

Vom Nutzen und Nachteil der Literaturwissenschaft für das Leben

Program

09.00-13.00

Session one: Pleasure and knowledge.

In the first part of this session, Eva Geulen and Jean-Marie Schaeffer continue to explore the theoretical issues raised during the public evening. As we are interested in the discrepancy between “naïve” and “critical” approaches to literature, Orsetta Innocenti examines the case of high-school teaching (the moment when intuitive pleasure has its first encounter with the stern demands of knowledge), while Karin Kukkonen reflects on the twists and turns that a year-long pandemic has introduced into the act of reading.

Chair: Ilya Kalinin

- 09.15-09.45** **Eva Geulen: The Styles of Literary Criticism**
- 09.45-10.15** **Jean-Marie Schaeffer: The reading process and the pleasures of knowledge**
- 10.15-10.45** **Discussion**
- 10.45-11.00** **Coffee Break**
- 11.00-11.30** **Orsetta Innocenti: "What is the point?" Reading and Becoming a Reader in Secondary School**
- 11.30-12.00** **Karin Kukkonen: Griselda Redux: Reading Strategies in the Pandemic**
- 12.00-13.00** **Discussion**

14.30-18.30

Session two: Twenty-first century paradigms

The major paradigms of the late twentieth century (feminism, deconstruction, new historicism, ethnic studies, postcolonialism) combined political critique and a focus on the established canon (Kant, Shakespeare, Kafka, Conrad, Woolf...). Twenty-first century models have often shifted the focus from the center to the periphery of the literary field, while also perhaps losing the polemical verve of earlier generations. This session explores this new state of affairs via four distinct critical models – criticism in the Anthropocene (Eva Horn), “improper” uses of literature (Merve Emre), empirical aesthetics (Winfried Menninghaus), quantitative literary study (Franco Moretti) – and closes with an attempt to evaluate their impact on our understanding of literature: are they “additions” to existing knowledge, or are they transforming it into something new? And if so, how?

Chair: William Marx

- 14.30-15.00** **Eva Horn: The bigger picture. Reading in the Anthropocene**
- 15.00-15.30** **Merve Emre: Literature and ...**
- 15.30-16.00** **Discussion**
- 16.00-16.15** **Coffee Break**
- 16.15 -16.45** **Winfried Menninghaus: Empirical aesthetics: What can it do better than other approaches to literature?**
- 16.45-17.15** **Franco Moretti: False Movement. Quantification as promise and problem**
- 17.15-18.00** **Discussion**
- 18.00-18.30** **Conclusion: Moritz Baßler**