

1977

## Forthcoming Publications

various authors

Follow this and additional works at: <https://newprairiepress.org/gdr>



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/).

---

### Recommended Citation

authors, various (1977) "Forthcoming Publications," *GDR Bulletin*: Vol. 3: Iss. 2. <https://doi.org/10.4148/gdrb.v3i2.381>

This Announcement is brought to you for free and open access by New Prairie Press. It has been accepted for inclusion in *GDR Bulletin* by an authorized administrator of New Prairie Press. For more information, please contact [cads@k-state.edu](mailto:cads@k-state.edu).

to 24, 1977. Plans call for a general session Thursday evening with the principal Colloquium speaker, followed by a reception. On Friday evening the Division of Drama will present Father Uxbridge Wants to Marry written and directed by Professor Frank Gagliano of the West Virginia University faculty, which will be followed by a discussion of the play by actors, director, and audience. Friday and Saturday morning and afternoon will be devoted to sessions on various aspects of contemporary theater, for example: Musical Theater, Theater of the Absurd, Improvisational Theater, The Theater of Cruelty, Political Theater, Forms of Contemporary Tragedy, Serio-Comic Farce, Commercial Theater, The Theater of the Sixties, Mime Theater, and New Theatrical Techniques. These sessions are open to participation by teachers and graduate students of other colleges and universities, and papers are now being solicited. If you wish to present a paper, please send a one-page summary by June 1, 1977 to Armand E. Singer, Colloquium Director, Department of Foreign Languages, 201 Chitwood Hall, West Virginia University, Morgantown, W.V. 26506.

The finalized program and details of registration, times, local motels, etc. will be sent later in the summer. For a personal copy of this second announcement, please drop us a line expressing your possible interest, whether or not you plan to submit a summary of a paper.

## TRAVEL AND EXCHANGE

### ART HISTORICAL SEMINAR - GERMANY (EAST AND WEST)

The Tri-State Consortium on International Education (home campus: Rockland Centre for International Studies, Suffern, N.Y. 10901) conducted an art historical seminar: Germany (East and West) in January 1977. The 13 day tour started in New York on January 13. The cost of \$ 63<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> (plus tuition for 2 academic credits) included: roundtrip New York - Frankfurt - Munich - New York, 13 nights accomodation (double rooms, with continental breakfast) a half-day sightseeing trip of Munich, all instruction, course work, lectures and visits, travel by motor coach from Frankfurt into and through the GDR to Berlin, and the flight from Berlin to Munich.

As the theme of the course was German Expressionist Art (1907-1914), the tour went to galleries, museums and sites in the GDR, Berlin and Munich relevant to this period. Consideration was also given to German and international historic works and the environment and culture that inspired it.

For further information, please contact: John Murphy, Art Department, Ext. 260, Rockland Centre for International Studies, Ext. 205 or 263

\*\*\*\*\*

### SCHOLAR EXCHANGE

The International Research and Exchanges Board (110 East Fifty-ninth street, New York, N.Y. 10022) is negotiating with the Ministry of Higher and Specialized Education of the GDR to double the exchange quota for the next two years from the current 20 person-months to 40. The application deadline for the 1978-79 academic year is: November 1, 1977.

## FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Bobrowski, Johannes. Literarisches Klima. Berlin: Union, 1977.

In den Xenien Bobrowskis kommen sein Sinn für Ironie, Satire, Polemik und sein Humor voll zum Zuge. Wie einst die Weimarer Klassiker, zielt auch er mit dem Xenion, dem spöttischen Epigramm, auf Schriftstellerkollegen, Kritiker und Literaturwissenschaftler.

Kant, Hermann. Der Aufenthalt. Berlin: Rütten & Loening, 1977.

Kriegsgefangenschaft, Gefängnis, Wandlung --man meint, das zu kennen. Kant bestätigt: es gab Hunger, Heimweh, Feindseligkeit. Doch das macht nicht Kants dritten Roman aus: Seine nachdenkliche Genauigkeit belegt, wie wenig wir noch immer über diese keineswegs entlegene Zeit und ihre Veränderungsprozesse wissen, wie schwierig und langwierig der Schritt zu neuen Einsichten oder gar Haltungen ist.

