

1990

Conferences

various authors

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Essayistik weit hinter der Komplexität ihrer fiktionalen Texte zurück. *Kassandra* macht vieles über die Ambivalenz der Liebe sichtbar.

Die in vorliegendem Band zusammengestellten Texte werden von Wolf als Denkanregungen, nicht als Denkvorschriften präsentiert. Sie spricht selbst von tastenden, keineswegs gesicherten Überlegungen. Einiges wird absichtlich nicht zu Ende gedacht. Wie sieht die Neudefinition der "Alternative Sozialismus" nach der Wende aus? Wie läßt sich die Geschichte aus einer anderen Perspektive als der der Sieger der Geschichte denken? Was macht aus einem Vaterland ein Mutterland? Besonders bei solchen Fragen fühlt man als Leser die Notwendigkeit, den Dialog mit dieser Autorin fortzusetzen.

Carl Niekerk
Washington University

VISITING LECTURERS

Dr. Klaus Hammer, *Dozent für deutsche Literatur an der Technischen Universität Dresden* and longtime director of the *Internationaler Hochschulferienkurs für Germanistik* in Weimar, will be visiting various U.S. institutions during the course of an October/November 1990 lecture tour. Dates, institutions, and lecture topics are as follows:

Mon., 29 October - Tues., 30 October: SUNY, Stony Brook; "Die DDR Prosa der 80er Jahre--Rückblick und Ausblick"
Tues., 30 October - Thur., 1 November: Bard College; "Frauen schreiben über Frauen in der DDR-Literatur"
Thur., 1 November - Sat., 3 November: University of Massachusetts; Topic to be announced
Sat., 3 November - Wed., 7 November: Slippery Rock University; Topic to be announced
Wed., 7 November - Sat., 10 November: University of Mississippi; Topic to be announced
Sat., 10 November - Tues., 13 November: Michigan State University; "Der Dramatiker und Erzähler Christoph Hein"
Tues., 13 November - Fri., 16 November: The University of the South; "Tendenzen der DDR Literatur"

Eva Kaufmann, Helga Königsdorf, Angela Krauß, and Waldtraut Lewin, guests at the 18-21 October 1990 Women in German Conference in Minnesota, will be traveling for the purpose of various speaking engagements throughout the latter part of October and early November.

The four guests have been analysts of the status of women in the GDR as well as actors in the movement for social change.

The following dates are set (for more information, see **CONFERENCES**):

22-23 October: University of Minnesota; Carleton College
24-25 October: University of Wisconsin-Madison
27-28 October: University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
2-4 November: Königsdorf and Kaufmann at the AATG meeting at Dartmouth

Daniela Dahn will spend the Spring Semester 1991 at Lafayette College in Easton, PA as an artist in residence. She will be available for lecture readings. If interested, please write to Rado Pribic at Lafayette College (18042).

Joochen Laabs will be the writer in residence at the University of Northern Iowa during the spring semester 1991. For more information about Laabs, see the interview in this issue.

CONFERENCES

Women in German Conference. Fifteenth Annual WIG Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 18-21 October 1990.

The conference will focus on the GDR; special guests include Eva Kaufmann, Helga Königsdorf, Angela Krauß and Waldtraut Lewin. Special Event: "A Jewish-German Dialogue." This session will provide an opportunity for discussion among WIG members of various backgrounds concerning their experiences dealing with Jewish-German relations today on a personal and/or professional level in the FRG, GDR, Austria, Israel, and the USA. For more program information, contact Tineke Ritmeester, Institute for Women's Studies, University of Minnesota, Duluth, MN 55812. Tel. (218) 726-6224.

Women Writing in East Germany. University of Wisconsin-Madison, 24-25 October 1990.

Speakers: Eva Kaufmann, Helga Königsdorf, Angela Krauß, and Waldtraut Lewin from the GDR, and U.S. scholars Thomas Fox, Sara Lennox, and Patricia Herminghouse. For further information, write to GDR WOMEN WRITERS, Department of German, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 8181 Van Hise Hall, WI 53706.

"Gegenwartsbewältigung: Coming To Terms With The Present." A Symposium on Germany. University of Michigan, 25-27 October 1990.

A symposium to investigate how current events in Germany affect scholars, writers, and the intellectual community.

