ARBEITSVORHABEN

Making the State Visible: The Poetics and Politics of Russian Realism

The task of this book-length project is to present 19th-century Russian realist fiction as a challenge to the prevalent critical assumptions - developed predominantly with reference to the British and French novelistic traditions - about the formal and ideological constitution of the modern novel. Specifically, while much of the existing theoretical work on the novel assumes that it owes its basic social-imaginary architecture to its involvement in the institutions, practices, and ideologemes of bourgeois civil society, I will ask what happens to the novel form (and to realist fiction more broadly) when its fundamental socio-historical orientation is, as in the Russian case, toward the political authority of the state. Given its central problematic, the project draws on three distinct theoretical paradigms: work in political theory pertaining to the concepts of sovereignty and representational scenarios of power; recent socio-politically inflected theory of the novel; and Historical Poetics, which includes, but is not limited to, the field of "world literature studies" as a paradigm of inquiry into the historical, geo-cultural and geopolitical circulation of literary forms. Relying on these critical traditions, I propose a political poetics of Russian realist fiction based on a broad range of texts from the 1830s-'70s.

Recommended Reading

PUBLIKATIONEN AUS DER FELLOWBIBLIOTHEK

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Scenarios of power in Turgenev's First Love : Russian realism and the allegory of the state
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Historical poetics between Russia and the West : toward a nonlinear model of literary history and social ontology

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Kliger, Ilya (New York, 2016)
Persistent forms : explorations in historical poetics
https://kxp.kiplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=82613789X
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