Kirsten, Wulf. Der Bleibaum. Gedichte. Berlin: Aufbau, 1977.

Sieben Jahre nach "satzanfang" legt Wulf Kirsten seinen neuen Gedichtband vor. Die Zuwachsrate ist beträchtlich: vor allem scheint es, daß die neuen Gedichte stärker "ausgeschrieben" sind, die thematische Erweiterung ist unübersehbar.

Krumpel, Heinz. Lebensprozeß und Moral.  
Berlin: Vlg. d. Wissenschaften, 1977.

Auf welcher Grundlage entsteht moralisches Bewußtsein, wie wirkt es auf den materiellen Lebensprozeß der Menschen? Welche Verbindungen gibt es andererseits zwischen der jeweiligen ökonomischen Grundlage der Gesellschaft und der Herausbildung bestimmter Moralvorstellungen? Auf diese und andere Fragen gibt die Schrift Antwort.

Mensch -- Wissenschaft -- Technik. Versuch einer marxistischen Analyse der wissenschaftlich-technischen Revolution. Hrsg.: M. Buhr und G. Kröber. Berlin: Akademie, 1977.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Divided Heaven. Christa Wolf. Translated by Joan Becker. Introduction and bibliography by Jack Zipes. New York: Adler's Foreign Books, 1976. 265 pages.

One recurrent problem western, even Marxist Western readers and reviewers have with GDR literature is a misconception of what constitutes a genuine "political reading" of a novel or play. Through our training and ideological modification we tend to look at those literary works as somewhat shallow, easy-to-decode "messages" from the other side of the Berlin wall: how much criticism and dissent is explicit, how much more is implicit and ambiguous? Thus we reduce a novel such as Divided Heaven to a rather feeble attempt at voicing some opposition against the negative aspects of the East German regime and by doing so we often ignore the real political scope of the work. (The lucid analysis of Robbe-Grillet by the Goldmann student Jacques Leenhardt, "Lecture politique du roman," could serve as a helpful model for anyone trying to understand literature from the socialist countries.)

Rereading Christa Wolf's Divided Heaven after about eight years made me realize how quickly I had categorized it then as a veiled protest novel, a cautious "roman à thèse" which essentially said all the things we in the west had of course known for years. That is precisely why a renewed reading comes as a shock, for this novel about the dual German reality and its human implications is much more than a substitute for a humanist socialist pamphlet. Christa Wolf did not need to resort to a lit-

erary medium to express exactly how she felt about certain theories and practices in her country. This novel deals with those situations as well, but only in the way a novel incorporates and reshapes reality to transcend it, to open up new possibilities and new experiments in human living.

Rita, the main character of the novel, is not blind to the shortcomings of the society she lives in, as she is confronted with them at almost every stage of her life, at home, at school and on the job. But she disagrees with Manfred's decision to leave the GDR for a more fundamental reason: "He had not gone away out of protest, but had just given up. This going to the west was not a new experiment but the end of all experiments...It did not matter any more what he did."

The background for this judgement is clearly summarized in the introductory essay by Jack Zipes, "Christa Wolf: Moralism as Marxist." Zipes puts the work in its proper socio-historical context and stresses its significance both for the development of Christa Wolf's own philosophical position and for the growing self-awareness and self-criticism of her generation of writers in the GDR. In this light the simple plot, the "Republikflucht" of Manfred and the resulting separation of the couple, becomes merely a symptom of the more fundamental contradictions facing this particular transitional society. At the end of the novel Rita feels that these contradictions can be overcome, even if she has no clear idea of the future, her future and that of her country: "But she was not afraid." It is a very open-ended work, which seems to throw the search for a solution back at the reader in the GDR and, indirectly, in the West. "The curtain closed and all the questions open," as Brecht would say.

Ludo Abicht  
Antioch College

\*\*\*\*\*

Little Giant in the World of Sport: Sports Comparison Study GDR -- Canada. By Doug Gilbert et al. Toronto: Kontakt Presse, 1976. 64 pages.

A Wonderful Experience: Spartakiad Games in the GDR. By Eberhard Bock et al. Dresden: Verlag Zeit im Bild DDR, 1975. 30 pages.

At the 1976 Olympics the GDR placed second in the gold medal standing and third overall. Such a strong showing has given rise to much