Speakers: Holger Teschke, Joyce Mushaben, Ute Brandes, Helen Fehervary, Thomas Fox, Angela Krauß, Waldtraut Lewin, Jonathan Kalb, Henry Schmidt, Marc Silberman, Barton Byg, Philip McKnight, Birgit Teschke, Deborah Janson, Marilyn Rueschemeyer, Peter Rossman, Ulrike Poppe, Siggi Schefke, Christoph Tannert, Peter Schneider, Helga Königsdorf, Eva Kaufmann, Andrei Markovits, David Bathrick, Patricia Herminghouse, Tim Ryback, Christiane Zehl Romero. For further information, contact Marilyn Fries, German Department, University of Michigan, 3110 Modern Language Building, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1275. Tel. (313) 747-0406.

Seventeenth New Hampshire Symposium on the German Democratic Republic. World Fellowship Center, Conway, NH, 20-27 June 1991.

The theme of the 1991 conference will be "The GDR in the Process of Integration." As in the past, all seminars are intended to be multi-disciplinary in nature. Papers are being solicited for the following topics:

Seminar I - The Political and Economic Integration of the GDR into the Federal Republic and the European Community - Gert-Joachim Glaeßner (FU Berlin); William Berentsen (Department of Geography, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06247)

Seminar II - Political Life and Civil Society in the Period of Transition: Description and Evaluation of their Development - Volker Gransow (Institut für Soziologie, FU Berlin, Babelsberger Str. 14-16, 1000 Berlin 31); Uwe-Jens Heuer (Akademie der Wissenschaften, Berlin)

Seminar III - Social Issues in Transition: Situation of Women, Employment, Youth and Education, Psychological Adjustment, Identity, etc. - Barbara Kienbaum (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, IN 46323); Hildegard Nickel (Humboldt Universität, Berlin)

Seminar IV - The GDR's Coming to Terms with its Past: New

Descriptions and Evaluations of the Socialist Past - Margy Gerber (Department of German, Russian, E. Asian Languages, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH 43403)

Seminar V - GDR Literature and Culture in Transition - Christiane Zehl Romero (Department of German, Russian, E. Asian Languages, Tufts University, Medford, MA 02155); Nancy A. Lauckner (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)

Workshops - One day of the Symposium will be devoted to discipline-oriented workshops. Social scientists and Germanists will meet in separate, parallel sessions to hear papers on more discipline-specific topics and discuss issues and directions of current research. Proposed topic of literature workshop: Critical Retrospective of GDR *Germanistik* in the USA and FRG. A concluding panel discussion with plenum participation will sum up the findings of the various seminars in the attempt to construct an overview of the current situation.

Detailed proposals (title plus 1-2 pages) must be submitted by December 15, 1990. Completed papers are due April 15. Papers should not exceed 30 minutes. For more information on the program, contact Margy Gerber (Seminar IV). For information on the Symposium location, travel arrangements, registration, etc., contact W. Christoph Schmauch, World Fellowship Center, Conway, NH 03818, tel. (603) 356-5208.

REPORT: Sixteenth New Hampshire Symposium on the GDR

The Sixteenth GDR Symposium took place at the World Fellowship Center in Conway, New Hampshire from June 20 to 27, 1990. Guests from the German Democratic Republic included Uwe-Jens Heuer and Therese Hörnigk from the Academy of Sciences; Ehrhart Neubert from the Association of Protestant Churches; Hildegard Maria Nickel from Humboldt University; Gerhard Rothbauer, formerly J.R. Becher Institute for Literature; and the poets, *Liedermacher*, and cabaret artists Steffen Mensching and Hans-Eckhardt Wenzel.

Last summer when this symposium was planned, the overall theme selected for the conference was "Reform in the GDR: Elements of Continuity and Forces of Change." After the unforeseen changes that did take place in the course of the year, the theme had to be adjusted. Now, "change" was the key word that dominated all contributions and discussions in various forms, be it changes that have occurred, or that could be expected to occur, or that were nipped in the bud.

