explores the Freudian uncanny in Fritz Lang's *Metropolis* and how it affects the representation of the female within the genre of science fiction.

10:30 – 11:00 Q&A

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee Break

2nd Panel SCARY ALTERITY: MODERNITY IN CRISIS

Moderator: Necia Chronister

11:15 – 11:35 Benjamin Davis

Filming a New Jewishness? Paul Wegener's *Der Golem* and the Ambivalence of Jewishness

A close examination of the intercultural relations within the film reveals that this film is nothing less than an explicit commentary on the modern situation of Jews in Weimar Germany, posing the question of the viability of a German-Jewish modernity where Jewishness is not isolated or repressed, but rather is allowed to be expressed.

11:35 – 11:55 Brandi Besalke

Fear of the Foreign: Masculinity in Crisis in Pabst's *Secrets of a Soul*

In G. W. Pabst's "Secrets of a Soul", Asian objects play a key role in stirring up unconscious psychological issues and, by doing so, enable the protagonist to be cured.

11:55 – 12:15 Darina Stamova

Melancholy in Joseph Roth's *Hiob*

Melancholy in Joseph Roth's novel *Hiob* is a feeling of loneliness, alienation and homelessness, but it is also a poetic attempt to save a world that is bound to disappear.

12:15 – 12:45 Q&A

12:45 – 1:30 Lunch (German Department Lounge)