

Doing Queer Literature in a Global Perspective

Conference
5–6 October
2023

The conference seeks to discuss the role of literature in the construction of queer communities. What is the significance and the effect of shared texts or imagery in the process of affiliation or disaffiliation, inclusion or exclusion that define queer belonging and kinship? What do literary references, canons, iconic artworks, materialities, landmarks or tunes mean in this process?

Queer community building processes stimulate connectivity that transcends national, cultural, linguistic, spatial and temporal limits. The competitive dynamics of communities, non-normative temporalities, gender-centered performativities and materialities are seen as volatile aspects of trans-literary, transcultural and transtemporal relationalities. Resistance to periodisation or linear futurity, as well as resistance to fixed ontologies of identity allow a discursive, literary and cultural negotiation of the complex links between the dynamics of competing sexualities, validity aspirations, intermedial flexibility and digital re-invention of connectivity.

The conference aspires to understand constructed or embodied perceptions of belonging and queer in-betweenness (spatial, temporal, narratological, representational and performative). Furthermore, it aims to create a theoretical space of transnational and interdisciplinary scope for the discussion of literary and artistic pronouncements that challenge essentialism and heteronormativity.

Thursday, 5 October 2023

09:30 a.m. Arrival & Coffee

10:00–10:15 a.m.

Welcome and Introduction

Michail Leivadiotis, Nina Tolksdorf, Samira Spatzek (Freie Universität Berlin/EXC 2020)

10:15–11:45 a.m.

t.b.a.

Kara Keeling (University of Southern California, LA)

The Futures are Queer: Collective Speculations, Imaginations and Multiplications of Queer Futurity in Contemporary Speculative Fiction Anthologies

Pauline Westerbarkey (Freie Universität Berlin/EXC 2020)

12:00–1:30 p.m.

Un/Defining Lines: Queer Comics in Latin America

Jasmin Wrobel (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)

Fabulating Identity and Desire in Verse:

Queer Chinese Poetry in a Transnational Context

Hongwei Bao (University of Nottingham)

1:30–2:30 p.m. Lunch

2:30–4:00 p.m.

Queer Fragments of Byzantium

Roland Betancourt (University of California Irvine)

Queer Genre Practices: Observations on Non-Normative Forms of Film

Till Kadritzke (Freie Universität Berlin/EXC 2020)

4:15–5:45 p.m.

Failing Relations – On the Ambivalence of t4t Imaging

Sima Ehrentraut (Freie Universität Berlin/EXC 2020, Universität Wien)

Queer Weeping

Apostolos Lampropoulos (University Bordeaux Montaigne)

Friday, 6 October 2023

09:30 a.m. Arrival & Coffee

10:00–11:30 a.m.

Wrestling Monsters and Entangled Periodisations: Beowulf's Queer Temporalities

Andrew James Johnston (Freie Universität Berlin/EXC 2020)

Heteronormative Brotherhood or Queer Community? The »fremen Knaben« in Michael Lindener's Schwank- sammlung *Katzipori* (1558)

Luca L. Wirth (Freie Universität Berlin/EXC 2020)

11:45–1:15 p.m.

An Escaped Slave and a Good Person

Matt Brim (The City University of New York)

Entangling Communities of Care and Concern: »Saint Francis and the Man with AIDS« as a Network of Mediations (1985–1988)

Bart Soethaert (Freie Universität Berlin/EXC 2020)

1:15–2:15 p.m. Lunch

2:15–3:45 p.m.

Bewilderment and Other Strategies for Unbuilding Worlds

Jack Halberstam (Columbia University, NYC)

Creating Queer Kinship across the Color Line

Cedric Essi (Universität Zurich)

4:00–5:30 p.m.

The Screenplay of »Adams's Land« – Finding a Queer Language for Cinema

Jonas Nemela (Berlin)

Das lila Lied: A Queer Anthem, 1920 to 2020

Alexandra Ksenofontova (Freie Universität Berlin/EXC 2020)

5:30–6:00 p.m.

Closing

Michail Leivadiotis, Nina Tolksdorf, Samira Spatzek

Organisation: Michail Leivadiotis, Samira Spatzek, Nina Tolksdorf

EXC 2020 »Temporal Communities: Doing Literature in a Global Perspective«, Research Area 1: »Competing Communities«

Further information: Samira Spatzek: samira.spatzek@fu-berlin.de

Registration: Please register by 24 September, 2023 via email.

Venue: Freie Universität Berlin, Großer Vortragsraum (Big Lecture Hall), Institut für Philosophie, Habelschwerdter Allee 30, 14195 Berlin

www.temporal-communities.de