Regarding a changing Europe: papers dealt with changes in Middle Eastern Europe; the fears a united Germany evokes among its neighbors; problems arising from the breakdown of socialism in the political, economic, and social areas of the GDR; and the relationship between the two Germans in the process of unification. As to changes in the GDR: the emergence of oppositional groups under the shield of the Protestant church that became the driving force in the peaceful revolution; the importance of the public sphere or openness (*Öffentlichkeit*) for the reformers; the separation of party and state; the new relationship between state and society; prospects for a "civil society"; a new tolerance in society toward tabu subjects, e.g., homosexuality; the economic and social vulnerability of GDR women who are no longer protected by the state; the role of the intelligentsia in general and the self-perception of the writers in particular in the process of change; the immediate problems resulting from the monetary union of July 1st, drastic budget cuts in all areas, unemployment, and the restructuring of the economy. There were also papers on literature; DEFA; Nietzsche reception; the films *Coming Out* (Heiner Carow, 1989) and *Winter Ade* (Helke Misselwitz, 1988); and the screen version of Christa Wolf's story, *Selbstversuch*.

The awareness that we were dealing with history-in-the-making made all discussions more significant, more intense, and more emotionally charged than at previous symposia I have attended. <https://newprairiepress.org/gdr/vol16/iss2/23>

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But questions like the following: Is there a specific GDR identity? Did the GDR establish certain values and/or conditions that are worth preserving? Did the East Germans last March vote for the D-Mark or for democracy? divided the audience according to their own political position and remained open. And at one point, one of the GDR guests told me: "I feel like being at a funeral." All the more welcome, then, were the delightfully sharp and witty cabaret performances--live as well as on tape--of the team of Mensching/Wenzel.

At the end we decided that it was necessary to continue the annual GDR symposium at least for another year, possibly under a different name. Although the GDR will cease to exist, the process of integration with the FRG will take time and needs to be analyzed.

Gisela E. Bahr
Miami University

TRAVEL AND EXCHANGE

AATG Leipzigseminar

AATG is pleased to announce a literature seminar to be held in Leipzig, June 15-19, 1991. Seminar leader is Professor Hartinger of the University of Leipzig. Participants will be housed in the Jenny Marx dormitory for the two week period. Because of present economic and political circumstances, a final fee for the seminar has not yet been established. Contact AATG, 112 Haddonstowne Court #104, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-3166 for further information.

Sprachkurse an der Humboldt-Universität

1990-1991 Sprachkurse und Weiterbildung werden im Kongreßzentrum der Humboldt-Universität in Berlin durchgeführt. Zu jedem Kurs gehören 20-25 Stunden Unterricht pro Woche, eine Exkursion nach Potsdam, eine Stadtrundfahrt durch Berlin und ein Theaterbesuch. Kursgebühren pro Woche (inklusive Einschreibung, Unterricht und kulturelles Rahmenprogramm) betragen 265,- DM. Unterbringung pro Woche 70,- bis 150,- DM. Anmeldeschluß ist jeweils 8 Wochen vor Beginn des Kurses bzw. bei Erreichen der Teilnehmerzahl. Kursmöglichkeiten sind Fortbildung für Deutschlehrer, methodisch/landeskundlich oder kulturell/landeskundlich orientierte Kurse. Sprachkurse für Nichtphilologen, Mediziner, Geistes- und Politikwissenschaftler, Wirtschaftsfachleute und Angestellte aus Hotel- und Gaststättengewerbe. Ihre Anmeldung richten Sie bitte an folgende Adresse: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Exportabteilung, Sprachkurse Deutsch, Johannstraße 10, Berlin 1040. Sprach- und Telefonberatung sind auch möglich, (200) 2093 29 70.

Sprachkurse am Herder-Institut

4- bis 6-wöchige Sprachintensivkurse "Deutsch für Ausländer" am Herder-Institut Dresden-Radebeul sind jetzt ganzjährig. Für Ausländer, die ein Studium an einer Universität oder Hochschule aufnehmen wollen, gibt es auch 2 Semesterkurse. Schreiben Sie an: Herder Institut, Borst. 9/Postfach 19, Radebeul b. Dresden 8122. Tel: 73033.

Loyola College's 1990 Berlin Seminar. A Report

Literatur und Theater in beiden deutschen Staaten. Informationstagung der Europäischen Akademie Berlin für Germanisten aus den USA vom 16.-21. Juli 1990.

Seit 1982 findet jeden Sommer diese einwöchige Literatur-