

2006 Committee Members

Julia Kleinheider  
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Special Thanks to:

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Amanda Hupp  
Jennifer Jodell  
Lucas Heberlie

œ 2006 Graduate Student Symposium œ

Washington University in St. Louis  
Department of Germanic Languages  
and Literatures

February 25, 2006  
9:00 A.M.  
Alumni House

9:00 Breakfast

9:20 Opening Remarks

Theodore Jackson  
Professor Stephan Schindler

9:30 First Panel Landscape: Memory, History, Language  
and Architecture  
Moderator: Patience Graybill

**Retelling the Holocaust: Jean Améry's Employment of the  
"Opferperspektive" in *Jenseits von Schuld und Sühne***  
Mary exposes the ways in which Améry transforms German from a  
language of persecution into a language of empowerment. Améry no  
longer accepts the subordinate "object" position forced on him during  
the Holocaust and uses German (the language of the perpetrators) in  
order to offer a literary means of prosecution for their crimes.

**Oskar as Geschichtenerzähler: Reconstructing the Past in  
Günther Grass's *Die Blechtrommel***  
Katie employs an analysis of narrative strategy in *Die Blechtrommel* in  
order to highlight the problematic relationship between our present  
perspective and our knowledge of the past/memory.

**What do you see? Serial Vision, Serial Consumption in  
Blossfeldt and Lang**  
Karl Blossfeldt's plant photographs seem to draw viewers closer to  
nature; Fritz Lang's 'M' seems to bring viewers into city-space. Anne  
explores how the underlying serialities in each can ultimately offer  
viewers only tales of vision, not the ability to see.

10:15 Questions  
10:30 Break  
10:45 Second Panel Exploring Representation  
Moderator: Robert Feldman

**Julia Zeisberger**  
**Theodor Storms *Ein Doppelgänger* im sozialgeschichtlichen Kontext:  
Historische Wirklichkeit und literarische Verarbeitung im Vergleich**  
Julia seeks to clarify the relationship between history/reality and the literary  
representation of the 19th century "Arbeiter" in Storm's text. Her paper culminates  
in an exposition of how Storm's "literarisches Erzählmodell" conceptualizes history.

**Claudia Mohr**  
**Von Trunkenbolden, göttlichen Bestien und verkehrten Kreuzen – Zur  
Darstellung des Nationalsozialismus in Heinrich Bölls *Kreuz ohne  
Liebe***  
Claudia discusses the early works of Heinrich Böll and identifies the causes for the  
poor reception of these works by publishers. She exposes the ways in which Böll  
does not attempt to satisfy the desire for texts that document the suffering of  
Germans during World War II. Böll advocates a critical look at National Socialism  
and its crimes.

**Bastian Reinert**  
**Name, Zitat und Zeugenschaft in Paul Celans "Engführung"**  
Basti will mention several aspects that seem to be very important for Celan's poetry  
and for this poem in particular. The presentation deals with "poetry after  
Auschwitz," intertextuality, testimony and the philosophy of name.

11:15 Questions  
11:45 Lunch

1:00 Third Panel The Characters of Insanity  
Moderator: Erika Hille Rinker

**Erik Varela, Florian Bast, and Anne Popiel**  
**The Girl of His Dreams**  
In this paper, the three authors connect violence and psychological breakdown  
through an examination of two scenes from Tieck's *Liebeszauber*. Special focus is  
given to Emil's (the main character) obsession with a young girl who is his neighbor.

**Thomas Wortmann**  
**Bekenntnisse einer kranken Seele – Diskurse zum Wahnsinn in  
Goethes *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre***  
Thomas identifies the influence of psychiatric models of melancholy and insanity  
(Panl und Tuke, Hüfeland) on the description of several key characters in *Wilhelm  
Meisters Lehrjahre*.